

CITY CHIMES.

THE LYCEUM.—The Boston Comedy Company has been playing to good houses at the Lyceum this week and have given very satisfactory performances. Mr. H. Price Webber, Manager of the Company, is an excellent comedian, and is well supported by the members of his company. Miss Edwina Gray in her various roles displays much versatility and dramatic talent and has won well merited applause. The programme is changed nightly.

OUR GOOD QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY.—Next week we are to have a holiday to celebrate the seventy-fourth birthday of Her Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria. As loyal subjects it is becoming that we make the occasion a gala day, but as residents of a land where the month of May is not the glorious season of flowers and sunshine that that genus homo, the spring poet, would have us believe it to be, our plans are necessarily subject to another monarch, the weather. However, we are in hopes that the sun will shine in all his splendor on the 24th, and that all plans made for the celebration of the day and the enjoyment of the public may be realized. Although a little early for picnics, I have heard of arrangements being made for several; driving parties, large and small, fishing expeditions, the races at the riding grounds, the Dolls' Carnival at the School for the Blind, and various other sources of amusement are open to the choice of the pleasure-seekers, while some weary toilers will no doubt welcome the holiday as an opportunity for a long "idle day." The Josie Mills Company at the Academy and the Boston Comedy Company at the Lyceum will probably come in for a large share of patronage.

THE ORPHEUS.—The Orpheus Concert held on Tuesday evening was largely attended, and was a great success. The selection by the orchestra with which the programme opened, was bright and well rendered. It was followed by a chorus from the "Doctor of Alcantara," a pretty thing at any time, but particularly pleasing as given by the Orpheus Club with auxiliary and orchestra. This combination also delighted their audience in the closing piece, a selection from the Bohemian girl, in which a quintette was taken with good effect by Miss Clara Slayter, Mrs. C. J. Clarkson and Messrs. G. E. Boak, D. C. Gillis and A. Wiswell. The orchestra did some fine work, and Herr Klingensfeld must have felt not a little pride in his pupils, in whose execution is given unmistakable evidence of the training of a master musician. The ladies' auxiliary had a grand opportunity to distinguish itself in the two part chorus, the "Gondolier's Song," in which accompanied by the piano only the ladies' voices made sweet melody. Herr Klingensfeld's violin solo was a gem, and his hearers' appreciation thereof was plainly demonstrated in the enthusiastic encore accorded it, to which the Professor kindly responded with a charming little symphony. Mrs. M. Wallace played Herr Klingensfeld's accompaniments. Miss Homer was in fine voice on Tuesday evening, and her songs "What the Chimney Sang" and "To Sevilla," were well adapted to her voice and were sung with much feeling. The fair songstress was heartily applauded. Lieut. W. F. Slayter, R. N., was a new claimant for public favor, and in his solo "O Promise Me" quite charmed his hearers. Lieut. Slayter is the fortunate possessor of a full sweet tenor voice which is very pleasing. In response to an encore long and loud he gave "the Kerry Dance." One number on the programme which promised to be a feature of the concert was omitted. The "Song of the Norns," by the ladies' auxiliary and the orchestra with solo by Miss Homer, was "owing to the lateness of the hour," announced Professor Porter, "passed over," but, facetiously remarked that gentleman, if the audience would call around in a couple of weeks time, the song would probably be on hand. Very good, but unfortunately that clever man, the newspaper reporter, seems to have been admitted to the secret, and with characteristic frankness made public the statement that on account of "a hitch at Monday night's rehearsal," the performance of the number was out of the question. Be this as it may, the audience, though disappointed in this one selection, appeared to be well pleased with the fifth concert of the Orpheus season.

THE WEATHER.—Since last Saturday we have been treated to a most dismal "spell of weather." Rain, fog and a bleak east wind form a trio of woes calculated to make even the youthful and sanguine feel far from joyful. The few grass plots Halifax boasts of are turning beautifully green, the buds on the trees are swelling and in some cases are almost ready to burst into leaf, and altogether it begins to look at least springlike. Since it is now too late to talk about an early spring, the next best thing to hope for is an early summer.

THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—The Josie Mills' Company has not had very good houses at the Academy this week, a state of affairs largely attributable to the weather. The company on Monday and Tuesday evenings presented "The Black Flag" in good style. Mr. J. L. Ashton is an actor who seems to throw himself completely into the character he is impersonating. Mr. Harry English has a very pleasing manner, and both as "Harry Gynodon," the coast guard in "The Black Flag" and as "Sir Horace Welby," the English gentleman in "Forget-me-Not," won the full sympathies of his audience. Miss Josie Mills, the star of the company, is a strong actress, and while as "Ned, the cabin boy," she was most pleasing, in her presentation of the character of "Stephanie DeMohriarvt," an adventuress, she played so well the part of a thoroughly bad woman that while applauding her acting one almost revolted from the actress. The remainder of the company have given very satisfactory performances of the parts taken by them. This evening and to-morrow "Queen's Evidence" will be given, and at to-morrow's matinee "The Black Flag" will be repeated.

