

Exeter Chess Club: Kings and Queens

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Now, each of the pieces we have considered so far - pawns, knights, bishops and rooks - have peculiarities which make certain positions more or less suitable for them to operate. Kings and Queens move in each direction with equal ease, and so have no such rules - although Queens do like a bit of space to get into their stride.

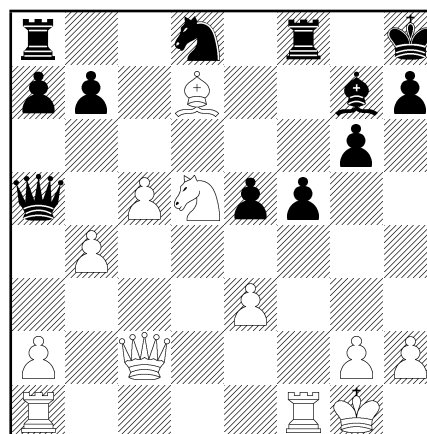
Their flexibility gives them value, and because they are so valuable they are often the subject of tricks and traps in the opening. Here's some illustrations: forgive me using my own but they don't put many cheapos in master game collections.

1 Kings and Queens vulnerable

[Event "the wandering queen"][Site "devon vs. glos."][Date "1993.???.?"][Round "??"]

[White "regis, d."][Black "smith, a."][Result "1-0"]

1. e4 $\text{c}6$ 2. e5 $\text{d}5$ 3. c4 $\text{b}6$ 4. d4 d6 5. exd6 cxd6 6. $\text{c}3$ [6. $\text{e}3$ g6 7. h4 h5] 6. ..., g6 7. $\text{e}3$ $\text{g}7$ 8. $\text{d}3$ $\text{c}6$ 9. $\text{ge}2$ O-O 10. O-O f5 [10. ..., $\text{g}4$] 11. c5 [11. a3 or Qd2] 11. ..., dxc5 12. dxc5 $\text{d}7$ 13. $\text{c}4+$ $\text{h}8$ 14. $\text{f}4$ $\text{f}6$ 15. $\text{e}6$ $\text{e}6$ 16. $\text{e}6$ $\text{g}4$ 17. $\text{d}5$ $\text{a}5$ 18. $\text{c}2$ [18. $\text{c}1$ $\text{e}3$ 19. fxe3] 18. ..., $\text{e}3$ 19. fxe3 $\text{d}8$ 20. $\text{d}7$ e5 [20. ..., e6 21. $\text{f}4$ e5 (I analysed 21. ..., $\text{f}6$; 22 $\text{c}4$ idea b4) 22. $\text{d}5$ $\text{c}6$ 23. a3 e4 24. $\text{c}6$ bxc6 25. $\text{f}4$ $\text{fe}8$ (fritz fancied ...Rad8 when b4 to stop ...Rd7 allows ...Bxa1) 26. b4 $\text{a}6$ 27. $\text{a}2$ $\text{ad}8$ 28. $\text{d}1$ $\text{xd}1+$ 29. $\text{xd}1$ $\text{c}4$] 21. b4

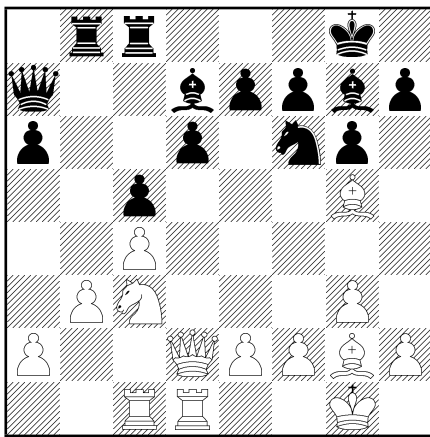


You can tell Black is going to suffer. There are hundreds of trapped queen miniatures (see Tactics examples) 21. ..., $\text{a}3$ 22. $\text{ab}1$ $\text{b}8$ 23. $\text{a}4$ [23. $\text{b}5$ a6 24. $\text{b}3$ $\text{xb}3$ 25. $\text{xb}3$ axb5 26. $\text{b}6$ $\text{f}7$ 27. $\text{d}1$ $\text{c}7$ 28. $\text{d}6$] 23. ..., e4 [23. ..., $\text{c}8$ 24. $\text{c}3$] 24. $\text{b}5$ $\text{c}6$ 25. $\text{b}3$ $\text{xb}4$ 26. $\text{xb}4$ $\text{fd}8$ 27. $\text{a}4$ $\text{b}2$ 28. $\text{xb}2$ $\text{xb}2$ 29. $\text{c}4$ $\text{dc}8$ 30. $\text{b}1$ $\text{g}7$ 31. $\text{xa}7$ $\text{xc}5$ 32. $\text{axb}7$ $\text{xb}7$ 33. $\text{xb}7$ $\text{xc}4$ 34. $\text{b}8+$ $\text{f}8$ 35. $\text{xf}8+$ $\text{g}7$ 36. $\text{a}8$ $\text{c}1+$ 37. $\text{f}2$ $\text{c}2+$ 38. $\text{g}3$ g5 39. $\text{a}7+$ $\text{g}6$ 40. $\text{a}6+$ $\text{g}7$ 41. a4 $\text{c}5$ 42. $\text{d}6$ $\text{a}5$ 43. $\text{b}6$ $\text{a}6$ 44. h4 h6 45. h5 $\text{a}5$ [45. ..., $\text{h}7$ 46. $\text{f}2$ $\text{g}7$ 47. g3 $\text{h}7$ 48. $\text{e}2$ $\text{g}7$ 49. $\text{d}2$ $\text{h}7$ 50. $\text{c}3$ $\text{g}7$ 51. $\text{b}4$] 46. $\text{d}5$ $\text{a}6$ 47. $\text{b}5$ 1-0

