

Chess

Last week we requested all readers of the Independent who wish to learn the game of chess, or having already learned wish to improve their chess knowledge, to write the Chess Editor a letter covering the following points: 1. Give your name and address and distance from postoffice. 2. Are you a subscriber to the Independent? 3. Do you know the moves in chess? 4. Do you know the notation describing chess moves? 5. Have you a board and men? 6. Have you any book on chess? 7. Will you take an interest in this chess column if it is properly conducted? We repeat the request this week, because the permanency of this column depends upon the interest manifested by Independent readers.

Our chess column from this time on will be divided into three parts: one devoted to the interests of those who, knowing nothing about the game, begin with the Independent's class to learn first the moves and then to play; one devoted to those who have already learned the moves but are not understood chess notation; and one to advanced players who delight in solving problems and in playing over the scores of interesting games.

Our diagrams of the board and chessmen failed to arrive on time for this week, so we are unable to give a cut of the different pieces as they appear set up on the board; but it may not be amiss to say a few words with reference to the chess board itself.

There are very few people who have not seen a chess board, it being identically the same as a checker board. Young and Howell, in their admirable book for beginners, "The Minor Tactics of Chess," have this to say: "A chess board is, primarily, one big square, which is divided by transverse lines into sixty-four smaller squares, all of the same size and alternately colored white and black. Red is frequently used in place either of the white or of the black, so that the squares are red and black or white and red; and what is called white is generally cream color, or pale yellow, or buff; but these variations of tint are rather aesthetic than material, and the two colors of the chess board, whatever they may happen really to be, must be regarded as designated merely as white and black."

Where the squares are red and black, the red squares are called white; but where they are red and white, the red is called black. In any event the darker color stands for black, while the lighter serves as white. A folding chess board, with squares at least 1 1/4 inches, should be procured from your bookseller. FURTHER ADVANCED. The Independent has many readers who know the moves and can play a very fair game of chess, yet who do not know the notation and are thus deprived of enjoying the games of master players which appear in various papers from time to time. English chess notation is a very simple matter. It consists in using the initial letters (capitalized) of the names of the pieces, except with the Knight, whose terminal letter is added to distinguish it from the abbreviation meaning the King. Hence, K stands for King, Q for Queen, R for Rook, B for Bishop, Kt for Knight, P for Pawn.

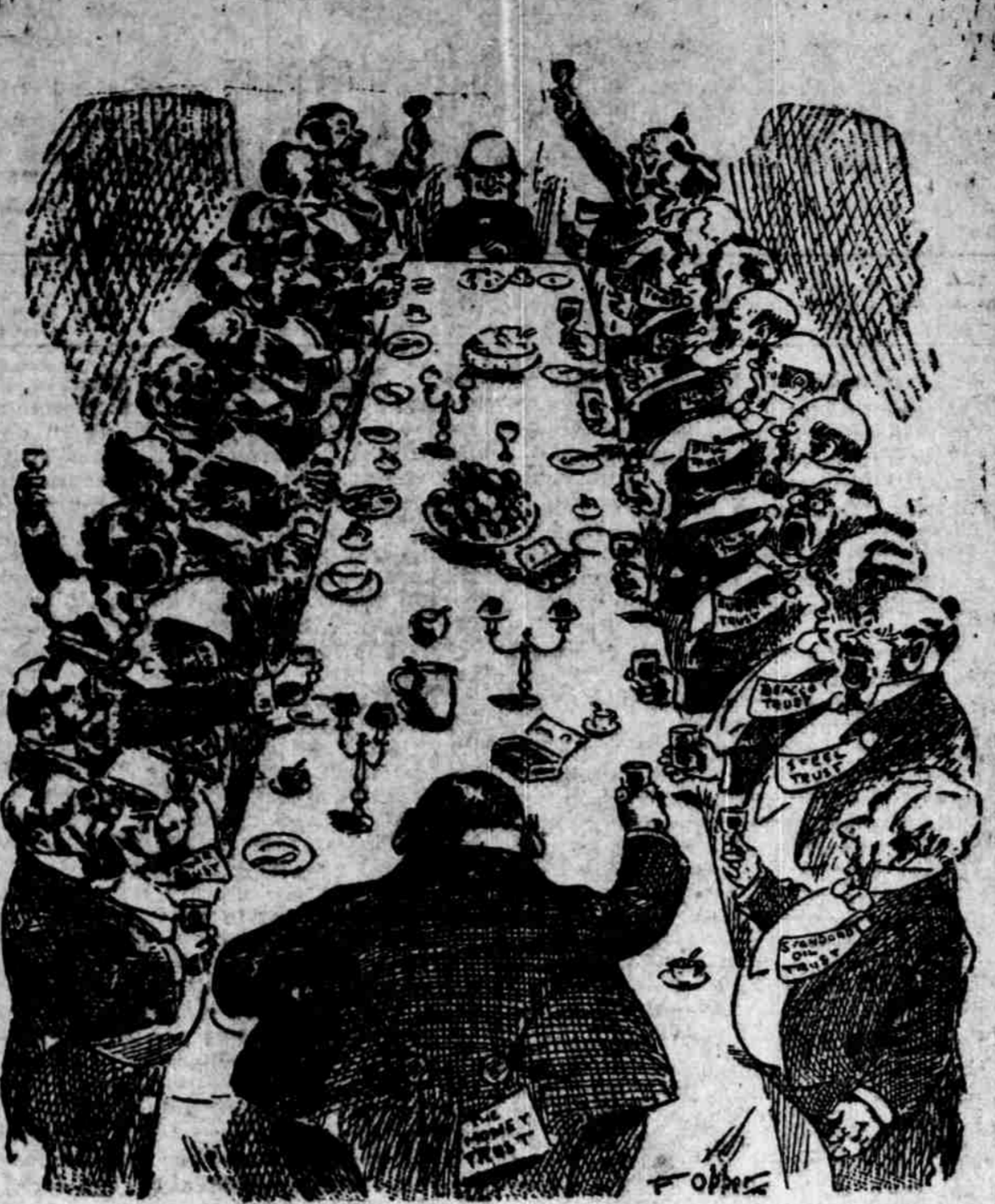
Beginning at the right hand corner nearest you when the pieces are all set ready for play, and you have the White side, the files are named in this notation: KR, KKT, KB, K, Q, QB, QKT, QR. The pawns which stand in front of these pieces are named KBP, KKT, KBP, KP, QBP, QKtP, and QRP. In playing, it often happens that one of your pawns capturing one of your opponent's pieces, the file to capture and its name changes in each event. Suppose your QP takes Black's KP: that places your pawn on the King's file and it becomes a King's pawn (Kr), even though you have your original KP.

