# Chess Problems

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O. A. BROWNSON, JR.,

DUBUQUE, IOWA.

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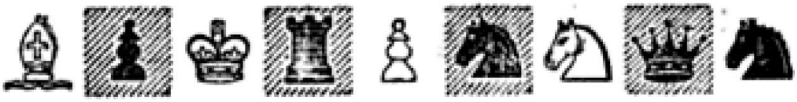

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# CHESS PROBLEMS:

By THEOPHILUS A. THOMPSON.

BLACK

WHITE

Either to play and mate, or compel self-mate in four moves.

DUBUQUE, IOWA.

1873.

## T. A. THOMPSON.

T. A. Thompson (Colored) was born in Frederick City, Maryland, on the 21st. day of April, 1855. At 13 years of age he left his native city and went to live with a family in Carroll County, in the capacity of house servant. In 1870, he returned to Frederick where he has been ever since.

He saw a chess board and men used for the first time in April 1872, when he witnessed a contest between Mr. S. of Ohio, and Mr. H. of Frederick City; although he could not understand the game and dared not ask questions for fear of annoying the players, he watched every move with the closest attention. The partie finished he went home fully determined to learn the game.

Mr. H. having heard of this ardent desire loaned him a chess board and a set of chess men, gave him some instructions, and left him a few two-move problems to solve.

Thus thanks to the kind assistance of John K. Hanshew our hero became possessed of the OPEN SESAME to Caissa's gardens of ever increasing intellectual delights.

Theophilus Augustus Thompson
April 21, 1855 — after 1920

Hearing last summer of the DUBUQUE CHESS JOURNAL, he soon became a subscriber a student and a contributor thereto, accumulating the following rich store of Chess Compositions that are offered for perusal to the general chess reader, with great pleasure and much confidence by the proprietors of the

DUBUQUE CHESS JOURNAL.

Dubuque, June 1st. 1873.

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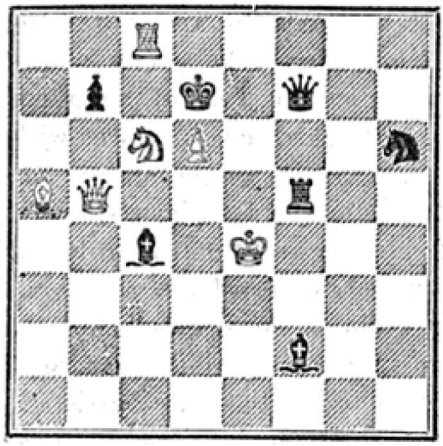
## PROBLEM NO. 1.

### By T. A. Thompson.

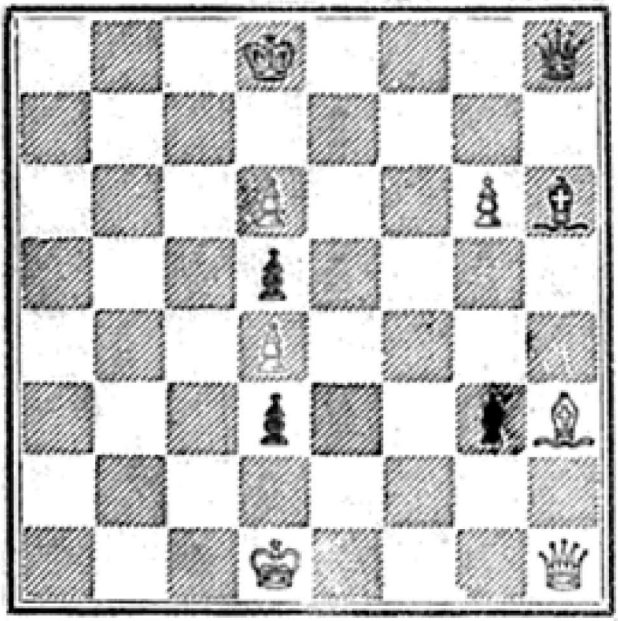
BLACK



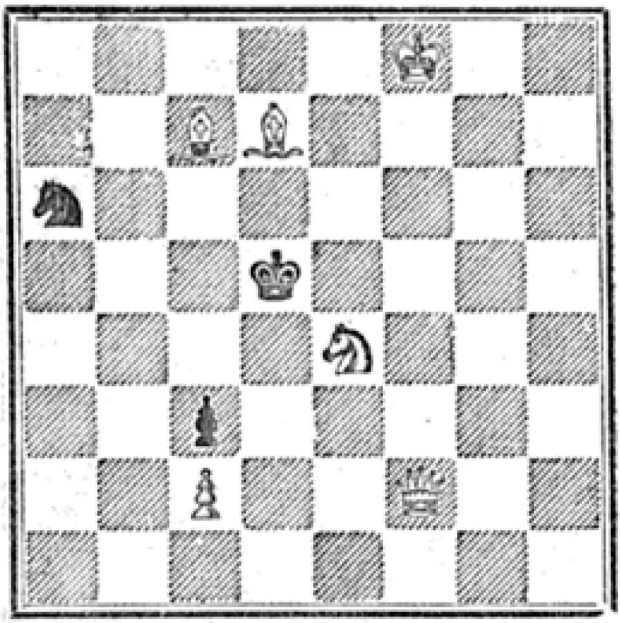
WHITE

White compels sui-mate in two moves.

No. 2. White mates in two moves.



No. 3. Either mates in two moves.



No. 4. White mates in two moves.

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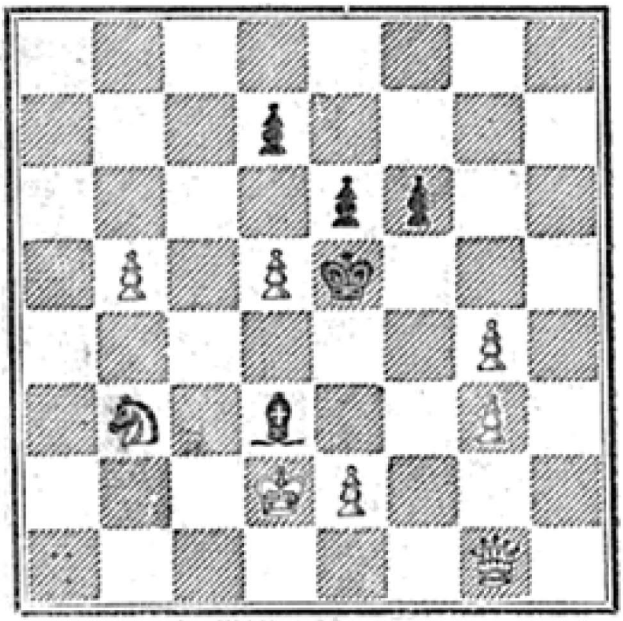
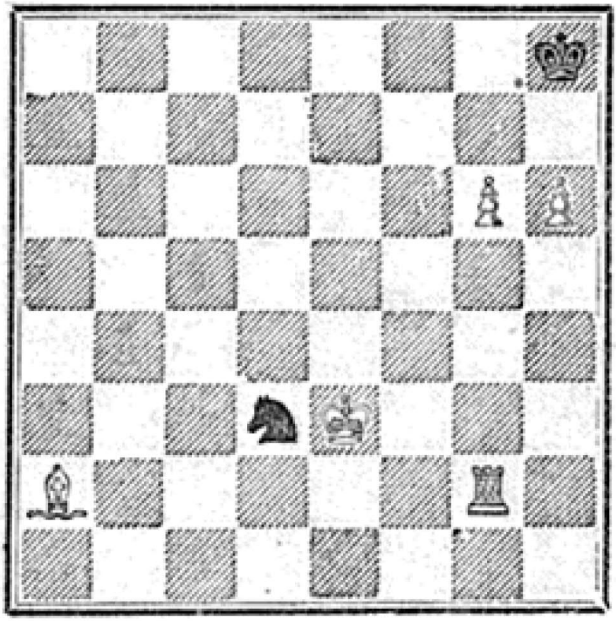
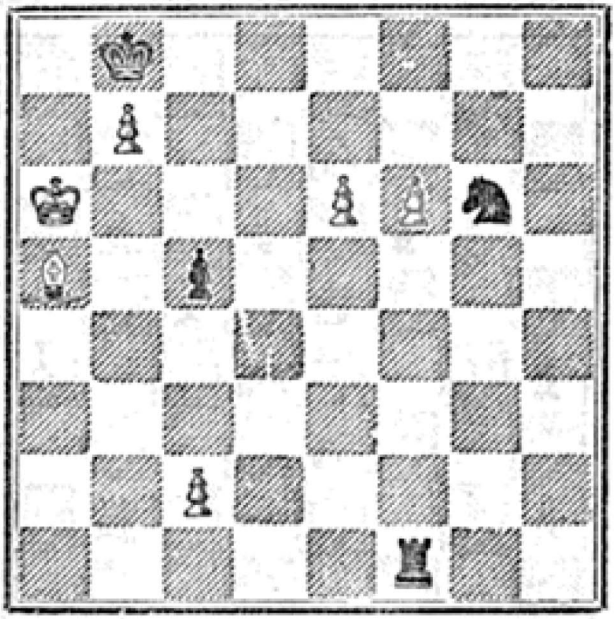


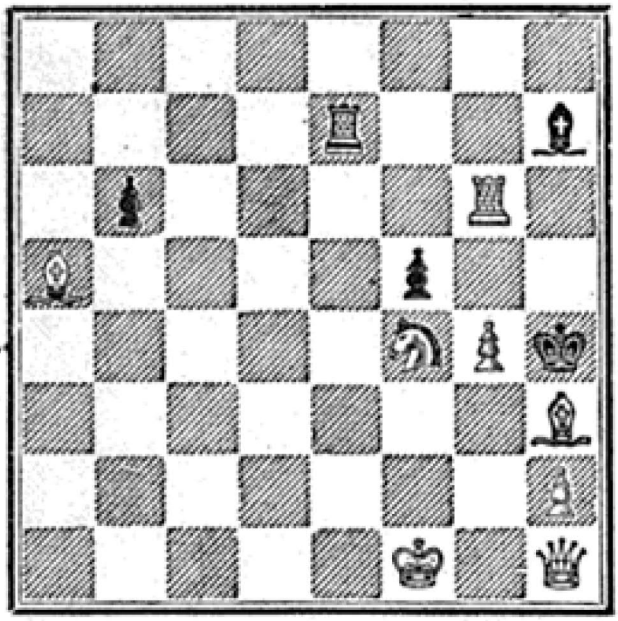
No. 5. White mates in two moves.



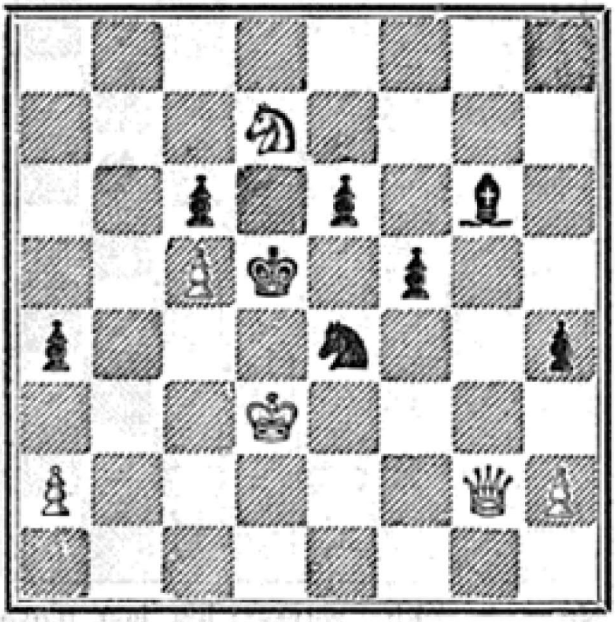
No. 6. White mates in two moves.



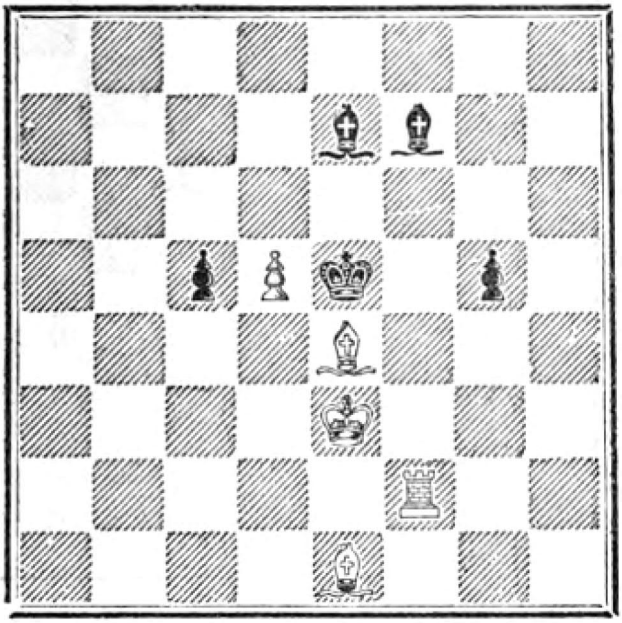
No. 7. White retracts his last move and mates in two moves.



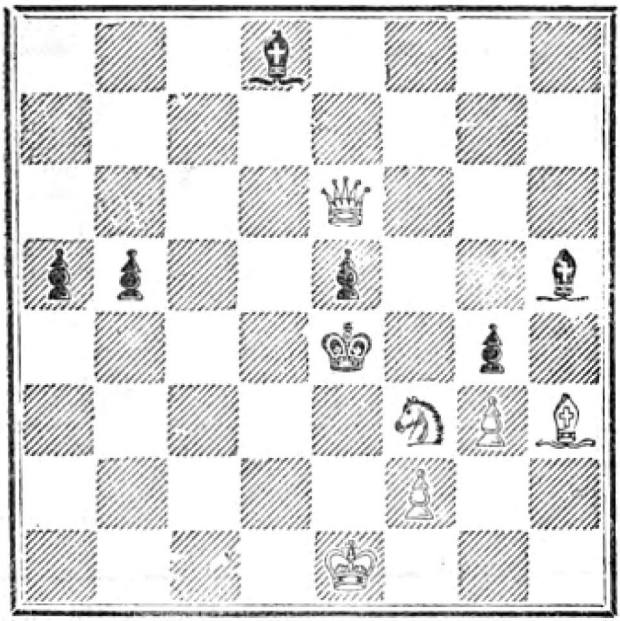
No. 8. White mates in two moves.



