

THE HOUSE OUT OF DOORS.

WINDOWS MADE BEAUTIFUL TO BE LOOKED AT AS WELL AS LOOKED OUT OF.

The reserve which was considered good style forty years ago, and which prompted the buildings, the dresses and the decorations of that time, has of late been almost unanimously relinquished. It was an axiom of those dignified days that the street should see and enjoy nothing of the beauty which adorned life for us within our black brick walls. The street must needs see and was ever welcome to envy our riches and our comforts, whereof we favored it with specimens in our hideous and impressive carriages and in the inelegant, if magnificent, silks of the ladies who drove in them. The rest the street might guess at through the austere wire blinds that shielded the sanctities of our dining-rooms. That the street should respect us was desirable—negatively desirable, for our self-respect was amply sufficient to our peace of mind; but that the street should admire us would have seemed positively vulgar to our fathers and almost improper to our mothers. The above mentioned window blinds, which obtained throughout the *comme il faut* parts of rich and gloomy London, typified very aptly the fashion and feeling then prevalent. And what a change, not only of fashion but of feeling, is expressed by the windows of to-day!

Flowers were the earliest innovation. It is not very long since the first flower-box touched a London street with color. To make for the street a pretty show, which one could hardly see from within, was indeed a novelty, which the quiet and crushing word "display" had almost nipped in the bud. Just at the time when ladies began to conceive that plenty of heavy silk and as costly a bonnet as possible hardly sufficed for good dressing—just at the time when the outline began to be studied in woman's costume, window-boxes, however, were not to be put down. The street, it was settled finally, was to be admitted to admire our taste—in flowers, in dresses, in hats, in boots. The prettier we and our houses looked to the street the better!

The wire blinds disappeared by slow degree; a pane of frosted glass, with a little decoration at the corners, was the next timid step in the direction of beauty, and soon after the pretty wicker screens took the fancy of the whole West of London, while the Minton blue-green flashed far and near as the one acceptable color for the now seemingly established flower-boxes. Quite of late, however, a perfect liberty has been proclaimed; we are free to dress our windows as we like, public opinion only requiring of us that we should do our best to gladden the public eyes. Under these circumstances I think a little guidance as to the ornamentation of our windows may be as desirable as the advice so universally required and so liberally given as to our dress. There is exactly the same difference between a charming window in the æsthetic manner as there is between a lady dressed according to the fashion plates and a lady in pre-Raphaelite attire. All four things can be well done or ill done. First, with respect to flower-boxes. Considering how rarely good designs and colors in tiles are chosen, and what extravagance of ugliness are compassed by amateurs in the attempt at originality, I strongly recommend the Minton blue for general use. It is a strong color, certainly—too strong to be thoroughly artistic, too perfect in its mixture of green and blue, lacking that exquisite subtlety, that felicitous imperfection which distinguishes, altogether inimitably, the original blue-green which it was intended to emulate. Too uncompromising, therefore, to be used in masses inside a room, it is nevertheless excellent in the open air, where distance, atmosphere, sunshine and shadow modify its violence. The colors of the flowers planted in a Minton-blue box should be carefully chosen, yellow and white are best; a little red (the pure scarlet of the common geranium) may also be used, but never yellow and scarlet together, and on no account the pink or cerise shades of red. Minton-blue and scarlet form an intense but healthy contrast; Minton-blue and rose-color produce only a sickly violence. A great improvement might be made by lightening the blue by several degrees, and increasing the green element in the same measure; it would then harmonize with most flowers. As for the windows on the *rez-de-chaussée*, I recommend to the lovers of the fresh and the dainty rather than the picturesque, the pookered blinds now so fashionable, made of amber saaten; crimson is effective for the exterior, but makes too hot a light within; blues and greens produce ghastly tints, and yellows are bilious. The amber must be delicate and cool in tint, slightly toned with pearl color; the lace edging should be effective, but not obtrusive in design, and pure white. To screen the lower panes use the freshest and finest book muslin, neither bluish or grayish in tint, but pearly white; do not trim or edge it in any way; never use it after it needs washing; it will keep clean a long time when new, and it is not costly to replace. Make it in little curtains of considerable height, divided in three for the large centre pane, and in two for the sides—supposing the window to be a bay; let each little curtain be caught round the middle by the freshest amber ribbons, or let the saaten-pookered blind be white, and use any other color for the muslin curtains—turquoise blue preferably. The drawing-room windows may be garnished to match. Of all things avoid lace curtains—I mean the long

window curtains hanging from a cornice to the ground—even if your lace be good in quality and design, for the fashion has been hopelessly vulgarized by the manufactured atrocities, stiff and hard in substance, flowery in pattern, and blue-white in color, produced by the industry of Nottingham. I should suggest for a substitute the same clear book muslin as is used in the dwarf blinds, edged with a delicate frill of itself. I do not think you will ever condescend to sprigs or patterns after you have appreciated the distinction of simple muslin. Perhaps you do not wish to go to the expense of festooned saaten and unwashable muslin; a great deal may in that case be done by edging ordinary linen with good Cluny lace, while the dwarf blinds and drawing-room curtains may be made of exquisite Madras muslin and fastened with ribbons of more durable colors. Ecru is, of course, the more economical and picturesque, while pure white is the more elegant.

