

would not only add to the revenue of a State, but would benefit the forests. But the indiscriminate and reckless way in which trees have been destroyed gives no chance to nature to repair the waste; and it is against such encroachments, viewed from either an esthetic or a practical standpoint, that the most strenuous opposition should be directed.—*Philadelphia Record.*

TO LIDDON.

In olden time, the prophet of the Lord
Went up on glorious chariot-wheels of flame,
But this pure heart, returning whence it came,
Had need of no fire-horses, for his word
Clothed him with light, and his keen spirit's sword
Flashed lightning as he spoke of Christ's dear name:
And in his splendid carelessness of fame
He shone transfigured, till, the silver cord

Loosed here, he soared to Heaven. Though nevermore
Above the whispers of that mighty dome
His clear bell voice shall echo in the soul,
There is within Death's sudden thunder-roll
The whisper of a glory gone before—
A prophet-cry to call us nearer home.

—H. D. Rawnsley, in *The Pall Mall Gazette.*

OCCASIONAL POETRY.

I HAVE attended a large number of celebrations, commencements, banquets, soirées and so forth, and done my best to help on a good many of them. In fact, I have become rather too well-known in connection with "occasions," and it has cost me no little trouble. I believe there is no kind of occurrence for which I have not been requested to contribute something in prose or verse. It is sometimes very hard to say no to the requests. If one is in the right mood when he or she writes an occasional poem, it seems as if nothing could have been easier. "Why, that piece run off just like ile. I don't bullieve," the unlettered applicant says to himself—"I don't bullieve it took him ten minutes to write them verses." The good people have no suspicion of how much a single line, a single expression, may cost its author. The wits used to say that Rogers—the poet once referred to, old Samuel Rogers, author of the "Pleasures of Memory" and giver of famous breakfasts—was accustomed to have straw laid before the house whenever he had just given birth to a couplet. It is not quite so bad as that with most of us who are called upon to furnish a poem, a song, a hymn, an ode for some grand meeting, but it is safe to say that many a trifling performance has had more good honest work put into it than the minister's sermon of that week had cost him. If a vessel glides off the ways smoothly and easily at her launching, it does not mean that no great pains have been taken to secure the result. Because a poem is an "occasional" one, it does not follow that it has not taken as much time and skill as if it had been written without immediate, accidental, temporary motive. Pindar's great odes were occasional poems, just as much as our "Commemoration" and "Phi Beta Kappa" poems are, and yet they have come down among the most precious bequests of antiquity to modern times.—*Oliver Wendell Holmes, in October Atlantic.*

STUDIES OF INDIAN SUMMER.

INDIAN SUMMER, a season which is once more close at hand, is presumed to have received its name from the fact that it is the time of year in which the Indians were accustomed to lay up their stores of provisions for the winter. Whatever the derivation of its name, its praises have justly been sung by our native poets—for it is a North American specialty, strange to say—as the one halcyon time of year; and, as befits its mystical nature, much that is mythical and traditional infolds as in a haze that which science has revealed respecting its causation. The external aspects of the season, which usually comes in the latter part of October or in the early part of November, and lasts about ten days, are, of course, familiar to all—the warm, dry days, the reddish skies, the smoky aspect of the atmosphere, all accompanied by an indescribable mellowness suggesting the ripened fruitage of a year that is waning from the calendar of time. It used to be thought that the smoky effect was the veritable result of forest fires; but that idea has long since been abandoned as an explanation, though it is true that woodland fires, caused by hunters and others, are usually prevalent at this time of the year. In the writings of Professor Loomis, Indian summer is called a "dry fog," and it is said: "This all appears to result from a dry and stagnant state of the atmosphere, during which the air becomes filled with dust and smoke arising from numerous fires, by which its transparency is greatly impaired. A heavy rain washes out these impurities and effectually clears the sky." Signal Service Observer Salisbury, of Cincinnati, in looking over his weather maps for several years past, has found that the hazy atmosphere invariably occurred during a high barometer, with gentle winds from the south or southwest. It generally occurred when a storm area or a low barometer existed over the lake region or in the mountains directly to the eastward, and remained fixed several days. This, as he tells the *Times-Star*, occurred the most about October 20, lasting for four or five and sometimes as high as ten days. It was very interesting to note how the circle of high barometer lingered over the Middle States so steadily, and the marginal notes would read "warm and

hazy." The facts noted by Observer Salisbury are the newest contributions to the meteorology of the golden cycle which we are now approaching; and, aside from their interest in a popular sense, they will be likely to have value in a suggestive way to all who make any study of weather conditions as a science.—*Philadelphia Record.*

OBSERVATIONS ON CLOUDS.