THE DOLLS' CARNIVAL.—On Wednesday and Thursday of next week the dolls' carnival and bazaar at the School for the Blind will take place. The Carnival of 100 dolls is exceeding pretty, the figures are all nicely set up and, by reference to the carnival programme, the name, nationality or scene can be readily ascertained. The bazaar will be on an extensive scale, and tea parties of two or more can have their wants supplied. The mechanical toy room and the local doll show will be exceedingly interesting and will be quite novel features in Halifax entertainments. I hope the invitation given to the little girls of the city to enter their dollies in the local show has been kept in mind, for I feel sure that every little woman who visits the carnival will be interested in the display of "the other girls' dolls," and will feel sorry if she has neglected to see that her own favorite baby is seated with the rest. On Friday, the 26th inst., the carnival is to be sent to Dartmouth, and exhibited in that place in connection with a bazaar and tea which the ladies of that town have in hand. The energy of the promoters and the worthy object of the scheme merit the success which seems now to be assured. CHIMES.

CHESS.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM 167.

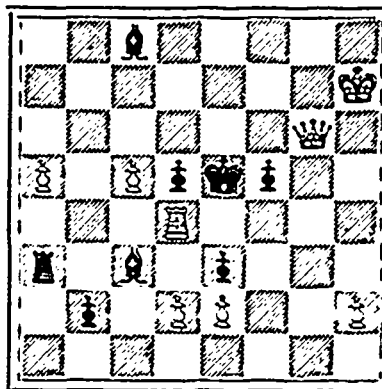
P—R5 etc.
Solved by B. M. R.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM 168.

B—Kt8

PROBLEM 171.

Black 8 pieces.

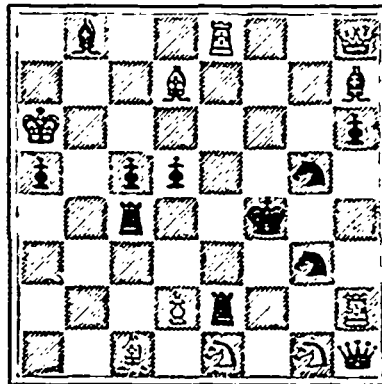


White 8 pieces.

White to play and mate in three moves.

PROBLEM 172.

Black 12 pieces.



White 9 pieces.

White to play and mate in two moves.

GAME 166.

Played recently in the Scottish Association Tourney held at Dundee. RUY LOPEZ.

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| WHITE. | BLACK. |
| WALKER. | MILLS. |
| 1 P—K4 | P—K4 |
| 2 KkT—B3 | QkT—B3 |
| 3 B—K5 | P—Q3 |
| 4 P—Q4 | B—Q2 |
| 5 Castles | P x P |
| 6 Kt x P | Kt—B3 |
| 7 QkT—B3 | B—K2 |
| 8 B—K3 | Castles |
| 9 Q—Q2 | R—K sq |
| 10 B—Q5 | KkT—Kt5 |
| 11 Kt x Kt | B x Kt |
| 12 QkT—K sq | Kt x B |
| 13 R x Kt | B—B3 |
| 14 R—K2 | B—Q5 |
| 15 Kt—Qsq | Q—B3 |

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|------------|---------|
| 16 P—Q53 | B—Kt3 |
| 17 K—Rsq | QR—Qsq |
| 18 P—KB4 | Q—B3 |
| 19 R—B3 | B—Q2 |
| 20 Kt—K3 | B x Kt |
| 21 QR x B | P—KkT3 |
| 22 P—B5 | R—K4 |
| 23 B—B4 | P—Q4? |
| 24 B x P1 | P—B3 |
| 25 B—Kt3 | P—KkT4 |
| 26 R—Q3! | R x P |
| 27 P—KB3! | Q—B3 |
| 28 B x B | R x R |
| 29 Q x R | R—K8 ch |
| 30 K—R2 | P—Kt5 |
| 31 R—B4 | P—KR4 |
| 32 Q—Q4 | Q—Kt4 |
| 33 P—KkT3 | P x P |
| 34 P—B6 | R—K7 ch |
| 35 R—B2 | P—R5 |
| 36 Q—Q8 ch | K—B2 |
| 37 Q—Q5 ch | Resigns |

COMMENTS

The correct solution to the anti mate was Kt to K7, etc. Solved by B. M. R.

Pawn play is of the greatest importance and at the same time very difficult. This is a good example—White—K at KkT5, P's at KkT2 and KR5.

Black—K at KkT2, P at KR2.

With the move can white win?

A good problem or puzzle is the following:

White—All the pieces on their squares but no pawns on the board.

Black—K at his square.

White playing first undertakes to command every square on the board in four or five moves, mating only on the last move.

N.B.—Solutions will in all cases appear at the end of two weeks.

IMPERIAL

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