

Cavendish Chess Club

Newsletter, April 2009

Any reduction in game quality, in this issue, is compensated by the quality of the following grandmaster encounters from Jon Parker and Willie Watson. However, no further game scores from Ken Harman, our most prolific supplier, (I hear your gasps of disappointment!?) so to illustrate the gulf between the grandmaster and rank amateur, your Editor offers one of his own efforts, and features a guest annotator who makes up for Ken's omission.

Game 119

GM AJ Mestel

GM JF Parker

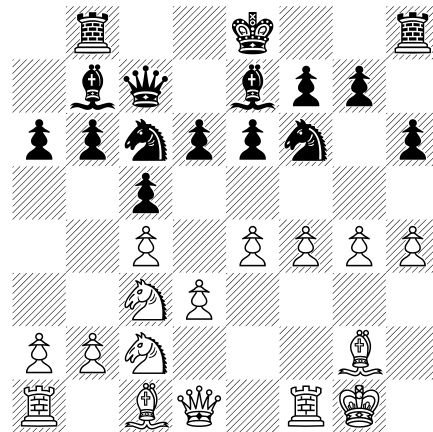
*4NCL, 1996

English

[Parker]
(RFA H)

1 c4 e6 2 ♘f3 ♘f6 3 g3 b6 4
 ♙g2 ♙b7 5 0-0 ♙e7 6 d3 c5
 7 e4 d6 (Many
 transpositional opportunities
 abound in this opening, but
 Jonathan Mestel goes his
 own way by omitting d4,
 seeking both solidity and
 later expansion on the
 kingside.) 8 ♘e1 ♘c6 9 f4
 a6 10 ♘c3 ♚c7 11 ♘c2 ♜b8
 12 g4!?! (This is brave before
 black has castled. 12 ♜b1
 with the idea of a4, ♙e3 and
 b4 is a normal plan with
 white having a slight edge.)
 12 ... h6 13 h4

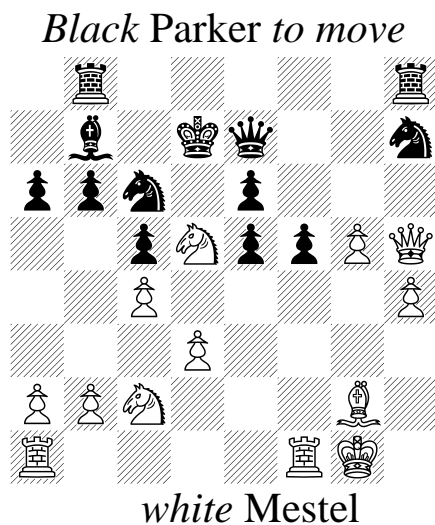
black Parker to move



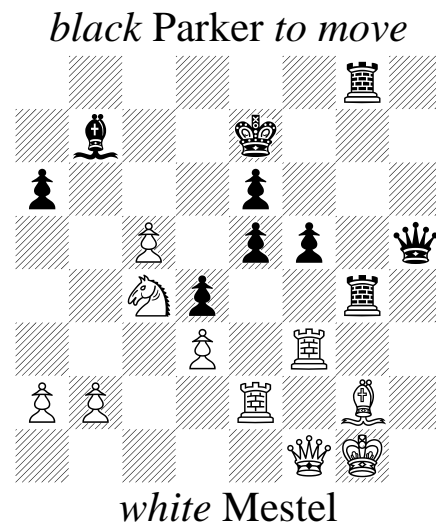
white Mestel

13 ... g5! (The natural
 response.) 14 e5 dxe5 15
 fxg5 hxg5 16 ♙xg5 ♘h7 [It
 may be better to play 16 ...
 ♘d7 but I had another idea
 which came to fruition later.]
 17 ♙xe7 ♚xe7 18 g5 f5!?!
 [The alternative 18 ... ♘f8 is
 not bad, but the text is
 thematic.] 19 ♚h5+ ♔d7 20
 ♘d5!?! (Typical AJM but
 white's play is over-

ambitious by this attempt to 'muddy the waters'.)