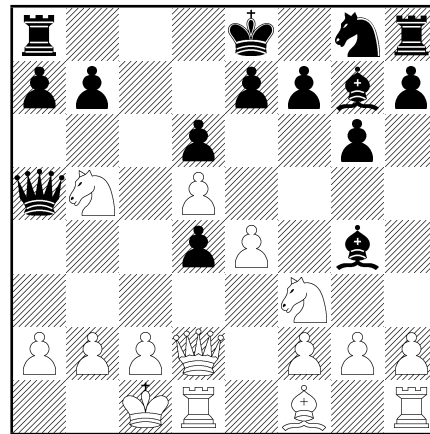
[Event "wandering king"][Site "Cambridge open"][Date"1980"][Round "??"]

[White "regis, d."][Black "langosz, g."][Result "1-0"]

1. c4 g6 2. g3 $\text{g}7$ 3. $\text{g}2$ d6 4. $\text{c}3$ c5 5. $\text{f}3$ $\text{c}6$ 6. O-O $\text{f}6$ 7. d4 cxd4 8. $\text{xd}4$ $\text{d}7$ 9. $\text{g}5$ O-O 10. $\text{c}1$ a6 11. b3 $\text{c}7$ 12. $\text{xc}6$ (much better is 12. $\text{d}5$ $\text{xd}5$ 13. cxd5 $\text{xd}4$ 14. dxc6 $\text{xf}2+$ 15. $\text{xf}2$ $\text{xc}6$ 16. $\text{h}6$ $\text{fc}8$ 17. $\text{d}5$) 12. ..., bxc6 13. $\text{d}2$ $\text{fc}8$ 14. $\text{a}4$ (to tempt ...c5) 14. ..., $\text{ab}8$ 15. $\text{fd}1$ c5 16. $\text{c}3$ $\text{a}7$



17. ♖×f6 ♖×f6 18. ♗d5 ♕g7 19. ♗×f6 ♕×f6
20. ♖c3+



(black has been struggling to mess white up but
White has been playing a straight bat - until now!)
10. ... , ♖h6 11. ♗g5 ♖×d2+ 12. ♖×d2 ♖×g5
13. ♗c7+ ♕d8 14. ♗×a8 ♖×d2+ 15. ♕×d2
♕c8 16. ♗b6+ a×b6 17. ♕d3 ♗f6 0-1

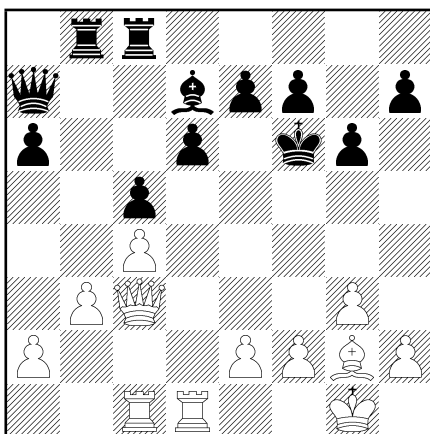
2 Domination by the queen

First, Rubinstein making good use of his queen,
first dominant in the centre, then stepping neatly
and quickly into enemy territory...

[Event "dominating queen?"][Site "gothen-
burg"][Date "1920.??.?"][Round "?"]

