OUR CHESS COLUMN.

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

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. W. S., Montreal.—Paper received. Thanks.

Student, Montreal.—Correct solution received of Problem No. 257.

T. S., St. Andrews, Manitoba.—Correct solution received of Problem No. 255; and also Problem for Young Players No. 252

G. W. L., Montreal—New York papers received. Thanks.

E. H.—Solution received of Problem for Young Players No. 258. Correct.

THE AMERICAN CHESS CONGRESS.

As the Tournament of this Congress progresses, the interest increases, and Chessplayers in the United States and Canada are daily receiving, with more than ordinary excitement, the report of each day's play, and the relative standing of the competitors. It may be truly said that the results so far have created a surprise. Mr. Grundy, who now takes the lead in the contest was never spoken of, we believe, as the player who was likely to surpass, in a struggle of this nature, such men as Mackenzie, Delmar and Judd. But at all Chess Tourneys, preconceived notions respecting Chessplayers and their powers seem to receive shocks which are hard to explain. Such contests, nevertheless, are very useful as they afford opportunities for genius or talent to assert itself, and maintain its position. It was, if we mistake not, at the American Chess Congress of 1857 that Paul Morphy began his wonderful career, and who knows what other meetings of a like nature may do in giving other gifted players the means of achieving skill in the Royal Game of Chess.

We subjoin from American papers two extracts which we feel will be perused with much interest by Canadian players, and we will endeavour to obtain the latest news for publication. The contest will finish on Tuesday the 27th inst.

THE TOURNEY PLAYERS.

(From the New York Sun.)

The contestants in the present tournament, given in the order of their supposed relative strength at the game, are: Capt. G. H. Mackenzie, of Napoleonic nose, broad forehead, and brown curly hair; present champion of America. Mr. Eugene Delmar, of colossal forehead, large, clear cut nose, and heavy black moustache; one of the best players in New York. Mr. Max Judd, of St. Louis, with a poet's brow and face; one of the best Western players, and the winner of the second prize at the Centennial Tournament in Philadelphia. Mr. Preston Ware, of Boston, with the keen face of a Wall street broker; used to play with Morphy, and one of the strongest players in New England. Mr. C. Mohle, of New York, with high forehead and blond German features, aged only 20; probably the coming chess player; one of the best players in the Manhattan Club. Mr. A. G. Seliman, of Baltimore, entirely deaf and nearly a mute from the effects of scarlet fever; plays a strong game with his hat on; has a close student's face. Gen. Congdon, of Washington, with bulging brow and earnest demeanour; he played in the Chicago Congress of 1874. Mr. James Grundy, of the Manchester Chess Club, England; overhanging forehead, brown whiskers and moustache; he won the second prize in the late Manhattan Club Tournament. Mr. J. S. Ryan, of New York; clear-cut features and Jacksonian forehead; a strong player. Mr. A. Cohnfeld, of New York; forehead running to the back of his head, and a member of the London Chess Club.

THE COMING CHAMPION.

What will old Mrs. Grundy say if it should turn out that young Mr. Grundy had not only aspired to wear the crown of American chess supremacy, but had, with sacrilegious hands, reached out and ruthlessly torn it from the head it has so long graced?

It begins to look as if he would do it regardless of what the old lady may think or say. At all events he has a better chance to carry off the prize than even Captain McKenzie. His advantage does not consist so much in the slight lead he possesses as in the fact that he has encountered and vanquished the strongest players while the champion has yet got to run the gauntlet of Delmar's and Judd's play. After his brilliant victories over Judd, Delmar and McKenzie we may reasonably expect him to win every game of the others, though Ware, Seliman and Mohle are antagonists not to be despised. Let the tournament result as it may we are determined to write it, "Champion" Grundy.—*Hartford Times.*

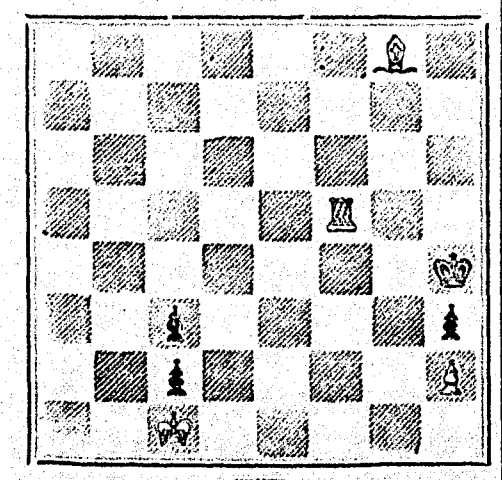
We learn by the latest telegram that the Chess Tournament closed on Monday night, and that Grundy and Mackenzie are tie for first prize.

The Congress Dinner is to take place on Tuesday next, the 27th inst., at 7 o'clock p.m., at the Westminster Hotel. It is expected that Richard A. Proctor, the astronomer, who is Vice-President of the British Chess Association, will be at the dinner. Mr. J. Henderson, of Montreal, has composed a song, words and music, which is to be sung on that occasion. Mrs. Miron J. Hazeltine has contributed an elegant little poem, which will be read at the dinner.

