

Our Checker Department.

CONDUCTED BY ED. KELLY.

All communications for this department must be addressed to Ed. Kelly, 151 Main Street, Winnipeg, Man.

GAME NO. 5. DOUBLE CORNER.

By Wm. Taylor.

9 14	21 17	8-11	23-18	27 23
22 17	5 9	22-17	14 23	14 10
11-16	17 13	9 14	17-14	6-9
25-22	2 6	26 22	10 17	13-6
16-19	29 25	3 8	21 14	15-18
23-16	7 10	31 26	23-27	22 8
12 19	25 21	11-16	*22-17	5 9
24-15	8-12	24-20	27-31	20-11
10 19	27 24	8 11	26 22	19-24
17-10	4 8	27-23	31-27	28 19
6 15	32-27	1-5	30-25	23 30

B. Wins.

*14-10 will draw at this point.

CHECKERS VS. CHESS.

We have received several letters of late from parties who wish us to state in our checker department which of the two games are the most complicated—checkers or chess. That question would be impossible to answer. They are both so complicated that one cannot say which of the two games are the deeper. The late R. E. Bowen, one of the ablest analytical and impromptu players that ever lived, gives these interesting figures as to the inexhaustibility of checkers. He says: "To know how many variations we shall have we have only to decide how many moves there shall be in a game. The match played between Wyllie and Martins in Glasgow in 1864 seems to be about the average. There were 62 games and 4,000 moves, an average number of moves being a fraction over 64 to a game. Suppose you make it 60, I find we shall have the following number of variations: 1,152, 921, 504, 606, 846, 976. Now to understand more fully the vastness of such a great number, we must compare it to something that presents itself to the mind in a more simple form. If all the people in England and America, 40,000,000 on a side, could play together at the same time, each couple playing one game every ten minutes ten hours a day, three

hundred days a year, it would take them 1,600,279 years to play the above number of games. If the games were printed in a series of books with 2,000 variations in each book, they would make 576, 160, 752, 303, 122 volumes. If these books were the size of the *American Draughts Player*, they would build a wall 200 feet wide, 590 high around the world 25,000 miles. If they were piled up in England they would cover its entire territory ten feet deep, 50,000 square miles. If distributed among its people each one would receive more than 11,000,000 of books, and yet we hear men talk of grinding up all its wrinkles. The game of checkers is far more profound than the human knowledge can fathom. Its ever varying positions cannot be solved. The true position will never be written, though one had the brains of an Anderson, the years of a Methuselah and the wealth of a nation, he would not unfold a hundredth part."

SOLUTION TO POSITION NO. 2.

Black on 10, 12, 13, 14; king on 31.
White on 19, 21, 23, 30; king on 15.
Black to play and draw as follows:

12-16	14-17	31-27	31-2
15-6	19-12	21-14	Drawn.

REFERENCE BOARD FOR BEGINNERS.

Black.

	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	
13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	
21	22	23	24	
25	26	27	28	
29	30	31	32	

White.

At the commencement of a game the black men occupy the square numbered from 1 to 12, and the white men those numbering from 21 to 32. Place the men on the board and play over the games in this department, and in