PROF. MOLLER, of Carlsruhe, has made some interesting observations on clouds. The highest clouds, cirrus and cirrus-stratus, rise on an average to a height of nearly 30,000 feet. The middle clouds keep at from about 10,000 feet to 23,000 feet in height, while the lower clouds reach to between 3,000 and 7,000 feet. The cumulus clouds float with their lower surface at a height of from 4,000 to 5,000 feet, while their summits rise to 16,000 feet. The tops of the Alps are often hidden by clouds of the third class, but the bottom of the clouds of the second class, and especially of the thunder clouds, often enfold them. The vertical dimensions of a cloud observed by Prof. Moller on the Nettleberg was over 1,200 feet; he stepped out of it at a height of 3,700 feet, and high above the mountain floated clouds of the middle class, while veils of mist lay in the ravines and clefts. The upper clouds were growing thicker, while the lower ones were dissolving, and soon it began to rain and snow.

MICAWBER AS A JOURNALIST.

THE chief article in a recent number of the *British Weekly* is an "Open Letter" addressed "To those about to become journalists," by Mr. H. W. Lucy. In the course of the letter, Mr. Lucy says: "I suppose no one not prominently engaged in journalism knows how widely spread is the human conviction that, failing all else, any one can 'write for the papers,' making a lucrative living on easy terms, amid agreeable circumstances. I have often wondered how Dickens, familiar as he was with this frailty, did not make use of it in the closing epoch of Micawber's life before he quitted England. Knowing what he did, as letters coming to light at this day testify, it would seem to be the most natural thing in the world that finally, nothing else having turned up, it should occur to Mr. Micawber that he would join the press—probably as editor, certainly on the editorial staff, possibly as dramatic critic, a position which involves a free run of the theatres and a more than nodding acquaintance with the dramatic stars of the day. Perhaps Dickens avoided this episode because it was too literally near the truth in the life of the person who, all unconsciously, stood as the lay figure of David Copperfield's incomparable friend. It is, I believe, not generally known that Charles Dickens' father did in his last desolate days become a member of the press. When Dickens was made editor of the *Daily News* he thoughtfully provided for his father by installing him leader of the Parliamentary corps of that journal. He, of course, knew nothing of journalism; was not even capable of shorthand. Providentially he was not required to take notes, but generally to overlook things, a post which exactly suited Mr. Micawber. So he was inducted, and filled the office even for a short time after his son had impetuously vacated the editorial chair. Only the other day there died an original member of the *Daily News* Parliamentary corps, who told me he quite well remembered his first respected leader, his grandly vague conception of his duties, and his almost ducal manner of not performing them."

PECULIAR INFATUATION.

DIFFERENT METHODS OF FOLLOWING THE INJUNCTION "LOVE ONE ANOTHER."

Do men ever fall in love with each other?
Women do. Not long ago a young woman in New Jersey was married to a youthful labourer on her father's farm. Sometimes afterward it was discovered that the husband was a female; the young wife refused, however, though earnestly entreated by her friends, to give up her chosen consort. The strangest part of the discovery was the fact that the bride knew her husband was a woman before she was led to the altar.

If men do not exhibit this strange infatuation for one of their own sex, they at least often-times give evidence of the fact that they love one another. There are many instances on record where one man has given his life for another. There are many more instances where men have given life to another.

It is a proud possession—the knowledge that one has saved a precious human life. Meriden, Conn., is the home of such a happy man. John H. Preston, of that city, July 11th, 1890, writes: "Five years ago I was taken very sick. I had several of the best doctors, and one and all called it a complication of diseases. I was sick four years, taking prescriptions prescribed by these same doctors, and I truthfully state I never expected to get any better. At this time, I commenced to have the most terrible pains in my back. One day an old friend of mine, Mr. R. T. Cook, of the firm of Curtis and Cook, advised me to try Warner's Safe Cure, as he had been troubled the same way and it had effected a cure for him. I bought six bottles, took the medicine as directed and am to-day a well man. I am sure no one ever had a worse case of kidney and liver trouble than I had. Before this I was always against proprietary medicines, but not now, oh, no."

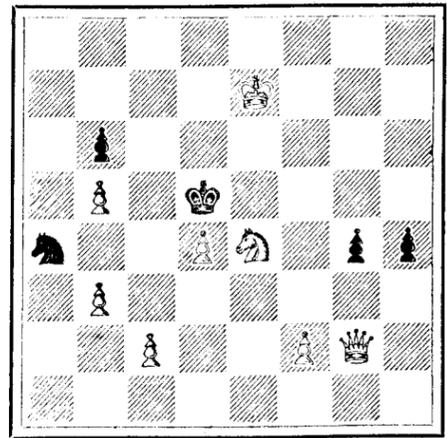
Friendship expresses itself in very peculiar ways sometimes; but the true friend is the friend in need

CHESS.

