

OUR CHESS COLUMN.

Solutions to Problems sent in by Correspondents will be duly acknowledged.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

- J. W. S., Montreal.—Papers to hand. Thanks.
G. A. R., Ottawa.—Correct solution received of Problem No. 260
B., Montreal.—Letter containing problems received. Thanks.
T. S., St. Andrews, Manitoba.—Correct solution received of Problem for Young Players No. 257. Look over Problem No. 258 again.
M. J. M., Quebec.—Post card received. Will send a reply in a day or two.
E. H.—Solution received of Problem for Young Players No. 257. Correct.
J. & H. McG., Cote-des-Neiges.—Correct solution received of Problem for Young Players No. 258.

We have received from Dr. Ryall, of Hamilton, a letter containing full particulars connected with the Hamilton Correspondence Tourney, but we are obliged to postpone its publication till next week, as we are anxious to give the latest information we can of the doings of the American Chess Congress and Tourney. The result of the play between Mr. Grundy and Captain Mackenzie, which must decide the contest as far as the first prize is concerned, is anxiously expected, and we will not fail to do our best to let it appear in the Column to-day.

Some time ago a report appeared in the English papers of the distressed condition of the family of the late Captain Evans, the inventor of the well-known gambit which bears his name. At the time of his decease, his friends in England made some effort to relieve those he had left behind, and something was done in that direction, but not sufficient to be of permanent benefit. We see that subscriptions are being made in the United States in order to forward relief across the ocean, and perhaps the same thing might be accomplished by the chessplayers of Canada. If every chessplayer who has derived pleasure from opening his game with this beautiful gambit, would give a trifle toward this benevolent object, the amount raised would soon reach a very acceptable sum.

During some remarks at the Manhattan Club banquet on Saturday, Mr. Max Judd, of St. Louis, feelingly alluded to the appeal which has lately been made in England for aid for the widow of Captain Evans, the discoverer of the Evans' Gambit, and suggested that the club should make response to the call; in less than two minutes Mr. Judd received \$37.50, which was raised upon him by those present. The amount has since been increased to over \$50.

We have just been informed that Mr. Blackburne, the celebrated English chessplayer, has very recently met with a heavy domestic affliction. It was but a few days ago that the chessplayers on this continent were anticipating the pleasure of a visit from this gentleman, whose wonderful blind-fold performances have elicited the admiration of hundreds of the lovers of chess, and now we are called upon to give him our sympathy in the time of misfortune.

With reference to a statement which we inserted in last week's Column, and which was copied from Turf, Field and Farm, we have been requested to publish the following letter:

Montreal, 31st January, 1880.

Chess Editor CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS:

DEAR SIR,—It is the case that I composed the song which was sung at the Chess Banquet in New York last week, but I am not the author of the "old air" which accompanied it. Yours truly, J. HENDERSON.

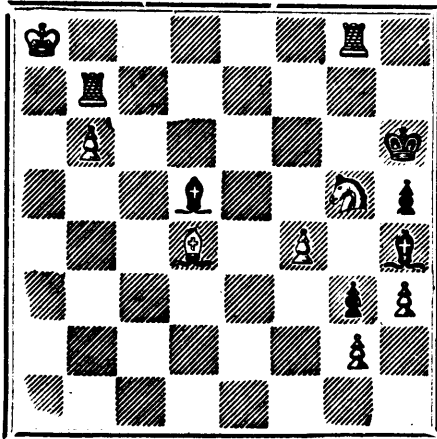
Table with columns for player names (Grundy, Mackenzie, Mohle, Sellman, Judd, Delmar, Ryan, Ware, Congdon, Cohnfeld) and rows for 'Games Won' and 'Games Lost'.

SYNOPTICAL TABLE OF GAMES PLAYED IN THE TOURNAMENT OF THE FIFTH AMERICAN CHESS CONGRESS—1880.

PROBLEM No. 262.

By P. Klett.

BLACK.



WHITE

White to play and mate in three moves

GAME 392ND.

(From Land and Water.)

One of ten blindfold games played by Mr. J. H. Blackburne, at the Shine Hall, Hertford, on the 1st inst.