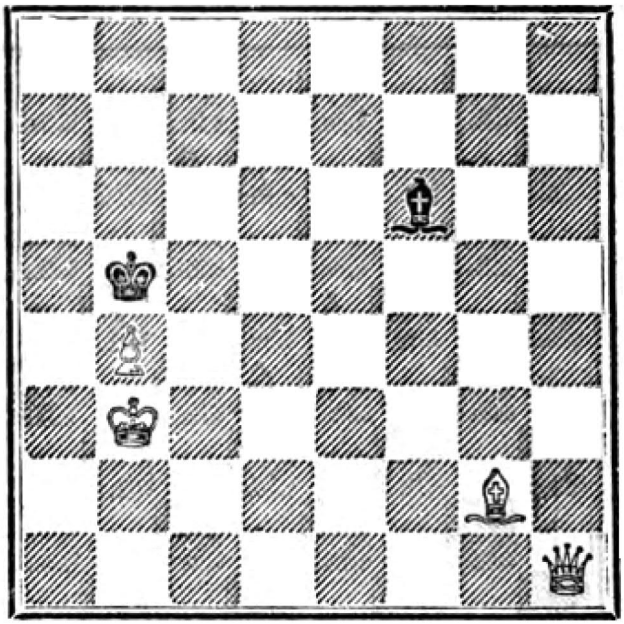
No. 9. White mates in two moves.



No. 10. White mates in two moves.



No. 11. White mates in two moves.



No. 12. White mates in two moves.

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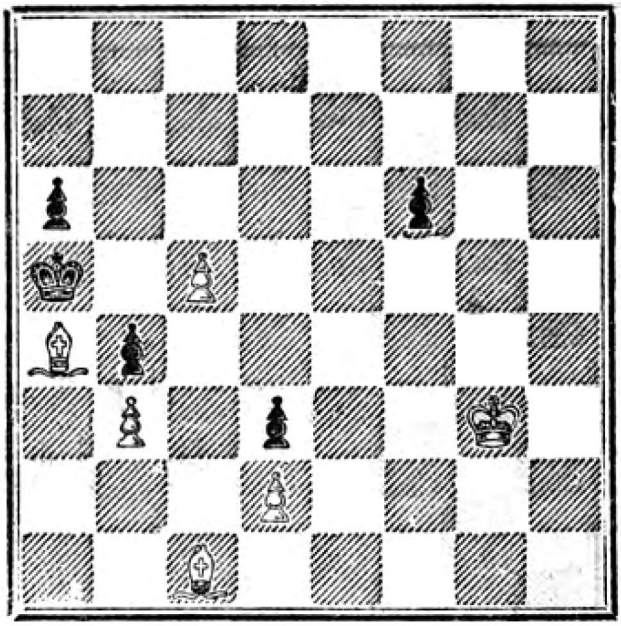
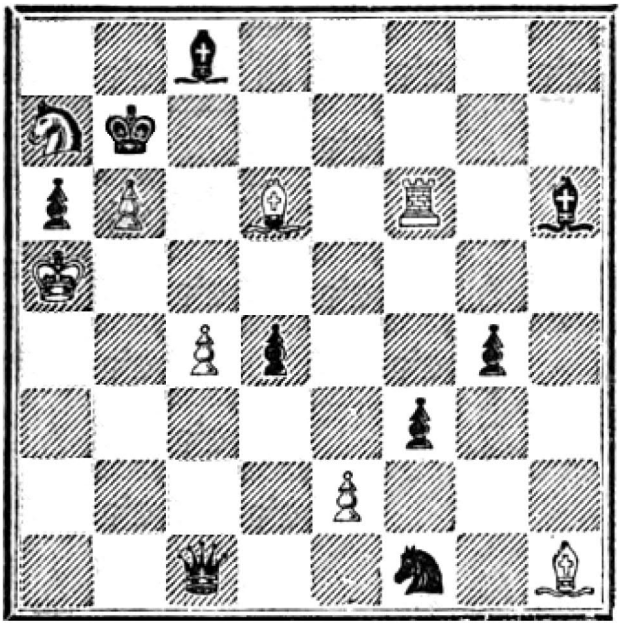
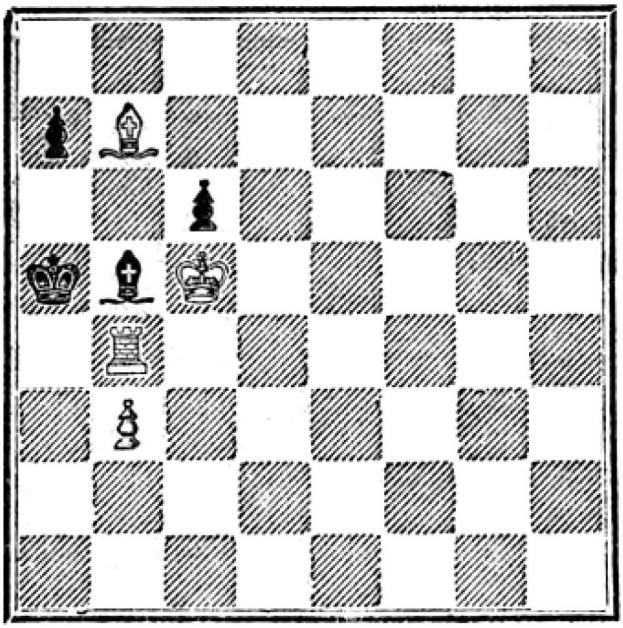


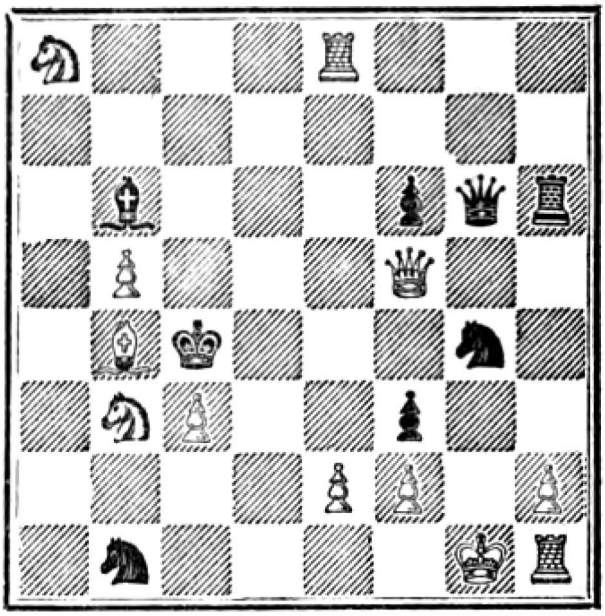
White retracts his last move and mates in two moves.



**No.** 14. White mates in two moves, or Black in three.



**No.** 15 White mates in two moves.



No. 16. Either mates or sui mates in two moves.

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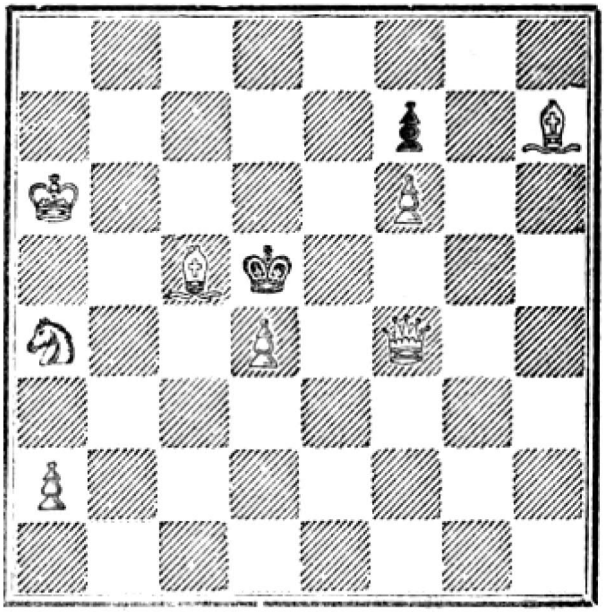
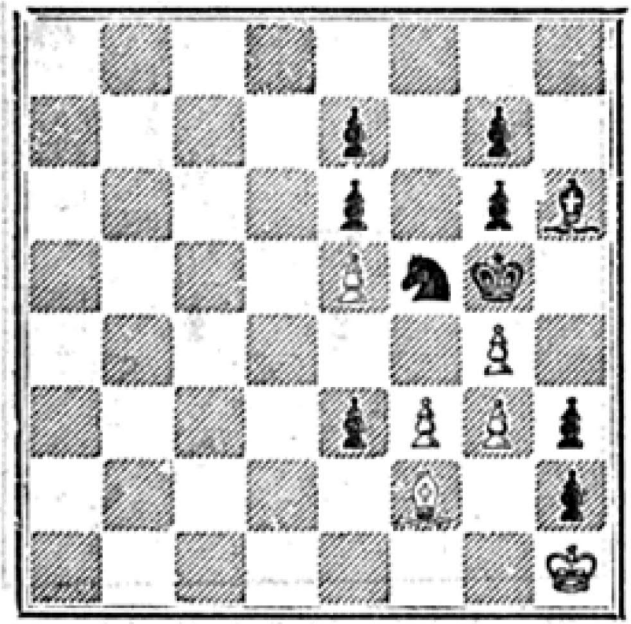


17. White mates in two moves in ten different ways.



White retracts his last move and mates in two moves.

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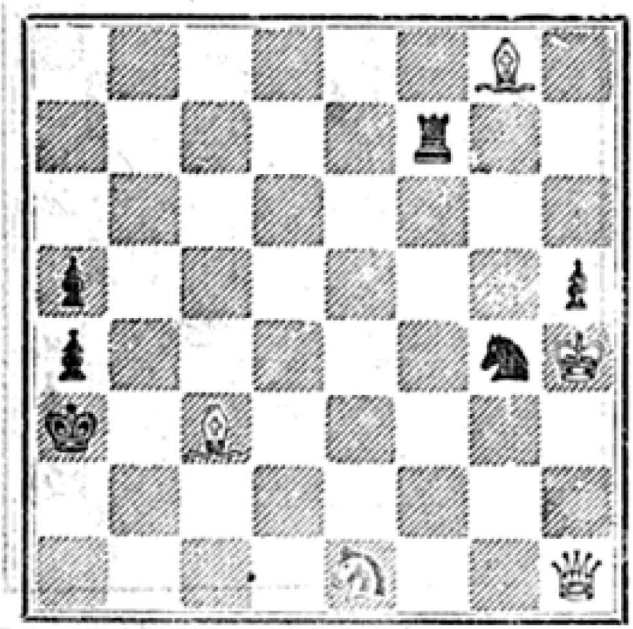
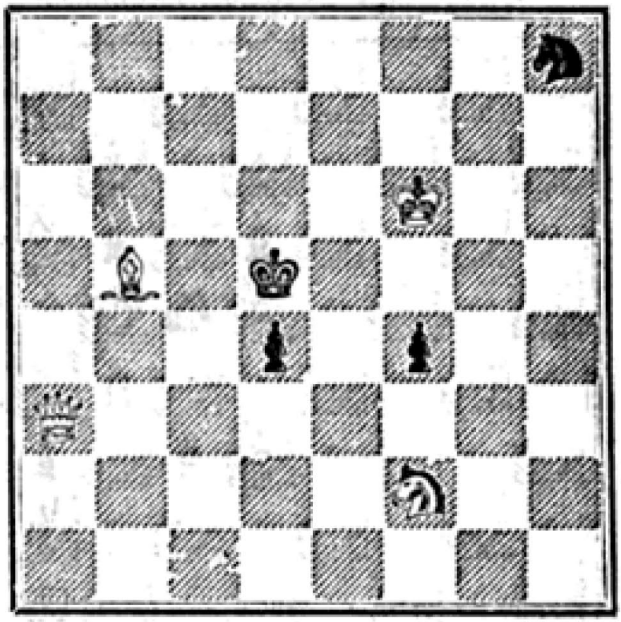
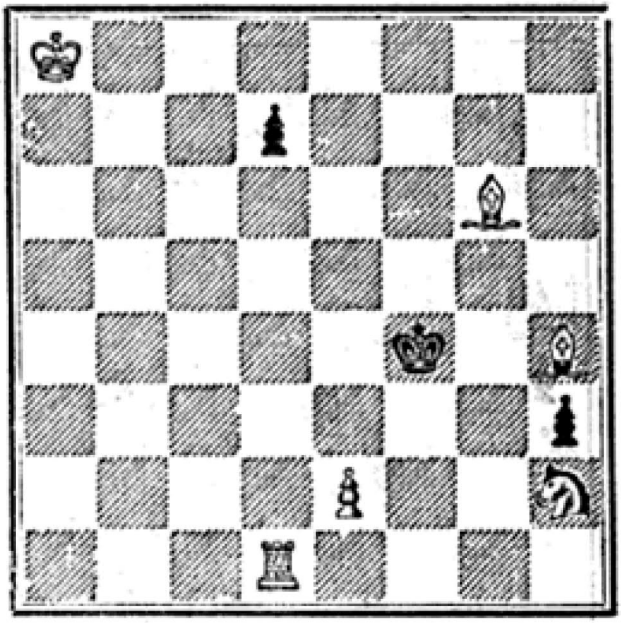


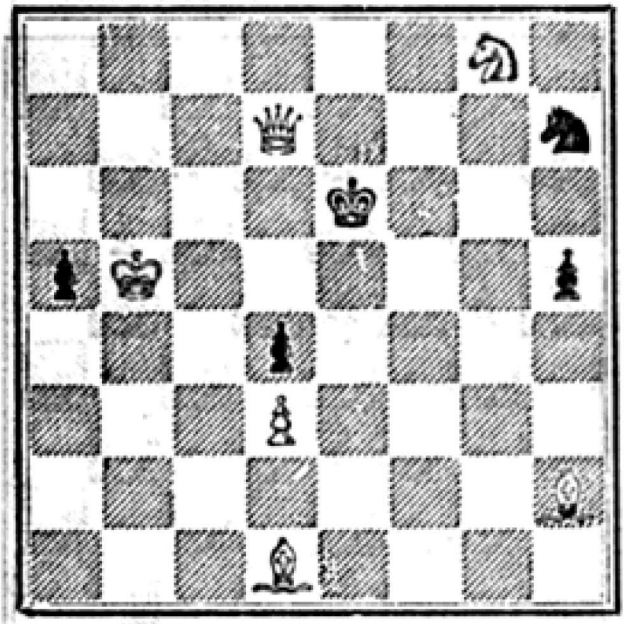
No. 19. White mates in two moves.



