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Chess

Peter the Great

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and Russian Championships!**

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on Zukertort**

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Arkell, Gormally and Sadler**

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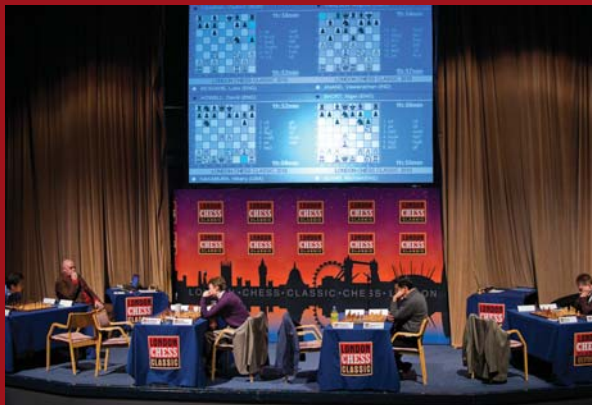
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Sunday 4 December	Round 2	2.00pm
Monday 5 December	Round 3	2.00pm
Tuesday 6 December	Round 4	4.00pm
Wednesday 7 December	REST DAY	
Thursday 8 December	Round 5	2.00pm
Friday 9 December	Round 6	2.00pm
Saturday 10 December	Round 7	2.00pm
Sunday 11 December	Round 8	2.00pm
Monday 12 December	Round 9	12.00pm

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Chess Editorial

by Executive Editor, IM Malcolm Pein



London Chess Classic

Tickets are now on sale for the London Chess Classic, and the entries are being taken for the LCC FIDE-Rated Open, the two weekenders, two rapidplays and the nightly blitz tournaments. Please see the adverts and the inserts with this month's magazine. The dates for the Viktor Korchnoi simultaneous displays are now confirmed (Monday 5 December and Friday 9 December – both starting at 5pm) but they are filling up fast.

Everything is free for children and we will be staging the English Junior Rapidplay Championship on Saturday 10 December. There are free lessons for schools on five different days, please see www.londonchessclassic.com for details.

The rest day in the main event is on Wednesday 7 December and I plan to have some chess cultural events taking place. There will definitely be a showing of the documentary *Bobby Fischer against the World*. On Tuesday 6 December we have lined up an amazing astronomy lecture which will feature two well-known amateur astronomers, John Nunn and Visly Anand!

This year the London Chess Classic is being organised by the charity *Chess in Schools and Communities* - see www.chessinschools.co.uk - and all ticket proceeds go to funding the charity's program. Currently CSC brings chess to 70 primary schools in England and Wales. I intend to increase the number of schools participating to 100 next year. Ultimately, I want to get to 1000 schools and, in tandem with academic research, make a case so compelling that government or further private support will be forthcoming.



When the charity was featured on BBC Breakfast TV back in May, I was contacted by Yasmin Qureshi, the Labour MP for Bolton South East. She asked how she could help and we came up with the idea of an Early Day Motion which she submitted in September.

That this House recognises the positive social and intellectual benefits for all children across the social spectrum of learning chess at a young age and the relatively low costs of teaching it in schools; notes that while chess currently receives no financial support from the UK government, many European countries including Sweden and France financially support chess in schools; further notes that the European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth would welcome UK support for the Chess in Schools project being developed by the ECU and the Kasparov Chess Foundation; welcomes the work of the UK based charity Chess in Schools and Communities which teaches chess to primary school children from less affluent backgrounds; and calls on the government to ensure that all children are given the opportunity to learn chess at primary school within existing resources.

The EDM has been signed by 15 MPs as I write, and a number of others with front bench responsibilities have indicated



support but not signed. I would like to get to 30 MPs and accordingly I would ask UK-based readers to write to their MP and ask them to sign.

MPs usually react positively to such requests. You can find out who your MP is by entering your postcode here - <http://findyourmp.parliament.uk/> and you can write to your MP via this website: <http://www.writetothem.com/>

Your own words are best but here is an example: *As your constituent, I am writing to ask you to sign EDM 2158 on Chess. As a teacher / chess coach / parent / chess player, I am convinced of the benefits of introducing the game of chess to children at a young age.*

Garry Kasparov has also been actively promoting chess in schools through his *Kasparov Chess Foundation*. The KCF has been active in the US for many years but now Kasparov is expanding it to



South America, Africa and Europe. On 20 September I went to Brussels to see Garry give a presentation to the European Parliament. There was a private lunch beforehand with some MEPs including Nerj Deva, a UK Conservative.

