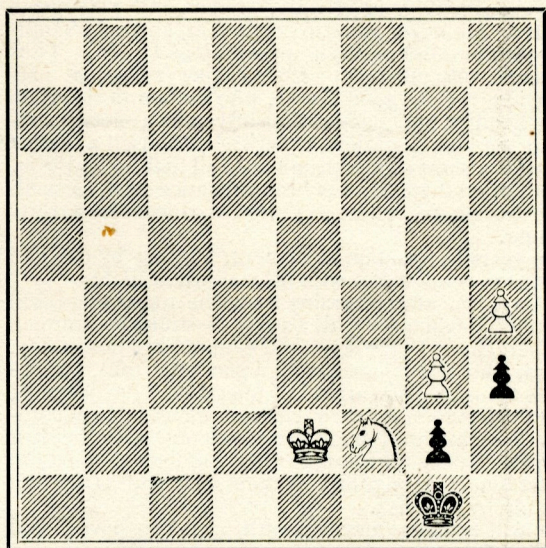


OUR CHESS COLUMN.

Problems and Other Topics of Interest in the King of Games.

[All communications for this department should be addressed to "Chess Editor Argonaut, No. 2115 Fillmore Street, San Francisco, Cal."]

The following intricate position occurred in a game between Mr. Jacobi, of San Francisco (white), and Mr. Gale, formerly of Baltimore (black):



The game was abandoned as drawn. White should have announced mate in seven moves.

La Bourdonnais and Cochrane—Cochrane Gambit.

<i>White.</i>	<i>Black.</i>	<i>White.</i>	<i>Black.</i>
La Bourdonnais.	Cochrane.	16—Q KB sq	16—QB KB4
1—P K4	1—P K4	17—Q x Q	17—Kt B7 ch
2—P KB4	2—P x P	18—P Q3	18—P x Q
3—Kt KB3	3—P KKt4	19—R KKt sq	19—QR Q sq
4—B QB4	4—P KKt5	20—QB x B	20—KKt x B
5—Kt K5	5—Q KR5 ch	21—R x P	21—Kt x QP
6—K B sq	6—P KB6	22—Kt x Kt	22—B x Kt ch
7—P KKt3	7—Q KR6 ch	23—K B sq	23—KR B sq
8—B B2	8—Q Kt7 ch	24—KBt Q2	24—KKt B4
9—K K3	9—B KR3 ch	25—QB K sq	25—Kt K6
10—K Q3	10—P Q4	26—KR Kt sq	26—B KB8
11—B x P	11—QKt R3	27—P QKt3	27—KR B7
12—P QB3	12—P QB3	28—R x B	28—Kt x R
13—B x KBP ch	13—K K2	29—Kt x Kt	29—QR x B ch
14—KB QKt3	14—QKt B4 ch	30—K x R	30—R x Kt ch
15—K B2	15—QKt x KP		And wins.

Francois Andre Danican Philidor.

Comparatively little is known of the actual strength or style of this famous player, owing to the remote date, as well as to the limited number of his games which have been preserved. His fame, nevertheless, has become a matter of history, and to no other player (with the exception of Morphy) has such an undisputed title of chess champion of the world been accorded. The records of his victories, to a limited extent, together with the minutest details of a long and varied life, have been faithfully preserved by his grandson, who resides in Paris. We find that in the early part of the seventeenth century an Italian hautboy player of the name of Filidori visited France, and produced such a strong impression upon Louis XIII. by his brilliant and artistic performance, that when a young French musician by the name of Danican appeared in Paris some years subsequently and secured audience of the King, his skill and execution seemed so marvelous that the King exclaimed: "I have recovered my Philidori! I have found a second Philidor!" Which title of "Philidor," so brilliantly won, was adopted by Michael Danican and his numerous descendants. His children became famous musicians, and were attached either to the court or royal chapel. Francois Andre Danican Philidor, the youngest of eight children, was born September 7, 1726, and at the age of fourteen became a professional musician, at which time he had also acquired the reputation of being a most skillful chess player, and the best Polish draught player who had ever lived. At the age of eighteen he was engaged to give a series of concerts throughout the Continent; but, owing to some mismanagement, the enterprise, financially, was a failure, and resulted in a prolonged chess tour. From this time forward we find that he contested games or played matches with the leading players of Europe, returning to Paris after an absence of nine years. The London Chess Club entered into an engagement to pay him a liberal income to spend a few months of each year in London. Either for this or for political reasons which forbade his return to France, he spent the remainder of his days in England, devoting his time to the composition of music and illustration of the beauties and difficulties of chess. He died in England in the year 1795, having been for upward of half a century the acknowledged chess champion of the world, never having met his equal at the royal game. In a future number we will publish a sample of his blindfold games.

Dr. J. H. Zukertort arrived in Chicago on Wednesday, January 16th, as the guest of the Chicago Chess Club. He found that there are some very good players in Chicago whom it takes all his skill to overcome. The first game played was with South Park Commissioner J. H. Morgan, Thursday, which lasted for six hours, and then resulted in a draw. In four hurriedly played games with Mr. J. A. Adair, the lawyer, Mr. Adair won two out of four, though it is not claimed that he is by any means so skillful a player as Dr. Zukertort. On Saturday, Morgan was the opponent in a game which lasted four hours, and resulted in a victory for Zukertort. Dr. Zukertort is expected in San Francisco very shortly.