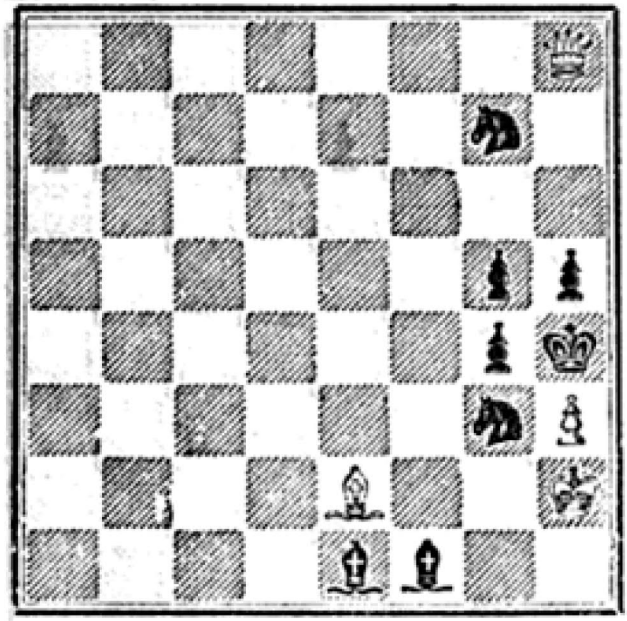
No. 20. White mates in two moves.



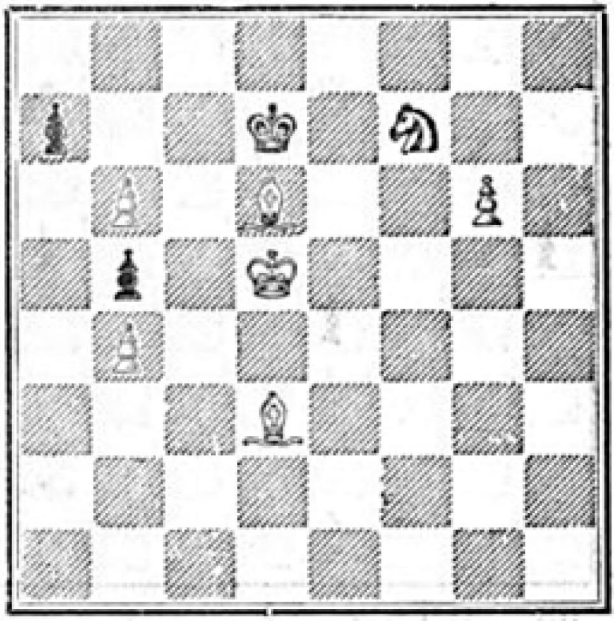
No. 21. White mates in two moves.



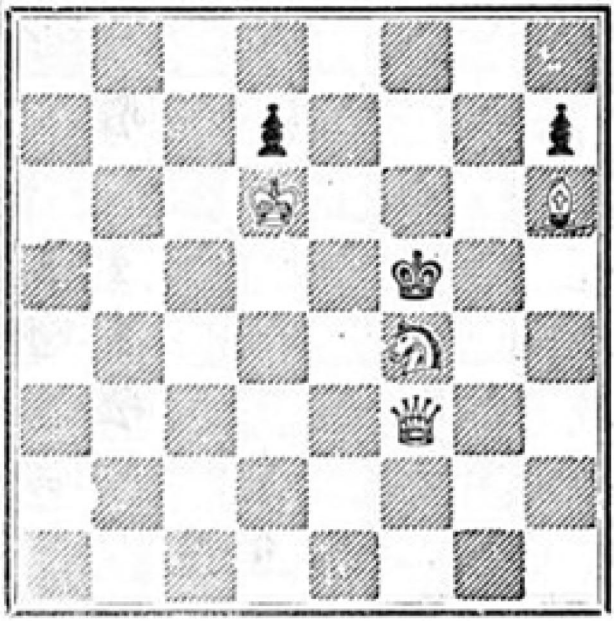
No. 22. White mates in two moves.



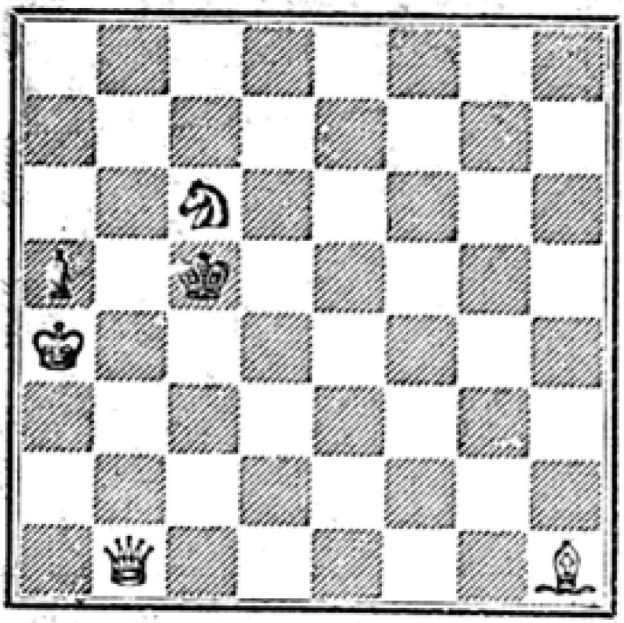
23. White retracts his last move & mates in two moves.



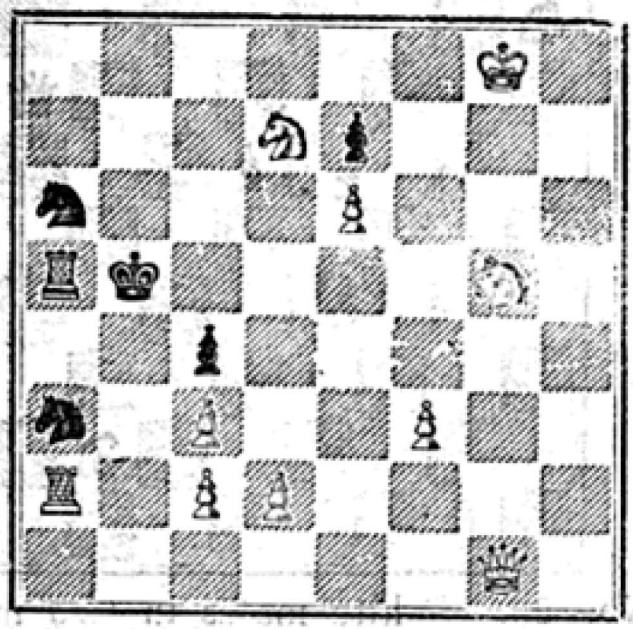
24. White retracts his last move & mates in two moves.



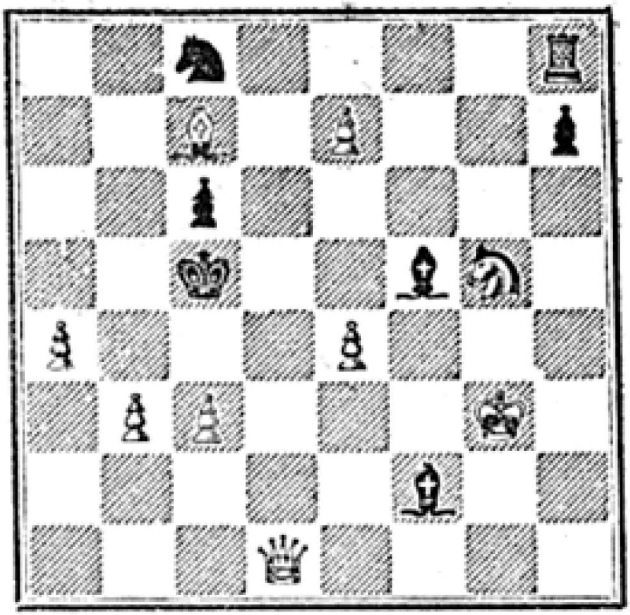
No. 25. White mates in two moves.



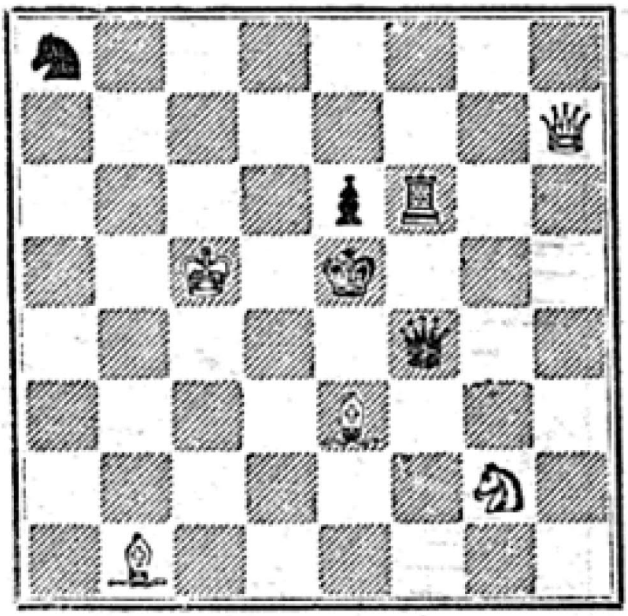
No. 26. White mates in two moves.



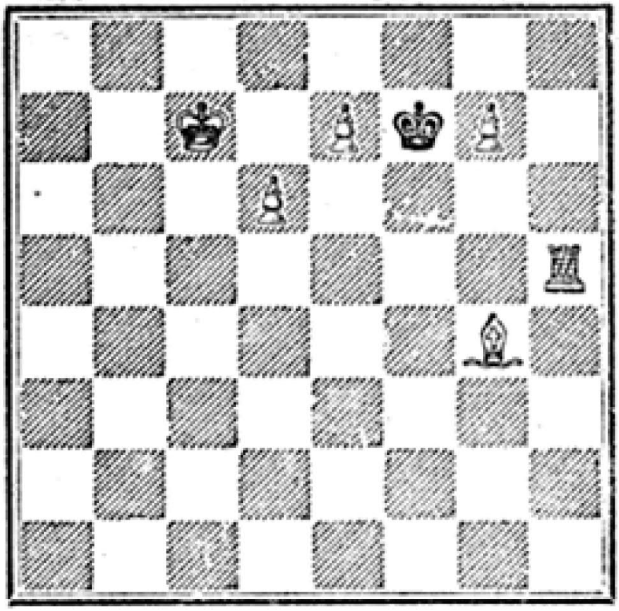
No. 27. White mates in three moves.



28. White retracts his last move& mates in two moves.

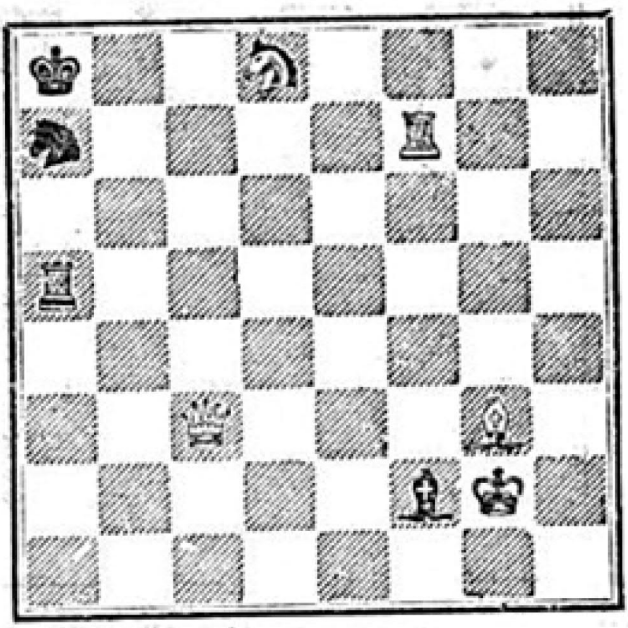


No. 29. White mates in two moves.

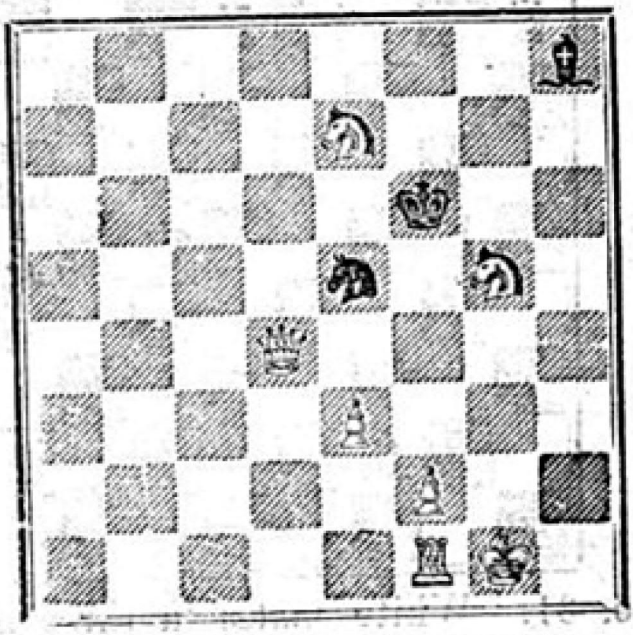


No. 30. White mates in two moves.

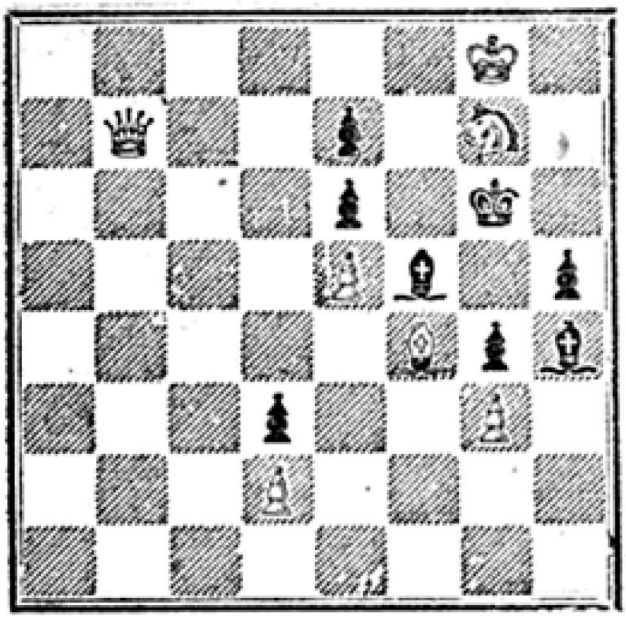
No. 31. White mates in three moves.