Kasparov gave his presentation and there were speeches from Nerj Deva MEP, who spoke passionately in favour of chess in schools and from Jan Callewaert of Option BV who are supporting KCF Europe. Kasparov and Judit Polgar then gave a simultaneous to some talented juniors from Bulgaria and Belgium in a lovely setting, a function room on top of the Commission building overlooking Brussels. The day's events were sponsored by a Bulgarian MEP Slavi Binev. Plenty of PR and goodwill were generated. Now the hope is that European Commission will make recommendations to member states to teach chess.



Kasparov Blitz in France

Although he has retired from competitive play, Kasparov has realized that playing the odd game can generate a huge amount of interest and to that end he accepted an invitation to a blitz match in Clichy, near Paris. Clichy has for many years had a strong chess club and support from the municipality. First Maxime Vachier-Lagrave took on the new French champion Laurent Fressinet in a qualifying match for the honour of meeting Kasparov.

Kasparov in Clichy Qualifier 2011
L.Fressinet - M.Vachier-Lagrave

Pirc Defence

1 e4 d6 2 d4 ♟f6 3 ♟c3 ♟bd7 4 g4 g6 5 h3 e5 6 ♟ge2 ♟g7 7 ♟g2 0-0 8 ♟e3 a6 9 a4 b6 10 0-0 ♟b7 11 f4 exd4 12 ♟xd4 ♟c5 13 e5? ♟xg2 14 exf6 ♟xf1 15 fxg7 ♟e8 16 ♟f2 ♟c4 17 b3 ♟e6 18 b4 ♟d7 19 ♟d2 ♟c4 20 ♟c6 ♟f6 21 ♟d4 ♟h4 22 ♟g2 ♟b8 23 ♟f2 ♟f6 24 g5 ♟f5 25 ♟d4 ♟d7 26 ♟d1 ♟c6 27 ♟f3 b5 28 axb5 axb5 29 ♟e1 d5 At this point Fressinet thought he was making a comeback... 30 ♟e4 ♟xe4 31 ♟xe4 ... but he had missed...



31...♟f1+! 32 ♟xf1 ♟xh3+ 33 ♟e1 ♟a1+ 34 ♟e2 dxe4 35 ♟d4 ♟xd4+ 36 ♟xd4 ♟f3+ 37 ♟d2 ♟d1 mate

Kasparov ought be rusty but I bet he is playing Blitz quite regularly and he was mighty impressive in this game.

Kasparov in Clichy 2011
G.Kasparov - M.Vachier-Lagrave

Sicilian ♟b5+

1 e4 c5 2 ♟f3 d6 3 ♟b5+ ♟c6 4 0-0 ♟d7 5 c3 ♟f6 6 ♟e1 a6 7 ♟f1 7 ♟xc6 ♟xc6 8 d4 ♟xe4 9 ♟g5 is a decent gambit. 7...♟g4 8 h3 ♟xf3 9 ♟xf3 g6 10 d3 ♟g7 11 ♟e3 ♟d7 Black plays to prevent d3-d4. 12 ♟d2 0-0 13 ♟d1 ♟c8 13...b5 14 a3 ♟b8 15 f4 e6 16 ♟f3 d5 looks like a decent plan: 17 e5 f6 18 d4 ♟h6?! (18...c4) 19 g3 ♟e7 20 h4 fxe5 21 dxe5 ♟bd8 22 ♟h3 d4 23 cxd4 cxd4 24 ♟f2 ♟c5 25 ♟c1 a5 26 ♟xd4 ♟xf4, 1-0 Kasparov-Petursson, Reykjavik 2004. 14 f4 Intending ♟f3 and d4 taking control, as above. 14...e5 A very logical response.

