

# NEW ENGLANDER

## Chess Club Update – December 2015

### Chairman's Chatter

It has seemed like another hectic month but there are several more to come. In addition to the matches, this month we squeeze in the club championship and the Christmas Special. See you then!

*Paul Hanks*

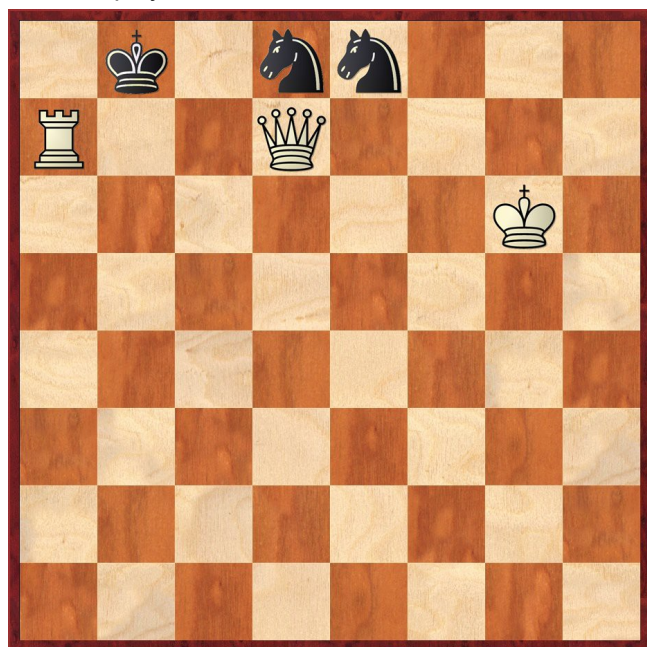
### Diary Dates

2<sup>nd</sup> December Club Championship Round 2

23<sup>rd</sup> December Christmas Special with its usual mixture of chess and refreshments

### Puzzle Problem

White to play and mate in 2



Last Month's solution (Baird 1891)

Position : 8/K3N3/1RN1p3/2k1pb1R/2p3p1/2B3B1/1PQ5/8

**1 Nd4 exd4 2 Bd6#** [1 ... Bxd4 2 b4#; 1 ... e4/Bxc2 2 Nxe6#; 1 ... Kxd4 2 Bf2#; 1 ... Bxb2 2 Nb3#]

### Window on the Web

Tryfon Gavriel is a FIDE Candidate Master whose current ECF grade is 199. He has an extensive online presence where he is known as *Kingscrusher*. He runs a chess website at <http://www.chessworld.net/> which has a collection of links to his instructive chess videos on *YouTube*, which number more than 6,500.

The links are grouped under various headings. The first, *Popular Playlists*, has links to video collections such as 15 opening traps, 25 Caro Kann games, 45 English Opening games, 74 in the King's Gambit and 16 in the Benko, 179 videos on the games of Bobby

Fischer (some over an hour long), 239 on the games of Magnus Carlsen and others on the King's Indian and the games of Kasparov and Petrosian.

*Brilliant Games of Chess* groups the links to 409 videos on the games of such stars as Nakamura, Aronian, Carlsen, Fischer, Anand, Tal and Larsen. *Classic Fischer Chess Tournaments* has links to videos on Fischer's 60 Memorable Games, his 11-0 performance in the 1963 US Championship, 170 of his classic games, 8 games from a blitz tournament and the Fischer-Spassky battles of 1972 and 1992. *Fantastic Tournaments where Super Grandmasters have played each other* has links to videos covering the London Chess Classic 2012, Tata Steel 2013 and the World Candidates Championship 2013.

*Evolution of Style* examines how chess playing style has changed over the centuries. *FIDE World Champions* looks at the games of 17 world champions from Steinitz to Carlsen. *Uncrowned Kings* has videos on the games of great players who never became World Champion, including Paul Morphy, Viktor Korchnoi and Bent Larsen. *Other Interesting Players and Not GMs but interesting players* have instructive games played by Pillsbury, Nunn, Simon Williams, Svidler, Short, Kamsky, Jack Rudd etc. *Unusual Systems for White* covers 1 b3 and 1 f4. There are four *Chess Openings* sections covering 1 e4 and 1 d4 for both sides. *The English Opening* has its own collection. *Chess Pawn Structures* has 7 videos, *Middlegame Themes* has 35 and *Endgame Themes* has 5. There are also sections on *Correspondence Chess*, *Puzzles* and *Computer Chess*.