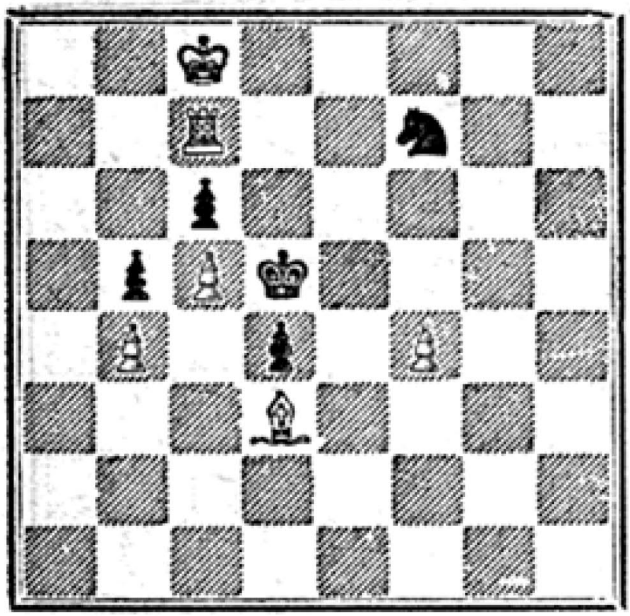
No. 32. White mates in two moves.



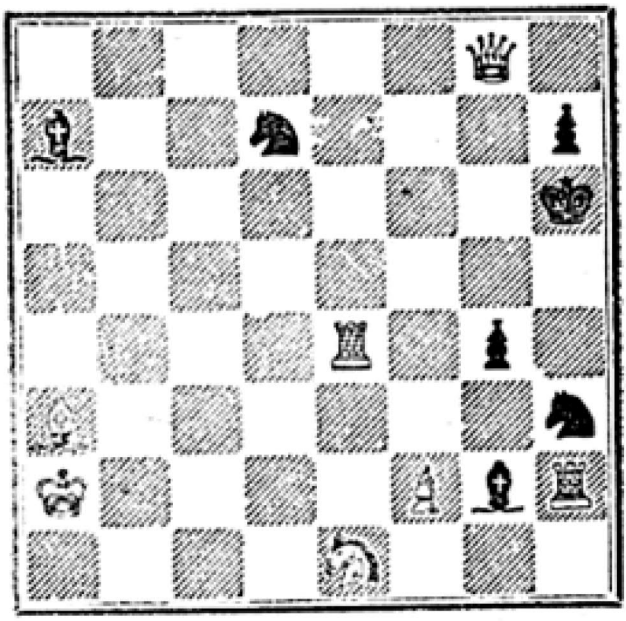
33 White retracts his last move & mates in two moves.



No. 34. White mates in two moves.



No. 35. White mates in two moves.



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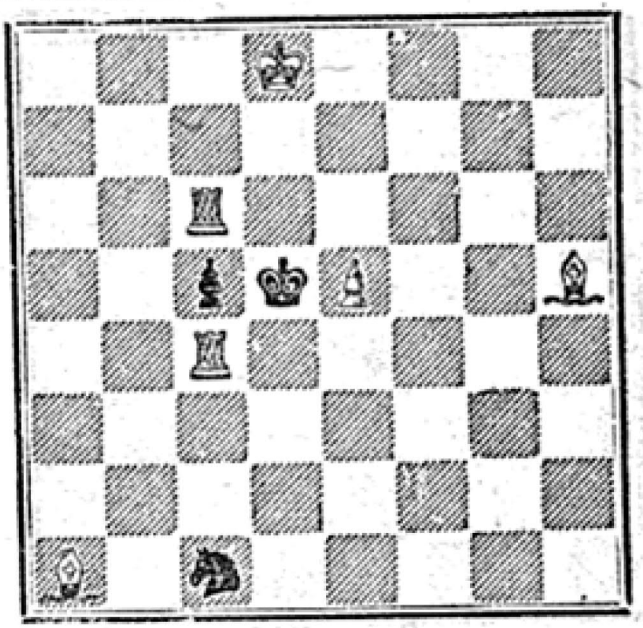
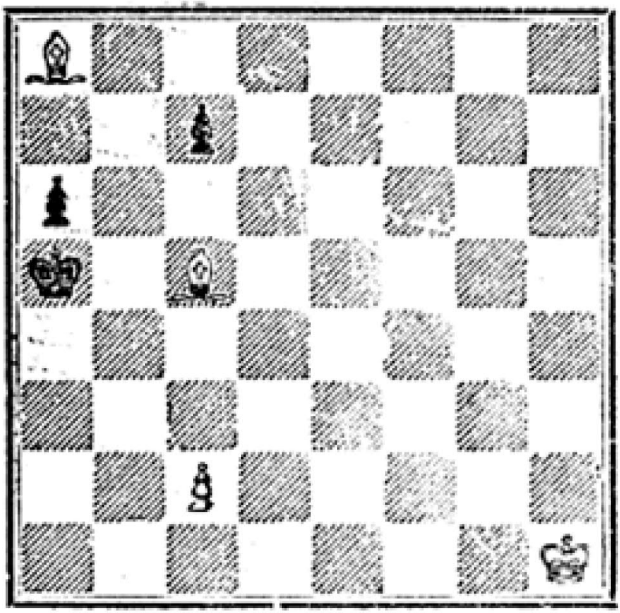
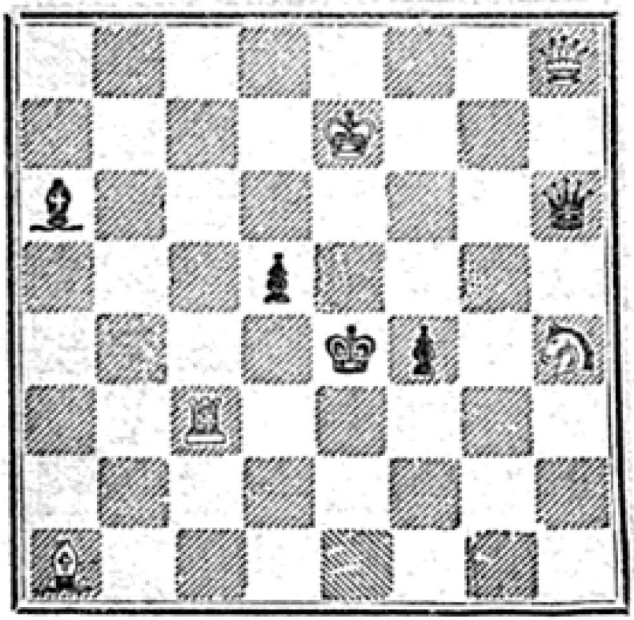


No. 37. White mates in two moves.

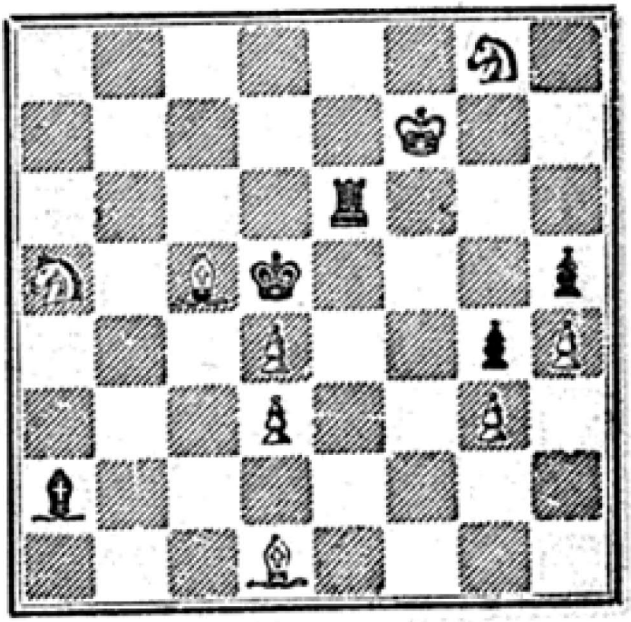


38. White retracts his last move: mates in two moves.

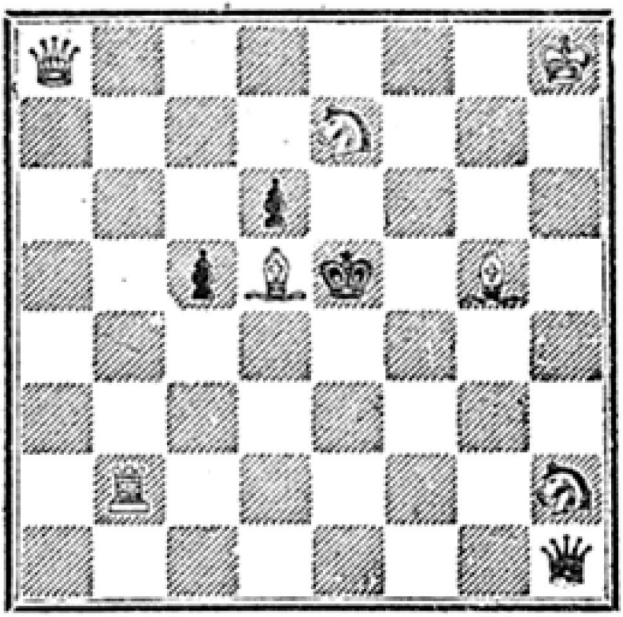


No. 39. White mates in two moves.

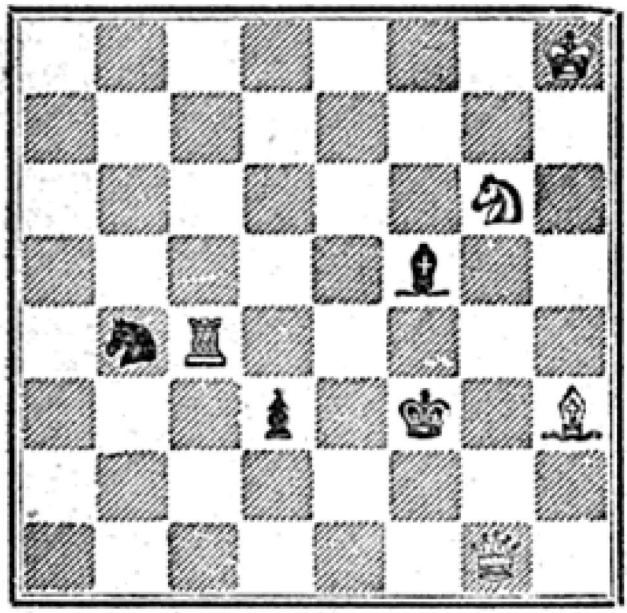
No. 40. White mates in two moves.



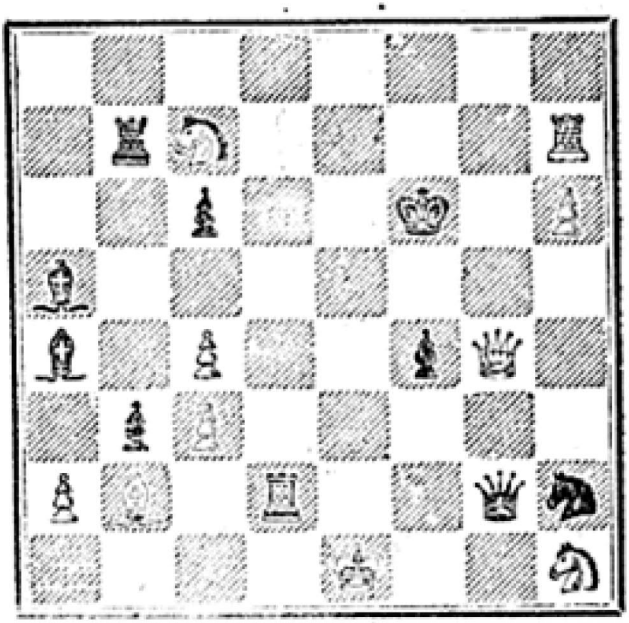
No. 41. White mates in two moves.



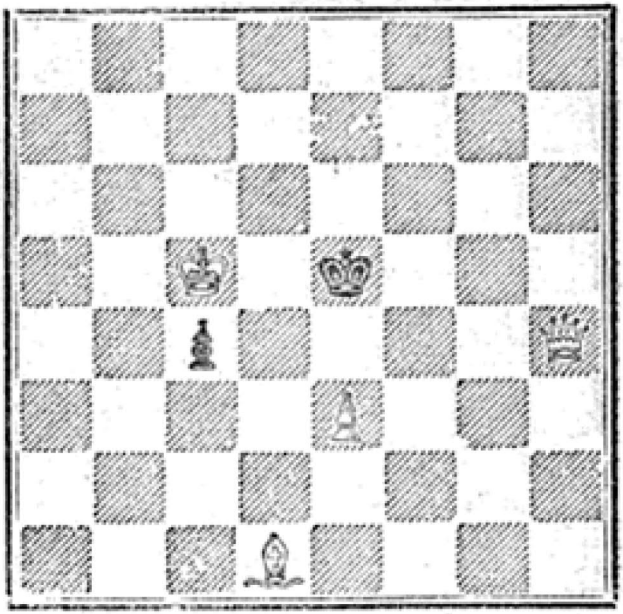
No. 42. White mates in two moves.



No. 43. White mates in two moves.

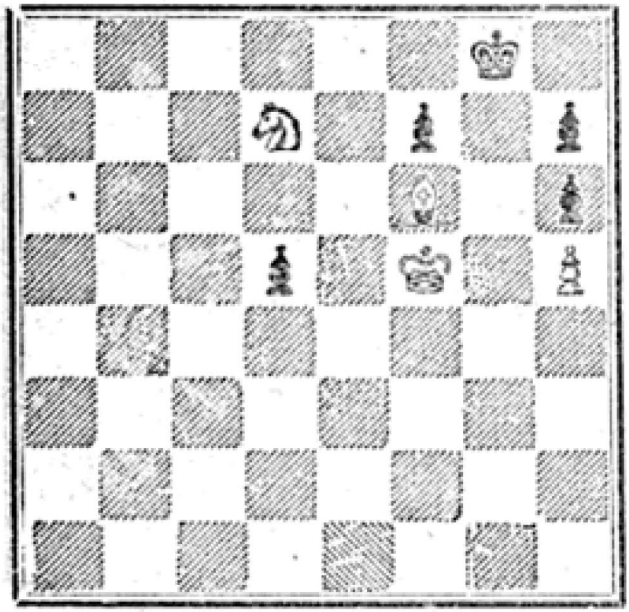


**No.** 44. Either mates or sui-mates in three moves.

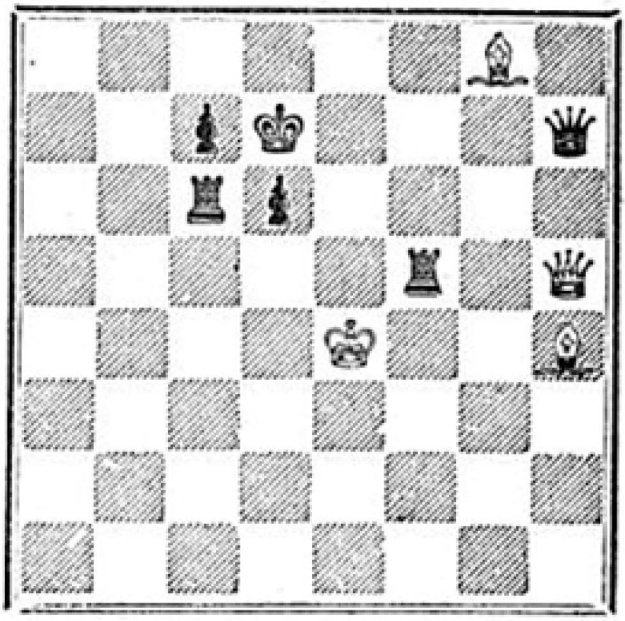


No. 45. White mates in three moves.

