

# GRUER LEADS CHESSMEN.

[BY A. P. NIGHT WIRE.]

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 31.—E. W. Gruer, Oakland, retained his lead for the State chess championship in the fourth day of play here yesterday by defeating George Hallwegen, after eight and one-half hours of play. The game was the longest recorded in the tournament.

Other results were the victory of S. Mlotkowski of Los Angeles, over Bernardo Smith of San Francisco, in twenty-nine moves, and the victory of Harry Borochof of Los Angeles over S. Swanson of San Francisco and William Metzke of Fresno.

Mlotkowski was standing second tonight in the tournament, and E. J. Clark of San Francisco, third. Gruer had won four straight games, Mlotkowski had three victories and

a draw, Clark two victories and two draws.

Standings of leaders in the State chess championship remained unchanged by tonight's play. The standing of the high four are:

E. W. Gruer, Oakland, 1000.

S. Mlotkowski, Los Angeles, .900.

E. J. Clarke, San Francisco, .800.

H. Borochof, Los Angeles, .583.

Gruer defeated C. Woskoff in forty-five moves, irregular opening.

Mlotkowski defeated A. J. Fink, sixty-four moves, Rui Lopez, opening.

Clarke defeated Borochof, sixty-nine moves, Rui Lopez, opening.

S. Swanson defeated B. Smith, thirty moves, Giuoco Piano, opening.

William Metzke drew with W. R. Lovegrove, fifty-one moves.