Brevity requires that the player on the white pieces be called White, and the player of the black pieces, Black. All chess diagrams give White the lower portion and Black the upper. In this way you appear to see the board and position of the pieces from White's side. The squares of the chess board take their names from the original position of the pieces. Thus, you having White, the square nearest your right hand (and which by the way, must be a white square), being originally occupied by KB, is called King's rook's square, but in notation it is designated KR sq or KR 1. The square immediately to the right of that is called King's rook's second, but in notation this is abbreviated to KR 2. The next square in front is KR 3; then KR 4, KR 5, KR 6, KR 7, and KR 8, reaching clear across the board. This system applies to each file (or row of squares reaching from White's side to Black's). The rows of squares reaching across the board from right to left are called lines or ranks, and the row upon which White's King originally stands extending from right to left is the first line; that on which his pawns stand originally is the second line, and so on clear across the board to the eighth line, which is also Black's first line. It is proper here to state that each player names the squares and lines from his side of the board; hence, White's fourth line is Black's fifth; White's KR 3 is Black's KB 6 and so on.

Inasmuch as the opposing forces stand exactly opposite to each other, both White and Black agree upon the files. White's King stands on the fourth square from the right hand corner on the first line; and Black's K stands clear across the board opposite White's Q stands beside her on the fifth square from the right hand, on the first line, it being a white colored square; and Black's Q stands opposite on a black square. This fact gives rise to the expression, "The queen on her color." It will be observed that the Black Q stands at the left of her K.

Setting up the pieces, the rooks are in the corner squares; next to knights; next the bishops; and Q are placed to corners given before. The chess moves, the White or Black White moves P

SO SAY THEY ALL OF THEM



Grand Chorus: "For he's a jolly good fellow, which nobody can deny."—New York Evening Journal.

to K 4 (but this is Black's K 5); then Black moves P to K 4 (which is White's K 5); White plays KKT to KB 3 (which is Black's KB 6), and Black replies by QKt to QB 3 (being White's QB 6). Problem: In order to test your understanding of the foregoing, let each student draw a diagram of a chess board (the squares need not be colored, and in the proper square write the letter designating each piece named below. It might be well to use red ink for White, and black for Black. White: King on King's knight's seventh; queen on queen's knight's eighth; knight on queen's fifth. Black: King on King's rook's sixth; queen on King's rook's eighth; knight on King's knight's eighth. Send your diagram to the Chess Editor, who will make any needed corrections. Also set up the position on your chess board and see in how many moves, giving White the first move, you can mate the black King.