Why not see for yourself what this site has to offer during the Christmas break?

*Ron Jones*

### Result Round-up

#### Cambridgeshire County Chess Leagues

New England A	2	Cambridge	3
R Taylor	0	D Buisman	1
S Caraway	½	R McCorry	½
M Dunkley	0	M Symanski	1
P Hanks	½	S Pride	½
P Turp	1	C Geach	0

Warboys C	2	New England B	2
M Misson	0	P Turp	1
N Greenwood	½	R Jones	½
P Wells	½	D Lane	½
D Bentley	1	M Tarabad	0

Warboys B	1½	New England B	2½
C Watkins	0	P Turp	1
B Duff	½	R Jones	½
M Onyons	0	D Lane	1
K Harbour	1	M Tarabad	0

#### Fenland Trophy

St Neots	2½	New England	1½
R Gompelman	½	F Bowers	½
A Chapman	½	P Hanks	½
P Brown	1	M Dunkley	0
P Barkas	½	C Russell	½

New England A	P	St Neots	P
Postponed until 27 <sup>th</sup> April 2016			

#### New England Grand Prix

Player	Champ	Ladder	League	Cup	550 Team	Total	TPR*
F Bowers	½	4	1	½	1	7	170
S Caraway	½	2	2		2	6½	180
P Hanks	1	2	2½	½	½	6½	160
P Turp	0	1	3½		1	5½	149
R Jones	1	1	2		½	4½	133
N Wedley	½	4				4½	119
D Lane	1	0	2½		1	4½	106
J Parker	1	2			1	4	94
M Tarabad	0	1	1		1½	3½	79
P O'Gorman	0	2				2	78
C Russell	½			½	½	1½	114
R Taylor	½		½			1	159
S Wozniak	½		½			1	143
M Dunkley	1		0	0		1	133
S Walker	1					1	99
P Weinberger	1	0				1	53
I Garratt	0	1				1	42
N Foreman	0	0			0	0	44
P Cairns	0	0				0	13

\* Tournament Performance Rating is approximate & includes Summer Sprint

#### Club Championship

Round 1.5			
N Wedley (½)	0	1	P Hanks (Rd 1)

Round 2			
S Walker (1)			R Jones (1)
D Lane (1)			M Dunkley (1)
S Wozniak (½)			J Parker (1)
P Hanks (1)			C Russell (½)
S Caraway (½)			F Bowers (½)
I Garratt (0)			R Taylor (½)
P Turp (0)			P O'Gorman (0)
N Foreman (0)			M Tarabad (0)
Match night : 2 <sup>nd</sup> December. Deadline : 31 <sup>st</sup> January. Next draw : 1 <sup>st</sup> February			

#### New England Club Ladder

White		Black	
J Parker	1	0	P Weinberger
P Cairns	0	1	F Bowers
N Foreman	0	1	N Wedley
S Caraway	1	0	P O'Gorman
P O'Gorman	0	1	S Caraway
P Hanks	1	0	P O'Gorman
F Bowers	1	0	P Weinberger
N Wedley	1	0	J Parker
R Jones	1	0	N Foreman
P O'Gorman	1	0	M Tarabad
D Lane	0	1	F Bowers

Position	Change		Player	Record <small>25/11/15</small>
	Month	Overall		
1	-	-	N Wedley	1,1,1,1
2	-	+10	P Hanks	1,1
3	-	-	F Bowers	1,1,1,1
4	+10	+10	R Jones	1
5	-	+2	P Turp	1
6	-2	-4	N Foreman	0,0,0,0
7	-1	-2	I Garratt	1
8	-1	-4	J Parker	0,0,0,1,1,0
9	-1	-3	P Cairns	0,0
10	+1	-1	P O'Gorman	1,0,0,0,1
11	-1	-3	P Weinberger	0,0,0
12	-3	-1	M Tarabad	1,0
13	-	-	S Caraway	1,1
14	-2	-4	D Lane	0,0

## Website to Watch

The big event is back in town! Play in the London Chess Classic takes place from 4<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> December and thankfully, it appears to have discarded the rapidplay format in favour of classic time controls. Ten leading players (Carlsen, Caruana, Anand, Topalov etc) will be competing not only for honours in this tournament but also for the Grand Chess Tour bonus for which the Classic is the final round. The website [www.londonchessclassic.com](http://www.londonchessclassic.com) gives more details and should carry the games. If you wish to see the stars in the flesh, tickets are £20 but the weekday start time of 4pm (2pm at weekends) and a 6+ hour session duration is not very convenient for those of us who live outside London.

