

DRAUGHTS-CHECKERS

All Checker communications and exchanges should be addressed to W. Forsyth, 36 Grafton Street, Halifax.

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

THE GREAT INTERNATIONAL MATCH.

—The match for £200 a side between Charles F. Barker, of Boston, champion of America, and James Smith, of Spennymoor, champion of England, commenced, as announced in our last issue, on the 24th of December, in the Town Hall of Spennymoor, Durham Co., England. This match was regarded with the keenest interest by votaries of the game on both sides of the Atlantic, and this was enhanced by the fact that the winner is but a step from the coveted position of championship of the world. There was a tacit understanding that should Barker win he would challenge the veteran "Herd Laddie," Wyllie, for the world's championship, and that if Smith won he would be regarded as Wyllie's natural successor whenever the latter should retire from that position. The conditions were that thirty-two games should be played, but as the odds at the end of the twenty-ninth game were hopelessly against Smith he withdrew from the contest. The match occupied twelve full playing days, and the last game was played on the thirteenth day. The score then stood—Barker 5, Smith 1, drawn 23. Before play began the contestants were introduced to each other by a Dr. Houton, who presented a large and handsome silver cup as a trophy to be competed for in addition to the stakes.

We are pleased to announce that we have received five correct solutions to our first problem (No. 82) for the current year, and that three of these are from new competitors. Several others have assured us of their intention to compete this year.

We have not as yet received any entries for the correspondence competition.

SOLUTIONS.

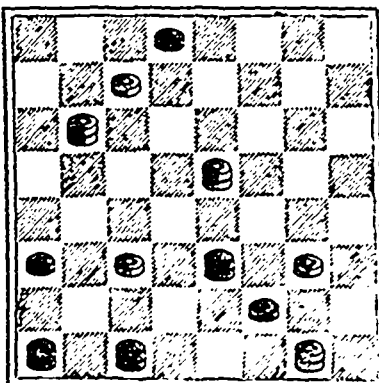
(Series of 1889)

PROBLEM 82.—The position was:—black men 3, 11, 13, kg. 31; white men 12, 19, 21, 24, kg. 6; black to play and draw.

31—27 19 16 23—18 21 14
24 20 3—8 16 7 18—11
27—23 12 3 13—17 drawn.

PROBLEM No. 84.

Contributed by A. E. Robinson.
Black men, 2, 21, 27, kgs. 23, 29, 30.



White men 6, 22, 24, kgs. 9, 15, 32.
White to play and win.

London.

New York.

Halifax, N. S.

SPRING, 1889.

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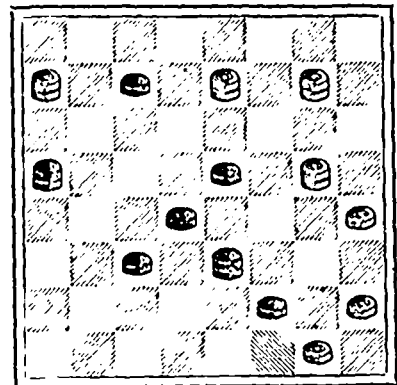
Corner Prince & Hollis Sts.,

HALIFAX, N. S.

PROBLEM No. 85.

By J. M. Dykes, ex-champion of Canada.

Black men 6, 15, 18, 22, 27, kgs. 13, 23



White men 20, 28, 32, kgs. 5, 7, 8, 16.
Black to play and win.

The West Lothian Courier, Bathgate, North Britain, offers four prizes for the first, second, third and fourth best original checker problems, not previously published. The competition is open to the world, and the prizes are valuable. Any competitor may send in as many problems as he or she pleases, but no one will be allowed to win more than one of the prizes. The problem must be an end game. Each problem must have a motto—but no name—attached, and with the play leading to it and the solution be enclosed in a sealed envelope endorsed with the motto. Another sealed envelope endorsed in the same way is to contain the competitor's name, and these two envelopes are to be enclosed in one addressed "Problem Competition," Draughts Editor, West Lothian Courier, Bathgate, North Britain. Entries from America must be received by the 30th of March next.

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