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"Do you have liver marks?"
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"Do you have pain in back or under shoulder blades?"
"Do you wake up tired and out of sorts?"
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MAY BE CIVIL WAR
Meeting of Kentucky Legislature Prevented

STATE TROOPS THWART ASSEMBLY

Governor Taylor Issues Proclamation Adjourning Kentucky Legislature to Meet February 6, at London, Laurel County—Other News.

Hangs in Balance.
A dispatch from Frankfort, Ky., dated Thursday morning, February 1, says that at 1:10 Mr. Goebel was asleep. His physicians retired and nobody is in the sick room except nurses.

The state house and grounds at Frankfort, Ky., swarmed Wednesday with soldiers. Governor Taylor is guarded in his private office, which he has not left since Goebel was shot. Wednesday morning he issued a proclamation adjourning the legislature to meet February 6 at London, Laurel county.

Leasing School Land
The commissioner of public lands and buildings will offer about 1,700 acres of school land for lease at public auction at Lincoln, at the county treasurer's office beginning at 2 p. m., February 23, 1900, under the following provision of the new school land law:

"If, after using due diligence to lease said land, at an annual rental of six per cent upon the appraised valuation, the commissioner is unable to do so, he may offer the same for lease at less than the appraised valuation and lease it to the person or persons who will pay six per cent on the highest offered valuation, as annual rental. If, in his judgment, it is to the best interest of the state to accept such bid:

Persons desiring to examine the lands to be leased may secure lists of the same showing the present appraisement thereof, as well as any other information, upon application to the county treasurer or by addressing the commissioner, at Lincoln. At the beginning of the auction, the commissioner will gladly answer all inquiries in regard to the school land business or the workings of the new law.

GOEBEL SWORN IN

Oath of Office Administered to the Paying Man.
William Goebel was shortly before 9 o'clock Wednesday night sworn in as governor of Kentucky, and J. C. W. Beckham, a few minutes later, took the oath of lieutenant governor. The oath was administered to both men by Chief Justice Hazelrigg of the court of appeals.

A statement had been prepared stating that the boards which had heard the contests for governor and lieutenant governor had decided in favor of Goebel and Beckham; that the boards intended to report their findings to the legislature, but that they had been prevented from so doing by the action of Governor Taylor in declaring the legislature adjourned. It also called attention to the fact that the members had been driven from place to place by the militia, and threatened with arrest. This statement was circulated among the democrats, and each man as he signed the paper announced that he voted for the adoption of the majority report of the contest boards, which declared Goebel and Beckham to be the men rightfully entitled to the office.

After the signatures had been secured word was sent to the residence of Chief Justice Hazelrigg of the court of appeals. He came at once to the Capital hotel, passed directly up stairs to the room of Mr. Goebel and administered the oath of office. Mr. Goebel was propped up with pillows and was able to raise his hand only with the greatest difficulty as he listened to the words of Judge Hazelrigg.

When the oath had been given Mr. Goebel sank back exhausted, the effort having been almost too much for his strength. Immediately upon leaving the room where he had sworn in Mr. Goebel Judge Hazelrigg went to an adjoining room, where he swore in Mr. Beckham as lieutenant governor. This done he returned to his home, after making the statement that the proceeding was entirely legal and proper.

Mr. Goebel, as soon as he was assured that he was legally governor of Kentucky, took prompt action regarding the military arm of the service. Two orders were quickly prepared for his signature, the first of which discharged Adjutant General Daniel Collier from office, and appointed Gen. John B. Castleman of Louisville as his successor.

The second was directed to the commanders of the military now stationed at Frankfort, directing them to return to their homes. There may be trouble over the matter of control of state troops. The regiments of the guard have lately been reorganized and are for the most part made up of republicans and personal followers of Taylor.

Ex-Governor Bradley's View.
Ex-Governor Bradley, who is Governor Taylor's counsel, says the attempted assassination of Goebel was the foulest crime ever committed in the state.

Goebel Declared Elected.
While William Goebel lay at the point of death in his room as the result of an assassin's bullet, the contesting boards, which for two weeks had been listening to the evidence in his contest for the governor's chair, declared him entitled to the seat.

The same action was taken in the contest for the lieutenant gubernatorial office.

Failure of National Church Mutual

The National Church Mutual Insurance company of Lisbon, Iowa, has gone out of business. The concern did a large underground business throughout the country, complying only with the Iowa laws. It made a specialty of churches and schools and secured a considerable line of business because of its name.—C. T. Herald.