## Match of the Month

**S Walker v D Lane**

New England Club Championship, 19.06.13

**1 e4 c5**  
**2 Nf3 b6**

The move 2 ... b6 took me completely by surprise. It deviates from the main lines of the Sicilian Defence and in an unorthodox position, I thought my best option was just to carry on developing my pieces and see what happens.

At the time I didn't know that this move is a trademark in Des's recent games and gives his opponents considerable latitude to gain space and an advantage in development. Unless White can exploit this correctly, Black's fianchetto can come to life later in the game with a violent counterattack. Famous last words!

**3 Nc3 e6**  
**4 Bc4 Nc6**

So far, I have developed three pieces whereas Black has made an equal number of pawn moves.

**5 d4 cxd4**  
**6 Nxd4 Bb7**  
**7 0-0 Be7**  
**8 Bf4 d6**

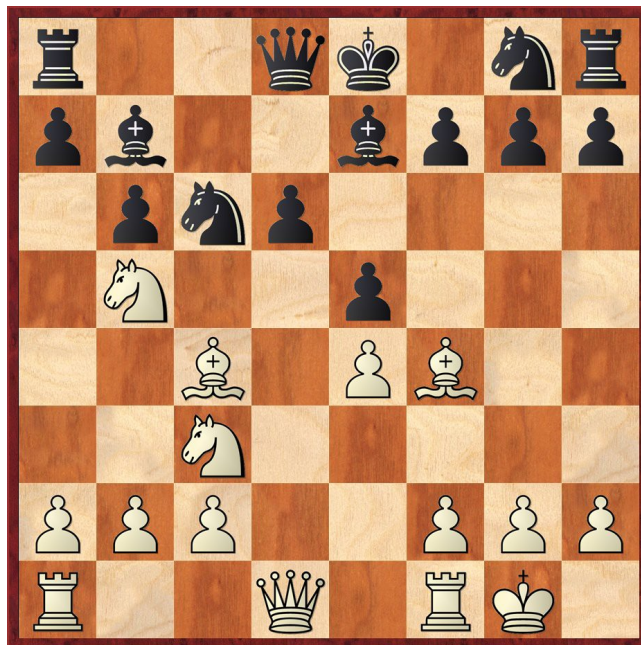
8 Bf4 sets a early fiendish trap for the unwary and at the same time develops the bishop on a good centralised square. After the apparent and natural fork 8 ... e5, 9 Nxc6 Bxc6 10 Bxe5 wins a pawn. The bishop is also very powerfully placed and threatening the g7 pawn - but of course, Des saw all of this.

**9 Ndb5!**

I like this move as it's attacking the centre and frees the d5 square for the queen. There is, however, another, well-known motif in the Sicilian Defence 9 Bxe6 fxe6 10 Nxe6 Qd7 11 Nxg7+ Kf8 12 Nf5 when, for the sacrificed piece, White has three pawns, a target on d6 and exposed the black king. Its objective is rather long-term and in addition to the text move, there were a range of similar options available e.g. 9 Bb5 Rc8 (if 9 ... Qc7 10 Nd5 Qd7 11 Nb4).

**9 ... e5?**

9 ... e5 leaves a cavernous weakness on d5. This allows me to play 10 Qd5! But somehow I managed to carelessly miss the move. Normally, you do not have to think about this move because there is a knight on f6 but as noted previously, Black has only a weak grip on the centre. Black could have safeguarded d6 with the counter 9 ... Na5 and after 10 Be2, 10 ... e5 becomes viable with the light squares secured.



**10 Qg4?**

Although not disastrous, this move is really a feeble blunder by White as 10 Qd5 should have wrapped up the game in about 20 moves. As the saying goes, it's easy to be wise after the event. A winning move and so very early on in the game! 10 Qd5 was for some unfathomable reason a huge oversight by White as Black cannot afford to take the bishop on f4 (10 ... exf4 is crushed by 11 Qxf7+ Kd7 12 Be6#) and 10 ... Nh6 fails to 11 Bxh6 when Black cannot recapture without leaving the same mating pattern.

