

# THE CHESS-PLAYER.

All communications for this department should be addressed to "Chess Editor Argonaut, 213 Dupont Street, San Francisco, Cal." Original problems, games, solutions, and correspondence on Chess matters solicited.

Problem No. 126.—By F. B. Phelps, Sandwich, Ill.

*Second Prize in Ottawa Citizen Two-move Tourney.*

WHITE—King at K sq; Queen at Q7; Rooks at Q sq, KB5; Bishops at K7, QKt sq; Knights at KB sq, KB3; Pawns at KB2, KKt5.

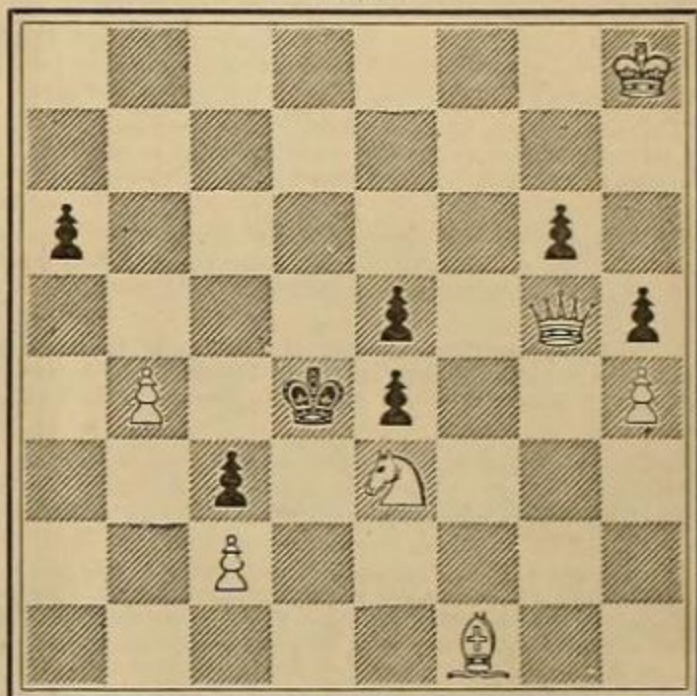
BLACK—King at K5; Rook at KKt5; Bishop at Q4; Pawns at K3, Q6, QB5.

White to play and mate in two moves.

Problem No. 127.—By C. H. Wheeler, South Lynne, Ill.

*Composed for the Argonaut.*

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

Correct solutions received: Problems Nos. 124 and 125, from U. Hartnell, Salinas City; problem No. 125, from W.; problem No. 117, from Dr. R. F. Rooney, Auburn, Cal. Our contributor, F. B. Phelps, demolishes No. 115 by a second solution.

To Correspondents.

W.—In No. 123 if Q QB3, then K K5. In No. 125 if P x P, R Q2, and mate can not be given. Will you send address for private use only?

Dr. R. F. R., Auburn, Cal.—Hope to hear from you often. In No. 123 if 1 B B6 ch, K Q3, 2 B x P dbl ch, K QB2 and no mate in three. Will confer with you when you visit the city.

J. O. Flagg.—Problems received. Your request concerning them will be attended to.

Game No. 65.

Played at Simpson's Divan, London, between Messrs. H— and James Mason. Game and notes from *Chess Monthly*:

RUY LOPEZ.

White.	Black.	White.	Black.
Mr. H—	J. Mason.	19—QB x RP	19—Castles
1—P K4	1—P K4	20—B B2	20—P H4 (f)
2—Kt KB3	2—Kt QB3	21—B K sq (g)	21—P Kt4
3—B Kt5	3—Kt Q5	22—B Q2 (h)	22—Q K4 (!)
4—Kt x Kt	4—P x Kt	23—B B7 (?)	23—Kt Kt6
5—Castles	5—B B4	24—R B3 (i)	24—Kt K7 ch
6—P Q3	6—P QB3	25—K B2	25—R R5
7—B QB4 (a)	7—P KR4	26—Q x R	26—P x Q
8—Kt Q2	8—P Q3	27—K x Kt	27—Q K2
9—Q B3	9—Kt B3	28—B Kt6 (j)	28—P Q4 (!)
10—Q Kt3	10—Q K2 (b)	29—R H4	29—P B5
11—Kt Kt3	11—B Kt3	30—Kt R5 (?)	30—P B6 (!)
12—P QR4	12—P R3	31—P x P	31—B x Kt
13—P B4 (c)	13—Kt Kt5 (d)	32—P x P	32—B x B
14—P R3	14—P R5	33—K x B	33—P x P
15—Q B3	15—Kt B3 (e)	34—P x P (k)	34—Q Kt5 ch
16—P B5	16—Kt R4	35—K Q3	35—B Kt4 ch (l)
17—Q Kt4	17—B Q2		
18—B KKt5	18—P B3		

(a) Threatening to continue with 8 B x P ch, K x B; 9 Q R5 ch, 10 Q x B.

(b) Well played. White dare not capture the KtP—viz., 11 Q x KtP, R KKt sq; 12 Q R6, B R6.

(c) Necessary to prevent the threatened advance of the hostile QP.

(d) After 13—P Q4, 14 P x P, P x P, White would proceed with 15 R K sq, B K3; 16 P B5.

(e) If 15—Kt K6, White wins a pawn with 16 B x Kt, P x B; 17 P Q4.

(f) Forced, for if 20—Q K4, then 21 P B3.

(g) We would prefer 21 Kt Q2.

(h) White masses his forces on the Q's side to no purpose; he should have played 22 B Kt3, and then Kt Q2.

(i) A serious oversight which causes the loss of the Queen, but White had under any circumstances a difficult game, and 24 R B2, another plausible continuation, would be disastrous—e. g., 24 R B2, R R5; 25 Q B3 (or 25 Q Q sq, P Kt5; 26 B B4, P x P (!); 27 B x Kt, Q x B, etc.), 25—Q K R sq, and White can not escape the forcing continuation: 26—P Kt5. The only move which would provide a sufficient defence was 24 KR K sq and after 24—R R5, 25 Q B3, QR R sq; 26 K B2.

(j) The Bishop should have never left B4, and now should return to it, or still better, perhaps, to Q5.

(k) 34 R x P would have prolonged the struggle.

(l) Black has displayed throughout the middle game an unsurpassed judgment and vigor, and he finishes off with an elegant stroke which disposes of all further resistance.

The Annual Handicap Tourney of the Café de la Régence, Paris, has closed with the following result: 1st prize, M. Taubenhaus; 2d, M. Arnous de Riviere; 3d and 4th, MM. Macaulay and Mourinik, *ex aequo*.—The Illinois *Sporting and Dramatic News* announces a short match, some time during May, at the St. George's Chess Club, between Mr. H. E. Bird and Rev. A. B. Skipworth. —Dr. Zukertort has been making a visit to Germany, but not in the interest of chess. —Blackburne has received an invitation to visit Auckland, New Zealand, and, if accepted, may return to England via the United States.

The Brooklyn *Chess Chronicle* for April is received, and is, as usual, filled with interesting chess matter.