Church mutuals have flourished in some parts of the country for some time past like a green bay tree, but several of them have gone the way of all the earth of late and proven at the same time that mutuals, even under the sanctity of the pulpit, are no exception to the rule: Churches may be all right to protect people from fire in the world to come, but they evidently miss their calling when they tackle the fire fiend in this world. Such institutions as church mutuals are usually gotten up by some fellow who steals the livery of Heaven to serve the devil in, and he or they do not hesitate to fleece the unspiculated, meek church member if they can. It is wise to steer clear of any man who seeks business by connecting himself with some church or society of any kind. There are plenty of fellows, it seems, who may be described as "a wolf in sheep's clothing."—"Once in a while."

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Do You Want a Calendar?

The biggest and best—calendar ever issued by any American railroad is now being distributed by the Burlington Route.

It has twelve sheets, one for each month of the year. On each sheet is a striking illustration of some feature of the Burlington service, or of the territory reached by its lines—the government fast mail running at full speed; a tourist car on its way to California; engine 1591, the largest passenger engine in the world; a library car, a compartment sleeper; the Burlington station at Omaha; a dining car; a monster freight train; Estes Park, Colo; the plunge bath at Hot Springs, S. D.; Yellowstone Falls, etc.

The drawings from which the pictures were made are by Louis Braunbold, of Chicago, and cost several hundred dollars.

The size of the calendar is 22 x 28. The dates are in big type which can be read at a distance of 50 feet. For business offices the Burlington calendar is simply invaluable. Purchased in large quantities, the calendars cost the Burlington Route 27 cents a piece. With postage, packing, etc., they represent an investment of about 35 cents. Our price is 25 cents—10 cents less than cost. Write for one; stamps will do. If it is not satisfactory, send it back and your money will be promptly refunded.

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BODIES OF DEAD SOLDIER

Remains of Nebraska Boys Being Sent to Their Relatives.
Adjutant General Barry has received a telegram from Depot Quartermaster Long at San Francisco giving the names of the dead Nebraska soldiers whose remains were brought from Manila on the Peking. They are as follows:

- Horace L. Falkner.
- William R. Philpot.
- Ralph W. Kels.
- Earl W. Osterhout.
- Frank M. Knouse.
- Walker H. Hogue.
- Fred Taylor.
- Arthur C. Sims.
- Frank S. Glover.
- Albert Burd.
- Ira A. Giffin.
- George P. Hansen.
- Lester E. Sissons.
- Elmer B. Wampler.
- Albert J. Erisman.
- Charles O. Ballinger.
- Frederick J. Pegler.
- Theodore H. Larson.

All of the bodies except those of Osterhout, Ballinger, and Hansen have been shipped to their relatives. The first two of these were buried in the national cemetery at San Francisco, while the body of Hansen still remains unclaimed.

BULLER IN GREAT DANGER

Runs Great Risk of Having Communication Cut Off.
A London dispatch to the New York Evening World says: Buller's danger is now forcing itself upon the military experts. A committee of national defense has already taken it up and is gravely considering it. Lord Roberts himself has communicated his anxiety, it is said.

He has, it is reported, cabled the committee that unless Buller and his forces arrive safely from their present position to the south of the Little Tugela river they will be in imminent danger of having their communications cut.

Lord Roberts has pointed out that Buller has with him an immense transport train, carrying his ammunition and supplies. This interferes with the mobility of his army. Buller's main force is now about 22 miles from its base, at Frere and Chievely. It is between the Big Tugela river, over which it has retreated, and the Little Tugela, over which it has to retreat in order to begin the march to its base.

WHITE'S POSITION PERILOUS

Must Surrender or Make a Break for Freedom Through Boer Lines.
Advices from London indicate that military associates of General White are of the opinion that he will make a desperate attempt to break through the Boer lines and escape from Ladysmith; that though such a movement would cost a tremendous sacrifice of life, it would be preferable to surrender to the Boers. The statement that Lord Roberts advised the abandonment of Ladysmith is not generally credited in London, but in view of the fact that the supply of provisions will not hold out more than a week longer, it is not probable that any aid can be rendered to General White inside of that time and he will have but two courses open—surrender, or cut his way out. Several military experts in London are of the opinion that the British in Kimberley, at Modder river, and in the Tugela will also be left to work out their own salvation.