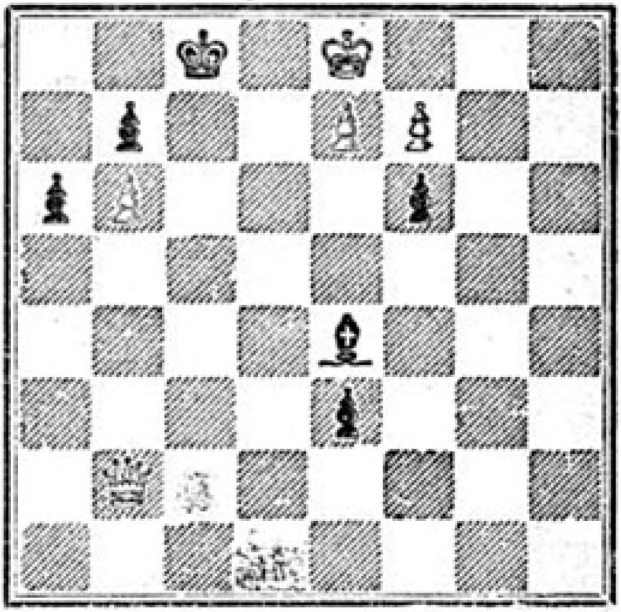
**No. 46.** White mates in three moves.



**No. 47.** White mates in three moves.

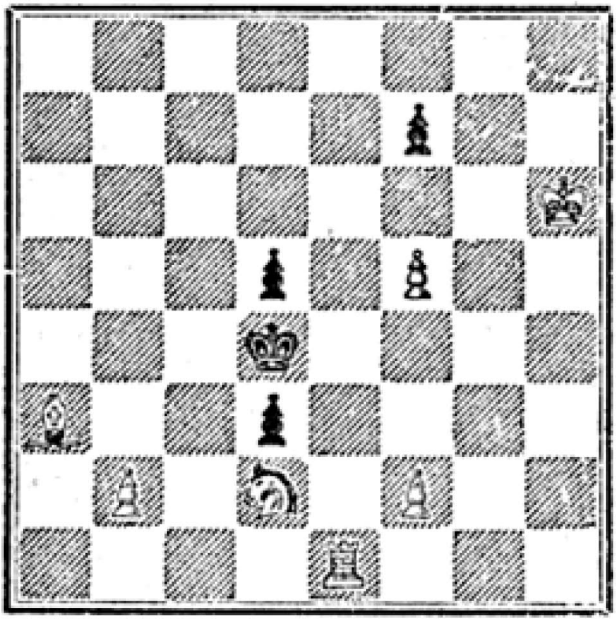


No. 48. White mates in three moves.

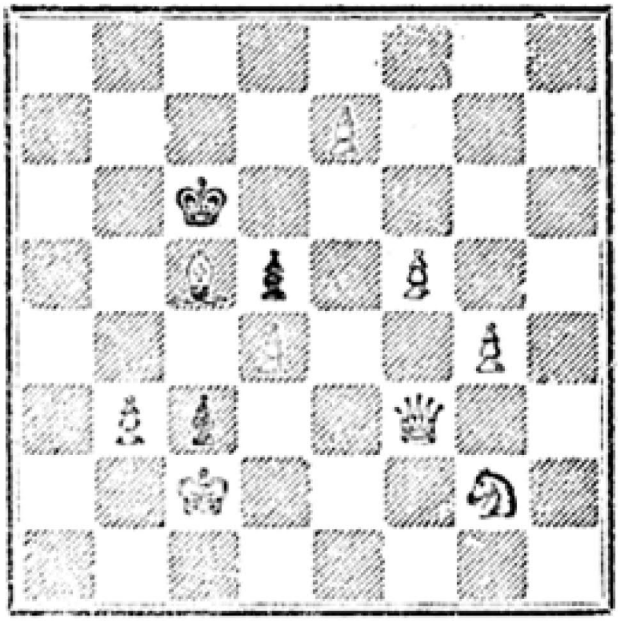


No. 49. White mates in three moves.

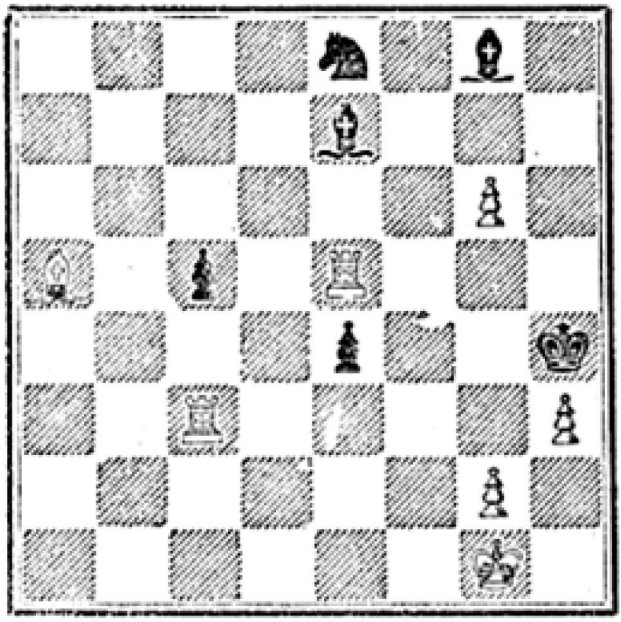
No. 50. White mates in three moves.



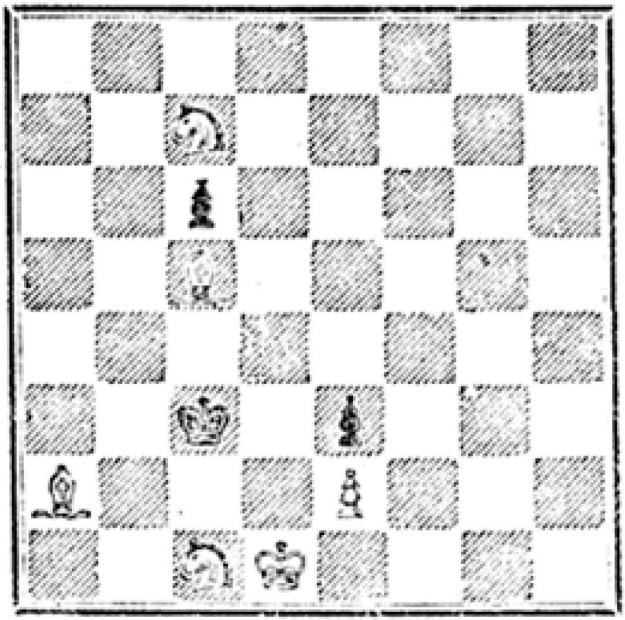
No. 51. White mates in five moves.



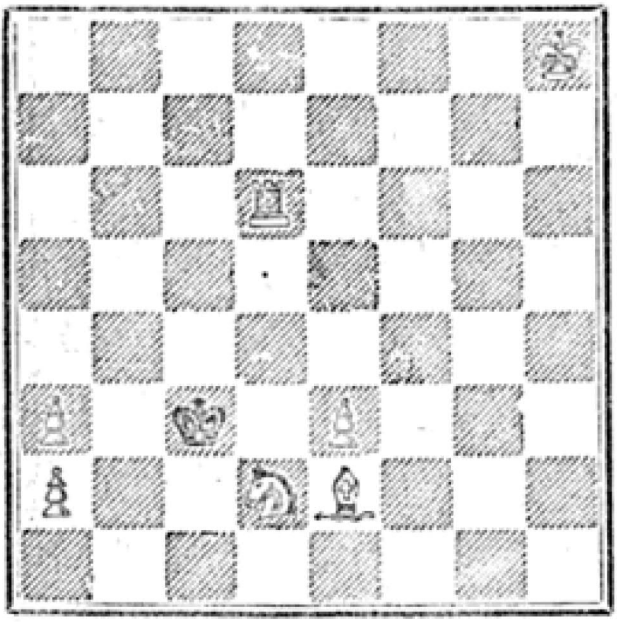
No. 52. White mates in three moves.



No. 53. White mates in three moves.



No. 54. White mates in three moves.

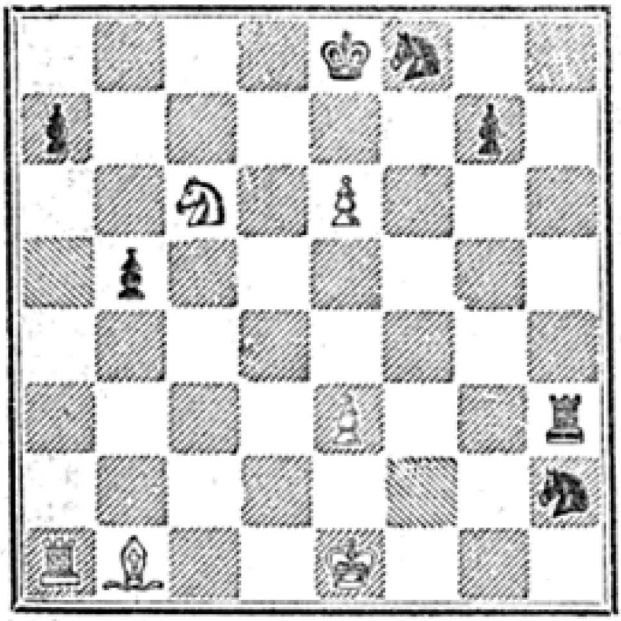


No. 55. White mates in three moves.

No. 56. White sui-mates in three moves.

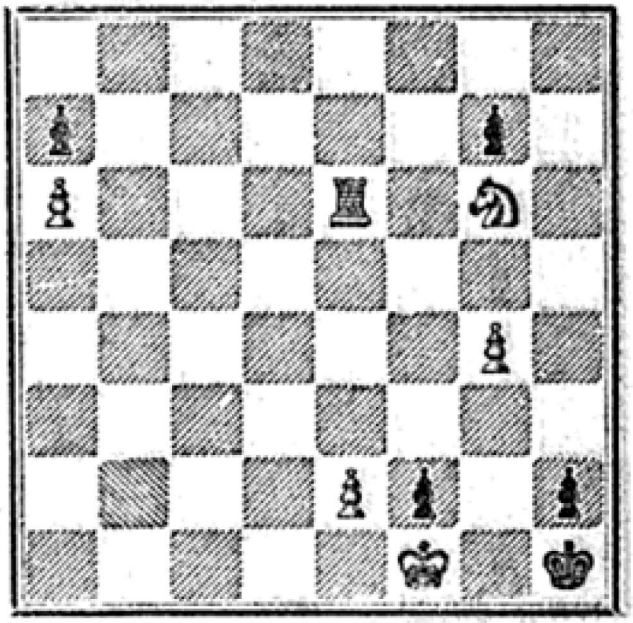
No. 57. White mates in three moves.

No. 58. White mates in three moves.



No. 59. White mates in three moves.

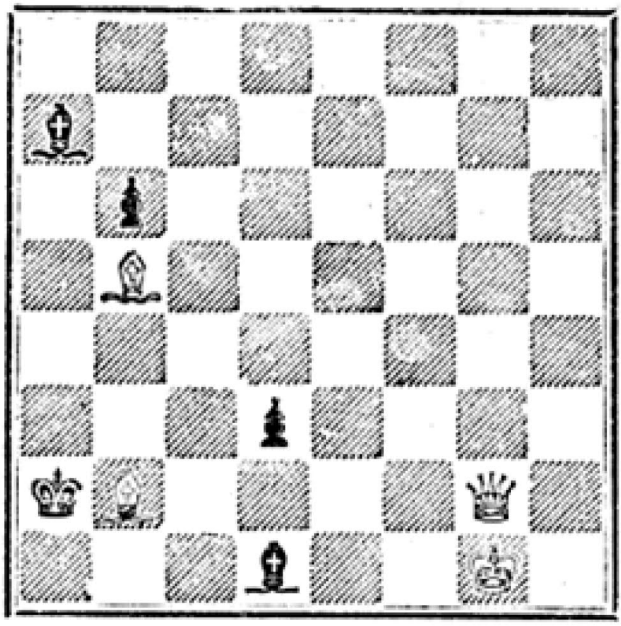
No. 60. White mates in three moves.



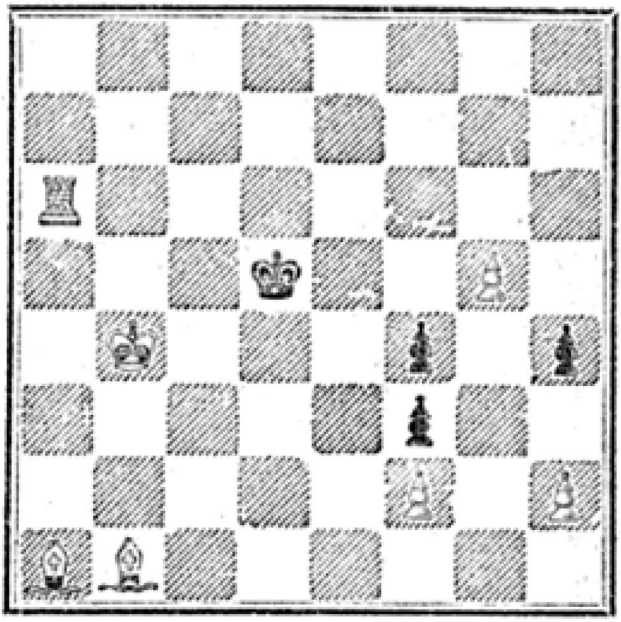
No. 61. White mates in three moves.

