

**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.

**TO CORRESPONDENTS.**

**PRIZE AWARDS.**—Mrs. H. Mosoley, of Dartmouth, has won our first prize—one of the latest issued and best works on checkers—having correctly solved forty-six of the eighty-one problems that we laid before our checkerists during the late year.

The second prize has fallen to "Dixie," of Antigonish, whose excessive (in our opinion,) modesty causes him to wish his name withheld from the public. Though he began to compete only in the latter half of the year, he sent correct solutions to nineteen problems and thus won second place in the prize competition. His prize is one of the handsomest books recently published on checkers, and contains all the important matches since 1847.

These prizes are on their way from England. They were not ordered earlier because we wished to present our prize-winners with the very latest as well as the best books possible. On their receipt they will be promptly forwarded.

Some of our corresponding checkerists—especially those to the westward—started very well, and would undoubtedly have secured one, if not both, of the prizes, had they continued as they began, but they "wearing in the race," and dropped out before it was half-over. We hope that they and all others will maintain their interest throughout the whole of the current year.

Those desiring to enter for the correspondence tourney should forward their names and addresses to W. Forsyth, 36 Grafton Street, at their earliest possible convenience.

The long talked of match between the champions respectively of America and of England—Charles F. Barker, of Boston, Mass., and James Smith, of Spennymoor, England—was commenced at the Town Hall of Spennymoor on Monday, the 24th of December last. The stake at issue is \$1000. Our advices show that in the first day's play seven and one-half hours were consumed in consummating two drawn games. In the second game Smith got a man ahead at an early stage, but he was unable to hold that apparent advantage, for after a contest of over three hours Barker forced him to yield the man, and to consent to a draw. In the second game of the second day's play Barker caught his opponent in a cunningly devised trap which, after a brief struggle, led the American to the first win of the match. The latest information at hand shows that seventeen of the thirty-two games provided for by the terms of the match had been played, of which Barker won three, Smith one, and the rest were drawn.

**SOLUTIONS.**

Correct solutions have been received from "F.," Shubenacadie, for problems 80 and 81, and from Mrs. Mosoley, "Dixie," and H. A. McD., Thorburn, to the latter problem. The position in Problem 81 was:—black men 7,

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**Halifax, N. S.**

**SPRING, 1889.**

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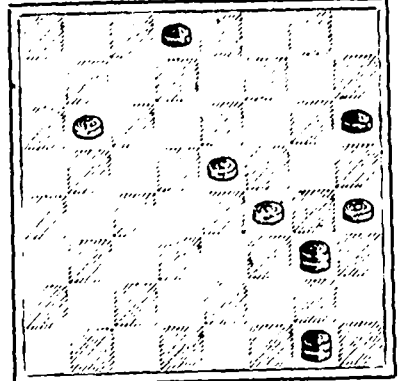
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11, 15, 16, kg. 1; white men 20, 23, 24, kgs. 4, 8; black to play and win.  
16—19 7—10 15—19 1—12  
23 16 16 7 24 6 b. wins.

PROBLEM No. 83.

Contributed by Sergeant Wm. Muir.  
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White men 9, 15, 19, 20.  
White to play and draw.

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