

## OHIO CHESS ASSOCIATION.

The chess-players of Ohio may well be congratulated on the results of their first general convention, held in Cincinnati, on Tuesday, February 22nd.

The attendance exceeded fifty players from various parts of State. Prominent chess-players from other States came as spectators, among whom were Mr. A. B. Hodges of Nashville, champion of Tennessee. Mr. J. W. Showalter of Dover, Ky., first prize winner in the Elmira (N.Y.) Telegram correspondence tourney, and Mr. W. H. Lyons, the well-known chess editor and author of Newport, Ky. Mr. J. H. Irwin, the expert checker-player, was also a looker-on. The only prize offered in the tourney, besides the honors, was a beautiful set of traveling chessmen and board, donated by Mr. Lyons.

The selection of permanent officers for the association is warmly commended on all sides. The president, Rev. Dudley W. Rhodes, of Cincinnati, is one of the most cultivated clergymen in the State, and is a model presiding officer, courteous, clear and ready. He is a lover of chess as an intellectual and dignified recreation. The vice-presidents, whose names appear below, are men of position, and veterans in chess, and are representative of the different sections of Ohio. The secretary and treasurer, Mr. Chas. F. Nordoff, is a very young man, but peculiarly energetic in all organizing work. He has performed a great deal of the preliminary labors, and has been untiring in the cause. The committee of the three chess clubs of this city, who led in getting up the meeting, brought to their task close application and high intelligence.

The one day's tourney required long sessions over the board from those who won successive rounds. While the results are not conclusive as to the best players in the State, they will command general attention and give to the winner a leadership he will enjoy until displaced. Those who do not enter such contests when the opportunity is presented must not assume to be champions. The rear of the army is not the place to claim the laurels.

The tourney was not entirely completed after the play of Tuesday morning, afternoon and evening, and of Wednesday evening. The two survivors of all the rounds are Prof. Geo. W. Smith, of Cincinnati, and Mr. E. D. Payne, of Dayton.

In this first tourney a player dropped from the lists after losing a single game. By the constitution adopted, a more searching and flexible system will govern future tournaments for the State championship. The constitution also has some features encouraging the formation of clubs and of making their play methodical and full of purpose. Aimless play is one of the plagues of chess clubs. When the games are recorded and count for something the play assumes a different and far higher aspect.

Cincinnati was chosen as the place for next year's meeting, as a matter of temporary convenience. The annual tournament on February 22nd of each year, will go to other points in the State that can be reached readily by railroad, and, after 1888 will probably not be in Cincinnati again for a series of years.

The vote of thanks given to the chess editor of the Cincinnati *Commercial Gazette* is a compliment as deserved as we have no doubt it was highly appreciated.

The meeting was called to order at 9.30 a.m. by Mr. Henry Loewe. On motion, Rev. Dudley W. D. Rhodes was elected temporary chairman, and Mr. C. F. Nordhoff secretary *pro tem*. The following committee on permanent organization was appointed: W. C. Cochran, Wm. R. Williamson and Henry

Hutzler, of Cincinnati; L. M. Jewett, of Athens, and A. C. Fenner, of Dayton.

At the second business session at 1.30 p. m. the constitution was adopted.

## NOTES.

In the first solvers' tourney of the Chicago Wanderer the first three prizes were a tie between J. Barnett, H. C. Thompson and "Milo." The real name of the latter is withheld. The fourth prize was taken by H. Ernst, the fifth by B. Barnett, and the sixth by J. W. Young.

February 22nd is now an important date for American chess-players. This year it witnessed the gathering of the State Chess Associations of New York, Rhode Island, New Jersey and Ohio. Mr. Delmar, of New York City, carried the first honors in New Jersey, Mr. E. C. Stokes, of Melville, in New Jersey, and Prof. G. W. Smith, of Cincinnati, in Ohio. We have not yet heard from Rhode Island. Fifty-two players entered the free-for-all in New Jersey. The system there is to drop no one until he has lost two games. After the first round the winners play against the winners, and the losers against the losers, and every player who loses a second game is retired from the contest. Mr. Stokes was also first in the New Jersey meeting of last year. Sixteen New Jersey clubs were represented. A summer tournament of the association will be held in July at Melville, N. J. The first prize winner at Providence, R. I., was Dr. E. M. Harris. An address was read from Governor Howard encouraging the Rhode Island Chess Association.