20 ... ♖g7! [While *Fritz* thinks that black is better, materially after 20 ... exd5, this is a much stronger practical move, apart from being more fun to play.] 21 ♜xb6+ ♔d6! 22 ♚e2 ♜xg5! 23 hxg5 ♚xg5 24 ♝ae1 ♝bg8 25 ♝f3 ♝h4 26 ♚f2 ♝g4 27 ♝e2 ♜d4 28 ♜xd4 cxd4 29 c5+ ♔e7 [Still sticking to the centre.] (Black's King odyssey makes this game both unusual and distinctive.) 30 ♚f1 ♚h5 31 ♜c4

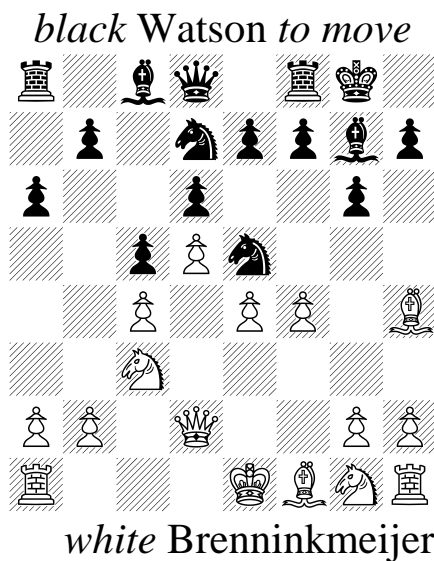


31 ... ♕xf3?! [Not the most efficient reply. Black could play 31... ♜h4 and if 32 ♔f2 ♕xf3 33 ♕xf3 ♚xf3+ was the prettiest method.] 32 ♚xf3 ♝xg2+ 33 ♚xg2 ♝xg2+ 34 ♝xg2 ♚d1+ 35 ♔h2 ♚h5+ 36 ♔g1 ♚d1+ 37 ♔h2 ♚xd3 38 ♜xe5 ♚e3 39 ♜g6+ ♔d7 40 ♜f8+ ♔c6 41 ♝g6 ♔xc5 42 ♜xe6+ (Ultimately, the game was extended by black's thirty-first move, but white cannot survive. Resourceful strategy by our best player.) **0–1.**



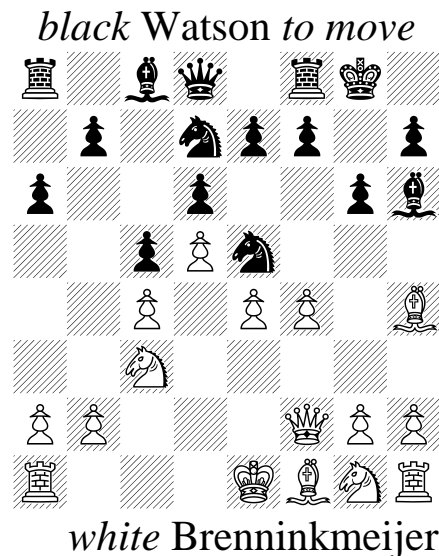
Game 120
IM J Brenninkmeijer
GM WN Watson
 Wijk aan Zee II, 1987
King's Indian, Sämisch
 [Michael Adams in 'The Telegraph']

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♙g7
 4 e4 OO 5 ♙e3 (Unusual
 play from the Dutch master,
 who wastes a move in the
 Sämisch variation by
 delaying f3, when play
 continues 5 ... ♘c6 6 ♙e3 a6
 7 ♘ge2 ♖b8 8 ♘c1 e5 9 d5
 ♘d4 with a lively position.)
 5 ... d6 6 f3 c5 7 d5 ♘bd7 7
 ♙d2 c5 8 d5 ♘e5 9 ♙g5
 ♘fd7 10 ♙h4 [In a
 subsequent game Kramnik
 played 10 ♙h6 to exchange
 the influential bishop on g7.]
 10 ... a6 11 f4



[White can not resist the
 temptation to kick the knight,
 but it was wiser to play 11
 a4, clamping the b-file.] 11
 ... ♙h6 [Watson's own idea.
 After 11 ... ♘g4 12 ♙e2