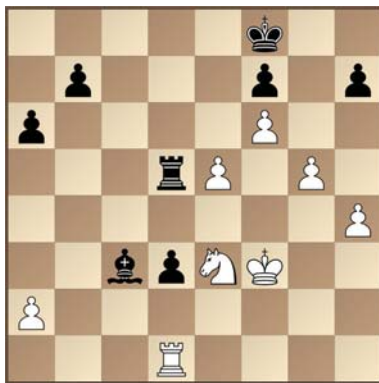


Garry Kasparov and Judit Polgar presented the program 'Chess in European Schools' at the European Parliament building in Brussels. Following the presentation both Garry and Judit gave simultaneous displays to some talented children from Belgium and Bulgaria.

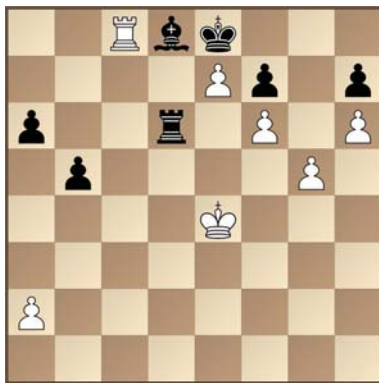
15 f5 Before exf4 can be played.



15...gxf5 16 exf5 d5! 17 g4 17 ♖f3 ♗e7 18 c4 was also possible. 17...e4 18 ♙f4 18 dxe4 d4 19 cxd4 cxd4 20 ♙f2 ♗de5 or (20...d3). 18...♗de5 18...exd3!? 19 Bxd3 c4 might be playable although 20 ♙c2 ♖b6+ (20...♗de5) 21 ♙e3 ♖xb2 22 g5 ♙xc3 looks too risky for example 23 ♖b1 (23 f6? ♙d4) 23...♖xa2 24 ♖xb7 ♗d4 (24...♗de5) 25 ♙b1 ♖a3 26 ♖h5 ♙xd2 27 f6. 19 dxe4 d4 20 g5! Preparing to blot out the bishop. 20...♖e8 21 ♖h5 dxc3 22 bxc3 ♗d3 23 ♙xd3 ♖xd3 24 f6 ♙f8 25 ♖f3 c4 25...♖cd8 26 ♖xd3 cxd3 27 e5 ♗d8 28 ♗e4 ♗e6 29 ♙e3 ♖ed8 30 ♖ad1 ♖d5! Black has enough counterplay here. 31 ♙d4 ♗xd4 32 cxd4 ♖xd4 33 ♙f2 ♖e8 34 ♗g3 ♖d5 34...h6!? breaks up the pawn chain. 35 h4 ♙b4 36 ♖e4 ♙c3 37 ♗f5 ♙f8 38 ♗e7 ♖d4 39 ♙f3 ♖ed8 40 ♖xd4 ♖xd4 41 ♗f5 ♖d5 42 ♗e3!



42 ♖d4 42...♖xe5 43 ♖xd3 ♙b4 44 ♗g4 ♖e8 45 ♖d7 b5 46 ♗h6 wins. 43 ♗f5 ♖d5 44 ♗e3 ♖d4 45 ♖c1! ♙a5 46 ♖c8+ ♙d8 47 h5 ♙e8 48 e6 48 g6 wins. 48...d2 48...fxe6 49 g6 hxg6 50 hxg6 e5 (50...♖d7 51 ♙f2 d2 52 ♙e2 and White wins by playing ♙d1 and moving his knight forward) 51 g7 ♙f7 52 ♙f2 ♖d6 53 ♙e1 ♖xf6 54 ♖xd8 ♙xg7 55 ♖xd3 Black can fight for a draw. 49 e7 d1♖+ 50 ♗xd1 ♖xd1 51 h6 ♖d6 52 ♙g2 White simply has to avoid g5-g6 ♖xf6+ 52...♖d2+ 53 ♙f3 ♖d6 54 ♙e2 ♖e6+ 55 ♙d3 ♖d6+ 56 ♙e4 b5



57 g6 fxg6 58 exd8♖+ ♖xd8 59 f7+ 1-0

FIDE World Cup

Peter Svidler was a worthy winner of FIDE World Cup KO. The month-long competition at Khanty Mansiysk is like a chess marathon. Svidler played the best chess and won five of his seven matches in normal time. The contests were best of two (four in the final) with rapidplay, then blitz, tie-breaks. Svidler did not copy his friend Alexander Grischuk's strategy at Kazan and head for speed chess and in the final he defeated Grischuk whose addiction to time trouble proved his undoing. The cricket-loving St Petersburgers must have been enjoying the English cricketers crushing of India; perhaps this put him in a good mood.



