

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

It is one of the unavoidable disadvantages of weekly journalism that it occasionally happens some interesting event takes place just at the hour for going to press, which is too late for notice a week afterwards. But the Toronto Choral Society's second subscription concert of the season, which took place on the evening of Tuesday, April 8th, was too important an event in the musical world to be dismissed without reference. It is pleasant to have to record that the pavilion was well filled on the occasion, subscribers only being admitted. The principal feature of the concert was the first section of Haydn's oratorio, "The Seasons," the text being an adaptation of Thomson's well-known poem of that name. The music is charmingly graceful and melodious, and perhaps is as fair a specimen as could well be chosen as a representative of that master's choral works. No gloomy Calvinist was "Father Haydn." His soul, brimming over with childlike *naïveté*, unrestrained joy, and good nature, doubtless found in the words of the text—descriptive of the budding forth of Spring, bright promise of Summer—a subject in complete sympathy with his own cheerful nature. The society, numbering about a hundred voices, rendered the choruses with great steadiness, paying particular attention to the varied lights and shades, thereby producing those pleasing effects which at the present time are too prone to be overlooked by some conductors, in the desire to startle by means which might be more properly described as *noise* than music. The orchestra, usually good in part, was on this occasion deserving of credit as a whole; excepting in the overture, where the brass, especially the trumpet, was perhaps a little too pronounced. There were none of those "blurring" sounds which have hitherto so often marred the effects of the orchestra at the concerts of both the Philharmonic and Choral Societies. The absence of the horns may account for the absence of these defects.

The second part of the programme was of a miscellaneous character, a feature of which, well worthy of remark, was the Concerts for Pianoforte and Orchestra, by Schuman. Miss Cox rendered the difficult pianoforte part with clearness and expression, and was carefully supported by the orchestra. The performance drew from the audience warm manifestations of approval which were well deserved. The vocalists of the evening were, in addition to members of the society who assisted in the solo parts, Mrs. Wells B. Tanner, soprano, of Buffalo, and Mr. F. A. Bowdoin, tenor, also of Buffalo. Mrs. Tanner contributed to the second part of the programme "O Luce di quest Anima," from "Linda di Chamounix," receiving an *encore*. This lady has a voice of great range and clearness, and of a pleasing quality of tone, and her method evinces a good school. Mr. Bowdoin's voice belongs rather to the *tenor di gracia* order, smooth and cultivated, with considerable power, especially in its upper middle register, but his singing, while pleasing, does not arouse in one any degree of enthusiasm. He impresses one as though he could do more if he liked, but that he *did not* like. Mr. Warrington struck out of the fields on which he has won many laurels into the strange and difficult one of Italian "buffo" singing, essaying "Largo al Factotum," from Rossini's "Barbère di Seviglia." To say that he more than fairly succeeded, would be false praise. The English language is not a vowel language, and for that reason the English tongue is not adapted for the rapid utterance of separately articulated vocal sounds. "Feranti," who perhaps created the character of the barber in this opera, sang it half as fast again and smiled the while. A charming part song, "When Hands Meet," by Pinsuti, was delightfully sung, without accompaniment, by the Choral Society, and drew forth an *encore*. The concert concluded with the chorus, "The Heavens are Telling," from The Creation, in which the Society fully sustained its high reputation.

THE amateur operatic and theatrical performance in aid of the Home for the Incurable is announced to take place in the Grand Opera House on Friday, May 2. The affair is in the hands of the Government House party, and will doubtless prove a success.

THE musical programme at the forthcoming Semi-centennial demonstration will embrace the oratorio, "The Creation," by the Toronto Choral Society, and, we believe, "The Redemption," by the Philharmonic Society. There is to be a third concert, the nature of which is not fully determined upon.

MESSRS. I. SUCKLING & SONS, of Toronto, have published a pretty transcription for the piano, of Mr. Torrington's popular song "Abide with Me," arranged by Arthur E. Fisher. The same firm are also the publishers of "Farewell," a song without words, by W. Octavius Forsyth, and a song, "Meet me, Darling," words by J. H. Porter, music by Chas. W. Stokes.