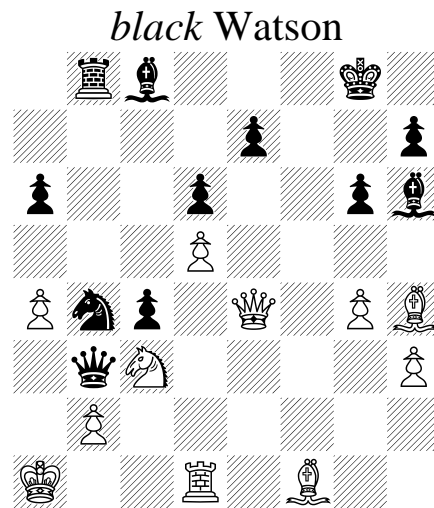
♘gf6 13 ♘f3, white
 develops smoothly.] 12 ♙f2



12 ... f5!! [This brilliant
 piece offer must have come
 as a most unpleasant
 surprise. After 12 ... ♘g4 13
 ♙e2 is an effective
 rejoinder.] 13 fxe5 fxe4 14
 ♙e2 [Black has full
 compensation, as it is
 difficult to evacuate the
 white King from the centre.
 The bishop prevents castling
 long and the rook hampers
 castling short! Still, a better
 try is 14 ♙c2 ♘xe5 15 ♙e2]
 14 ... ♘xe5 15 h3
 [Brenninkmeijer was
 probably intending 15 ♘xe4,
 but after the lengthy
 variation: 15 ... ♖f4 16 ♙g3
 ♖xe4 17 ♙xe4 ♙a5+ 18 ♙f2

♔d2+ 19 ♙e2 (19 ♘e2
 ♙e3+ 20 ♚xe3 ♘g4+ also
 leads to 'an early bath' -+)
 19 ... ♙f5 20 ♘f3 ♘g4+ 21
 ♚f1 ♚xb2, white can't save
 all his hanging pieces.] **15 ...**
♘d3+ 16 ♚d1 ♚b6 [The
 Benkö Gambit style 16 ... b5
 also looks interesting, but
 Watson can't resist to move
 his Queen into the heart of
 white's position.] **17 ♖b1**
♚b4 18 g4 [Another way to
 grovel is 18 ♚c2 ♚xc4 19 a3
 b5, but with three rampant
 pawns, black is having all the
 fun.] **18 ... ♚xc4 19 ♙g2**
♚d4 20 ♚c2 ♘b4+ 21 ♚b3
b5 22 a4 [Trying to find a
 flight-square. If 22 ♖d1 c4+
 23 ♚xb4 a5+ is mating.] **22**
... c4+ 23 ♚a3 ♘d3 24 ♚xe4
b4+ 25 ♚a2 ♚c5 26 ♘ge2
bxc3 [White returns the
 piece after 26 ... b3+ 27 ♚a1
 ♙g7 and the King's Indian
 bishop reigns supreme.] **27**
♘xc3 ♚b4 28 ♖hf1 ♖xf1 29
♙xf1 ♚b3+ 30 ♚a1 ♘b4 31
♖d1 ♖b8 (White has had
 enough of brilliant
 inventiveness from the
 player Boris Spassky
 described as 'a drunken

machine gunner'; also quoted
 in Michael Adams's excellent
 weekend column in 'The
 Daily Telegraph' along with
 his fine notes.)



white Brenninkmeijer resigns

0-1.



