

H. Andrews winning the championship of the Club.

THE GAME OF CHESS.

The game of chess, from the first great period of its history up to the present day, about one thousand years, has been played upon a board of sixty four squares. Up to about the sixth century of our period the game was known as Chaturanga, and was played by four persons, each having four pieces and four pawns, there being no Queen. The move of the pieces, with one exception, were the same as now. The Bishop or Ship, being limited to the third square from the one on which he stood at the time of being played.

During the second period, which began about the sixth century and ended with the fifteenth, generally called the age of Shatranj, all the pieces stood on the board, and were controlled by two players, as at the present day, two of the four Kings having been transformed into viziers, or councillors, who stood next the King. The new dignitaries only moved one square diagonally.

Modern chess began about the close of the fifteenth century, the vizier becoming the Queen and at the same time the most powerful piece on the board, combining the powers of the Rook and Bishop.

The Bishop's powers were extended to the full range of the diagonal, instead of commanding only the square next but one to that on which he stood as illustrated in the old problem, Dilaram's mate.

For our part we are perfectly satisfied with the grand old game as at present played, and consider innovations of any kind as quite unnecessary.

Montreal Gazette.

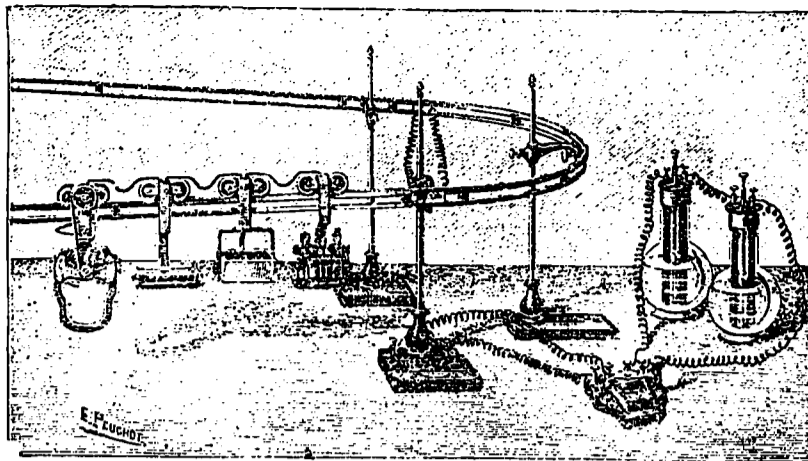
VERDI.

The great Italian master, whose latest opera, "Otello," was produced at Milan on the evening of February 7th, and scored a brilliant success, is in his seventy-four year. His first serious work, the musical drama of "Oberto di San Bonifazio," was produced in 1839; and the series of well known operas which followed placed him in the front rank of the great Italian composers, of whom he is to-day the sole survivor. The libretto of "Otello" is based upon Shakspeare's drama. The music is in Verdi's grandest and most advanced style. That the work is a masterpiece, appears to be agreed on all sides. Signor Verdi will visit Paris this month to be present at the execution of his "Requiem" at St. Eustache on the 10th inst. This requiem was composed in memory of the famous Italian novelist and poet, Manzoni, and has never been rendered in any Paris church.



FIFTY THOUSAND YEARS HENCE.

Professor of University of Timbuctoo: You can perceive, Gentlemen, that we are descended from this extinct animal called man, a half-developed creature whose tail was not grown.



A TOY ELECTRIC RAILWAY.

The locomotive is a magneto-electric motor, without dead point, coupled to a certain number of cars of various forms, showing the different applications of the system.

A commutator is interposed in the circuit formed by the two rails, the motor, and the two fourteen-ounce bichromates batteries that suffice to actuate the system. This commutator is capable of taking three positions that correspond to the running forward at high speed, stoppage, and running backward at high speed. Intermediate notches permit, through the introduction of proper resistances into the circuit, of graduating the speed at will.

The whole affair, which is inclosed in a box, constitutes an interesting toy that is equally well adapted for the amusement of the young or to small cabinets of physical apparatus for elementary instruction.



A DOUBTFUL CHARACTER.

SMITH.—Who is that gentleman you were talking with just now?  
 BROWN.—He claims to be a titled Englishman of distinguished family, but I doubt it.  
 SMITH.—Why?  
 BROWN.—Because he did n't ask me to lend him any money.



THEY MUST HAVE THEM.

Chance meeting of two members of the Anti-Song Bird-in-Hat League, wearing their new bonnets.

THOSE DREADFUL RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

McMouthier, being a nervous individual, as made up his mind to eschew railway travelling in future, and spin his journeyings out toe and heel, all fair and square.

THE FASHION.

SPRING HATS.



The spring hat (1) is of black lace on transparent apple green. The ribbon is of wood violet with a bouquet aigrette of violets done in lace.



The hunter hat (2) is peculiar. The inner rims are of black velvet bordered with pearls, and the entolte is of black lace. The trimming consists of a pretty bunch of roses with buds.

TO THE READER.

When the Pictorial Times was started, a statement was made public to the effect that every effort would be put forth to ensure its success and. That although the beginnings were modest, the paper would be enlarged and improved in the full measure of the popular favor. After a fair trial of three months we find that we were premature in our opinions, and that there seems to be no present field for an illustrated paper such as this. Hence we are obliged, in justice to ourselves, to suspend publication for the time being, while we tender our thanks to the friends who encouraged us in our well-meant effort.

Those who have paid their yearly subscription will have their money refunded from the date of the present number.