

THE GRAVE OF THE YEAR!

BY THE LOWE FARMER.

Within a lonely forest glade,
A way-worn wanderer lies;

The old, old year came tottering on,
Bound to that mystic shore,

He saw him sink, he saw him die,
And saw his yawning grave;

And soon, before his wond'ring gaze,
An Andean mound doth rise;

A myriad hands are working there,
Old young; the mean, the grand;

And all who came a burthen bore
Of every shape and hue;

The stars grew dim, wild clouds obscured
The glorious vault on high;

He saw the multitudinous throng,
With one intent, haste all;

First came (and horror reigns supreme)
By death and furies borne,

Close on his steps were those who forge
Dread superstition's chains;

Ambition's votaries passed on;
They bore their prostrate hopes,

High up the mound the conqueror stride,
Aloft his gory spear;

The swindling knave, the paltry cheat,
The man of worthless word;

The unhappy came, uncountable,
Their sorrows in their hands;

The love-lorn maiden brought her tears
To swell the wondrous pile;

The loyal and the true appear'd;
The honest and the brave;

But who are they, the joyous band,
Marching with step elate?

And sweet to them the fair fresh joys
Anticipation showers;

The pile recedes, but ere it goes,
O, let us hope and pray;

The mountains sink, the vision flies,
The bright New Year awakes!

To all and each, a glad New Year;
For the old a sigh—for the new a cheer.

OUR CHESS COLUMN.

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

All communications intended for this department to be addressed Chess Editor, Office of CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS, Montreal.

TO CORRESPONDENTS

H. A. C. F., Montreal.—Solution of Problem No. 99 received. Correct.

M. J. M., Quebec.—Letter containing Problem received. Many thanks.

J. W. S., Montreal.—Solutions of Problems No. 99 and No. 100 received. Correct.

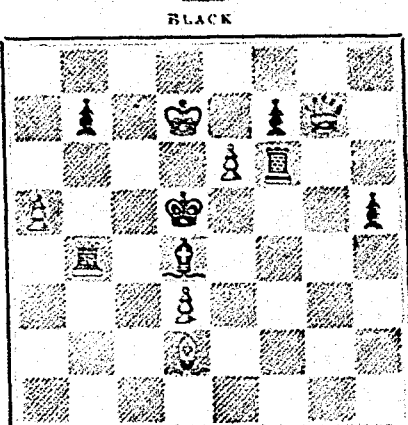
During the Christmas week the members of the Montreal Chess Club expect the honor of a visit from Mr. Bird, who ranks so high among the great Chess players of the day.

He will, during his sojourn in Montreal exhibit his skill in the game by simultaneously playing a large number of the players of the Montreal Chess Club, and we have no doubt the contest will interest greatly all in our city who appreciate the noble pastime.

The telegraphic match between Seaford and Montreal is not yet arranged, but it is in a fair way to come off at an early date.

PROBLEM No. 102.

By A. CHER PEARSON.



White to play and mate in three moves.

GAME 146TH.

Played at New York between Mr. Bird and Mr. Williams, in the late New York Tourney.

(Counter Gambit.)

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

NOTES.

- (a) P takes P is a stronger reply to Black's last move. (b) Throughout the game the play on both sides is deficient in vigour, but here Mr. Bird is guilty of a blunder that costs him two valuable Pawns. (c) This suicidal stroke is entirely in keeping with the 26th move referred to above. After it, mate in a few moves cannot be averted.

GAME 147TH.

Played in Paris some years ago by Mons. Laroche and M. Schulten, of New York.

(Gioco Piano.)

- 1. P to K 4, 2. K Kt to B 3, 3. K B to Q B 4, 4. P to Q B 3, 5. P to Q 4, 6. P to K 5, 7. P takes Kt (b), 8. P takes K Kt P, 9. Q B to K Kt 5, 10. Q B to K R 5, 11. Castles, 12. Q Kt to Q 2, 13. Kt to K Kt 5, 14. Kt takes K R P, 15. B to K Kt 5, 16. B takes R, 17. Q to K B 3, 18. K to K R sq, 19. R takes Kt, 20. R takes R, 21. B to K Kt 5, 22. B to K B 4 (f), 23. Kt to K 4, 24. Kt to K B 6, 25. Q to K Kt 4 (ch) (g), 26. Kt to Q 7 (ch), 27. Kt takes Q, 28. Q to K Kt 2, 29. K takes B, (a) Best return. (b) A bad move.

- (c) Giving up the exchange to strengthen the attack. (d) A good move. (e) Q to K 4 is better. (f) K Kt to B 6 is better play. (g) White here overlooks a mate in 4 moves by check with Q at K R 3. (h) The winning move.

SOLUTIONS.

- Solution of Problem No. 100. WHITE. 1. Q to K 3, 2. Kt to B 4 (ch), 3. Kt to K 2 mate. BLACK. B or Kt takes Q, K moves.

- 1. P to B 4 (ch), 2. Q to Q Kt 3 mate. BLACK. 2. Q takes Kt, K takes P. 3. Q to Kt 6 mate. BLACK. 2. K to B 3, 2. K to K 4.

Solution of Problem for Young Players, No. 98.

- WHITE. 1. P to Q B 4, 2. B takes P (ch), 3. R mates. BLACK. P to K B 4, K to K 3.

PROBLEMS FOR YOUNG PLAYERS NO. 99.

A position occurring in a game between two players of the Montreal Chess Club.

- WHITE. K at K Kt sq, Q at K R 3, B at K B 5, B at Q Kt sq, Kt at K 5, Pawns at Q R 2, Q Kt 3, Q B 3 and Q 4. BLACK. K at Q sq, Q at Q 4, B at Q B 2, B at K sq, Pawns at Q R 2, Q Kt 3, Q B 3, and K 3.

White to play and mate in six moves.

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