THE Eighth annual concert of the band of the Queen's Own Rifles took place in Shaftesbury Hall on the evening of Friday, April 11. The soloists for the occasion were Mrs. Morris and Miss Berryman, sopranos; Miss Alice Scott, contralto; Mr Taylor, tenor; Mr. H. M. Blight, baritone, and Miss Leonora Clench, solo violiniste. These concerts have always drawn a large attendance, and Friday evening was no exception. Space will not permit of a detailed notice of the concert. As a whole, it was a pleasing and varied entertainment. Miss Nora Clench deserves special mention for the artistic manner in which she performed the violin solo "Reverie," by Vieuxtemps; winning an *encore*, she responded with a *melange*, "Auld Robin Gray," and "Last Rose of Summer." Miss Berryman and Miss Scott both sustained their favourable reputation by the tasteful way in which they sang the numbers entrusted to them. The same may be said of Mr. Morris, in the Romance "Com 'e Bello," Donizetti, and of Mr. Taylor and Mr. H. Blight, the former singing the "Last Watch," Pinsuti, and the latter "Trusty as Steel," also Pinsuti. The vocal quartettes were fairly well rendered, but do not call for special mention. The selections by the band were both well chosen and well performed. The concert was under the directorship of Mr. John Bayley, who performed the responsible duties with his usual ability.

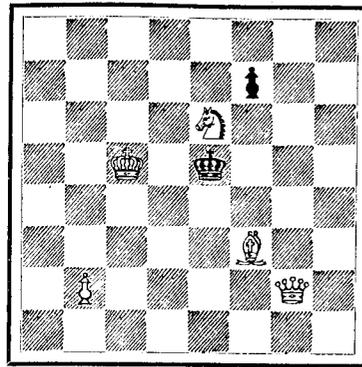
CHESS.

All communications intended for this department should be addressed "Chess Editor," office of THE WEEK, Toronto.

PROBLEM No. 2.

By J. MCGREGOR (Toronto Chess Club).

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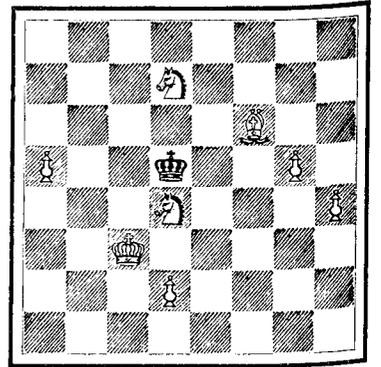
WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

PROBLEM No. 3.

By the Editor.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

THE ART OF PROBLEM SOLVING.

The following concludes a very interesting series of papers on problem composition and solving, by H. E. and J. Bettmann, in the *Milwaukee Sunday Telegraph*:
 "The prime object in solving a problem is to obtain pleasure therefrom. The object in analyzing is to test the problem's soundness. In this latter occupation, pleasure is not expected and is seldom derived. The best way to analyze a position is the shortest, and only by method can speed and accuracy be assured. Every move of each piece should be carefully examined, and having once thoroughly determined its power, it should no longer be considered. It has often been suggested that this method should be applied to solving also, as being the quickest way of coming upon the solution. But although this is a sure process, it is not at all satisfactory, because, to be pleasing, the theme should strike the solver, and not be ground out mechanically. Besides, it is no faster, under most circumstances. The best and most interesting way of solving, and one much more in accordance with the spirit of chess, is this: Examine the problem carefully to determine its nature. Be in no haste to finger the pieces, as it will lead the mind into special channels at a time when it is important to take a comparative view of the whole. Look for the author's idea, and then try moves that will bring it about. In no case will there be any difficulty in discovering the first move, when the theme has once been hit upon."
 Will some of the members of the Toronto Chess Club read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest this morsel of wisdom.

HERR DANIEL HARRWITZ.