Game 121

RFA Harman

PC Stokes

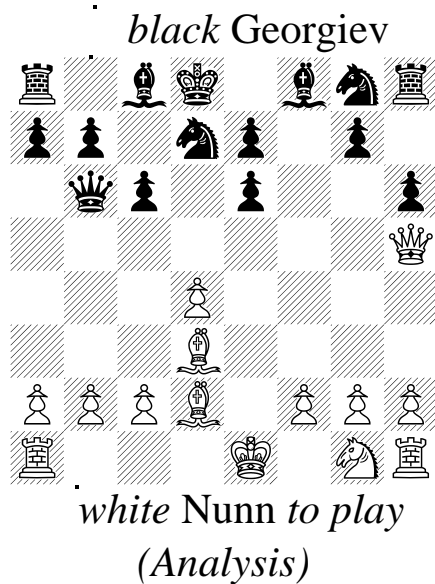
London League, 2005

Caro-Kann, Smyslov

RFA H

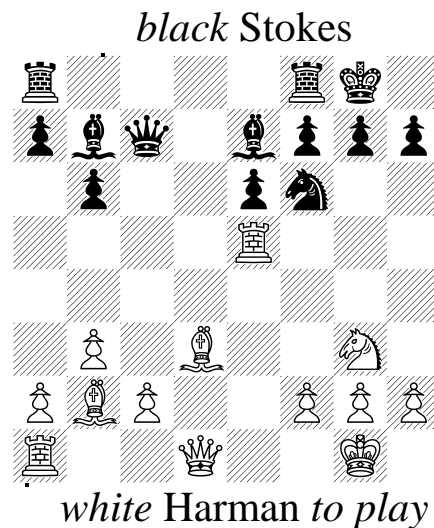
1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 dxe4
4 ♘xe4 ♘d7 5 ♘f3 This is a
 main line, but I have also
 played the variation
 suggested by John Nunn **5**
♘g5!? on three occasions,
 but black has never replied **5**
... h6? whereupon **6 ♘e6**
♚a5+ (6 ... fxe6 7 ♚h5+-)

7 ♔d2 ♚b6 8 ♔d3 is winning after 8 ... fxc6?? 9 ♚h5+ ♔d8

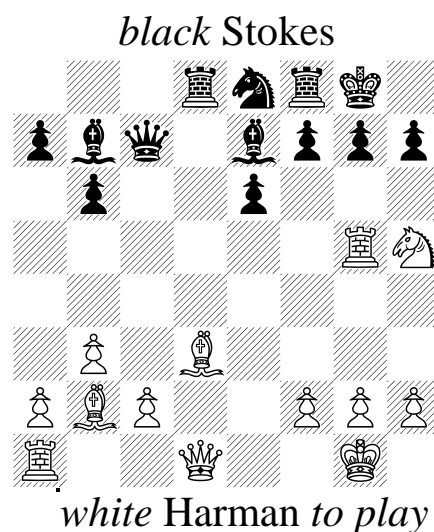


10 ♔a5, JDM Nunn-v-K Georgiev, Linares 1988; 1-0 in 42. 5 ... ♘gf6 6 ♘g3 e6 7 ♔d3 ♔d6 8 0-0 ♚c7 9 ♖e1 0-0 10 b3 My opponent is an old friend, despite three losses to me with the black pieces and has studied this defence quite deeply. However, after the game, he revealed never having to face white's tenth move before. Thus, after both players taking less than five minutes each on nine moves, he cited his 'twenty minute think' at this point as a good reason for later time trouble. 10 ... b6 11 ♔b2 ♔b7 12 ♘e5 c5 13 ♘g4 Attempting to remove the kingside

defenders. 13 ... ♔e7 14 ♘xf6+ ♘xf6 15 dxc5 ♚xc5 15 ... bxc5 seems safer. 16 ♖e5 ♚c7



17 ♘h5! An interesting 'coda' to white's thirteenth move with his other 'horse'. 17 ... ♖ad8?! By now, Stokes had just ten minutes left for twenty moves, whereas white had an hour and a quarter! 18 ♖g5 ♘e8



19 ♖xg7+ **1-0** Loss occurs whether the rook is captured or not, by 19 ... ♞xg7 [19 ♔h8 20 ♖xh7+ ♔g8 21 ♜h8#] 20 ♚g4 ♙g5 21 ♚xg5 f6 22 ♞xf6+ ♖xf6 23 ♚xf6 and white is winning, his bishops see to that.

Apart from my opponent's 'off day', I did have a quicker win in a National Club encounter against A. Trangmar, Islington & North London vs. Cambridge University in 1968, when, armed with analysis in the Sicilian Accelerated Dragon, I prevailed in twenty-two moves, and just seven minutes on the clock!?



