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their prosperity under Canadian confederation, and to beware of annexation schemes by which they could gain nothing. He did not speak as a politician but merely as one having an interest in the welfare of the people.

A Gloucester fishing vessel has returned after an absence of nine months, the longest fishing trip from that port on record.

Our American cousins are moving to increase the pension list, and thus make the declining years of their soldiers more comfortable and happy.

White cap outrages continue in Indiana, and there has been a shooting affray between two brothers-in-law in Arkansas in which both were killed.

The American Historical Association began its fifth annual meeting on Wednesday evening in the lecture room of the Columbian University, Washington.

The Washington Post has been publishing interviews with those Congressmen whose districts border Canada, on the question of annexation, and the majority do not favor it.

At a convention of theological professors held in New York last week, the National Academy of Theology was founded. The object of the Academy is the prosecution of theology as a science.

A considerable riot was got up in Dakota between Russians and Americans arising out of a dispute about a goose, taken at a sale by an American and claimed by some of the Mennonites. Knives were used and several on both sides badly injured.

Some more employment for the great American Navy, may possibly arise out of the seizure at Porto Rico, of an American schooner, on account of a mistake in her manifest. It is claimed that her crew were treated with much indignity by the Spaniards.

The New York Tribune continues to exercise itself over the non-appointment of a new British minister to the United States. The Tribune may as well possess its soul in patience, as it is altogether unlikely that one will be sent till President Harrison assumes office.

Mrs. Langtry has seized upon the original idea of having the ushers of the Fifth Avenue Theatre, New York, during the run of her "Macbeth" production, wear the national Scotch dress. Whereat, the negro minstrel burlesquer, Lew Dockstader, declares he will dress his ushers as Zulu chiefs.

The Russian budget for 1889 shows a surplus income of two million roubles.

General Boulanger advocates the repeal of the laws banishing the Royalists from France.

Sara Bernhardt has had great success at Cairo. The Egyptians call her "Cleopatra's Needle."

A committee has been appointed to inquire into the question of local Government for Scotland.

The accident to the Czar's train at Borki is now attributed to criminal conspiracy, and the dismissed railway employees will be arrested.

The French Government is alarmed over the progress of Boulangism, as indicated by the candidature of Gen. Montauban in the Department of the Somme.

The expedition to Thibet, which was organized by the late M. Prejevalsky, will start on its journey in March next under the command of Col. Pevtsoff.

Goschen read amid cheers a telegram received by the West African Telegraph Company from St. Thomas, reporting the arrival of Stanley and Emin on the Aruwhinel.

Another female tamer of wild beasts has fallen a victim to her occupation, having been killed by a tiger at Hobenmuth, in Bohemia, before the beast could be driven off.

Associations all over the world are raising funds for a vigorous anti-slavery campaign. It is less than 30 years since the world sympathized with a war which had no other pretext than its perpetuation.

The Daily Telegraph, London, Eng., says that, should Mr. Blaine go to London as U. S. minister, England would take it as a great compliment, but whomsoever Gen. Harrison may choose is certain to be persona grata there.

The Emperor of China has conferred marks of distinction upon Prince Bismarck, Herr Krupp, and Herr Shutton, president of the Vulcan company, as a token that China is satisfied with the building of the Chinese ironclad, in Germany.

The Emperor Francis Joseph and King Humbert have exchanged very cordial Christmas greetings. Both these potentates, as well as the German Emperor, are confident of the maintenance of peace. We have our doubts notwithstanding.

The appointment of the crofters Canadian Commission is announced. The members are the Marquis of Lothian, Sir Charles Tupper, Mr. King, and Thomas Skinner. They are empowered to select Highland families for colonization in Canada.

Two more Irish members of Parliament have been found guilty and sentenced to terms of imprisonment, J. Finucane for inciting tenants to intimidation, and J. D. Shehan for conspiracy. The latter gets four months. The former has been liberated on condition of appearing for sentence when called, his physicians having certified that imprisonment would endanger his life.

TO THE DEAF.—A Person cured of Deafness and noises in the head of 23 years standing by a simple remedy, will send a description of it FREE to any Person who applies NICHOLSON, 30 St. John St., Montreal.

CHESS.

All communications for this department should be addressed-- CHESS EDITOR, Windsor, N. S.

The proprietors of THE CRITIC offer two prizes—to consist of books on Chess—to those subscribers who shall send in the greatest number of correct solutions during the current year. No entrance fee required.

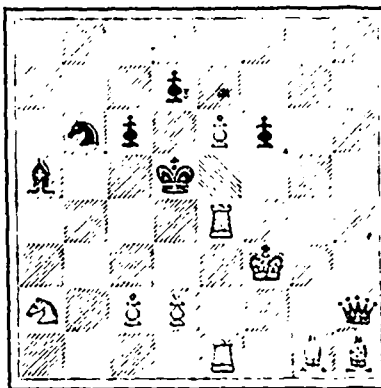
Solutions of the concluding problems of the competition with the names of the prize winners will be inserted in our next issue.