If Black tries to escape with 10 Qd5 Kd7, the continuation might typically be 11 Bxe5! (threatening Bxg7) Nxe5 12 Qxb7+ Ke8 (forced) 13 Nc7+ Kf8 14 Bxf7! when

- 14 ... Nxf7 15 Ne6+ wins the queen
- 14 ... Kxf7 15 Qd5+ and White can hunt down the black king e.g. 15 ... Kf6 16 Qe6+ Kg5 17 f4+ Kh5 18 Qh3+ Kg6 19 f5+ Kf7 (if 19 ... Kf6 20 N3d5+ etc) 20 Qh5+ g6 21 fxg6++ Kg7 22 Ne6#.

No human would dream of 10 Bg5 but the computer suggests it is nearly as strong due to 10 ... Bxg5 11 Nxd6+ or 10 ... f6 11 Qd5.

These variations illustrate the dangers in Black's neglect of his kingside but having tragically missed my opportunity, the aftermath is the energy in White's position wanes significantly and I start to get pushed back.

**10 ... g6**



Forced.

**11 Bg3 a6**  
**12 Na3 Nf6**

White is already in a precarious state. Black could play 12 ... b5 when the minor pieces on my queenside will be embarrassed and the subsequent b5-b4 will put one of my knights back in the box. Worse still, there is a similar pawn push 12 ... h5 on the other flank and after h5-h4, it will be the turn of my dark-squared bishop to leave the scene.

In retrospect, I could only have extricated myself by tactical means. Going back a couple of moves, 11 Be3 a6 12 Qf3 Nf6 (12 ... axb5 13 Qxf7+ Kd7 14 Bb5 with enormous pressure) 13 Nd5 Nxd5 (13 ... axb5 14 Bxb6) 14 exd5 leads to terrible complications. Needless to say, I contemplated none of this over the board – if I had, I should have lost on time before move 20!

**13 Qd1 Nh5**  
**14 Bd5**

What the heck was I thinking? Yet another oversight. Again, I could have played Qd5 but it is not nearly as forceful now 14 ... 0-0 is available.

**14 ... Nxg3**  
**15 fxc3**

Opening the f file for my king's rook. Black is about to complete his development and the only residual effect of my earlier activity is a threat to f7.

**15 ... 0-0**  
**16 Qf3 Qe8**

After 16 ... b5, 17 Bxf7+ Kg7 may have been walking into trouble. The bishop cannot be unpinned easily and could be lost e.g. 18 Ne2 Qb6+ 19 Kh1 Nd8.

**17 Ne2 Kg7**  
**18 c3**

18 Nc4 is better. My knights should be aiming for the kingside if they are to co-ordinate with my heavy pieces.

**18 ... b5!**

By playing this, Black keeps my knight on the sidelines and from going to the better square c4.

**19 Rf2 Nd8**  
**20 Qd3 Rc8**  
**21 Bxb7?**

There is no need to take this piece.

**21 ... Nxb7**  
**22 Qd5**

At last! Though really it's too late now.

**22 ... Nd8**  
**23 Raf1 Rc5**  
**24 Qb3**

This turned out to be very bad. 24 Qd3! centralising the queen would have been much better as this would have also protected the e4 pawn from being captured and stopped the enemy rook in its tracks.

**24 ... Bg5**

## 25 Nc2??

This is a curious position. I have to defend against 25 ... Be3 winning the exchange and the text move certainly achieves this. However, it releases the c4 square for the enemy rook and this piece seems to be the architect of my eventual downfall.

What can I do instead? Simply 25 Rf3 was the computer's initial suggestion but it is downgraded once it finds 25 ... Qc6 26 Qc2 (to defend e4) b4 27 Nb1 when my knight again loses control of c4. The alternative 25 Kh1 allows a similar continuation and 25 c4 bxc4 26 Nxc4 Qc6 is also unsatisfactory.

**25 ... Rc4**  
**26 h4 Be7**

If Des had wanted to inflict a psychological shock, he could have tried 26 ... Ne6 when 27 hxg5 Nc5 28 Qa3 Ra4 wins my queen. This would have forced the ultimate indignity 27 Na3 when Black can save his loose pieces through 27 ... Nc5 28 Qc2 Be3 29 Nxc4 bxc4 30 Kh2 (say) Bxf2 31 Rxf2 Qc6 when e4 remains weak.