In the death of this distinguished player recently at Posen, Germany, the chess world has lost one who, by his genius and power, greatly added to our knowledge of the game. Though generally delicate in health, some of his matches gave evidence of a tenacity of purpose and indomitable pluck unrivalled in the history of chess. Among other remarkable contests in which he engaged, his great match with Löwenthal stands as the most extraordinary example of unflinching courage on record. The first winner of eleven games was to be the victor. Harrwitz won the first two games, but, suffering from sickness, he then lost seven in succession to his opponent, two being drawn. Still, continuing ill, he determined at all hazards to restore his health, and went to Brighton, thereby forfeiting two more games. The score then stood—Löwenthal, nine; Harrwitz, two; two drawn. Returning to town much invigorated, he steadily won game after game, and though twenty more games were played before the issue was decided, of these Löwenthal only scored one, the final score being:—Harrwitz, eleven; Löwenthal, ten; drawn, twelve.
 He was for several years the undoubted champion of France, and did much for the game in that country.
 His brilliant career was, however, marred by his disastrous match with Paul Morphy, in which the final score stood—Morphy, five; Harrwitz, two; drawn, one. This, added to his subsequent defeat by Kolisch, broke his spirit, and he returned to spend the rest of his life amid the romantic mountains of the Tyrol.

GAME No. 2.

Played at the St. George's Club (London), on the 5th July, 1869.

From the *Chess Monthly*.

Remove Blacks K B P.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
Messrs. Pullar and Young (consulting).	Ph. Hirschfeld.	Messrs. Pullar and Young.	Ph. Hirschfeld.
1. P K 4	P K 3	7. B K Kt 5	Q B 4
2. P Q 4	P Q 4	8. Kt K 5 (d)	B Kt 5 ch (e)
3. Q R 5 ch (a)	P Kt 3	9. P B 3	B R 4 (f)
4. Q K 5	Q B 3 (b)	10. Q Kt 7 (f)	Q takes B
5. Q takes B P	Kt B 3	11. Q takes R (g)	Mates in three (h)
6. Kt K B 3 (c)	P takes P		

NOTES (ABRIDGED).

- (a) White may force the exchange of Queens by 3 P takes P, 3 P takes P, 4 Q R 5 ch, P Kt 3 5 Q K 5 ch.
- (b) 4 Kt K B 3 is the usual continuation at this point.
- (c) 6 B Q Kt 5 would be much better.
- (d) Again the allies neglect to strengthen their attack with 8 B Kt 5. After the exchanges White would have K and 3 P's against two B's.
- (e) The commencement of a beautiful combination deeply conceived and finely executed.
- (f) 10 Q to Q 6 equally loses a piece.
- (g) Immediately fatal; any other continuation, however, would leave White with a piece behind.
- (h) With 11. Q B 8 (ch), etc.

CHESS INTELLIGENCE.

The match announced for Good Friday between Toronto and Hamilton did not take place owing to the inability of some of the Hamilton men to leave home. Messrs Beynon and McKinnon, however, appeared to represent Brampton against the T. C. C. The score was:

Toronto.		Brampton.	
Phillips	2	Beynon	0
Gordon	2	McKinnon	0
	4		0

We are glad to hear that Blackburne the English champion, who has been seriously ill, is now fully restored to health.
 Steinitz is not the bear he is in some quarters represented to be. We learn on the authority of "Mars," in *The Sporting and Dramatic News*, that having been unexpectedly defeated in a blindfold contest by the eminent problemist W. Grimshaw (not having been previously informed of the name of his opponent), the great player heartily congratulated his antagonist, and asked him to drink a glass of wine in honour of their first encounter.
 English ladies set a good example to our Canadian fair ones in the active interest shown by many of them in the royal game. Miss Rudge as a player and Miss Beechey as a problem composer, have with many other Englishwomen upheld the honour of their sex, and now another is added to the list. In the *Sheffield Independent Solution Tourney* Miss Agnes Larkom has tied for first place with Messrs. Winter, Wood, and H. Jacobs.
 A novel and interesting match was played on the 15th March last at the school for the blind, Broomhill (Eng.), between five of the blind boys and five members of the Owlerton Club. The games were played on boards specially adapted for the blind by Mr. Wood Superintendent of the school. The black squares are raised, and the black pieces have a peg at the top so that the position may be taken in by the touch. The match lasted two hours, and was won by the blind boys, by the score of nine to three. In this age of invention and discovery it is very pleasant to find that the intellectual pleasures of those who are deprived of their sight are being thus increased.