(Centre Counter Gambit.)

White.—(Mr. Blackburne.) Black.—(Mr. Beningfield.)

- 1. P to K4 2. P takes P
3. Kt to Q B3 3. Q to QR4
4. Kt to B3 4. B to Kt5
5. B to K2 (a) 5. P to K3
6. Castles 6. Kt to K B3
7. P to KR3 7. B to KB4
8. P to Q3 (b) 8. P to B3
9. B to Q2 9. Q to B2
10. Kt to KR4 10. B to Q3
11. P to B4 11. B to Q3 (c)
12. P to B5 12. P takes P
13. Kt takes P 13. B takes Kt
14. R takes B 14. Q Kt to Q2
15. P to Q4 (d) 15. P to K Kt3
16. R to B3 16. Castles QR
17. P to QR4 17. Kt to R4
18. P to R5 18. P to QR3
19. Kt to R4 19. B to R7 (ch) (e)
20. K to R sq 20. QR to K sq
21. B to K sq 21. P to KB4
22. Kt to Kt6 (ch) 22. Kt takes Kt
23. P takes Kt 23. Q to Q3
24. B takes P (f) 24. P takes B (g)
25. P to Kt7 (ch) 25. K takes P
26. R to Kt3 (ch) 26. Kt to B2 (h)
27. R takes P 27. R to R sq
28. B to R5 (ch) 28. K to Q2
29. R to Kt7 (ch) 29. Kt to K3
30. Q to K sq (ch) 30. B to K4 (i)
31. P takes K 31. Q to B4
32. B to Kt4 32. Kt to Kt6 (ch) (j)
33. Q takes Kt. 33. Q to Q5

White mates in four moves.

NOTES.

- (a) Whether here or to B4 be better is not easy to determine. On the whole we prefer the text move.
(b) We favour P to Q4, but the move made has its good points, and, moreover, the blindfold player has to consider all the games when deciding upon the line of play to be adopted in each.
(c) Q to Kt3 (ch) would yield no profit.
(d) We can fancy Staunton saying here, "Let not the tyro rashly imagine that because the Pawn is now advanced to the Queen's 4, the limitation of his motion in the first instance was an error where time has been lost. The purposes which the eminent conductor of the White forces had originally in view have been fully served, and cogent reasons for a further advance have now supervened." Staunton would have been right enough, and we certainly do not base note b upon the two moves made by this Pawn.
(e) Of doubtful merit at best, and as continued the reverse of beneficial, 10P to K B4 would be a safe and sensible move.
(f) Here we see Mr. Blackburne extracting a fine combination out of a position which scarcely promised anything of the kind, even as a keen eyed gold-digger fishes a glittering nugget out of what others would pass by as a mass of dull earth.
(g) There is much to be said for first playing R takes B (ch), but we imagine that White would in any case get the better game.
(h) If K to R2 White sacrifices the Q R and mates.
(i) If 30 K to B3, White plays 31 R takes B P, giving mate should the Rook be captured, while if 30 K to Q4, then 31 P to B4 (ch), which in the end causes Black to lose the Queen for a Rook.
(j) Futile, and in fact he misses a fine opportunity—of resigning.

SOLUTIONS

Solution of Problem No. 260

- WHITE. BLACK.
1. Q to KR7 1. Any move
2. Mates acc.

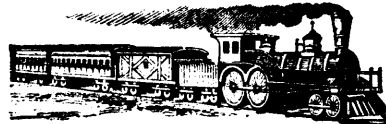
Solution of Problem for Young Players No. 258.

- WHITE. BLACK.
1. Q to QB4 (ch) 1. K to R sq
2. Kt to KB7 (ch) 2. K to Kt sq
3. Kt to KR6 (ch) 3. K to R sq
4. Q to K Kt8 (ch) 4. R takes Q
5. Kt mates

PROBLEMS FOR YOUNG PLAYERS. No. 259

- WHITE. BLACK.
K at QB7 K at Q Kt5
R at Q3 Pawn Q Kt4
R at Q Kt sq
B at Q5
Kt at Q Kt7
Pawn at Q Kt3

White to play and mate in two moves.



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