

FEMININE AMENITIES.

A man's foes are those of his own household, and the keenest enemies of women are women themselves. No one can inflict such humiliation on a woman as a woman can when she chooses; for if the art of high-handed snubbing belongs to men, that of subtle wounding is peculiarly feminine, and is practiced by the best-bred of the sex. Women are always more or less antagonistic to each other. They are gregarious in fashions and emulative in follies, but they cannot combine; they never support their weak sisters; they shrink from those who are stronger than the average; and if they would speak the truth boldly, they would confess to a radical contempt for each other's intellect, which perhaps is the real reason why the sect of the "emancipated" commands so small a following. Half a dozen ordinary men advocating "emancipation" doctrines would do more towards leaving the whole bulk of womankind than any number of first-class women. Where they do stand by each other it is from instinctive or personal affection, rather than from class solidarity. And this is one of the most striking distinctions of sex, and one cause, among others, why men have the upper hand, and why they are able to keep it. Certainly there are reasons, sufficiently good, why women do not more readily coalesce; and one is the immense difference between the two extremes,—the silly being too silly to appreciate the wise, and the weak too weak to bear the armor of the strong. There is more difference between the outsiders among women than there is between those among men; the feminine characteristic of exaggeration making a gap which the medium or average man fills. The ways of women with each other more than all else show the great difference between their *morale* and that of men. They flatter and coax as men could not do, but they are also more rude to each other than any man would be to his fellow. It is amazing to see the things they can do and will bear,—things which no man would dream of standing, and which no man would dare to attempt. This is because they are not taught to respect each other, and because they have no fear of consequences. If one woman is insulted by another, she cannot demand satisfaction or knock the offender down, and it is unladylike to swear and call names. She must bear what she can repay only in kind; but, to do her justice, she repays in a manner undeniably effective and to the point. There is nothing very pronounced about the feminine mode of aggression and retaliation, and yet it is eloquent, and sufficient for its purpose. It may be only a stare, a shrug, a toss of the head, but women can throw an intensity of disdain into the simplest gesture, which answers the whole end perfectly.

The unabashed serenity and unflinching constancy with which one woman can stare down another is in itself an art that requires a certain amount of natural genius, as well as careful cultivation. She puts up her eyeglass,—not being short-sighted,—and surveys the enemy standing two feet from her, with a sublime contempt for her whole condition, or with a still more sublime ignoring of her existence altogether, that no words could give. If the enemy is sensitive and unused to that kind of thing, she is absolutely crushed, destroyed for the time, and reduced to the most pitiable state of self abasement. If she is of a tougher fibre, and has had some experience of feminine warfare, she returns the stare with a corresponding amount of contempt or of obliviousness; and from that moment a contest is begun which never ceases, and which continually gains in bitterness. The stare is the weapon of offence most in use among women, and is especially favored by the experienced against the younger and less seasoned. It is one of the instinctive arms native to the sex, and we have only to watch the introduction of two girls to each other to see this, and to learn how, even in youth, is begun the exercise which time and use raise to such deadly perfection.

In the conversations of women with each other we again meet with examples of their peculiar amenities to their own sex. They never refrain from showing how much they are bored; they contradict flatly, without the flimsiest veil of apology to hide their rudeness; and they interrupt ruthlessly whatever the subject in hand may be. One lady was giving another a minute account of how the bride looked yesterday when she was married to Mr. A., of somewhat formidable reputation, and with whom, if report was to be trusted, her listener had had sundry tender passages which made the mention of his marriage a notoriously sore subject. "Ah! I see you have taken that old silk which Madame Josephine wanted to palm off on me last year," said the tortured listener brusquely, breaking into the narrative without a lead of any kind; and the speaker was silenced. In this case it was the interchange of doubtful courtesies, wherein neither deserved pity; but to make a disparaging remark about a gown, in revenge for turning the knife in a wound, was a thoroughly feminine manner of retaliation, and one that would not have touched a man. Such shafts would fall blunted against the rugged skin of the coarser creature; and the date of pattern of a bit of cloth would not have told much against the loss of lover. But as most women passionately care for dress, their toilet is one of their most vulnerable parts. Ashamed to be unfashionable, they tolerate anything in each other rather than shabbiness or eccentricity, even when picturesque; hence a sarcastic allusion to the age of a few yards of silk is a return wound of considerable depth when cleverly given.

