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. 130.—By J. B. Halkett, Ottawa, Canada.

Composed for the Argonaut.

WHITE—King at KB6; Rook at KB4; Bishops at K6, KB8; Pawns at Q7, KB7.

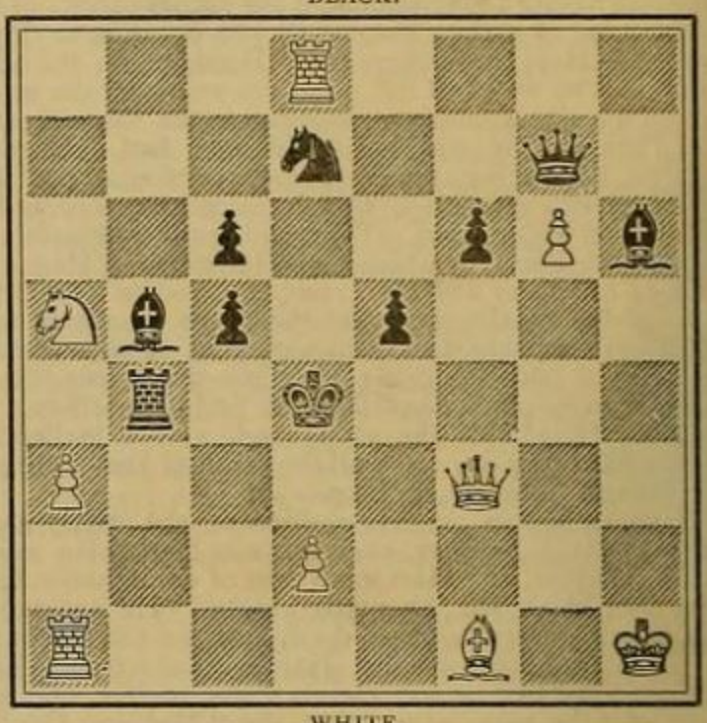
BLACK—King at KR2; Rook at Q4; Bishop at KR4; Pawns at KB4, KKt3.

White to play and mate in two moves.

Problem No. 131.—By John Gardner, Utica, N. Y.

Composed for the Argonaut.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

Solutions of Problems.

No. 118— 1—B R7.

No. 119— 1—Q Kt6 1—R x Q
2—Kt K2 2—Any move
3—Kt Kt sq mates.

There are two other solutions: 1 Q QB5, etc., and 1 Q QKt sq.

Correct solutions received: Problems Nos. 128 and 129 from U Hartnell, Salinas City. Problem No. 115 from F. B. Phelps, Sandwich, Ill.

To Correspondents.

C. P. N., Hayward's, Cal.—Not so easy as it looks. If 1 Q K4, K QB4; 2 B R3, R x B, etc.

John Gardner, Utica, N. Y.—Problem No. 115 is a beauty—perfectly sound. Brother Phelps and I hasten to make the *amende honorable*. Will reply at length by mail.

F. B. Phelps.—Problem by Arnold should be numbered CXIII.

W.—Did you notice request in last number?

W. Z., Tucson, A. T.—We miss your customary attention. What is the matter?

C. H. Wheeler.—Postal received. The problem will have due attention. Correction will be published if you think it advisable.

H. and E. Bettman.—Under renewed obligations. Your commendations are very pleasant indeed.

Game No. 66.

Played between Messrs. N. J. Manson and Fritz Peipers, in the recent tournament at Mechanics' Institute:

KING'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

White.	*Black.*	*White.*	*Black.*
Manson.	Peipers.	17—B x Q	17—P x B
1—P K4	1—P K4	18—P Q4	18—B B4
2—P KB4	2—B B4	19—P B3	19—QR K sq
3—Kt QB3 (a)	3—Kt KB3	20—P KKt4	20—B Q6
4—Kt KB3	4—P Q3	21—R x R	21—R x R
5—Kt QR4	5—Kt x KP	22—R K sq	22—P R3
6—Kt x B	6—Kt x Kt	23—P KR4	23—R B2
7—P QKt4	7—KKt Q2	24—P R5	24—K R2
8—B B4	8—Castles	25—R K8 (e)	25—R B8 ch
9—Castles	9—Q KB3	26—K Kt2	26—R B2
10—B Kt2	10—Q x BP	27—P x P ch	27—B x P
11—Kt x KP (!)	11—Q K5 (?)	28—Q R4 ch	28—B R4
12—B x P ch	12—K R sq	29—Q x B ch	29—K Kt2
13—Kt x Kt	13—B x Kt (b)	30—Q Kt5 ch	30—K R2
14—Q R5	14—Kt B3 (c)	31—Q Kt8 ch	31—K R3
15—B x P ch (!)	15—K x B	32—Q x R (f)	Resigns.
16—Q Kt5 ch	16—Q Kt3 (d)		

(a) The recommended moves are 3 Kt KB3, P Q3; 4 B B4, Kt KB3, etc.

(b) We prefer Kt x Kt as it guards KB3 from attack. It could afterward be played to K4, preventing the threat of QB on Kt's P and attacking White's KB.

(c) The text move is probably the best in view of White's strong attack. The position is an interesting one, as Black must now lose his Queen.

(d) Forced, to prevent mate at KB6.

(e) The beginning of the end. Black, who played a losing game throughout, vainly struggles against the inevitable.

(f) Why not 32 R K6 ch, and mate next move?

In the "Southern Trade Gazette Tourney," the judges, Messrs. James Roberts and W. E. Tinney, have awarded the prizes as follows: Best two-move problem, Messrs. H. E. and I. Bettman; best three-move, J. C. J. Wainwright; best four-move, Dr. S. Gold.

Mr. F. B. Phelps, of Sandwich, Ill., although still a young man, has captured between thirty-five and forty valuable prizes in competition with the leading problem composers of the world.—*Pittsburg Telegraph.*

Brother Foster, of the St. Louis *Globe-Democrat*, has seen a proof of the group-picture of the chess editors of America. Some people seem born to good luck.

Mr. Steinitz's attitude toward chess players of prominence in England reminds us very much of the old story of the eleven obstinate jurymen.

Inquiries from our chess brethren concerning the place of publication of the "Illinois" *Sporting and Dramatic News* are now in order.