SEVENTY-FIVE
CHESS PROBLEMS
DEDICATED

to the Rev. W. Thursby

*Jan., 1st, 1883*
PREFACE

It seems to be custom to say a few words to the public, when offering a collection of Chess Problems, and this custom I shall shortly avail myself of. The stratagems contained in this book are a selection from the many Problems composed by me, and published during the last six years in all the leading journals and magazines at home and abroad.

I do not claim for my problems any especial or extraordinary profundity, nor do I intend to set myself up as a rival to other Chess authors; but I believe that any Chess-player who takes the trouble to look through my book, will find in it amusement and pleasure. I do not pretend to be able to give hints on construction, or to lay down dogmatic rules in Problem art.

In conclusion, I ought to state that I have always been treated with the greatest courtesy by every Chess Editor with whom I have corresponded, with, I regret to say, one notable exception.
PREFACE TO ELECTRONICAL EDITION

This is an electronical edition of John Thursby’s Seventy-Five Chess Problems, published in 1883 by Jas. Wade, London. The main changes are: changing the layout from one diagram per page to four, and translating solutions from descriptive notation to algebraic.

All problems have been checked by computer: Matthieu Leschemelle’s Problemiste was used for all problems up to and including 5 moves; Popeye was used for the remaining 6-mover.

Found problems have been indicated as follows:

[†] indicates a problem without a solution, and
[*] indicates a problem with several key moves.

In the solutions section, found problems are documented in square brackets, with an occasional suggestion for correction.
Problem no. 1
White to mate in two moves

Problem no. 2
White to mate in two moves

Problem no. 3
White to mate in two moves

Problem no. 4
White to mate in two moves
Problem no. 5

White to mate in two moves

Taylor: Chess Chips, 1878

Problem no. 6

White to mate in two moves

Problem no. 7

White to mate in two moves

Problem no. 8

White to mate in two moves
Problem no. 9

White to mate in two moves

Problem no. 10

White to mate in two moves

Problem no. 11

White to mate in two moves

Problem no. 12

White to mate in two moves
Problem no. 13

White to mate in two moves
[*]

Problem no. 14

White to mate in two moves

Problem no. 15

White to mate in two moves

Problem no. 16

White to mate in two moves
Problem no. 17

White to mate in two moves

[†]

Problem no. 18

White to mate in two moves

Problem no. 19

White to mate in two moves

Problem no. 20

White to mate in two moves
Problem no. 21
White to mate in two moves

Problem no. 22
White to mate in two moves

Problem no. 23
White to mate in two moves

Problem no. 24
White to mate in two moves [†]
Problem no. 25

White to mate in three moves

Problem no. 26

White to mate in three moves

Problem no. 27

White to mate in three moves

Problem no. 28

White to mate in three moves
Problem no. 29

White to mate in three moves

[†]