Photo: Zeljka Matobabic

There were two particularly pleasing performances. Although Vassily Ivanchuk had his customary meltdown in the semi final against Grischuk, he did pull himself together sufficiently to defeat Ruslan Ponomarev in the third/fourth place play-off and grab the third spot in the Candidates. This is great news; as Mark Crowther pointed out on *The Week in Chess*, it's hard to credit that the last time Ivanchuk was in the Candidates was Brussels 1991.

It seems as if FIDE will put on a Candidates' tournament with eight players, in which case Magnus Carlsen might be enticed to play and he should get one of the places available to the world's top three rated players.



Photo: Mishko Turkovski

I was also heartened by Judit Polgar's performance. She is very relaxed about her chess. She has little ambition and said to me at Brussels that she is simply enjoying her comeback. Polgar defeated three 2700+ players in succession; Sergei Movsesian, Sergey Karjakin (who was ranked fourth in the world at the time and was the top seed) and Leinier Dominguez before she overestimated her chances in an equal position against Svidler. It's good to have her back and her performance put her over 2700 again.

Starry, Starry Knights

The story of GM Stuart Conquest's adventurous summer, losing his belongings in Switzerland but finding the grave of a famous chessplayer in London. He did some digging (literally!) and found out a lot more about the chessplayer, and a celebrated artist who was in London at the same time and may have crossed his path...

FOR ABOUT TWO years Vincent van Gogh and Johannes Zukertort paid such regular visits to the same part of London that their paths could easily have crossed. The former, 20 years old, had come to England to take a job with the firm of Goupil and Co., an art dealership whose main gallery was in Paris. He began his new position on or around 19 May 1873, being placed under the direction of Mr Charles Obach, a man with whom Vincent seems to have enjoyed good relations. On 8 June Vincent accompanied Mr Obach and his family on an outing to Box Hill in Surrey. He also spent Christmas with the Obachs. The London offices, which Vincent likened to a stockroom rather than an art gallery, were at 17 Southampton Street, just off the Strand.

Johannes Zukertort, then 30, had been in England since the previous summer. Invited to the London tournament of 1872, he had repeated Steinitz's action of ten years earlier and stayed on, a chess refugee, resolved to make his living as best he could. His English backers had hoped he would usurp the Austrian as London's best player, but their scheme had come to naught: in their match of 1872 Steinitz crushed Zukertort by seven wins to one. Nevertheless, the younger man's popularity soon earned him a firm footing among the capital's chess society. He lived wholly for chess, writing, teaching and playing amateurs for small stakes. Always a keen and rigorous analyst (in Germany he had edited the *Neue Berliner Schachzeitung*), he was soon contributing regular articles for the British chess press - and later he would begin *Chess Monthly* with his friend Leopold Hoffer. His blindfold simultaneous displays would astonish the public - for example, on 6 June 1873, shortly after Vincent's arrival, Zukertort gave a ten board blindfold simul at the City of London Chess Club.

And then there were his fantastic stories. Were they true? One didn't know what to believe - but he was certainly an amiable, polite fellow, and not prone to take sides in the personal disputes that often broke out between rival players. You could usually find him at Simpson's Divan, that famous meeting-place of chess adepts, at 101 The Strand. Mr Obach, perhaps, was an occasional visitor. He might have

been partial to a cigar and a game of chess. And he might have suggested that Vincent join him.

We know that Vincent's office hours were 9-6 weekdays, 9-4 Saturdays. He walked across Westminster Bridge twice a day, and it is almost impossible, given his place of work (later the firm moved to Bedford Street, which is also close by) that he did not at least hear of Simpson's and its chess fraternity. Vincent liked London, especially its parks and museums. He rowed on the Thames; he visited Hampton Court and the Royal Academy; he rode omnibuses and the underground. On one occasion he even walked all the way to Brighton! On 4 August 1873 he visited the Dulwich Picture Gallery. He liked it so much that when his sister Anna stayed with him the following July he took her to see the pictures there.