Game 122

IM **JF Parker**

GM **G Timoshenko**

Werfen Open, 1995

King's Indian, Makagonov

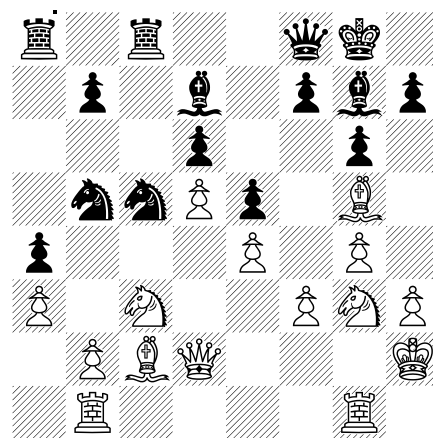
[Parker]
RFA H

1 d4 ♞f6 **2** c4 g6 **3** ♞c3 ♙g7
4 e4 d6 **5** h3

A favourite variation of JFP, and successfully employed in several important games as a fast-improving junior. Moreover, we are back in the

realms of grandmasters; a comfort zone for our readers wishing to improve, although Jonathan had not yet earned his exalted title at the time of this encounter. **5 ... 0-0 6 ♙g5 c6 7 ♙d3 e5 8 d5 ♞a6 9 ♞ge2 ♞c5 10 ♙c2 ♚b6 11 0-0 cxd5** [This is safer than 11 ... ♚xb2, allowing white to gain momentum by harassment of the Queen.] **12 cxd5 ♙d7 13 ♖b1 a5 14 ♔h2!?** [A normal plan in this position is 14 g4 & ♔g2, & f3 -- h4-h5. By playing ♚b6 black has cut-across these manoeuvres, and may answer g4 with h5! The attractive feature of my King on the h-file allows the unusual option of attacking down the g-file.] **14 ... ♖fc8 15 ♚d2 ♚d8 16 a3 a4 17 f3 ♚f8 18 g4 ♞e8 19 ♞g3 ♞c7 20 ♖g1 ♞b5**

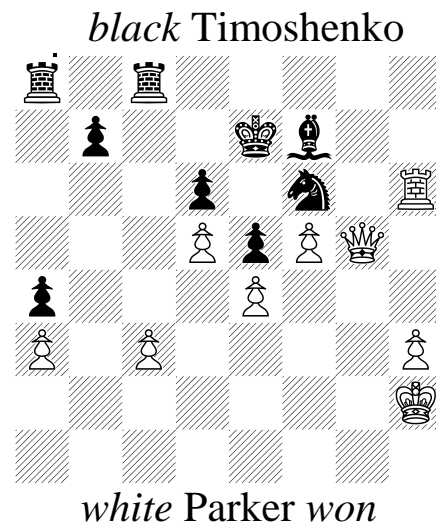
black Timoshenko



white Parker to play

21 ♖f5!?! [Black has spent much time on a Queenside initiative, so the moment is right for a gain of tempo.] 21 ... f6! 22 ♙e3 ♘xc3?! [Opening the b-file leads to a loss of initiative. Black should risk 22 ... gxf5 23 gxf5 ♘d4] 23 bxc3 gxf5 24 gxf5 ♖f7 25 ♜g4 ♖e7 26 ♝bg1 ♙h8 If Willie Watson had been spectating, he would, as an acknowledged expert on this defence, have greatly amused by the predicament of black's fianchettoed bishop. 27 ♙h6 ♜e8 28 f4! [An entirely natural reaction to open lines.] 28 ... ♜h5 29 fxe5 fxe5 30 ♙d1 ♜e8 31 ♙g5+ ♖f8 32 ♙h6+ ♖e7 33 ♙g5+ [Gaining time on the clock.] 33 ... ♖f8 34 ♝h4?! [Not best. Time pressure forced me to miss the decisive 34 ♙h4.] 34 ... ♜f7 35 ♜e3 ♙e8? [In turn, black relaxes with a fatal error.] 36 ♙h5 ♜xh5 37 ♝xh5 ♙xh5 38 ♙h6+ ♖e8 39 ♙g7! [Paradoxically, the exchange of the bad bishop opens the floodgates.] 39 ... ♙xg7 40 ♝xg7 ♘d7 [In reaching the time control, black could resign.] 41 ♝xh7 ♘f7 42