No. 62. White mates in three moves.

No. 63. White mates in three moves.

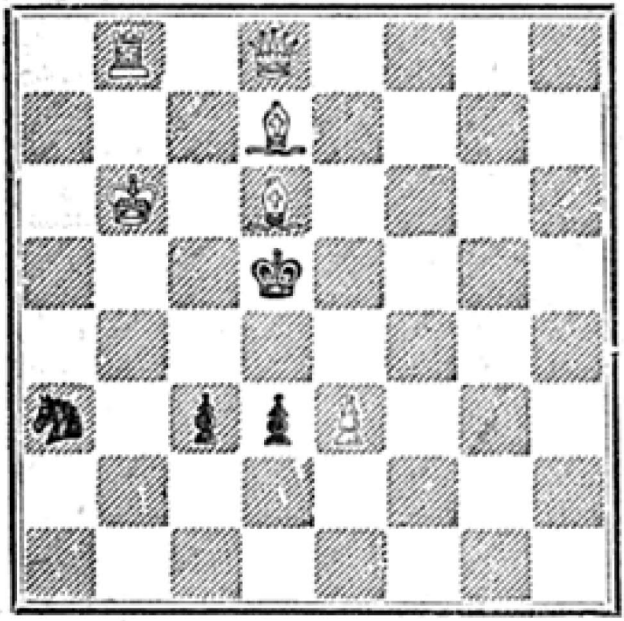


No. 64 White mates in three moves.



No. 65. White mates in three moves.

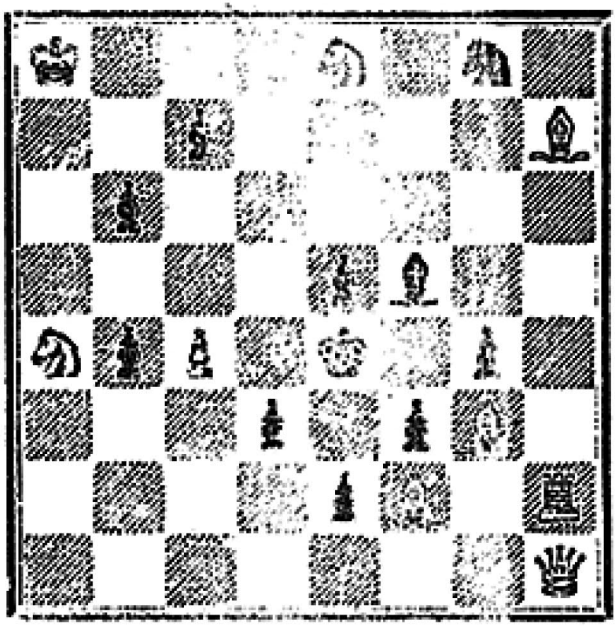
66. White to play so Black can mate in three moves.



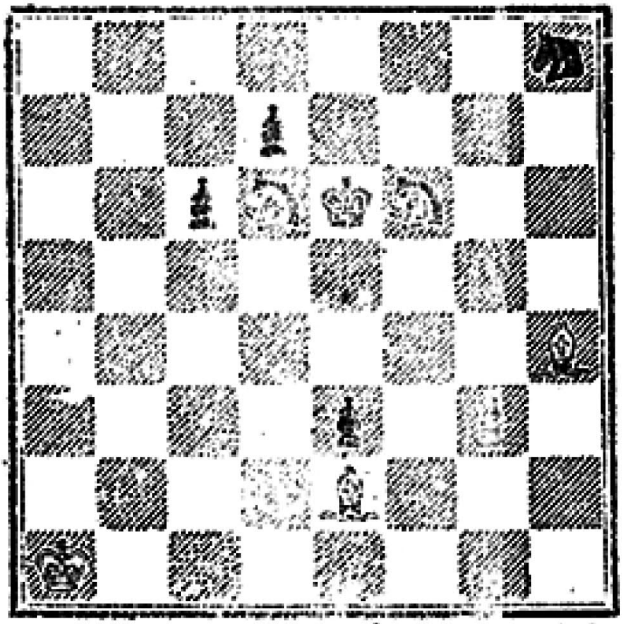
No. 67. White mates in three moves.

No. 68. White sui-mates in three moves.

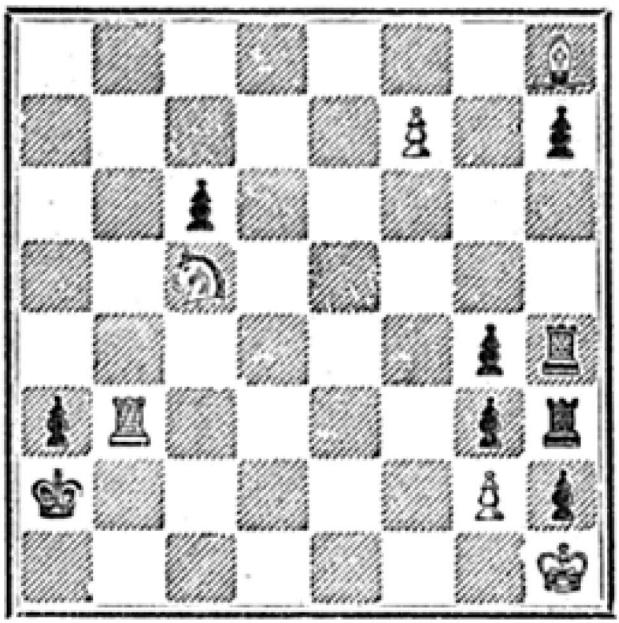
No. 69 White mates in three moves.



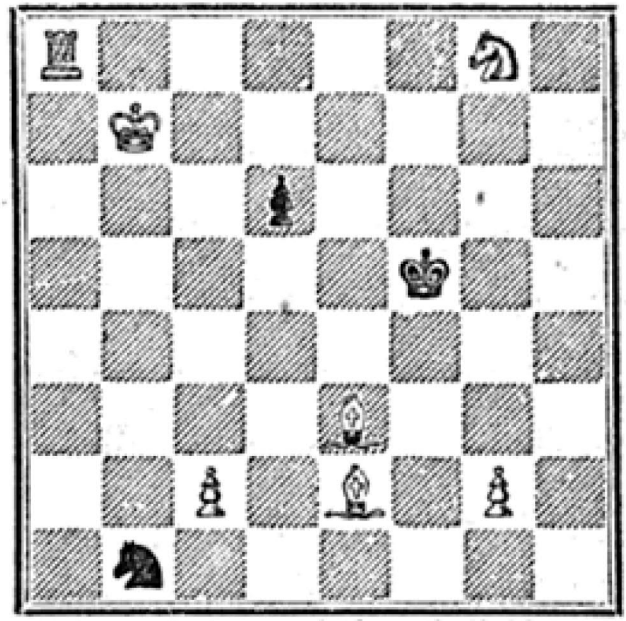
No. 70. White mates in two moves.



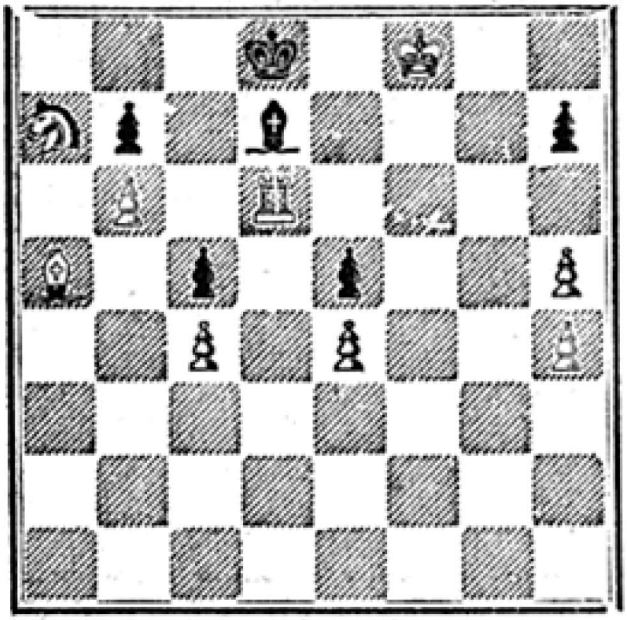
No. 71. White mates in three moves.



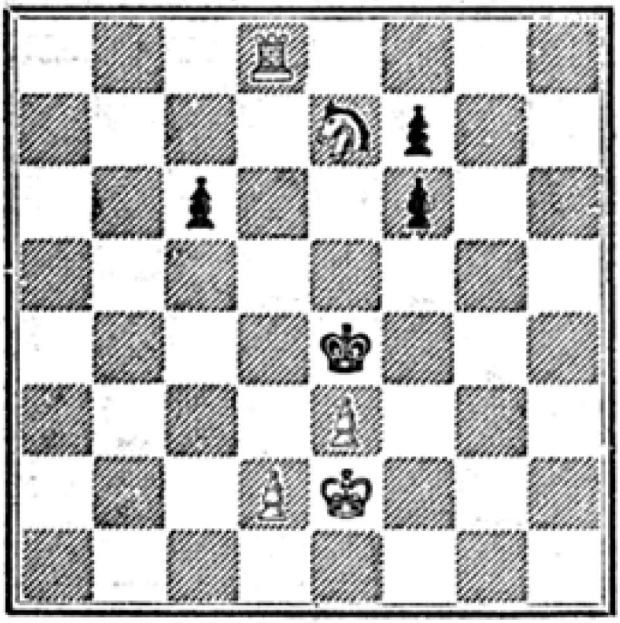
No. 72. White mates in three moves.



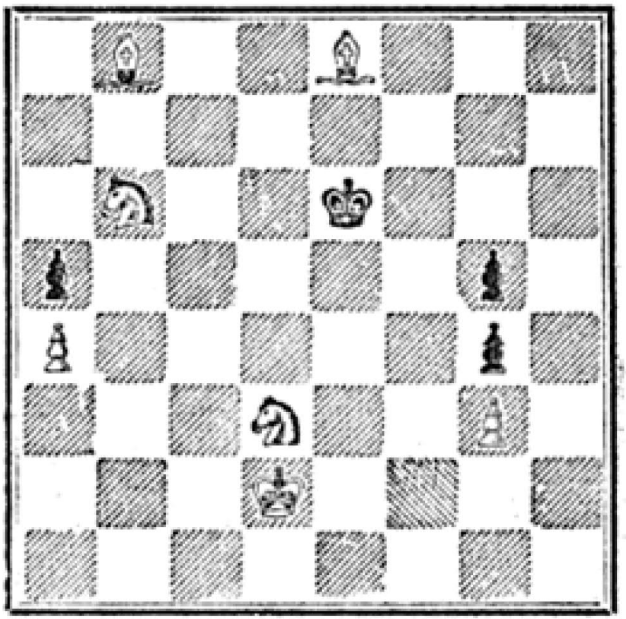
No. 73. White mates in three moves.



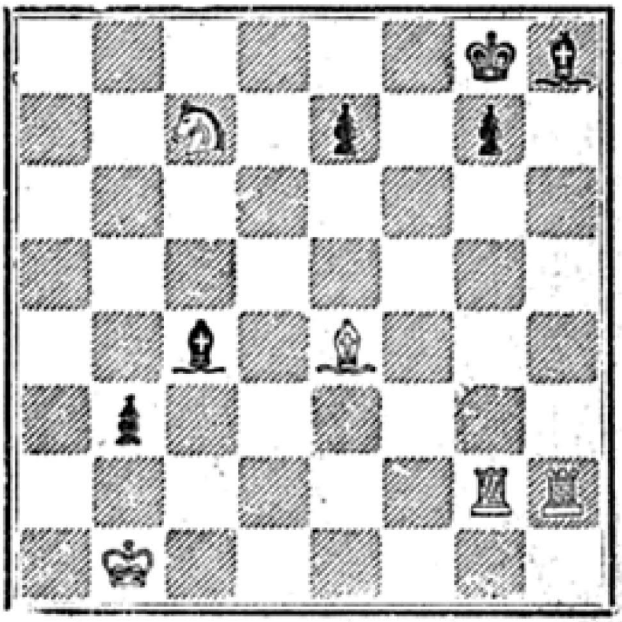
No. 74. White mates in three moves.



No. 75. White mates in four moves.

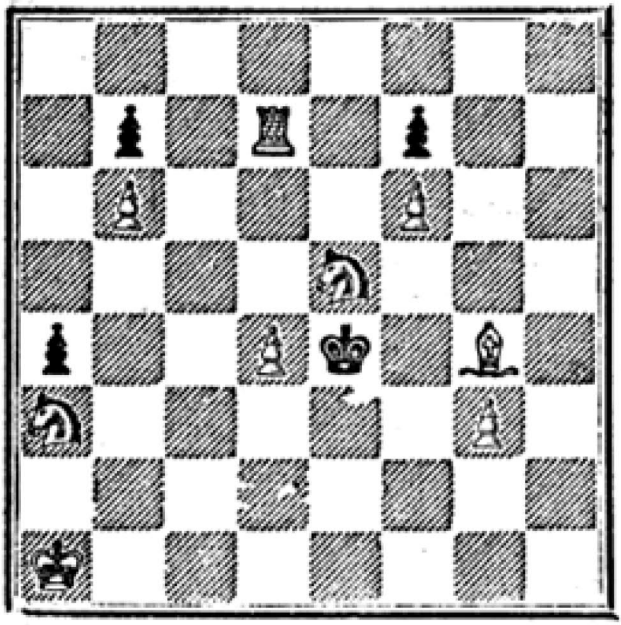


No. 76. White mates in four moves.



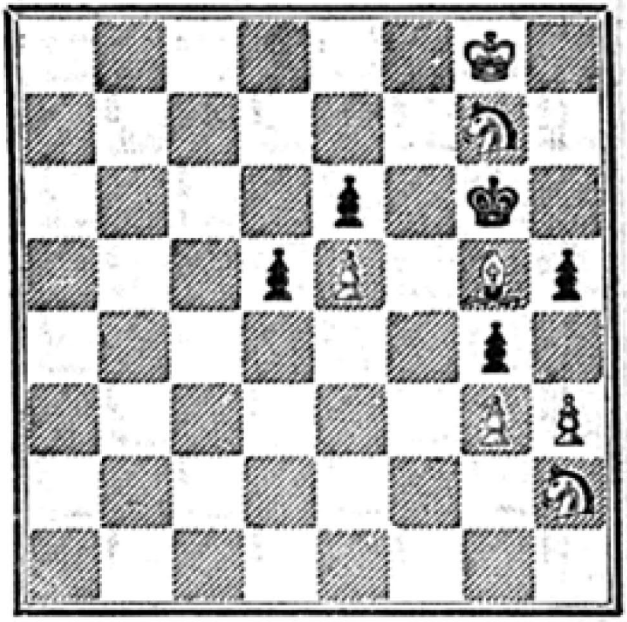
No. 77 White mates in four moves.