It is easy to follow Vincent by reading his letters; for Zukertort, we rely on news and games from his chess life, which for this period is not always well documented. From July 1872 until the summer of 1876 Zukertort seems not to have left Britain. Obviously he needed to earn money (Vincent, who earned a reasonable salary, complains how expensive London is), and one of his most faithful patrons must have been Lord Randolph Churchill, to whom Zukertort is said to have given lessons - intriguingly, this means he may have met Randolph's young son, Winston! Of Churchill senior providing for needy chess masters, there is on record his helping to raise a subscription for Löwenthal in 1874. This was also the year of Staunton's death. Staunton died on 22 June but on 27 March of that year he had attended the Varsity Chess Match in Cheapside, London, where Zukertort gave a six-player blindfold simul, so we know that Staunton and Zukertort had crossed paths. (Cecil de Vere, who had been one of England's best players, died the following year, aged just 29, of tuberculosis.) As far as British chess circles extended, except for Steinitz only Joseph Blackburne now seriously challenged Zukertort's position - particularly as regards blindfold displays, at which both men excelled. Meanwhile (May 1875), Vincent had been transferred to his firm's head office, in Paris, a move



Johannes Zukertort (1842-88) in Dublin in 1879. This photo is owned by John Felton of Hastings & St Leonards Chess Club - author Stuart Conquest retains close links to this chess club.

he seems not to have wanted. Towards the end of that year Zukertort faced the strong amateur Potter in a match at the West End Chess Club. Zukertort won 4-2, with eight games drawn.

In July 1876 Zukertort travelled to the Continent - to Holland! He gave simultaneous displays, both blind and sighted, in Rotterdam and The Hague. That this country welcomed visiting masters is shown by the fact that two years earlier Blackburne had made a similar trip. (Adolf Anderssen, Zukertort's great teacher, had also visited Holland, playing in Amsterdam and Rotterdam in 1861.) Vincent, who had contrived to lose his job in Paris, had been in Holland a few months earlier (1-13 April) visiting his family. During these dates Zukertort, still in London, finished second to Blackburne in a tournament at Simpson's Divan. In a development that must have delighted him, Vincent is now offered a new position in England, this time as a teaching assistant in Ramsgate. He sails from Rotterdam on 15 April, reaching Harwich the next morning, and continues by train, via London, to the Kent coast.

In the second half of 1876 Zukertort's most triumphant engagement is a 16-board blindfold simul at the West End Chess Club. Begun on 16 December, this exhibition actually took two days to complete, Zukertort winning most of the



Vincent van Gogh (1853-1890), aged 13

games and producing some fine chess. No-one had taken on such a challenge before, much less meet it in such grand style. Steinitz, who enjoyed cordial relations with Zukertort throughout this period, was full of praise. The publicity generated by this unprecedented achievement was considerable, but Zukertort's other movements are less easy to trace. Vincent, a young man unknown outside his own small circle of acquaintance, walks to London, is offered a new teaching post in Isleworth, and on Sunday 29 October he preaches his first sermon, at Richmond. For Christmas he is back in Holland with his family. They are almost at a loss what to do with him, since he can't seem to apply himself to anything practical. In January 1877 Vincent starts a new job, in a bookshop in Dordrecht. He will never set foot in Britain again.



In mid-March of this year a friend and I were walking in Brompton Cemetery, in south-west London. Curious to learn if any famous people were buried there, that day or the next I searched online, and quickly discovered that, according to Wikipedia, JH Zukertort was! This was a surprise. I naturally went back. I met Jay, the cemetery supervisor, who confirmed that Zukertort was indeed buried there, but at the spot indicated as being his grave there was nothing to be seen but grass. This was beginning to get interesting, but I had to travel to Aix-les-Bains in France for the European Championship. I told Jay I would return in a few weeks' time.

From Aix-les-Bains I travelled to Switzerland, to visit Georges and Marianne Bertola. Georges I knew had a large and important chess library, and I had conceived the idea of researching Zukertort's life. What could he tell me?

But on the train from Geneva to Lausanne someone grabbed my bag. I lost my laptop, passport, driving licence, and cash. This was a disastrous start to my campaign. I had to make a special trip to Bern, to the British Consulate there, to obtain an Emergency Travel Document, without which I couldn't leave the country. I flew back to the UK on 17 April. On 19 April my new passport was issued. On 21 April I was back at Brompton Cemetery.