♝h8+ ♘f8 43 ♜h6 ♖e7 44 ♜g7 ♘d7 45 ♜g5+ ♘f6 46 ♝h6



1–0. As a teenager, Jon was praised by Leonard Barden as a 'gifted positional player'. However, such a fine, attacking game, belies this slightly hasty assessment, as he is, at least, the tactical equal of any of his contemporaries.

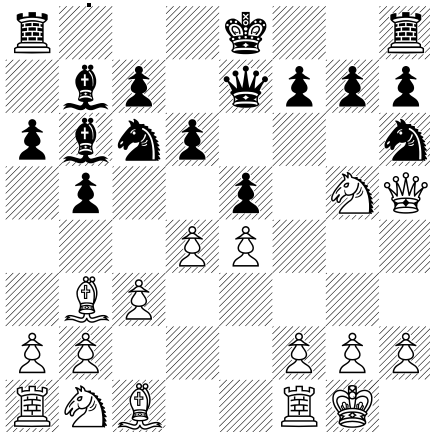


Game 123
WIM F Pratibha
J Soneck
 London League, 2009
Ruy López, Classical

RFA H

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♙b5 a6
 4 ♙a4 ♙c5 This unusual
 variant can occur after 4 ...
 ♘f6 5 0-0 ♙c5 as well. Once
 favoured by Fischer, this
 move is not as strong as 4 ...
 ♘f6. 5 c3 The best response,
 but black is determined to go
 his own way. 5 ... b5 6 ♙b3
 d6 7 0-0 ♙b7 8 d4 ♙b6 9
 ♘g5 Exploiting black's late
 development, where he has
 not foreseen the poison in
 this move. 9 ... ♘h6 10 ♚h5!
 ♚e7

black Soneck

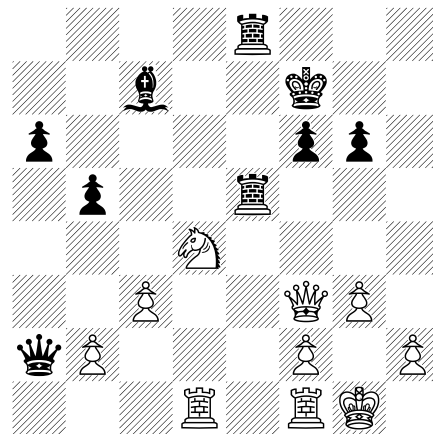


white Pratibha to move

11 ♘e6! ♙g8 12 ♙g5 ♚d7
 13 ♙d5 g6 Losing material,
 but black's position is already
 compromised. 14 ♘xc7+
 ♚xc7 15 ♚xh6 ♘e7 16
 ♚xh7 ♙xd5 17 exd5 ♚b7 18
 dxe5 ♚xd5 19 ♙xe7 ♘xe7
 20 exd6+ ♚xd6 Short of
 time as well, black prefers a
 swindle to early resignation.

21 ♚h4+ f6 22 ♚e4+ ♔f7 23
 ♚b7+ ♙c7 24 g3 ♙ab8 25
 ♚f3 ♙be8 26 ♘a3 ♙e5 27
 ♙ad1 ♚e6 28 ♘c2 ♙e8 29
 ♘d4 ♚xa2

black Soneck



white Pratibha to move

30 ♙a1! ♚xb2 31 ♙xa6 f5
 32 ♚c6 1-0. An impressive
 game for a teenager and
 Cavendish's most promising
 recruit. Sadly, her
 appearances are restricted by
 examinations at present, but
 we hope that her membership
 is maintained following a
 spell at University. But, it
 seems likely that she will be
 the first Oxbridge lady 'blue'
 in recent memory?