If your tastes are æsthetic you will probably prefer glass to any other window screen, and, indeed, a piece of good glass is an enviable possession, but the choice offered by the range of Oriental materials is bewildering in its variety of beauty. Glass is beautiful from within, but only suggestive from without, and, therefore, should be supplemented by prettiness elsewhere. Nothing subtler and tints daylight more charmingly and becomingly than tussore. Running smoothly on a little brass rod, it takes the place of the ordinary roller-blind; add a little needlework sparingly along the borders and let the long curtains hanging within be of the same, and you have at once something light enough to counteract the severity of your glass screens.

Every one can buy Chinese matting, and the Japanese is not difficult to get, but in Algeria they make a quite different and most effective kind which gives a characteristic distinction to a house at once. In the same way can charming little scraps of translucent stuffs, exquisite in tint, be picked up here and there and adapted to the lower panes of our windows with excellent effect. I have seen the most beautiful curtains possible made of Turkish pocket-handkerchiefs. The mistress of that house was not afraid of color, and the soft silk of these curtains looked like the red petals of geraniums; the room was dark, and everything in it was artistic and in harmony, so that this glowing color fell quite naturally into its place; besides, it is an axiom in furnishing that no good tint, however bright, ever looks gaudy. Failing happy chances of travel, much may be done with the humblest stuffs which lie to our hand. A little genial condescension to the street, and a little personal taste, alone are needed; do not leave your flowers to the florist any more than you would leave your blinds to the upholsterer. I know nothing more heartless, nor anything which would better justify our fathers' prudish dread of ostentation, than a huge flower-box ablaze with perennial blossoms "undertaken" at so much a week by the nurseryman.

THE LATE MR. J. G. SIPPPELL.

Rev. Geo. H. Wells, pastor of the American Presbyterian Church, made a few remarks at the funeral of the late Mr. Sipppell, from which we derive some information concerning the career of the latter:

We mourn to-day the loss of a fellow-citizen and friend, who has been long and honourably known in this community. Mr. Sipppell had held for many years an important place among us, and had always discharged its duties in an acceptable and able manner. He was an American by birth, a native of the Mohawk Valley in New York, and a descendant from the old Dutch stock. He was sprung from those brave and hardy men who, in the early part of the seventeenth century, came from Holland to America, bringing with them the industry, integrity, and love of social and religious freedom for which their nation has been ever famous in the old world. These settlers founded their new home upon the choicest spot of the American coast, for they landed on the island at the mouth of the river which Hudson had then recently discovered and called by his own name. There they built a town, which they called New Amsterdam, after the chief city of their native land. In later times, and under British rule, it received the title of New York, but its present position, as the commercial metropolis of the Western world, is more in keeping with its earlier than with its later name. From this first settlement the Dutch, as they increased in numbers, pushed north and west, establishing a fortress on the site where Albany now stands, which they named Fort Orange, in honour of their famous leader, William the Silent, Prince of Orange. They largely occupied the fertile lands along the Hudson and the Mohawk rivers, and in those regions their descendants, who still retain their fathers' names and, to some extent, their character and customs also, have always formed a large and valuable element in the population. No better blood flows in the American body politic than that which has come down from those old Dutch burghers.

It seems natural and proper that a son of such ancestors, descended from the men who were the world's greatest builders of canals and dykes, who first conquered and drove back the sea, and then made it their ally and servant, by whose aid they vanquished all other foes, should be a hydraulic engineer, and should come to assume the work of guarding and improving our Canadian canals. Mr. Sipppell learned this science in his native State, and laboured for a while

upon its public works; but he came to Canada while in the prime of life, and for twenty-six years had been supervising engineer, having charge of all canals within the Province of Quebec. Along the St. Lawrence, the Ottawa, and the Richelieu rivers he has been busily at work, constructing and enlarging channels, through which a great commerce already flows, and which are to become even more and more important as highways of travel and of trade. In doing this he has been labouring, not only for the welfare of this country, but of this continent and of the whole world. His canals are now helping to make farming on the Western prairies profitable, by forwarding its products to a ready market, and to save Europe from starvation by sending it cheap bread.