PROBLEM No. 500.

By O. NEMO.

BLACK.



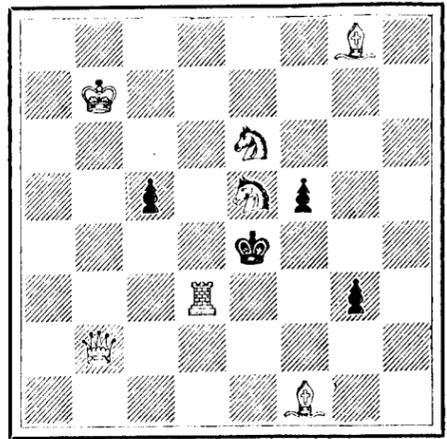
WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

PROBLEM No. 510.

By WALTER GLEAVE.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS.

No. 503.

- | | |
|---------------|-----------|
| White. | Black. |
| 1. Kt-K B 6 | 1. B x Kt |
| 2. R-B 5 + | 2. K x R |
| 3. P-Q 4 make | |
- With other variations.

No. 504.

Q-R 2.

From the International Correspondence Tournament recently organized and conducted by M. Rosenthal in *Le Monde Illustré.*

RUY LOPEZ.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| J. BERGER, (Graz.) | M. GASPARY, (Athens.) | J. BERGER, (Graz.) | M. GASPARY, (Athens.) |
| White. | Black. | White. | Black. |
| 1. P-K 4 | P-K 4 | 9. Kt x Q P! (d) | Kt x Kt |
| 2. Kt-K B 3 | Kt-Q B 3 | 10. Q-B 3 | B-K 3 (e) |
| 3. B-Kt 5 | Kt-B 3 | 11. Kt x B | P x Kt |
| 4. P-Q 3 | Kt-K 2 (a) | 12. B-Kt 5 + | K-K 2 |
| 5. B-Q B 4 (b) | P-B 3 | 13. B-Kt 5 + | Kt-B 3 |
| 6. Kt-B 3 | Kt-Kt 3 | 14. Q x P + | K-Q 3 |
| 7. Kt-K Kt 5 (c) | P-Q 4 | 15. B-Q 2! | P-Q R 4 |
| 8. P x P | P x P | 16. P-Q B 4, Black resigns (f). | |

NOTES.

- (a) An obsolete defence, revived on occasions of late, with little success. It avoids some difficulties peculiar to the early stages of the opening; but lands him in others of a more serious nature, and for which it is condemned.
- (b) Probably best, seemingly White loses time by thus playing his Bishop; but this being then offset by a similar loss on the other side, a perceptible advantage in development ensues. Of course the Pawn, momentarily exposed, cannot be taken on account of 5. P-B 3, 6. Q-R 4 +, etc.
- (c) Another and perhaps equally strong line of attack suggests itself here in 7. P-K R 4, etc.
- (d) This pretty sacrifice seems fully warranted in the circumstances.
- (e) The protection of his Bishop's Pawn was necessary; and this, it appears, was the only way to do it. If 10. Kt(Kt 3)-B 5, then 11. B x Kt, Kt x B, 12. Kt x B P, Q-R 4 +, 13. K-B 1, and 14. Kt x P, with an easy winning game.
- (f) As the position was hopeless. For example: 16. R-B 1, 17. Castles, Q-B 2, 18. Q-R 6 +, K-K 2, 19. B x P, Q-B 4, 20. Q-Kt 7 +, K-Q 3, 21. P-Q Kt 4, etc.—*Chess Monthly.*

For the "Chess Player's Annual and Club Directory, 1891," the authors, Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Rowland, 10 Victoria Terrace, Clontarf, Dublin, invite the following particulars of chess clubs: Town, club name, year established, place of meeting, days, hours, number of members, annual subscription, laws, president, hon. secretary's name and address. Printed forms will be had on application.

Chess editors will please send in, also for the "Annual," the following particulars of their newspapers: Title, publishing office, subscription, address for chess communications.

The work will be a ready book of reference on almost all subjects of interest to chess players, and will be published by the authors. Price 2s. 6d.

If he who makes two blades of grass to grow where only one grew before be a public benefactor, equally so is he who plants a tree that may one day take its place among the "green-robed senators of mighty woods."