The introduction of the womankind belonging to a favorite male acquaintance of lower social condition affords a splendid opportunity for the display of feminine amenity. The presentation cannot be refused, yet it is resented as an intrusion; and the smaller woman is made to feel that she has offended. "Another daughter, Mr. C. ! You must have a dozen daughters surely," a peeress said disdainfully to a commoner whom personally she liked, but whose family she did not want to know. The poor man had but two, and this was the introduction of the second. Very painful to a high-spirited gentlewoman must be the way in which a superior creature of this kind receives her, if not of the same set as herself. The husband of the inferior creature may be "adored," as men are adored by fashionable women who love only themselves, and care only for their own pleasures. Artist, man of letters, *beau sabreur*, he is the passing idol, the temporary toy, of a certain circle; and his wife has to be tolerated for his sake, and because she is a lady and fit to be presented, though an outsider. So they patronize her till the poor woman's blood is on fire, or they snub her till she has no more consistency left in her, and is reduced to a mere mass of pulp. They keep her in another room while they talk to their intimates; or they admit her into their circle, where she is made to feel like a Gentile among the faithful, where either they leave her unspoken to altogether, or else speak to her on subjects quite apart from the general conversation, as if she was incapable of understanding them on their own ground. They ask her to dinner without her husband, and take care that there is no one to meet her whom she would like to see; but they ask him when they are at their grandest, and express their deep regret that his wife (uninvited) cannot accompany him. They know every turn and twist that can humiliate her if she has pretensions which they choose to demolish. They praise her toilet for its good taste in simplicity, when she thinks she is one of the finest on an occasion on which no one can be too fine; they tell her that pattern of hers is perfect, and made just like the dear duchess's famous dress last season, when she believes that she has Madame Josephine's last, freshly imported from Paris; they celebrate her dinner as the very perfection of a refined family dinner without parade or cost, though it has all been had from the crack confectioner's, and though the bill for the entertainment will cause many a day of family pinching. These are the things which women say to one another when they wish to pain and humiliate, and which pain and humiliate some more than would a positive disgrace. For some women are distressingly sensitive about these little matters. Their lives are made up of trifles, and a failure in a trifle is a failure in their object of life.

Women can do each other no end of despite in a small way in society, not to speak of mischief of a graver kind. A hostess who has a grudge against one of her guests can always insure her a disappointing evening under cover of doing her supreme honor and paying her extra attention.

If she sees the enemy engaged in a pleasant conversation with one of the male stars, down she swoops, and, in the sweetest manner possible, carries her off to another part of the room, to introduce her to some school-girl who can only say yes or no in the wrong places,— "who is dying for the honor of talking to you, my dear"; or to some unfledged stripling who blushes and grows hot, and cannot stammer out two consecutive sentences, but who is presented as a rising genius, and to be treated with the consideration due to his future. As her persecution is done under the guise of extra friendliness, the poor victim cannot cry out, nor yet resist; but she knows that whenever she goes to Mrs. So-and-So's she will be seated next the stupidest man at the table, and prevented from talking to any one she likes in the evening; and that every visit to that lady is made in some occult manner unpleasant to her. And yet what has she to complain of? She cannot complain that her hostess trusts to her for help in the success of entertainment, and moves her about the room as a perambulating attraction which she has to dispense fairly among her guests, lest some should be jealous of the others. She may know that the meaning is to annoy; but who can act on meaning as against manner? How crooked soever the first may be, if the last is straight the case falls to the ground, and there is no room for remonstrance.