I could tell Jay meant business when he brought out a tape measure. I held one end; Jay took the other and measured off the exact distance as recorded in his register. "At least Zukertort had the good sense to be buried close to your office," I say. It is like searching for buried treasure. Jay confirms the location as the one I had seen on my last visit - and there is nothing there but scrubby grass. A cherry tree grows nearby. Other graves are around, some of the stones upright, others flat. Close to this part of the cemetery, across the railway line, looms the huge edifice of Stamford Bridge football stadium, and on match days thousands of supporters walk through the cemetery to reach the game. Jay begins scooping up bits of soil with his boot. Only the squirrels are watching.

"Tell you what," he says. "If you feel like it, you can always come back and take a look on your own."

I don't really follow him.

"Use a trowel," he says. "Be careful. See what you find."

And slowly it dawns on me. He is suggesting I dig up one of the greatest

chess players of the nineteenth century.

"Is it...?"

"... I give you permission."

"Okay," I said. This was all very surreal. But straightaway I decided to do it.

I came back the next day. It was hot, and people were actually sun-bathing in the cemetery. It was also Good Friday. In my shoulder bag: a trowel, a bottle of water, and a camera. Jay was away for Easter. I went to the spot by the cherry tree and sat down. No-one seemed to be paying me any attention. After a while I began to dig. There were stones mixed up in the soil, and tree roots, and tiny red spiders - it felt like I was doing something in the garden. A few brave souls threw me uncertain looks as they passed, but no-one interfered or asked me what I was doing. It was slow, hard work. Eventually the edge of the trowel scraped on a stone surface, and I began to clear away the earth.

The first book on Zukertort, presumably a rarity even when it came out, was published in 1912 in Stockholm. I had seen a copy at Georges' house. It contains 201 of his games, and includes a basic outline of his life, in Swedish, which in fact is an abridged translation of an earlier German article written after Zukertort's death. The Max Euwe Centrum in Amsterdam - which contains an important collection of old chess literature - also has a single copy of this book. My travels having recently brought me to Holland, I have for three weeks been a regular guest at this centre for chess studies, ransacking the shelves, hunting through boxes, searching like a



The sunken gravestone in the foreground marks Zukertort's grave. He rests in peace - apart from the sounds from the Chelsea FC football supporters - their ground is visible in the background!



Photo: John Eastunder

The modern facade of Simpson's-in-the-Strand, with its elegant chess motif over the doorway. We know that Zukertort played there at the Grand Divan, while modern-day Simpson's claims Vincent van Gogh as one of the famous people who frequented the London restaurant.

maniac for anything to do with JHZ. The Max Euwe staff have been very helpful. Since I also like van Gogh, I have been visiting the van Gogh museum too. And that's why he got mixed up in all this.

There is another Dutch connection, one which carries on to this day. On 18 December 1884, in Amstelveen, a small town adjacent to Amsterdam, the Zukertort Chess and Draughts Club was founded. It may be the only club in the world with his name. It is now called the Zukertort-Amstelveen chess club, and the club's former president, whom I met in Amsterdam, presented me with the book of their centenary celebrations.

There is no space here to discuss Zukertort's full career. His greatest success was at London 1883. His most famous game: his win against Blackburne from that same event. His greatest failure: to go from 4-1 up against Steinitz to losing 10-5. This was for the title of World Champion. It should not however be inferred that Zukertort was a poor match player. In 1880 he soundly beat the Paris champion Rosenthal 7-1 (with eleven draws), and a year later, in a contest chess fans had expected to be closely fought, Zukertort swept aside the mighty Blackburne, winning 7-2 (with five draws).

In 1883, following his great victory in London, Zukertort set out on a tour of the USA and Canada. In New Orleans he probably tried to arrange a meeting with Paul Morphy (as Steinitz had done a year earlier). Doubtless Zukertort would have relished the chance to talk to the great champion. However, since he nowhere says he met Morphy, he cannot have done so. It was his last opportunity for, seven weeks after Zukertort's departure, Morphy died.

Johannes Zukertort was never a man of robust health. Whether brought low by malaria (caught, so the theory goes, in New Orleans), or suffering from a congenitally weak heart (as his brother later suggested), the man who lost to Steinitz could not, in the short time remaining him, reassert his former chess strength. Two years later, playing a casual game at Simpson's, he suddenly collapsed at the board. No-one present could revive him and, despite being taken to nearby Charing Cross Hospital, his state did not improve. On the following morning, 20 June 1888, at about ten o'clock, he died. He was only 46 years old.