Mr. Gladstone recently wrote as follows to Mr. J. Crane, who dedicated to the statesman three problems published in the Leeds *Mercury*:—"Dear Sir,—Many thanks for your kind words. I am sensible of the compliment you have paid me, and I join in your admiration of the noble game; but is it not too good for a game, at any rate, for the residuum of brain force which I have to devote to it? Your faithful and obedient, W. E. Gladstone."

## QUEBEC CHESS CLUB.

For the ensuing year the following officers have been elected, viz:—Hon. president, T. Ledroit; president, A. J. Maxwell; first vice-president, E. Pope; second vice-president, C. P. Champion; secretary, M. J. Murphy; treasurer, Chas. Brodie; committee of management, Messrs. E. Duval, A. Brodie, F. H. Andrews, B. J. Whitehead and Dr. Ievers.

## OUR ASSISTANT.

For once easy lies the head that wears the editorial crown, and well may he boast, seeing that when our powers fail our mantle is at once assumed by the Chief himself. Long we have admired his genius, but never expected amongst other gifts, the problem art in chess was one of his many accomplishments. But nothing surprises us now-a-days not even the control for the nonce, taken so aptly out of our feeble chessic hands. Saying this much, we doubt the fairness of criticising so well intended efforts, but as the Doctor rather enjoys being torn to pieces, for his delectation, we examine Problems A and C in the March number of the Forester lying before us. A calls for mate in two. Promote the Pawn and make a Queen is stale mate, but give it dignity of only a Rook when White's 2nd move to Q R 5 mates. B Why four moves is required is what no fellow understands, when by Queen taking the Pawn the agony is over in one!!! C We have our war paint on and are fully equipped for the fray when we find the Black King,

Where oh! where is he that we may have his b-b-b-blood. Has he taken refuge in thy wig-wam, Doctor? If so, bring him forth that we may slay him. No claim on \$5 prize generously offered. The above is a freewill contribution by The Grateful Chess-Editor.

[NOTE EDITOR.—The Chess Editor wishes to know why we require four moves in our problem B, when one only is required to check-mate. Our problems were intended to be of a higher order than the ordinary, and for professionals only. Any fool of a chess player could solve the problem in one move, in fact we could solve it ourselves in one move, but we want it solved in *four moves*. With regard to the other problem the Chess Editor wants to know where the King is? Well, we don't object to take him into our confidence: we couldn't, ourselves, see how any of the problems could be solved, but we were not quite sure, in fact we are not sure of anything in chess; therefore, to make our \$5 sure, we have put the King in one of our pockets, we have 12 of them, and we have changed him from one pocket to another about every two hours, and yet we are growing visibly thin, owing to anxiety lest our Chess Editor will succeed in check-mating him even there. If we ever get out of this box safely, we propose to go for the scalp of our Chess Editor rather than evolve any more chess problems for him.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

Ottawa, March 29th, 1887.

Editor *Ind. Forester*.

DEAR SIR AND BRO—I am at a loss to understand the style that you have of conducting business in the office of the Independent Forester—I have been a member of the Order since December—and have just to-day received my first copy of your paper, to which I believe I am entitled from Jan 1st. it is highly satisfactory after waiting three mos. to receive the Feb'y number on the last day of March or thereabouts. I suppose I may expect the Jan'y number about the end of June, and with regard to the advertising card of our Court, Court Laurentian, you have also managed to get it in wrong.

If you had my name mentioned a few more times you wd not require any other officers I am Chief Ranger and Physician but the Chaplain is Mr. G. W. Patterson.

Kindly correct the above error and try to send me my FORESTER as soon after its publication as possible.

Yours fraternally,

WM. F. SHAW MD  
C.R. Court Laurentian,  
116 Bank St Ottawa.

## ANSWER.

1. It is quite probable that there are a few things that our good brother does not understand, but as he gets older and somewhat wiser, he may comprehend some simple things which at present he is at a loss to understand. It is quite evident that one of the things that he does not understand is that a gentlemanly and courteous letter, to an Editor, will receive due consideration as quickly as one after the "Smart Aleck" style.

2. With regard to the mailing of the FORESTER, the good brother has absolutely no cause of complaint against this office. As directed by the Supreme Court, as soon as Court Laurentian was reported, we gave instructions to the mailing clerk to send to the C.D.H.C.R. enough FORESTERS to give one copy to each member, which was done. On the 17th March Bro. Harry Botterell, K.S. of