By Thomas Sinclair, St. Andrews, Manitoba.

PROBLEM No. 261.

BLACK.



WHITE

White to play and mate in four moves.

GAME 391ST.

(From Turf, Field and Farm.)

An off-hand game between Mr. J. S. Ryan, of New York, and Mr. Sellman, of Baltimore.

(Scotch Gambit.)

White.—(Mr. S.)	Black.—(Mr. R.)
1. P to K 4	1. P to K 4
2. Kt to K B 3	2. Kt to Q B 3
3. P to Q 4	3. P takes P
4. B to Q B 4	4. B to Q B 4
5. Kt to K Kt 5	5. Kt to K 4 (a)
6. Kt takes B P	6. Kt takes Kt
7. B takes Kt (ch)	7. K takes B
8. Q to R 5 (ch)	8. P to K Kt 3
9. Q to Q 5 (ch) (b)	9. K to Kt 2
10. Q takes B	10. Q to K B 3 (c)
11. B to K Kt 5	11. Q to Q 3 (d)
12. Q takes Q	12. P takes Q
13. B to K B 4	13. Kt to K B 3
14. B takes Q P	14. Kt takes K P
15. B to K 5 (ch)	15. K to B 3
16. Castles	16. R to K
17. B takes Q P	17. R to K 5
18. B takes Kt (ch)	18. K takes B
19. Kt to Q B 3	19. R to K 4
20. P to K B 4	20. R to K B 4
21. Q R to K	21. P to Q Kt 3
22. Kt to K 4 (ch)	22. K to Kt 2
23. Kt to Q 6	23. R to K B
24. P to K B 5	24. B to Q R 3
25. P to B 6 (ch) (e)	25. R takes P
26. R to K 7 (ch)	26. K to B
27. R to K 8 (ch)	27. R takes R
28. R takes R (ch)	28. K to K 2
29. Kt takes R	29. K takes Kt
30. P to K Kt 4	30. B to Q B 5
31. P to Q Kt 3	31. B to K 3
32. P to K Kt 5	32. K to K 2
33. K to B 2	33. P to Q 4
34. K to K 3	34. B to K B 4
35. R takes B (f)	35. P takes R
36. K to B 4	36. K to K 3
37. P to K R 4	37. P to Q Kt 4
38. P to K R 5	38. P to Q R 4
39. P to K Kt 6	39. P takes P
40. P takes P	

And Black resigns.

NOTES.

(a) An exploded defense. Kt to K R 3 is the proper move.

(b) Whether this check is preferable to capturing B at once is somewhat questionable.

(c) Mr. Ryan's play in the opening is much below his usual standard; he should now have attacked the Q by P to Q 3.

(d) Q K 3 is better than this, which gives him a triple pawn on the Queen's file.

(e) Very well played. Black is almost compelled to take the pawn, though by doing so it costs him the exchange.

(f) The *coup de grace.*

SOLUTIONS

Solution of Problem No. 259.

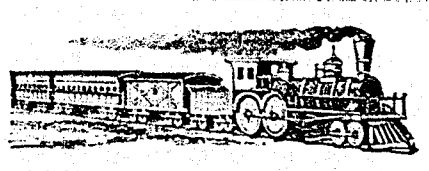
WHITE.	BLACK.
1. K to Kt 7	1. K to K 5 (a)
2. B to Q 5 (ch)	2. K to B 4
3. Q to Q B 8 mate)	
(a)	
	1. K to B 6
2. Q to Q R sq (ch)	2. K to Kt 5
3. B to Q 6 (mate)	

WHITE.	BLACK.
Solution of Problem for Young Players No. 257.	
1. B takes P	1. Any move
2. Mates acc	

PROBLEMS FOR YOUNG PLAYERS, No. 258

WHITE.	BLACK.
K at K R sq	K at K Kt sq
Q at Q B 3	Q at Q Kt 3
Kt at K Kt 5	B at Q R 2
Pawns at K R 2 and K Kt 2	R at Q B sq
	Pawns at K R 2, K Kt 2 and Q B 3

White to play and mate in five moves.



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	A.M.		P.M.
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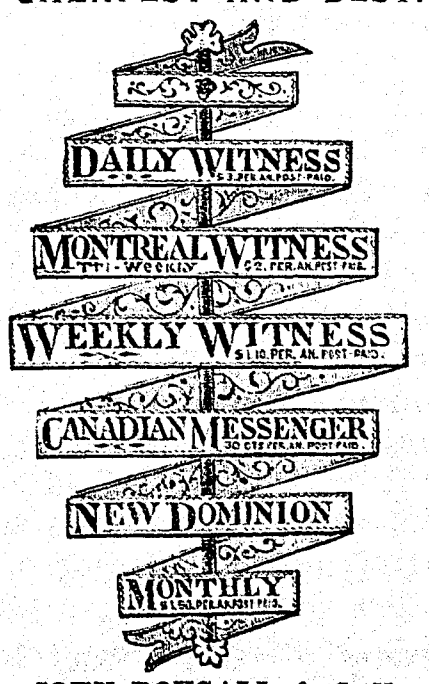

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