Problem no. 30

White to mate in three moves

Problem no. 31

White to mate in three moves

Problem no. 32

White to mate in three moves
Problem no. 33

White to mate in three moves

Problem no. 34

White to mate in three moves

Problem no. 35

White to mate in three moves

Problem no. 36

White to mate in three moves
Problem no. 37

White to mate in three moves

Problem no. 38

White to mate in three moves

Problem no. 39

White to mate in three moves

Problem no. 40

White to mate in three moves
Problem no. 41

White to mate in three moves

Problem no. 42

White to mate in three moves

Problem no. 43

White to mate in three moves

Problem no. 44

White to mate in three moves

[*]
Problem no. 45

White to mate in three moves

Problem no. 46

White to mate in three moves

Problem no. 47

White to mate in three moves

Problem no. 48

White to mate in three moves
Problem no. 49

White to mate in three moves

Problem no. 50

White to mate in three moves

Problem no. 51

White to mate in three moves

Problem no. 52

White to mate in three moves
Problem no. 53

White to mate in three moves

Problem no. 54

White to mate in three moves

Problem no. 55

White to mate in three moves

Problem no. 56

White to mate in three moves

*Toronto Globe*, 1880
Problem no. 57

White to mate in three moves

Problem no. 58

White to mate in three moves

Problem no. 59

White to mate in three moves

Problem no. 60

White to mate in three moves
Problem no. 61

White to mate in three moves

Problem no. 62

White to mate in three moves

Problem no. 63

White to mate in three moves

Problem no. 64

White to mate in three moves
Problem no. 65

White to mate in three moves

Problem no. 66

White to mate in three moves

Problem no. 67

White to mate in four moves

Problem no. 68

White to mate in four moves [*]
Problem no. 69

White to mate in four moves

Problem no. 70

White to mate in four moves

Problem no. 71

White to sui-mate in four moves

Problem no. 72

White to sui-mate in five moves
Problem no. 73

White to mate in six moves

Problem no. 74

White to mate in six moves

Problem no. 75

White to mate in five moves
SOLUTIONS

1. 1. Re4
2. 1. Qg1
3. 1. Qe3
4. 1. d6
5. 1. d3  [corr: wQ to g5.]
6. 1. d×c5
7. 1. Qd2
8. 1. R×b7
9. 1. Rg4
10. 1. R×c7
11. 1. Qb1
12. 1. Sb8
13. 1. Qg1
14. 1. Sg8
15. 1. Ba3
16. 1. Qa5
17. 1. Bh6
18. 1. Qf8
19. 1. Qb1
20. 1. Rc3
21. 1. Bb6
22. 1. Kg5
23. 1. Sb7
24. 1. Bh3
25. 1. h×g5 Qa1 2.Q×e7† R×e7 3.B×c6‡
26. 1. Sc1 Kc5/c4 2.Bb3(†) any 3. ‡
27. 1. Sb8 Se4 2.Qf2 any 3. ‡
28. 1. Qc1 Ke7/e5 2.B×f6† K~ 3. Q, S ‡
29. 1. Sc1 Kf6/×d6 2.Qf4† K~ 3. Q ‡
[cook: 2. ... Ke7 and no solution.]
30. 1. Qf3 R×g5 2.Q×f4† Kxf4 3. Bh2‡
31. 1. Qf3 R×g5 2.Kd4 2.Qe4† K~ 3. Q ‡
32. 1. Ke2 Be6 2.Q×e5† d×e5 3. Sf6‡
    Bf7 2.Q×f7† Ke4 3. Qf3‡
    c5 2.Sf6† Kc6 3. Qd7‡
    b5 2.Sf6† Kc5 3. Qf2‡
33. 1. Qf3  Kd6  2. Q×f8  any  3. Q ‡
   Kb4  2. Q×c6  any  3. Q ‡
   S×h7, ~  2. Q×c6†  Kb4  3. Qc3‡
34. 1. Sf3   Ke4  2. Sd1   Kd3/d5  3. Sf2/c3‡
35. 1. Qd8   B×a8  2. Q×b6†  K×b6  3. Sc4‡
   S×d8  2. Rc5†   b×c5  3. B×d8‡
   [but: 1. ... Sc7!]
36. 1. Bg2   Kb5  2. Bh3   Ka4/a6, a6  3. B ‡
37. 1. c×d5  K×d6  2. Qc7†   K×c7  3. Se8‡
   S×d4†  2. B×f4†   K×f4/×f6  3. Q ‡
   B~  2. Bb5†   Sd4  3. Q×d4‡
39. 1. Qd1   Sf6  2. Q×d6†   B×d6  3. f8=S‡
40. 1. Sb2   Q×d8  2. Sc6†   any  3. ‡
   Sc5/×b4  2. Q×c7†   any  3. ‡
   Qd5/×e4  2. Sc6†   Qc6  3. S×d3 ‡
41. 1. Qe8   Kg4  2. Q×h5†   K~  3. ‡
   K×e4  2. Qc6†   K~  3. Q ‡
   e×f5  2. Q×e5   any  3. Q ‡
42. 1. Ba2   B×f6  2. R×e3†   d×e3  3. d4‡
   f×e3  3. f4‡
43. 1. Qf2   R×f7  2. Qd4†   K×d4  3. Sc6‡
   [1. B×g2†; 1. Qg5]
44. 1. Be1   d×e2  2. Bd7   h4  3. g×h4‡
45. 1. Sc2   B×d7  2. e4†   Kc6/e6  3. Sd8‡
   Ke4  2. Sb4   any  3. ‡
46. 1. Kh7   Sf6†  2. R×f6   any  3. S ‡
47. 1. Ke1   a2  2. Qa4   any  3. Q ‡
48. 1. Rb1   Ra5  2. R×b4   Ra4  3. Rb3‡
49. 1. Qg3   Ke5  2. Qc3†   K~  3. Q ‡
   Kc5  2. Qc3†   K~  3. Q, S ‡
50. 1. Qg7   B×d5  2. Rc5   any  3. Q ‡
51. 1. Bc6   Ke5  2. Qf7   Kd4/d6  3. Q ‡
   Ke7  2. Qf5   Kd6/d8  3. Q ‡
52. 1. Sge6  K×e4  2. Kg7   Kd5/f5  3. e4‡
53. 1. K×e3  a2  2. Sd2   K×a1/a3  3. B, S ‡
54. 1. Re1   fxg4  2. R×e4†   d×e4†  3. Sf5‡
55. 1. Bd6   Ke4  2. Qd5†   K×d5  3. Bg2‡
56. 1. Sf3   K×d5  2. Se5   K×e5  3. Rh5‡
   e×f3  2. e4   f2  3. Rc3‡
57. 1. Q×h4  g×h4  2. Sf4†   Ke4  3. Sg5‡
58. 1. Sb7  
    Kd4  2. Qc2  
    Ke6  3. Qe4†  
    Kd5/e5  4. Ke5/f5  5. Qe4‡  

