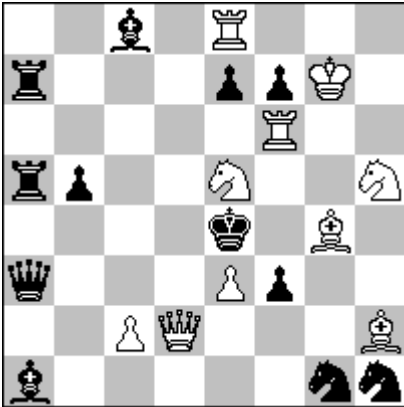


Here is a classic 2-mover from 1941 by the fine British composer Charles Sheppard. No, I hadn't heard of Charles Sheppard either, but some of his works are featured in an article by David Shire in the November 2019 issue of *The Problemist Supplement*, a publication of the British Chess Problem Society. After solving (or after failing to solve!) this 2-mover you may like to read that article, which you can do by Googling 'theproblemist' and then, on the BCPS website, clicking on 'Magazines' and going to the relevant issue of *The Problemist Supplement*.

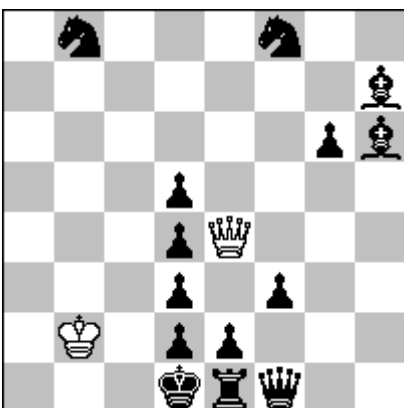


Charles Sheppard
 Mate in 2
 American Chess Bulletin 1941

As ever, you are looking for a subtle (and definitely not a brutal) key move. You may like to look at the prominent arrangements along the lines a1-g7, e8-e4 and perhaps also a7-e7. They are likely to be relevant to the play arising from the key-move that has been cleverly set up. The key threatens one mate. There are a number of black responses that meet that threat but allow new and interesting mates.

As I've said above, you may like to read David Shire's comments on this and on a number of other Charles Sheppard problems. In any event, I'll include the solution in the next Newsletter.

In the last Newsletter I left this 3-mover by Rolf Uppstrom for solution -



Mate in 3

The key is 1.Qxd3, when play continues 1...g5 2.Qb3+ Bc2 3.Qxc2#. A lot of the interest in the problem is in disentangling this line of play from a number of equally enticing possibilities that narrowly fail – 1.Qxd5? Bg8!; 1.Qxd4? Bg7!; 1.Qe8? Nfd7!; and 1.Qe7? Qh3!.