No. 78. White mates in four moves.



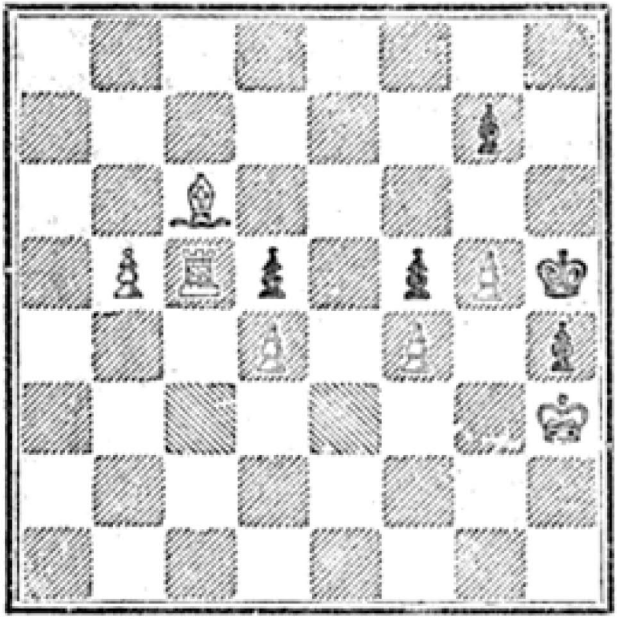
No. 79. White mates in four moves.

No. 80. White mates in four moves.



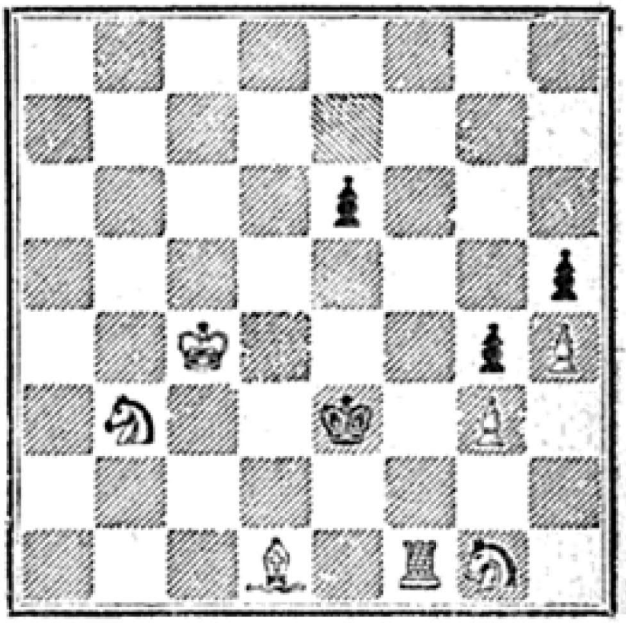
No. 81. White mates in four moves.

No. 82. White mates in four moves.

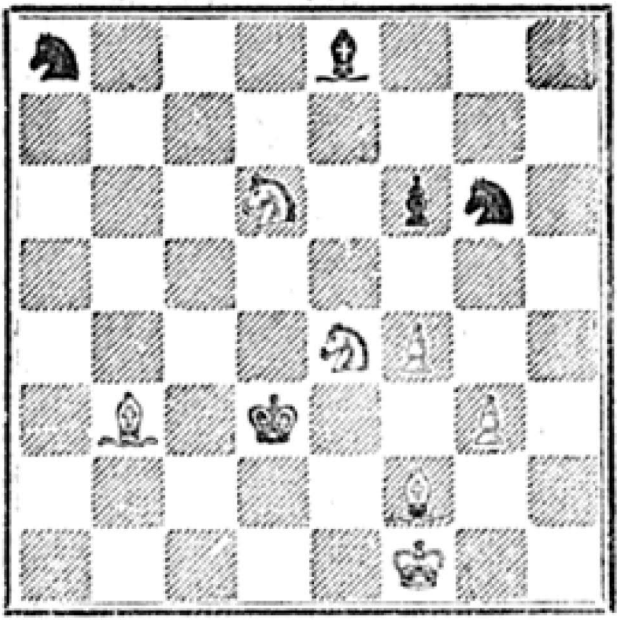


No. 83. White mates in four moves.

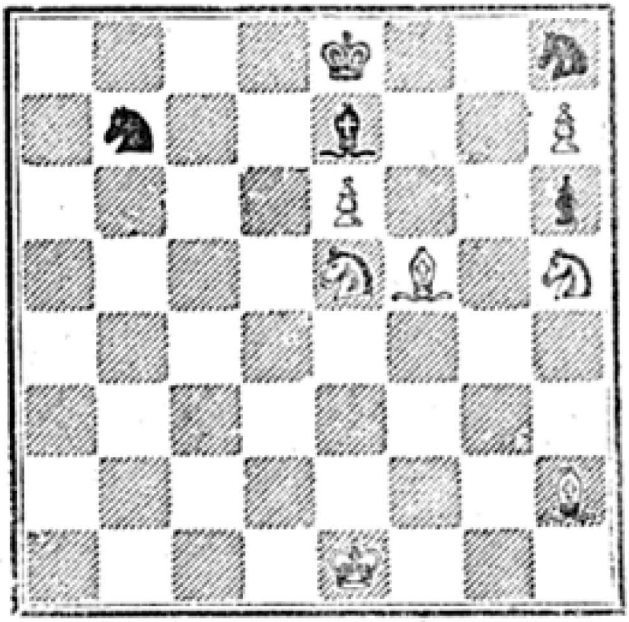
No. 84. White sui-mates in five moves.



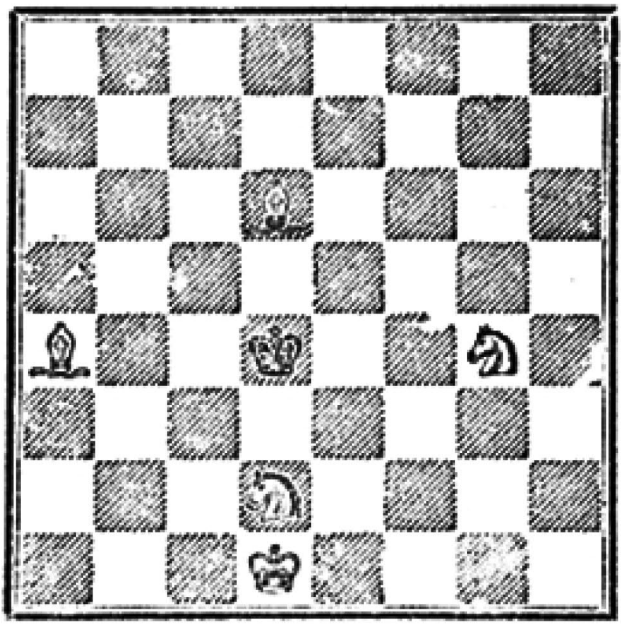
No. 85. White mates in five moves.



No. 86. White mates in three moves.

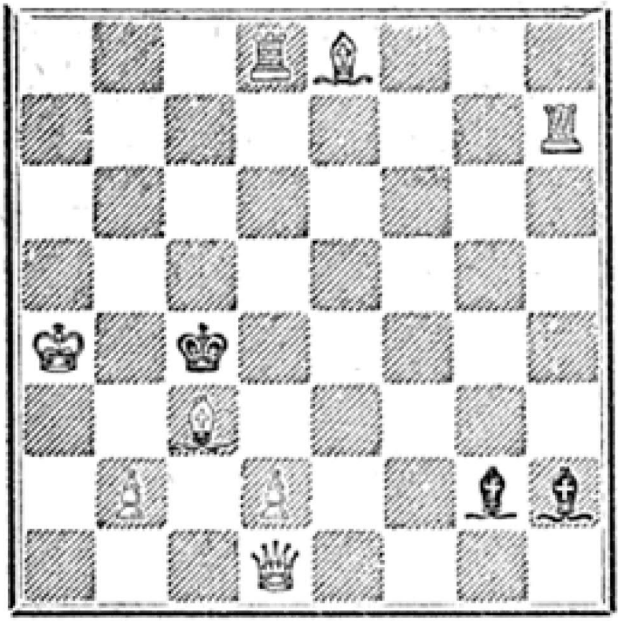


No. 87. White mates in five move

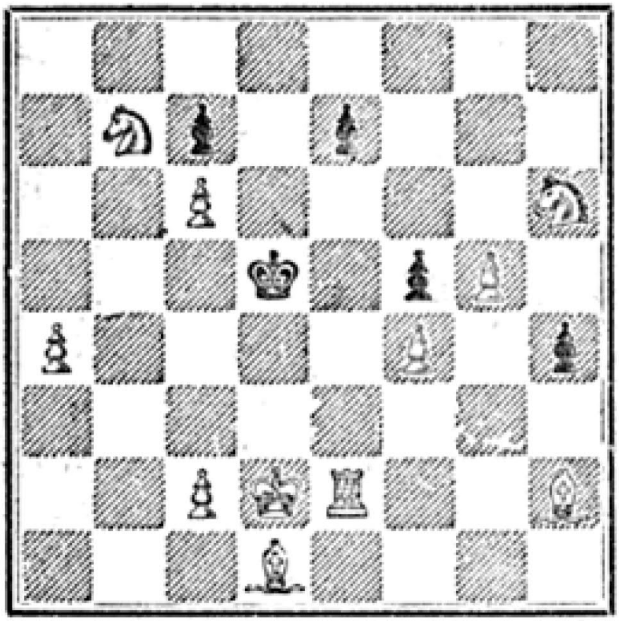


No. 88 White mates in five moves.

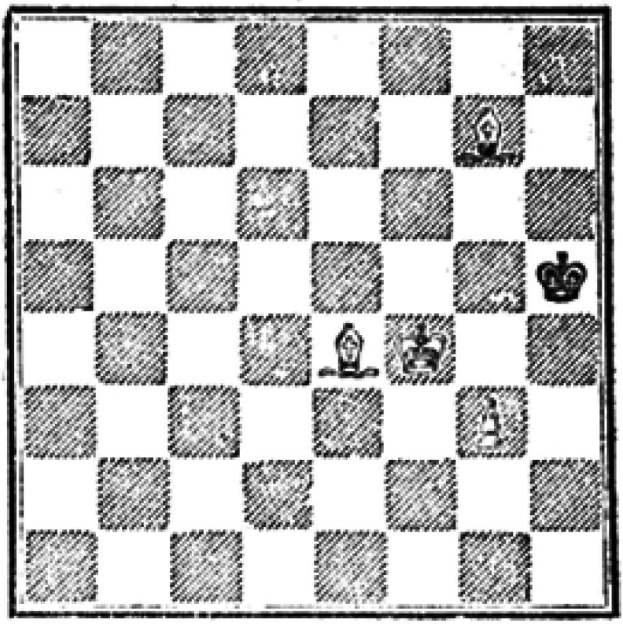
'e retracts his last move & sui-± in six moves.



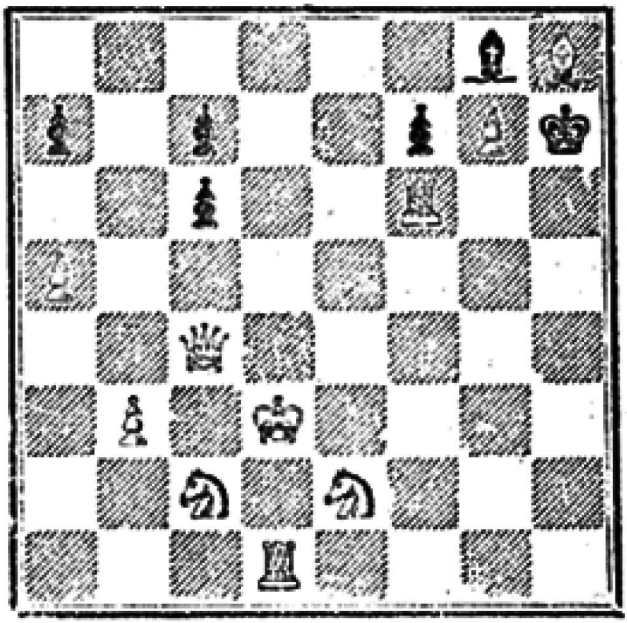
No. 90. White sui-mates in six moves.



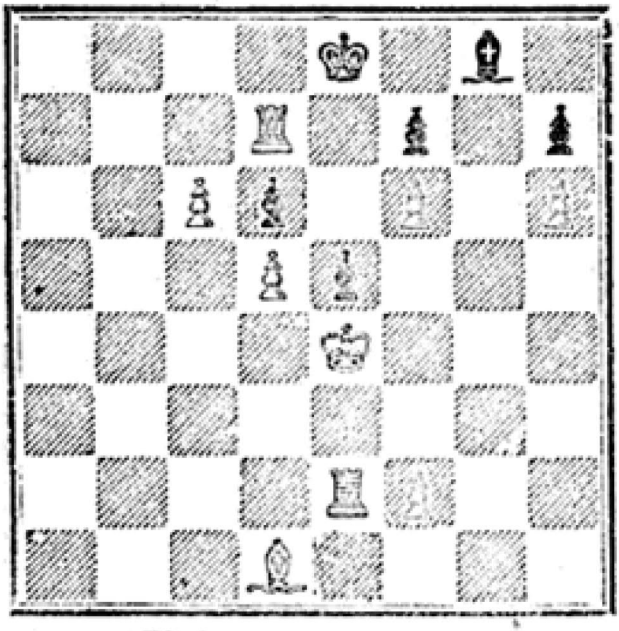
No. 91. White mates in four moves.