59. 1. Bc1  
    Kxe5  2. Sf3†  
    Ke4  3. Shg5‡  

60. 1. Rf3  
    g3  2. Rf4  
    exf4  3. e5‡  
    gxf3  2. Bh3  
    f2  3. Sb7‡  

61. 1. Be7  
    Sxe4  2. Q×d6†  
    S×d6†  3. Kf6‡  

62. 1. B×d6  
    Sf5  2. Qe4†  
    Ke6  3. Q†  
    Kf7  4. Q‡  

63. 1. Rf3  
    g3  2. Rf4  
    e×f4  3. e5‡  

64. 1. Be7  
    Sxe4  2. Q×d6†  
    S×d6†  3. Ke5/f5  4. Sb7‡  

65. 1. B×d6  
    Ke6  2. Sc3  
    any  3. Sf4‡  
    Sd3, any  4. R, S‡  

66. 1. Qh7  
    Kc4  2. Qd3†  
    K×d3  3. Se5‡  

67. 1. Qb8  
    K×c4  2. Rb4†  
    K×d3  3. Qf8‡  

68. 1. Qf6, S×c6; 2. S×c7†, Kc5; 3. R×c4; 4. Qc3†  
    Q×e4; 2. R×e4, K×e4; 3. Sb4, any; 4. d3‡  

69. 1. Qh7  
    Kc4  2. Qd3†  
    K×d3  3. Se5‡  

70. 1. Qf6, S×c6; 2. S×c7†, Kc5; 3. R×c4; 4. Qc3†  
    Q×e4; 2. R×e4, K×e4; 3. Sb4, any; 4. d3‡  

71. 1. Qd3†, S×d3; 2. Sf8, Q×f8; 3. Rh4†, S×h4‡  

72. 1. Qb2, g×f4; 2. S×d7†, B×d7; 3. Sf7†, K~; 4. g5/Qe2‡  

73. 1. Qf8†, Kh7; 2. Bb3†, Kg6; 3. Kg7†, Kh5; 4. Bd1†, Rf3;  
    5. Qc5†, B×c5; 6. Rb5, P×R†  

74. 1. Qb2, Kh7; 2. Kb2, Kh8; 3. Ka1, Kh7; 4. Sf8†, Kh8; 5. Kg7, B×g7;  
    5. Bf6, B×f6‡  

75. 1. Rd4, f5; 2. g8=S, f4; 3. Ra1, f3; 4. Q×b5†, B×b5; 5. Ra5, f2†