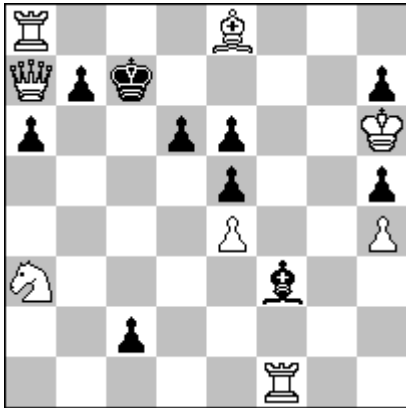In the Last Newsletter I left you with this problem:
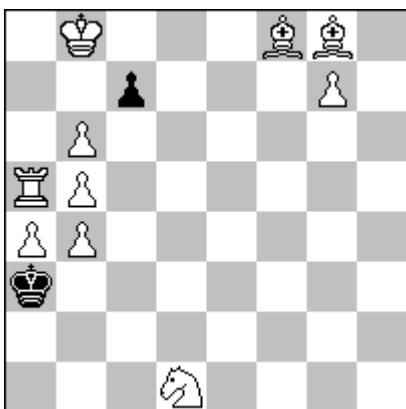

Mate in 2
Philip H. Williams

English Mechanic, 1893

Although White has mating replies to Black's possible moves the only move that preserves them all is 1.Qg1 (not 1.Qf2?, when after moves by the f3B 2.Qf7 permits 2…Kb6); as 1.Qg1 unpins the b7P we add the variations 1…b5 2.Qa7 (a switchback) and 1…b6 2.Qg7 (as b6 is now blocked).

For this month's poser I've enjoyed going back through old copies of The Problemist Supplement (a regular part of the British Chess Problem Society magazine, *The Problemist*, which caters especially for those who may be new to chess problems). (Back issues of the magazine can be viewed on the BCPS website - www.theproblemist.org/ - which is where you may wish to go if you're struggling with the poser following, or if you want to see some similar problems.) I found this problem a surprisingly difficult puzzle, though when 'the penny dropped' I wondered why I'd been so dense: a reaction that generally bespeaks a good problem in my opinion!

Mate in 3
Ottmar Nemo

Muenchner Neueste Nachrichten 1912

I quickly identified which white piece must make the key move – but to what square, and why?

Solution next time, but if you want to look it up before then you'll find this problem on the front page of the March 2017 issue of The Problemist Supplement!