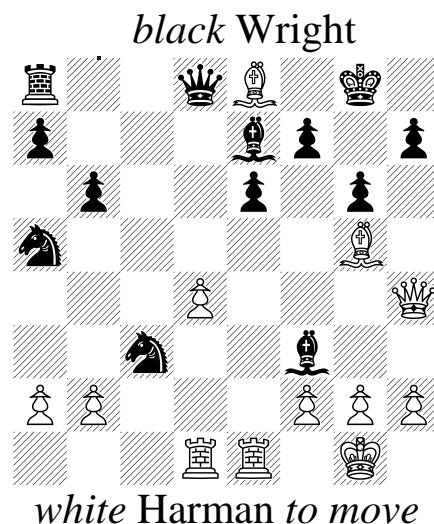


Game 124
KB Harman
D Wright

Ilford Reserves A, 1967
Caro-Kann, Panov-Botvinnik
(The Chess Parrot)

1 e4 (During his long career, Ken has avoided studying theory to excess. Thus, his opening move is unpredictable, relying as he does on intuitive and natural ability, together with a penchant for fast time-limits.) 1 ... c6 (Despite losing this game, Danny's achievements outshine his very good friend, and opponent. However, he is not a specialist in this defence.) 2 d4 d5 3 exd5 cxd5 4 c4 (For information on the naming of this variation, see 'The Myers' Openings Bulletin' No. 22, pp 19-21. Today, we refer to the Panov-Botvinnik, but Alekhine was a more frequent practitioner. In addition, Yates tried the line in 1914, when Panov was a seven-year-old.) 4 ... f6 5 c3 e6 (The main alternative, according to Ken, is 5 ... g6 6 Bb3 g7 7 cxd5 0-0 8 g3 with a small plus.) 6 f3 e7 7 cxd5 (Varnusz, in *Play the Caro-Kann*, calls this 'a Queen's gambit-like handling', suggesting study of the

radical 7 c5.) 7 ... xd5 8 e4 (Alekhine liked 8 e5+, but in modern games the fashion supports 8 e3 or the text.) 8 ... c6 9 0-0 f6 10 g5 0-0 11 e1 a5 (An idea of Petrosian, World Champion at the time, but white is better following black's voluntary second move of the knight.) 12 d3 b6 13 e2 b7 14 ad1 d5 15 e4 g6 (Note that 15 ... f6 16 h4 h6 17 xh6 gxh6 18 xh6 c6 19 e3+-) 16 h4 e8 17 b5 dxc3 (17 ... c6 18 xd5 Bxd5 19 exc6; or 17 ... c6 18 xd5 Bxd5 19 xe7 Bxb5 20 g5 h5 21 xf7+-.) 18 xe8 xf3

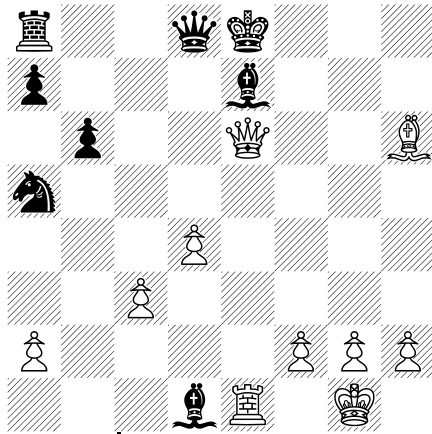


19 xf7+ xf7 20 xh7+ f8 21 h6+ e8 22 xg6+ d7 23 xe6+ e8 (23 ... c7 24 c1 or 24

♔xd1 is answered by 25 ♕g5, and 24 ... ♔d5 by 25 ♕g5.) **24 bxc3 1-0.**



Harman-v-Wright



Final position

White's accuracy was quite deadly in this meeting between two Cavendish stalwarts.)



As a postscript, I cannot imagine why such strong players as Ferguson, Cox, Collins, Merriman, Piper and Taylor cannot submit games for publication. Do they fear comparisons? Or, are they just too modest? If Jonathan can sit down and annotate a few games for the Newsletter, your beleaguered Editor may have to start confiscating a few scoresheets ...