GET A HANDSOME PRESENT

Thurston Rifles and High School Cadets Given \$500 Each.
An unexpected piece of good fortune has befallen the Thurston Rifles and high school cadets of Omaha in the shape of a present of about \$500 to each organization. When the cost of the reception to the returning First Nebraska regiment was figured up it was found that there was a surplus of nearly \$1,000. This was due to the fact that only a small part of the regiment was entertained in Omaha, when preparations had been made to receive the whole regiment.

After conferring with a number of citizens as to the best disposition to make of the money, it was decided to dispose of it in the manner above stated. The portion given to the high school cadets will undoubtedly be used to purchase additional rifles for the battalion, which has long been needed, but which the cadets were unable to obtain from the board of education.

MAN KILLED IN A RUNAWAY
Phelps County Farmer Throws From a Wagon and Falls to Death.
C. J. Malm, a farmer living three miles northwest of Bertrand, started for town to report the death of the six-months-old child of Ed Powers, a neighbor. He was driving one of Mr. Powers' teams, which ran away with him, throwing him out of the buggy onto the hard road, striking the back of his head. When picked up he was unconscious, and died later.

AT WASHINGTON

Kentucky Affair Shocks the National Capital.
The first reports from Kentucky saying that Senator Goebel had been shot caused a flurry of excitement at the national capitol and there were many who were anxious to give the affair a political significance and who said it would affect the next presidential election.

News of the shooting was received at the white house while the cabinet was in session. Upon reading the bulletin the president expressed his sorrow and remarked that it was a great calamity. He was much distressed at the news, and so were all the members of the cabinet. All agreed that it was a lamentable occurrence.

A great many senators expressed a fear that there would be a bloody outcome on account of the bitter feeling that has heretofore existed and which continues to grow in intensity.

In the house the news spread like wildfire, and was for a time almost the sole topic of conversation. The members gathered in groups to discuss it, and there were everywhere expressions of horror that the bitter political contest had culminated in attempted assassination.

Senator-Elect Blackburn, who is at Washington, telephoned to Kentucky urging democrats to remain quiet, and take no rash action of any sort.

WAHOQ TO HAVE SOLDIERS

Company of National Guard to Be Organized.
Adjutant General Barry has issued an order giving permission for the organization of a national guard company at Wahoo. He has authorized J. L. Sundeen of that place to organize the company. As the Second regiment is full it is taken for granted that the new company is to be assigned a place in the First regiment, there being a vacancy in that regiment by the failure of the Thurston Rifles to re-enter the regiment.

Bryan's Statement.
When shown the dispatch announcing the tragedy in Kentucky, Mr. Bryan, who was in Boston, made the following statement: "It is shocking, shocking! I trust that the shot will not prove fatal. Mr. Goebel made a great fight against fierce opposition, and feeling was wrought up to a high pitch, but I had no thought of assassination being resorted to. It probably was the individual act of some bitter political opponent. I cannot assume to believe that any considerable number of republicans or anti-Goebel democrats would counsel or excuse such an act. I sincerely hope that the democrats will not allow excitement or resentment to lead them to acts of violence. Let the law deal with those who violate the law."

Harvesting the Ice Crop.
While the quietude of winter is felt in many ways a large force of workmen were picked up along the Elkhorn line last week who are now at work at Valentine harvesting the railroad's annual crop of ice. In the neighborhood of thirty cars are loaded daily.

The republican delegation from Nebraska held a meeting at Washington, and at the suggestion of Mr. Thurston, Mr. Mercer was selected as the congressional committeeman for Nebraska, a position he has held for some time.

Will Use Old Building.
The electors of Douglas county will not be given an opportunity of casting their ballots for or against the erection of a new court house at the election to be held this spring. The county commissioners have decided to let the matter go over until next fall.

When the commissioners convened at Omaha there was a disposition to submit the \$500,000 court house bond proposition. The proposition had been drawn and was ready to be offered. A conference was held and after a short discussion, it was decided to drop the matter, owing to the fact that some opposition had developed.

Barn and Horses Burned.
R. W. Woods' stable at Greeley Centre was burned together with three horses, all his harness and some other articles. Part of his hog house was also destroyed. A lantern in the hands of a boy exploded, causing the fire. The boy tried to save the horses, was burned and would have perished had not his mother brought him out. She herself was scorched, but not seriously injured. There was no insurance.

Lay Resolution on the Table.
The house committee on banking and currency Wednesday disposed of the bill proposing to prohibit the holding of national bank stock by any secretary of the treasury by laying the measure upon the table.

Mr. Robt. C. Druse, special agent for the mutual life of New York will open an office in this city in a short time.
Good short stories will be a feature of the Independent hereafter. Read those on pages 2 and 6 this week.