PROBLEM No. 62.

By T. Taverner, (Belton.)

First prize in the Problem Tourney of *Venue's News*.

BLACK—6 pieces.



WHITE—10 pieces.

White to play and mate in 2 moves.

GAME No. 45.

Played June 25, 1882.

(Vienna Opening.)

WHITE.	BLACK.
Mr. R. Steel (Calcutta).	Herr Czauk.
1 P to K4	P to K4
2 Kt to QB3	Kt to QB3
3 P to KB4	B to B4 (a)
4 Kt to B3 (b)	P to Q3
5 B to B4 (c)	Kt to B3 (d)
6 P to Q3	Castles
7 P to B5 (e)	Kt to QR4
8 B to KKt5	Kt takes B
9 P takes Kt	B to Kt5 (f)
10 Q to Q3	B takes Kt, ch
11 Q takes B	P to QKt3 (g)
12 Castles, QR	B to Kt2 (h)
13 Q to K3	P to QR4
14 B takes Kt	Q takes B (i)
15 P to KKt4	Q to Qsq
16 P to Kt5	P to KB3
17 P to KR4	Q to Q2
18 P to R5	Q to B3
19 Kt to Q2	P takes P (j)
20 P to KR6 (k)	P takes P
21 R takes P	K to Rsq
22 Q takes KKtP	R to B2
23 QR to Rsq	Q to Q2
24 Q to R4 (l)	Q to K2
25 P to B6	Q to Q2
26 Kt to B3	R to KKtsq
27 R to Ktsq	R takes R, ch
28 Kt takes R	Q to B3
29 Kt to R3	Q takes BP
30 P to Kt3	Q takes KP
31 Q takes Q (m)	B takes Q
32 Kt to Kt5	B to Kt3 (n)
33 R takes B	P takes R
34 Kt takes R ch	K to Kt sq
35 Kt to Kt5 (o)	P to Q4
36 K to Q2	P to B4
37 K to K3	P to Kt4
38 P to B4 (p)	KtP takes P
39 P takes P	P to Q5 ch (q)
40 K to K4	P to R5
41 K takes P	P to Q6
42 K to K6	P to Q7
43 K to K7	P queens
44 P to B7 ch	K to K2
45 P queens, mate	

(a) 3 P takes P is the only correct reply in this position.

(b) Inferior to 4 P takes P, which compels Black to continue with :

WHITE. BLACK.

4 B takes Kt
5 R takes B Kt takes P
6 P to Q1 Kt to Kt3
7 B to K3, &c., with an advantageous development.

(c) The text move would be all right if Black's knight were already at B3; but in the actual position we prefer 5 B to Kt5.

(d) We recommend here 5 B to KKt5, followed by 6 Kt to Q5 if feasible.

(e) Premature; the usual continuation is 7 Kt to R1, which prevents Black from exchanging White's KB for the knight.

(f) An excellent move, if Black had followed it up properly White would have had to submit to a triple pawn, or to the loss of the KP.

(g) We can see no reason why Black should not capture the QP, and at least equalize the game, e.g. :

WHITE. BLACK.

11 Kt takes P
12 B takes Q Kt takes Q
13 B takes P Kt to K4
14 R to Q sq B takes P
15 B takes QP KR to K sq
16 P to B3 QR to B sq, &c.

(h) The capture now was still more powerful, as the knight would attack the rook in taking the queen, e.g. :

WHITE. BLACK.

12 Kt takes P
13 B takes Q Kt takes Q
14 P takes Kt R takes B
15 Kt takes P B takes P
16 Kt to B6 R to K sq,

with a pawn a head and a winning position.

(i) Perhaps it would have been more advisable to take with the pawn in spite of the seemingly exposed position of the King. Black's queen is compelled to retreat immediately on the next move and White obtains a formidable attack, whereas Black's pieces are hampered even for defensive purposes.

(j) Very questionable. The queen ought to have retired to Q2.

(k) Better than Q takes P. We do not think Black has anything else now but to take the pawn.

(l) In order to defend the KP so that the knight may be available.

(m) The simplest way of finishing the game, White gaining a piece by the transaction.

(n) Black has nothing better. If 32 B to Q4, then 33 P to B4, and the bishop is equally lost. The game might well be abandoned at this stage. The remainder being only a matter of time.

(o) With the exception of one or two feeble moves in the opening, the game was very well played by Mr. Steel. He took the attack on the fourteenth move, and conducted it throughout very skillfully, and without giving his opponent the least chance of a counter attack.

(p) This is the straw which breaks the camel's back.

(q) If 39 P takes P, the game is equally lost.