Often women flirt as much to annoy other women as to attract men or amuse themselves. But the range of these feminine amenities is not confined to women; it includes men as well; and women continually take advantage of their position to insult the stronger sex by saying to them things which can be neither answered nor resented. A woman can insinuate that you have just cheated at cards, with the quietest face and the gentlest voice imaginable; she can give you the lie direct as coolly as if she was correcting a misprint,—and you cannot defend yourself. To brawl with her would be unpardonable, to contradict her is useless, and the sense of society does not allow you to show her any active displeasure. In this instance the weaker creature is the stronger, and the most defenceless is the safest. You have only the rather questionable consolation of knowing that you are not singular in your discomfort, and that when she has made an end of you she will probably have a turn with your betters, and make them, too, dance to her piping, whether they like the tune or not. At all events, if she humiliates you, she humiliates her sisters still more; and with

the knowledge that, hardly handled as you have been, others are yet more severely dealt with, you must learn to be content, and to practice a kind of patience as well as nature will permit. —BY AN OLD BACHELOR.

OUR CHESS COLUMN.

All communications intended for this Column should be addressed to the Chess Editor, CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS, Montreal. J. W. S. Montreal.—Correct solution of Problem No. 398, received.

We publish in our Column to-day the programme of the Problem and Solving Tourney of the Ontario Chess Association, and we are happy to see that the chess-players of the sister Province take such a lively interest in one of the most important studies connected with the royal game.

Chess gatherings, problem tourneys, telegraphic matches, and club contests are all indications of chess life, and, indeed, without such indications showing themselves in a community, we may be sure that feeling, as regards the progress of the game, is at a very low ebb.

We trust that the spirit evinced by the Ontario players will excite a similar one among chess amateurs in other parts of the Dominion, and that, now that the season is approaching when chess clubs begin to gather 'their members together, there may be found on the part of everyone of them a determination to do all in his power to increase around him a love for this, the most intellectual of indoor pastimes.

Upon the officers of every club devolve the chief duties connected with maintaining its efficiency, but a great deal, also, depends upon what may be done by individual members. Regular attendance at club hours, and a constant endeavour to improve the character of play over the board, will do much towards keeping an association of chessplayers in a flourishing condition.

ONTARIO CHESS ASSOCIATION.

PROBLEM AND SOLVING TOURNEY.

Open to all members of the Association who may have joined by the 15th of September, 1882. Any Ontario chessplayer may become a member by sending the annual fee (one dollar) to Mr. H. J. Rose, President, Toronto.

Stipulations for Problems—White to play and mate in three moves.

Contestants may send not more than three problems, each problem to be headed by a separate motto, and accompanied by a sealed envelope containing the maker's name and address.

All compositions to be original, and not hitherto published.

Problems to be sent to the Chess Editor *Globe*, and will be published in the *Globe Chess Column* in the order of their reception, and be judged by the following standard:

Beauty of idea	40 points.
Economy of force	20 "
Number of variations	20 "
Freedom from duals	20 "

Time for closing of entry list, 31st December '82. Solutions to be granted points as under:

For one variation	1 point.
For each additional requisite variation of White's second move	1 point.

For additional solutions points will be granted in the same ratio.

A drawback of one point will be made for every unsound proposed solution sent in.

Solutions may be sent to the Chess Editor, *Globe*, and will be published two weeks after the insertion of the problem.

PRIZE LIST.—PROBLEMS.

- 1st—A gold medal.
- 2nd—A set of bone chessmen.
- 3rd—"Laws and Practice of Chess," by Staunton and Wormold.
- 4th—Twelve numbers of the Westminster Papers.
- 5th—Twelve numbers of the British Chess Magazine.
- 6th—100 Gems of Chess.

PRIZE LIST.—SOLUTIONS.

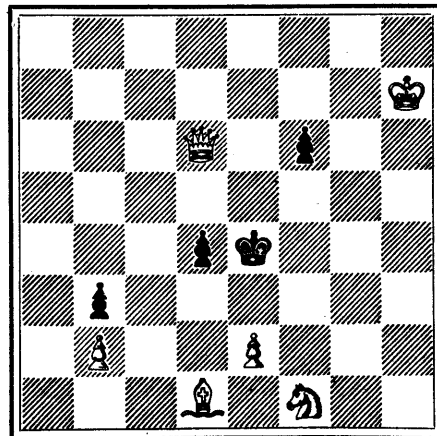
- 1st—A gold medal.
- 2nd—"Laws and Practice of Chess," by Staunton and Wormold.
- 3rd—Book of the Fifth American Chess Congress.
- 4th—Twelve numbers of the Westminster Papers.
- 5th—Twelve numbers of the American Chess Journal.
- 6th—100 Gems of Chess.