## 27 Ne3

Surprisingly, I cannot defend e4 and loss of a centre pawn is often decisive. To keep material level, I could have tried 27 Nb4 when Black's queenside is equally vulnerable (27 ... a5 28 Nd5 Rxe4 29 Nxe7 Qxe7 30 Qxb5). If I had indeed played 27 Nb4, it would have been a fine move consistent with the sequence started by 24 Qb3.

**27 ... Rxe4**  
**28 Nd5 Qd7**  
**29 Nxe7**

29 Nf6 tempted me but 29 ... Bxf6 30 Rxf6 Rxe2 is a strong argument against.

**29 ... Qxe7**  
**30 Qd5 Rc4**

Black could head for 30 ... f5 31 Qxe4 fxe4 32 Rxf8 with a mobile centre (32 ... d5) or favourable endgame (32 ... Qxf8) to follow.

**31 Rf6 Rc6**  
**32 Qe4 Qd7**

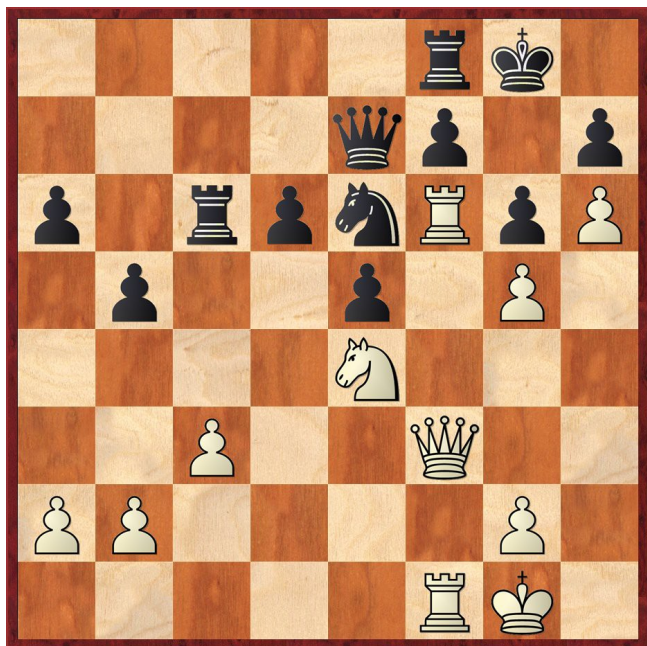
Are you asking what I intended to play in reply to 32 ... d5?

**33 g4 Qe7**  
**34 Qf3 Rc4**  
**35 Ng3 Ne6**  
**36 h5 Nf4**  
**37 g5! Ne6**  
**38 h6+**

A natural move to hem in the king. White's pawn storm looks impressive but it is hard to find a way through. 38 Ne4 d5 39 Nd6 Qxd6 40 Rxf7+ meets the cold-blooded 40 ... Kg8 and shifting the focus to h7 does not work - 38 Nf5+ gxf5 39 Qxf5 Rh4 40 Rh6 Nxg5.

**38 ... Kg8**  
**39 Ne4 Rc6?**

Black lets his advantage slip. 39 ... d5 would have led to a pleasant simplification 40 Nd2 Qc5+ 41 Qf2 (41 Kh2 Rh4+ looks nasty).



**40 Qg4?**

I also missed 40 Rxe6! when, if 40 ... Qxe6, 41 Nf6+ wins the rook on c6. The continuation would be 40 ... fxe6 41 Nf6+ Rxf6 42 gxf6 Qa7+ 43 Kh1 Rc7 when I can fight on. If Black were to overestimate the ensuing attack after 43 ... Rc4 (aiming for h4), it rebounds with 44 f7+ Kf7 45 Qf6.

<b>40</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>Rc4</b>
<b>41</b>	<b>Qf3</b>	<b>Rc6</b>
<b>42</b>	<b>Qg4</b>	<b>d5!</b>

Driving back my well-placed knight.

<b>43</b>	<b>Nd2</b>	<b>Rd6</b>
<b>44</b>	<b>Nf3</b>	<b>Nf4</b>

In the rush after the time control, more opportunities are being missed. Black could try 44 ... Nxc3 45 Rxd6 Nxf3+ 46 Qxf3 Qxd6. Instead the text move allows 45 Rxd6 Qxd6 46 Nxe5 Qxe5 47 Qxf4. This line could have saved the day if only I had seen it over the board.