The chief impression which Mr. Sipppell made on those who knew him was, I think, that of a modest and a faithful man. He attended strictly to his own affairs, and he left all other things alone. He was quiet, but efficient and persistent in his work, and whatever enterprise he undertook he pressed smoothly, but surely, to its end. His life may teach us the value and the power of an honest, steadfast purpose, and may serve to strengthen in our minds the hold of the homely, patient virtues, which in this age are somewhat apt to be discredited or overlooked. Mr. Sipppell was born on the 1st of May, 1816, at Boonville, N.Y., and was Superintendent Engineer of the Government Canal Works of Quebec.

AMUSEMENTS.

Mr. DeZouche has been most active of late in catering for our Montreal public. Judging from what he has already done for it, there is no doubt that continued efforts in the same happy direction will be rewarded with success. As we go to press, he announces for the 16th and 17th inst. two lectures by the famous humorist, De Cordova, whose lectures overflow with thought, fancy, poetry and wit. On the 20th inst. we are to have the visit of another juvenile Pinafore Company, the best, we are assured, that has so far been heard in Montreal; and on the 10th of next month, Emma Abbott's Opera Troupe is to be with us. In connection with this, Mr. De Zouche has prepared a little pamphlet giving the plots of the various operas of the repertoire, which he is distributing gratis and which will be a boon to opera-goers. In the troupe, Montrealers will find two old friends and acquaintances—Tom Karl and Ellis Rye. It is to be hoped that Montreal will support Mr. DeZouche in his venture, and thus encourage him in his efforts to amuse and instruct.

OUR CHESS COLUMN.

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

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. W. S. Montreal.—Papers to hand. Thanks. Student, Montreal.—Correct solution received of Problem No. 241. T. S., St. Andrews, Manitoba.—Correct solution received of Problem No. 242. In Problem No. 239 the R cannot move to Q 2. R. Montreal.—Letter containing Problems, &c., received. Many thanks. R. F. M., Sherbrooke.—Correct solutions received of Problem No. 245; also of Problem for Young Players No. 242.

From what we read in the Chess Columns of some of our Canadian journals, it appears that the late meeting of the Chess Association at Ottawa did not give general satisfaction. We see it stated that the players, who assembled there for the purpose of forming the Congress and taking part in the annual tourney, were not provided with those simple refreshments which are so much needed by competitors, who have to sit for many hours over the checkerboard, and also, that in several instances, players who had come to Ottawa from a long distance, had to lose much valuable time in waiting for opponents, who neglected to attend at the time specially appointed for the purpose of play.

We see it also stated that some offence has been given by the exertions made by the players at Ottawa to secure the next meeting of the Association for their own city, and at the same time by the manifestation of a disposition on their part to confine this meeting annually in the same place, so that the Association, as a body, would no longer be able to travel from one city to another, as the case invariably has been since its establishment, eight years ago.

We are sorry to see anything occur in connection with the Association which is likely in any way to lead to disunion among our chess fraternity, but it is generally acknowledged that difference of opinion will often give rise to considerations which, in the end, prove very beneficial, and, at the present time, a few plain outspoken objections are calculated to be of much greater value to the Association than the exhibition of an apathy on the part of Canadian chessplayers, which might lead to its extinction altogether. We must say we dreaded the latter evil a few months ago.

The first subject complained of may easily be prevented in the future. According to the constitution of the Association, there are officers appointed annually whose special duties are to attend to all matters connected with the carrying on of the affairs of the Congress and Tourney, who make the rules necessary for guiding those engaged in play, and who form what is called, in the prospectus issued every year, the Committee of Management. Upon this body, assuredly, must fall the duty of providing everything in the way of refreshment, and, also, the adoption of measures to ensure that regularity of attendance which is so important where the time at disposal is very limited. In the present case, the members present at the annual meeting who had so rightly decided in the "touch and move" question, should have had no scruples in enforcing penalties on him who might fall to meet his engagement with an opponent, whose hours of stay at Ottawa were limited, and who laboured under the disadvantage of anxiety respecting his time of departure.

The disposition manifested by the chessplayers at Ottawa to have the next meeting of the Congress in their city, that is, two years in succession, astonished us, but we suppose that there is nothing in the constitution of the Association to prevent this, and the members present, we suppose, did not strongly oppose it. We expected that Toronto would have been selected for next year's meeting, but we were disappointed.

We are glad, however, to be able to anticipate that the Association and its annual Congress have little chance of being overlooked in the future.

We cannot refrain from saying that it must have been a surprise to many interested in the progress of the noble game in Canada to see how small a number of members entered their names as competitors for the prizes of the late Tourney, and, also, to find that those few only represented three large cities of the Dominion.