Although Zukertort's grave was never "lost", it has certainly been terribly overlooked. In a similar story to mine, the site was rediscovered by the study composer Harold Lommer, I think some time in the late 1950s. The story goes that Lommer, who had idolised Zukertort as a boy, used to sit by the neglected grave (which he had cleaned up) with his pocket chess set, inspired by his hero to compose fresh problems.

Years earlier, in 1927, the chess historian John Keeble had written about the grave: "The slab is in good condition and the lettering still clear, but it has sunk into the ground considerably and wants restoration in that respect."

I am now working with Dr Marek Stella-Sawicki, Chairman of the Polish Heritage Society in the UK, to return Zukertort's grave to its proper state, fully restored, and in the secure knowledge that it

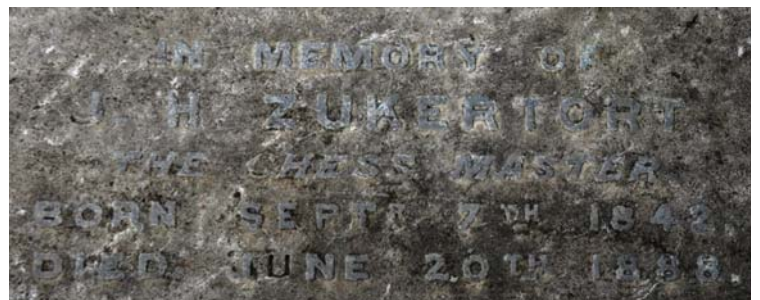
will remain in that same condition for future generations. We will also add a new headstone, with Polish and English inscriptions, and incorporating a chess motif. A ceremony to re-dedicate the grave will take place next year.

With great generosity the Polish Embassy has already provided £2,000 to support this project. I have pledged to at least match this sum, out of my own pocket if necessary. However, it is my belief that many chess players in this country will want to contribute. All donations are most welcome. If you would like to make a donation, please contact me at this email address - sconquest@hotmail.com - or contact the Polish Heritage Society via their website: www.polishheritage.co.uk

Jacques Mieses, who knew Zukertort, wrote that "the number of his personal friends, especially in England, was very great." And another nineteenth century master, George MacDonnell, describes Zukertort as being, "a very pleasant fellow, merry as a cricket, and chirpy as a bird."

According to Henry Bird, Zukertort had a real fondness for Simpson's, particularly in his final years. The two men lived close to one another, in the Elephant and Castle area; Bird says that Zukertort lived in Walworth Road. Shortly after his friend's death we read of Bird forming a "Zukertort Chess Club". Its first events seem to have been simulms by Gunsberg (21 boards) and von Bardeleben (six boards, blindfold). I don't know what happened to this club.

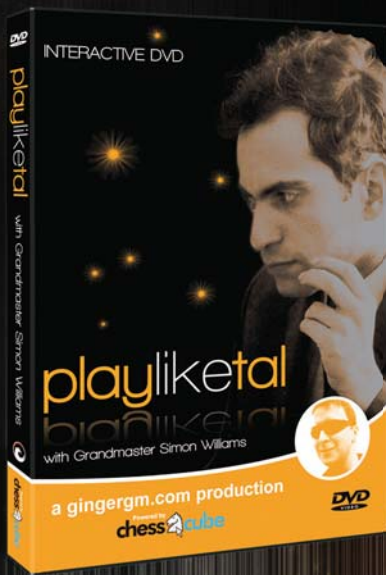
It is a Saturday in 1873 or 1874, it is four o'clock in the afternoon, and Mr Obach is closing the office. It is raining. Vincent, who has a forty-five minute walk back to his lodgings, decides to stay in the city for a few hours. And so, his boss having more than once elaborated on the odd cast of characters to be found there, Vincent heads down to the Strand, crosses the road, and, overcoming his initial nervousness, enters the building opposite. And a minute later a small, neatly attired Polish gentleman, looking up from his game, notices a young lad with red hair standing in the doorway.



The inscription on the gravestone reads "In memory of J.H. Zukertort - The Chess Master - born Sept 7th 1842, died June 20th 1888."

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