

**One Pawn Saves the Day:
A World Champion's Favorite Studies**

Sergei Tkachenko

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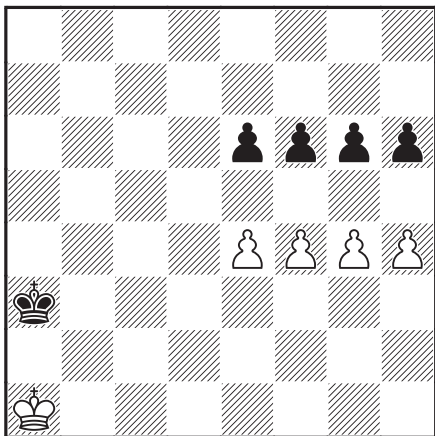
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No. 1



White to move and win

A wall of white pawns against a wall of black ones. How can white storm to victory?

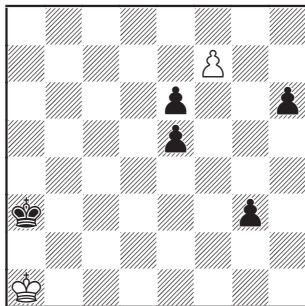
Let's try charging from the left: 1.e5? fe 2.h5 ef 3.hg f3 4.g7. After 4...f2 5.g8♚ f1♚# white is mated.

So we need to charge from the right:

1.h5!! gh (1...g5 2.e5! f5 3.gf! g4 4.f6! etc.) 2.e5!

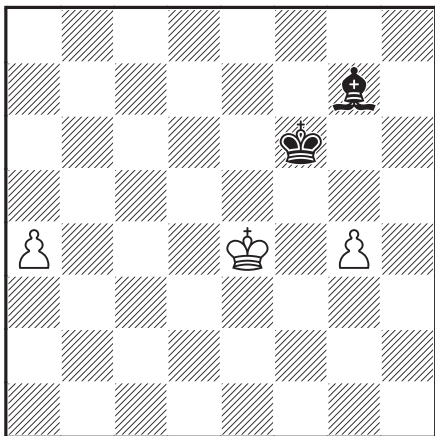
It's now time to charge from the left!

2...fe 3.f5! hg 4.f6! g3 5.f7, and white wins as his pawn is promoted with check.



Authors: J. Kling and B. Horwitz, 1853

No. 2

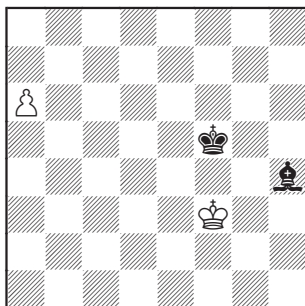


White to move and win

Will white's rook pawn make it to the 8th rank?
Well, that depends on white's other pawn!

**1.a5 ♖f8 2.♔d5 ♜h6 3.g5+!! ♜xg5 3...♔xg5
4.a6 etc. is no better.**

4.♔e4 ♜h4 5.♔f3! ♔f5 6.a6, and white wins.



Author H. Otten, 1892