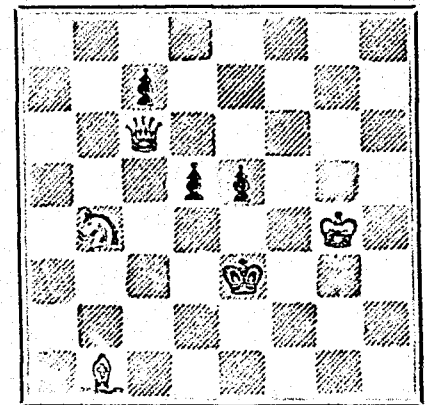
There are very likely causes, easily to be discovered, for this limited number of entries, and among them may be the little time that was at the disposal of those who had to collect funds, determine prizes, issue prospectuses, and make other necessary preparations.

PROBLEM No. 246.

(By M. Jordan.)

(From English Chess Problems.)

BLACK.



WHITE

White to play and mate in three moves.

GAME 39th.

INTERNATIONAL TOURNEY.

Game played between D. C. Rogers, Detroit, Mich., and H. Heath, England.

(From Hartford Times.)

WHITE.—(Mr. Heath.) BLACK.—(Mr. Rogers.)

- 1. P to K 4 1. P to K 4
2. Kt to K B 3 2. Kt to Q B 3
3. R to Q B 4 3. B to Q B 4
4. P to Q Kt 4 4. B takes P
5. P to Q B 3 5. B to B 4
6. P to Q 4 6. P takes P
7. Castles 7. P to Q 3
8. P takes P 8. P to Q Kt 3
9. P to Q 5 9. Kt to Q R 4
10. B to Q Kt 2 10. Kt to K 2
11. B to Q 3 11. Castles P
12. Kt to Q B 3 12. Kt to Kt 3
13. Kt to K 2 13. P to Q B 4
14. Q to Q 2 14. R to B 2
15. Kt to K Kt 3 15. Kt to K B 3
16. Q R to K 16. P to Q B 5
17. B to Q B 2 17. P to Q Kt 4
18. Kt to Q 4 18. R to Q Kt
19. P to K B 1 19. P to Q Kt 5
20. B to Q R 20. P to Q B 6
21. Q to Q 3 21. B to Q Kt 3
22. R to Q Kt 22. B to Q R 3
23. Q takes B 23. B takes Kt (ch)
24. K to R 24. B to K 6
25. Kt to K B 5 25. B takes P
26. B takes Q B P 26. P takes B
27. Q takes Q R P 27. R to Q Kt 2
28. R takes R 28. Kt takes R
29. Q takes Kt 29. R to K B 2
30. Q to Q Kt 3 30. R to K 4
31. Q to Q Kt 4 31. R to Q B 2
32. P to Q R 4 32. R to K 2
33. Kt to Q 4 33. B takes Kt
34. Q takes B 34. R to B 4
35. P to K 5 35. P to K B 4
36. R to K 36. K to B
37. B to Q Kt 3 37. Kt takes Q P
38. B takes Kt 38. P to Q B 7
39. B to B 4 Resigned.

When Black played 37 Kt takes Q P he calculated to capture the Bishop within six moves or get a winning position, but he entirely overlooked 39 B to B 4.

GAME 39th.

CHESS IN LONDON.

A brilliant game played in London between Mr. Macdonnell and a strong Amateur at the odds of a Knight.

(Remove White's Q Kt.)

(Muzio Gambit.)

- WHITE. (Mr. Macdonnell.) BLACK. (Mr. B)
1. P to K 4 1. P to K 4
2. P to K B 4 2. P takes P
3. Kt to K B 3 3. P to K Kt 4
4. B to B 4 4. P to Kt 5
5. Castles 5. P takes Kt
6. Q takes P 6. Q to B 3
7. P to K 5 7. Q takes P
8. P to Q 3 8. Kt to Kt 3 (a)
9. Q B takes P 9. Q to B 3
10. Q R to K sq 10. B to Kt 2
11. Q to Kt 3 11. Castles
12. B to K 5 12. Q to Q Kt 3 (ch)
13. K to R sq 13. Kt to Kt 3
14. B takes B 14. K takes B
15. R to K 7 (b) 15. R to Q 3
16. B takes P 16. Q to Q 3
17. K R takes P (ch) 17. R takes R
18. R takes R (ch) 18. K to R sq
19. Q to Kt 5 Resigns (c)

NOTES.

- (a) B to R 3 is the best play.
(b) Finely played.
(c) On account of Q to R 6, which must win.

SOLUTIONS

Solution of Problem No. 244.

- WHITE. BLACK.
1. B to Q Kt 5 1. Any move
2. Mates acc.

Solution of Problem for Young Players No. 242.

- White. Black.
1. B to K R 3 1. Any move
2. Mates acc.

PROBLEMS FOR YOUNG PLAYERS, No. 243.

- WHITE. BLACK.
K at K Kt 7 K at K Kt 4
B at K 3 Kt at K 5
Kt at Q Kt 3 Pawns at K R 5,
Pawns at K R 3, K B 3, and Q Kt 3
K Kt 4 and Q Kt 5
White to play and mate in two moves.