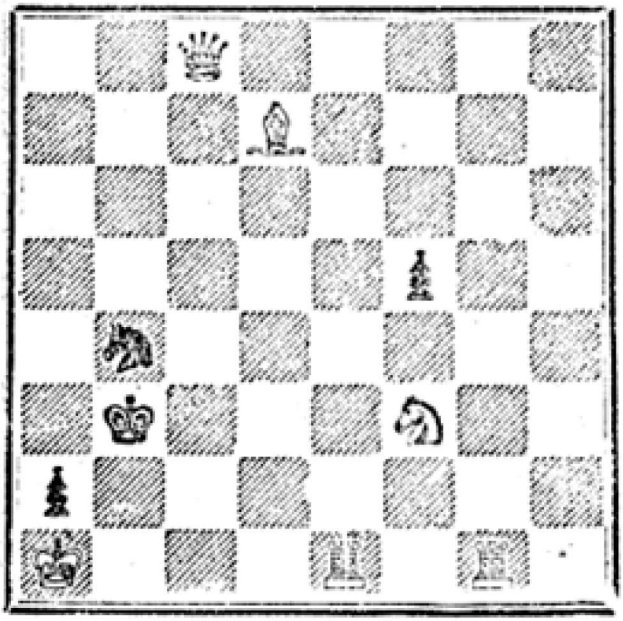
No. 92. White mates in six moves.



93. White sui-stalemates in eleven moves.

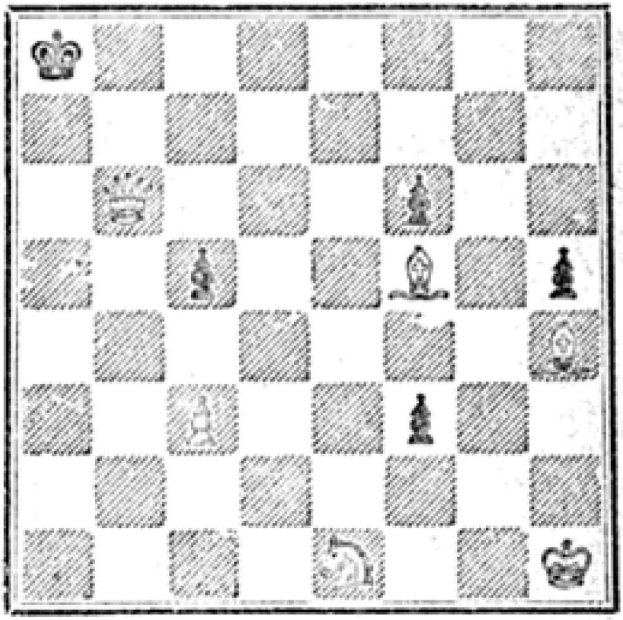


No. 94 White sui-mates in six moves.



No. 95 White sui mates in seven moves.

No. 96. White sui-mates in seven moves.

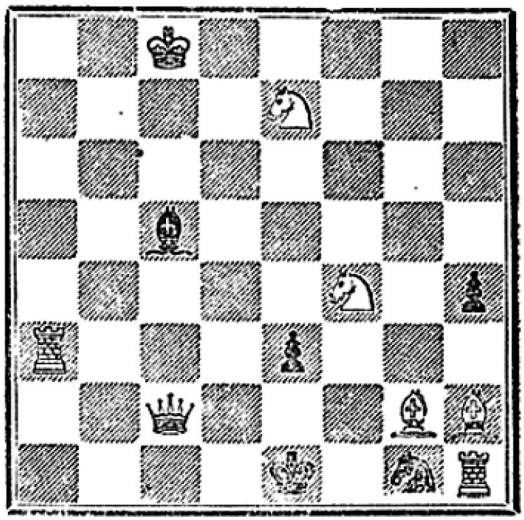


No. 97 White sui-mates in seven moves.

**No. 98** White sui mates in nine moves.

**99.** White mates in six moves with a Rook.

PROBLEM NO. 100.



White to play and capture the Black Bishop with the King: In how few moves can this be effected? and in what manner?

## ATTENTION 21st CENTURY SOLVERS

Solutions in the 19th century Dubuque Chess Journal employed English Descriptive Notation with a German twist... "We use S [or Springer] not for Knight so much, as for an advantageous name for one of the pieces used in chess; because, all things considered our judgment decides it the best sign or symbol we have seen. We consider the pieces of wood or ivory used in a game of chess, the representatives of certain powers or forces, not as independent existences, that can act at will, like Kings, Queens, Bishops, etc."

# SOLUTIONS:

## FRONTISPIECE.

WHITE TO MATE.

1 S × Q / B Q S 7 + 2 K K 2 / R × S 3 R Q B 7 4 mates

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | S × R | Q S 8± |
| | RB 7+ | | |
| | K × R | K × P | Q ± |
| R B 8+ | P K 7+ | | |

WHITE TO SUI-MATE

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Q S 8+ | 2 | 0-0-0+ | 3 | R Q B 8+ | | S Q B 6+ |
| | Q × Q | | R Q 5 | | R × R | | R × S ± |

BLACK TO MATE

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | R B 8+ | 2 | Q K B 6+ | 3 | Q B 7+ | 4 | Q ± |
| | K × R | | K — | | K — | | — — |

BLACK TO SUI-MATE

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | B S 5+ | 2 | B × R+ | 3 | B B S+ | 4 | Q Q S+ |
| | R— | | P × B | | K × R | | R × Q ± |

---

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 1 S Q S 8++ | 2 | Q K 8+ |
| | K × R | | Q × Q ± |
| | | | Q K 5+ |
| | K × P or K K 3 | | R × Q mates |

---

2 Q K R 4, but if R × Q S P, there is no mate in two moves

| | |
|---|---|
| 3 Q × P | 4 B K 6 |
| 5 P Q 6 | 6 R Q 2 |

7 The last move was P from Q 5 × P retract that and play P × B P ✓

8 Q S 7 9 P Q R 3
10 R K B 6 11 Q Q 7
12 B Q R 8

---

13 The last move was B from Q S 2 × B retract that and play B × BP

---

14 First 1 R × K B P any 2 ± Second

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 B Q 7+ / K R 4 | 2 Q × P+ / K R 6 | 3 B B 8 m |

---

15 R Q R 4

---

PROBLEM NO. 16.

1 Q Q 5+ K × Q 2 S m
1 S × B+ K × S 2 Q × S+ Q × P m
1 S K 6+ — 2 m
1 B × P+ K— 2 S K 3+ S × S m

---

17 1 Q K S 3 2 Q K B 3+ 3 Q K 4+
4 Q Q B 7 5 Q Q S 8 6 B K 4+
7 B Q 3 8 S Q S 2 9 S S 6+ 10 K S 5

18 Retract K from S 2 × R and play K × RP

19 Q Q S 7 20 S K 4 21 S K S 4

22 Q Q 5+ The White Queen should be at Q S 7

23 Retract P (Q) and play P K R 8 (S)

24 Retract P from Q R 5 × P and play P Q R 6

25 Q Q B 3 26 Q K R 7

27 S K R 3 K Q B 3 2 Q Q S 6+
——— K Q R 5 R × S

28 Retract K from K S 2 × P and play Q R R 5

29 Q K R 2 30 P K 8 (S)

31 1 R K B R S 5 + 2 Q K 4 +
—— S × R Q Q B 8 +
—— R Q 4 Q R 6
—— R K 4 Q K 4 +

32 R × S +

33 Retract Castles and play R × B

34 Q K R 35 R × P

36 P K B 4 37 R Q S 4

38 Retract B from Q B 6 took S and play P Q B 3

39 Q K 5 + 40 B K 3

41 B Q B 2 42 Q Q R

43 R K 4

44 1 R K B 7 + K × R 2 Q K 6 +
1 Q K 5 + K × R 2 Q K 6 +

White to sui-mate.

1 S K 8 + K K 4
2 R K 7 + R × R
3 Q B 5 + K × *Q* dis. mate.

Black to sui-mate.

1 Q B 8 + K × R
2 K B × P + K × B (best)
3 Q Q 6 + K × Q dis. mate.

45 1 B K S 4 K K 5 2 Q Q 8

46 1 B Q 4 K + R 2 Q Q S 8 +
—— B K R 5 R Q B 6 +

47 1 B Q 4 P— 2 K × P

48 1 B K 6 + K × B 2 Q K 8 +

49 1 Q K R 2 B B 3 + 2 K B 8

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 50 | 1 R Q 8 | S— | 2 Q Q B 5 + |
| ALSO: | 1 R × R P | B + | 2 K × B |
| 51 | 1 B Q 6 | P— | 2 R K 6 |
| | 3 K S 5 | 4 K B 4 | 5 P × P ± |
| 52 | 1 Q × Q P+ | K × Q | 2 P (B) |
| | —— | K Q S 4 | P (Q) |
| | —— | K Q B 2 | B Q R 7 |
| 53 | 1 R K S 3 | B K 3 | 2 R K S 4 + |
| ALSO: | 1 R Q B 4 | K K S 6 | 2 B K + |
| 54 | 1 S R 8 | K— | 2 S S 6 |
| 55 | 1 S Q B 4 | K— | 2 R Q |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| No. 56 | 1 Q K R + | B int. | |
| | 2 R × S + | Q × R | |
| | 3 B K 5 + | Q × B mates | |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 57 | 1 B×K S P dis + | B × R | 2 B K 7 dis+ |
| 58 | 1 Q K 4 | B × Q | 2 P B 4 + |
| | —— | P B 7 | Q B 4 + |
| 59 | 1 B S 6 + | S × B | 2 castles |
| 60 | 1 Q × B | Q × Q | 2 S Q B |
| | —— | Q Q 3 | R × P + |
| 61 | 1 R Q S 6 | P × R | 2 P Q R 7 |
| 62 | 1 R×Q B P+ | K R | Q K R |
| | —— | K Q S 3 | Q Q 4 |
| 63 | 1 S Q 5 | K × S | 2 Q × P + |
| | —— | B × B | Q × B |
| | —— | S Q B 6 | Q × S + |
| 64 | 1 B R 8 dis + | any | 2 Q K S 7 |
| 65 | 1 B K R 7 | any | 2 R K S 6 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| No. 66. | 1 B S 4 + | P × B |
| | 2 S Q 2 | P S 6 |

3 castles P mates.

67 1 Q K R 4 S B 5 + 2 Q × S +

ALSO: 1 Q S 5 + K × B 2 Q B 6 +

No. 68. 1 B Q S 3 + K—

2 Q Q 7 + R × Q

3 P Q B 4 + P × P mates.

69. 1 Q K R 3 R × Q 2 P S 4

—— R × K P B × R

Problem No. 70. R K S 2

71 K S K 4 K— 2 B +

—— S— B B 4 +

72 1 P (R) P K R 4 2 R K B 6

73 1 B K R 5 K— 2 R K 8 +

74 1 R Q P R 3 2 B Q 2

No. 75. 1 R Q 5 P × R

2 P Q 4 any

3 S Q B 8 — mates.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 76 | 1 SQ5 | K × S | 2 BQ7 | KK5 | 3 BK6 |
| | —— | KB4 | BB7 | K— | SK7 |
| 77 | 1 BR7+ | KB | 2 RB2 | B— | 3 R × B+ |
| 78 | 1 S × S+ | B × S | 2 RQR5 | K— | 3 QB6+ |
| 79 | 1 SB2 | P— | 2 RQ8 | P— | 3 BQ7 |
| 80 | 1 QKS2 | R × P+ | 2 S × R+ | KB8 | 3 QB6+ |
| | —— | B × RP | 2QS7+ | KB6 | 3QB7+ |
| 81 | 1 PR4 | PK5 | 2 BQ2 | P— | 3 S × P |
| 82 | 1 QQ4+ | KS3 | 2 QB5+ | K × Q | 3 BK4+ |
| 83 | 1 BK8+ | | 2 RQB4 | P × R | 3 BQB6 |
| 84 | SR2 | RKB8+ | QS8+ | BB+ | BKS5 |

No. 85. 1 B R 2 P K 4

2 R K 4 K × R

3 S Q 2+ —— 4 K B 3

86 1 S S 7 K×S 2 S B 5 +

87 1 S S 7 + K Q 2 S B 6 + K B
3 S × B + K— 4 S B 6 + 5 mates

88 1 B Q S 3 K B 6 2 S K 3 K Q 6
3 S B 2 K— 4 B K 5 5 mates

89 Retract Q from Q B × Q and play:
1 Q R 3 + K S 2 4 R R 8 + Q × R
2 P R 8(Q) K × Q 5 Q B 8 + Q×Q +
3 K×S S— 6 P S 7 + Q × P mates
if 3——Q Q 8 4 P (Q)+ Q×Q
5 Q B 8+ Q × Q+ 6 P+ Q×P mates

90 1 P Q S 3+ 2 P Q 4 3 B R 5 +
4 Q K B + 5 R Q 6+ 6 B S 5 + B±

91 R K 6 K×R 2 P B 4 P R 6
3 B S 4 P × B 4 P B 5 ±

92 P S 4 B *Q* 4+ B S B Q 3 B B+

93 1 K B 3 2 K S 2 3 K R 3
4 S S 4 5 K R 4 6 R Q 4
7 Q B 2 + 8 Q Q 2 9 Q Q 5
if P (*Q* or B) 10 R K 6+ K×R 11 *Q* R 5
—P (S) *Q Q* 3 + S×*Q* R+
—P (R) *Q* K 4 + R×*Q* R+

94 1 R K 3 2 B S 4 3 P B 3
4 B B 5 5 B×P 6 R K 7

95 1 S *Q* 4 + 2 *Q Q* B 5 3 R K 3 +
4 R S 8 5 R *Q* S 8 6 *Q* R 7 + 7 S B 2 +

96 1 R B 2 B *Q* 5 3 R B 3 4 B B 6
5 R B 5 6 B *Q* 7 7 B × B R × B ±

97 1 S × P 2 B R 3 3 B B 4 B B 2

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 5 B S | 6 S R 2 | 7 B S 2 | P × B ± |
| 98 | 1 B K B 4 + | 2 B K S 6 + + | | 3 BKR 7+ |
| | 4 B *Q* 6 + | 5 B S 6 + | | 6 B K 7 + |
| | 7 B B 5 -- | 8 B *Q* 6 + | | 9 R R – |
| 99 | 1 B B 7 + | 2 P + | | 3 *Q* × S P + |
| | 4 S × P + | 5 R S + | | 6 R S 3 ± |

No. 100.

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 B K S 3+ | P × B |
| 2 R × P + | B × R |
| 3 R × S + | B × R |
| 4 *Q* B + | K B 2 |
| 5 K *Q* 7 | B R 7 |
| 6 K K 6 | B S 8 |
| 7 K B 5 | B R 7 |
| 8 K S 4 | B S 8 |
| 9 S B 5 | B R 7 |
| 10 *Q* *Q* 2 + | K S 8 |
| 11 S × P | B × S |

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