An extra prize will be given to the solver who does not miss a point in the solutions.

Of the above prizes the medals only are offered by the Association. The others are from members of the Toronto and Hamilton Chess Clubs.

PROBLEM No. 400.

By MR. J. J. GLYNN,
Charlestown, New South Wales.)
—BLACK.



WHITE.
White to play and mate in two moves.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 398.

- | White. | Black. |
|---------------|--------------|
| 1. Kt to Q 5 | 1. B takes R |
| 2. R to K R 7 | 2. Any. |
| 3. R mates | |

GAME 527TH.

CHESS IN ST. LOUIS.

JUDD VS. HOOKER.

Played at the rooms of the St. Louis Chess, Checker and Whist Club, in the Judd-Amateur match.

(Remove White's Q Kt.)

- | WHITE.—(Mr. Judd.) | BLACK.—(Mr. Hooker.) |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1 P to K 3 | 1 P to K 4 |
| 2 P to Q Kt 3 | 2 P to Q 4 |
| 3 B to Kt 2 | 3 B to Q 3 |
| 4 P to K B 4 | 4 Kt to Q B 3 |
| 5 B to Kt 5 | 5 Q to K 2 |
| 6 Kt to B 3 | 6 B to K Kt 5 |
| 7 P takes P | 7 B takes P |
| 8 P to B 3 | 8 K Kt to B 3 |
| 9 Q to B 2 | 9 B takes Kt |
| 10 P takes B | 10 P to Q R 3 |
| 11 B to K 2 | 11 Kt to Q 2 |
| 12 Castles (Q R) | 12 P to Q Kt 4 |
| 13 P to K B 4 | 13 B to B 3 |
| 14 B to B 3 | 14 Kt to Kt 3 |
| 15 P to K 4 | 15 Q to B 4 |
| 16 P to Q 4 | 16 Q to K 2 |
| 17 K R to K sq | 17 Castles (K R) |
| 18 P takes P (a) | 18 Q to Q 3 |
| 19 R to K 5 (b) | 19 Kt to Kt 2 |
| 20 P to B 4 | 20 P takes P |
| 21 P takes P | 21 B takes R |
| 22 Q P takes B | 22 Q to B 4 (c) |
| 23 P to Q 5 | 23 P takes P |
| 24 B takes R | 24 R takes B |
| 25 B to Q 4 | 25 Q to R 6 ch |
| 26 K to Q 2 | 26 Q to Kt 5 ch |
| 27 K to K 2 | 27 P takes P |
| 28 B takes P | 28 Kt to Kt 3 |
| 29 P to Q B 5 | 29 Q to B 5 ch |
| 30 Q takes Q | 30 Kt takes Q |
| 31 P to B 6 | 31 K Kt takes B |
| 32 P takes Kt | 32 K to B sq (d) |
| 33 R to Q 5 | 33 R to B sq |
| 34 R to Q B 5 | 34 Kt takes P (e) |
| 35 R takes Kt | 35 R takes P |

And Judd finally lost.

NOTES.

- (a) P to K 5 is better.
- (b) A bad move.
- (c) The Q has made some beautiful moves.
- (d) Any other move will lose the game on account of P to B 7, followed by R to Q 8 ch.
- (e) The speediest way to finish the game.

—*Globe Democrat*.



WELLAND CANAL.

Notice to Contractors.

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the undersigned and endorsed "Tender for Welland Canal," will be received at this office until the arrival of Eastern and Western mails on FRIDAY, the 6th day of OCTOBER next, for forming, at the water line, a stone facing or protection to the banks of the canal on the summit level between Thorold and Humberstone.

Specifications of the work to be done can be seen at the offices of the Resident Engineers at Thorold and Welland, where forms of Tender, and general information on the subject, can be obtained on and after MONDAY, the 25th instant.

Contractors are requested to bear in mind that tenders will not be considered unless made strictly in accordance with the printed forms.

This Department does not, however, bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order,

A. P. BRADLEY,
Secretary.

Dept. of Railways and Canals, }
Ottawa, Sept. 20, 1882. }

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