<b>45</b>	<b>Nh2</b>	<b>Rxf6</b>
<b>46</b>	<b>gxf6</b>	<b>Qxf6</b>
<b>47</b>	<b>g3</b>	<b>Qb6+</b>
<b>48</b>	<b>Kh1</b>	<b>Ne6</b>
<b>49</b>	<b>Rf6</b>	<b>Qe3</b>
<b>50</b>	<b>Nf3</b>	<b>Qc1+ 0-1</b>

and I then lost on time but also in a bad position, with my king out in the open.

The post-mortem analysis explains many of the errors and missed opportunities especially for White. One can hopefully learn from the above and be more alert to the positional subtleties in the future. You could call the match "The one that got away...", at least twice!"

*Steve Walker*

## Eye Opener

In the *Window on the Web* feature, Ron mentions the evolution of chess style. One of the beauties of chess is that we can replay games from long ago and it reminds us that someone had to learn for the very first time about the benefits of development and central control. Consider the following two games.

**Morant v Abbe de Feuquieres**  
Paris 1680

**1 e4 e5 2 f4 exf4 3 Nf3 Ne7 4 d4 g5 5 Nxc3 Ng6**

Against a gambit, Black has made two moves with his knight. Today, few would dream of this manoeuvre.

**6 h4 Bg7 7 Bc4 0-0**

The black king seems to have reached safety behind a fianchetto but there are too many open lines.

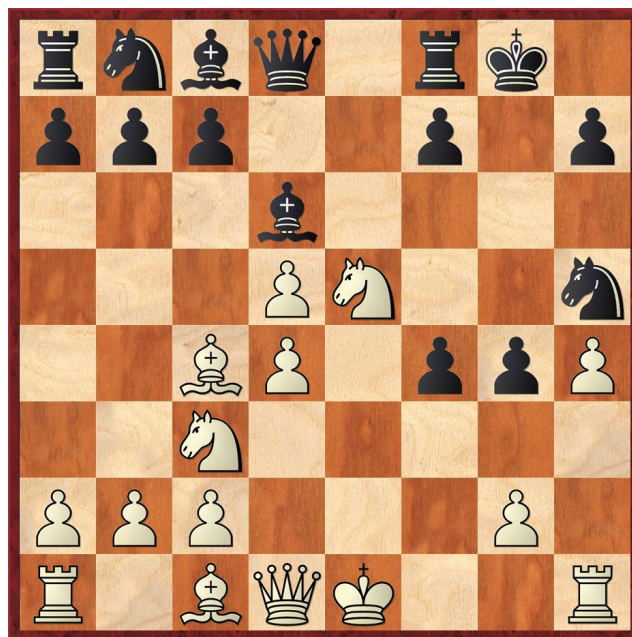
**8 Qh5 h6 9 Qxc6 hxc5 10 hxc5 1-0**

**J Arizmendi Martinez (2445) v A Grischuk (2581)**  
Reykjavik Open Rd 7, 11.04.2000

**1 e4 e5 2 f4 exf4 3 Nf3 g5 4 h4 g4 5 Ne5 Nf6 6 Bc4 d5 7 exd5 Bd6**

Here, Black has made a strong challenge in the centre, defended the kingside pawns to restrict White and opened a file against the uncastled king for his own evil purposes.

**8 d4 Nh5 9 Nc3 0-0**



**10 Nxc4 Ng3 11 Rh2 Qe7+ 12 Kd2 Re8 0-1**

White is faced with 13 ... Bxc4 14 Qxc4 Qe3#. There is no viable defence that maintains level material.

- 13 Qf3 Qe1+ 14 Kd3 Bf5+
- 13 Nh6+ Kg7 14 Qg1 Kxh6
- 13 Ne5 Bxe5 14 dxe5 Qc5
- 13 Bd3 is the most spirited. It creates an escape square on c3 by 13 ... Bxc4 14 Qxc4+ Kh8 15 Ne2 but then 15 ... Nxe2 16 Qxe2 (16 Bxe2 Qe3+ 17 Kd1 Qg1+) Qe3+ 17 Qxe3 fxe3+ and 18 ... Bxh2.