[White "rubinstein"][Black "maroczy"][Result "1-
0"]

1.d4 ♗f6 2.♗f3 d5 3.c4 e6 4.♖g5 ♖e7 5.e3 ♗bd7
6.♗c3 O-O 7.♖c1 ♖e8 8.♖c2 d×c4 9.♖×c4 c5
10.O-O c×d4 11.♗×d4 a6 12.♖fd1 ♖a5 13.♖h4
♗e5 14.♖e2 ♗g6 15.♖g3 e5 16.♗b3 ♖c7 17.♖b1
! 17. ... , ♖b8 18.♖f3 ♖a7 19.♗a5 ! 19. ... ,
♖b4 20.♗c4 ♖d7 21.♗d5 ♗×d5 22.♖×d5 ♖e6
23.♖e4 ! 23. ... , ♖×d5 24.♖×d5 ♖ac8

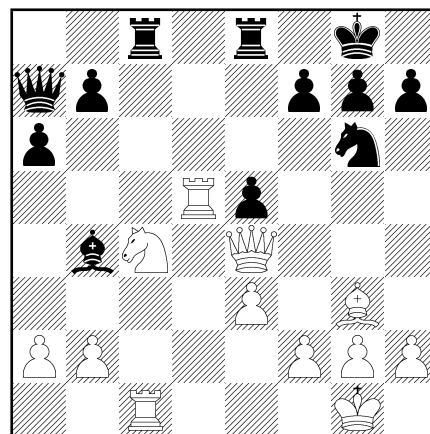


20. ... , ♖g5 21. ♖g7 I pinched this idea from
Petrosian! Be6 (21. ... , ♖c6 22. f4+ ♖g4 23.
h3+ ♕×g3 24. ♖h6 ♖×g2 25. ♖d3+ ♖f3 26.
♖×f3#) 22. h4+ ♖g4 23. ♖h2 ♖h8 24. ♖f3+
♕f5 25. e4# 1-0

[Event "the queen AND king caught"][Site
"portsmouth open "][Date "1984.??.?"][Round
"#2"]

[White "taylor, m."][Black "regis, d."][Result "0-
1"]

1. e4 c5 2. ♗f3 g6 3. d4 ♖g7 4. ♗c3 ♗c6 5.
♖e3 ♖a5 6. ♖d2 d6 7. O-O-O Bg4 8. d5 ♗d4
9. ♖×d4 (9. ♗×d4 ♖×d1 10. ♗b3 ♖×c3 11.
♖×d1 ♖b4 12. b×c3 ♖×e4) 9. ... , c×d4 10.
♗b5



25. ♖cd1 ♘f8 26. b3 b5 27. ♗d6 ♘×d6 28. ♖×d6 ♖c7 29. h4 ! 29. ... , f6 30. ♖d5+ ♗h8 31. h5 ♗f8 32. h6 ♗g6 33. ♖e6 ♖f8 34. ♖d7 g×h6 35. ♘h4 1-0

3 Active king in the ending

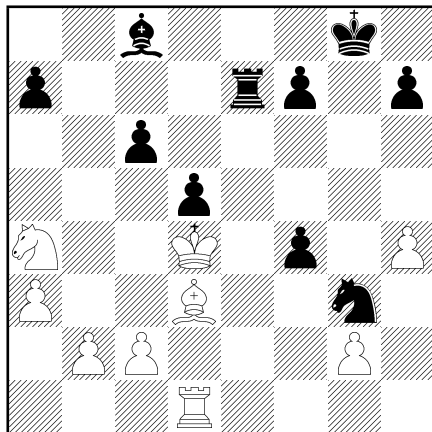
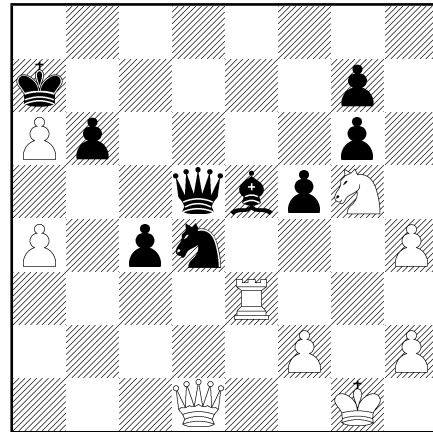
I've shown several examples of this incidentally (like Bernstein-Mieses on the Bishops sheet); here's a more close-run affair from Tal, who keeps his initiative going throughout.

[Event ""] [Site "-"] [Date "1956.??.?"] [Round ""]

[White "tal"] [Black "lissitzin"] [Result "1-0"]

1. e4 c5 2. ♗f3 d6 3. d4 c×d4 4. ♗×d4 ♗f6 5. ♗c3 g6 6. f4 ♗c6 7. ♗×c6 b×c6 8. e5 ♗d7 9. e×d6 e×d6 10. ♘e3 ♘e7 11. ♖f3 d5 12. O-O Bf6 13. ♘d4 O-O 14. h4 ♖b8 15. ♖f2 ♖b4 16. ♘×f6 ♗×f6 17. a3 ♖b6 18. ♖×b6 ♖×b6 19. ♗a4 ♖b7 20. ♘d3 ♗h5 21. ♖hf1 ♖e7 22. f5 ! 22. ... , g×f5 23. ♖fe1 ♖fe8 24. ♖×e7 ♖×e7 25. ♗d2 ! 25. ... , ♗g3 26. ♗c3 f4 27. ♗d4

1. e4 c6 2. d4 d5 3. ♗c3 d×e4 4. ♗×e4 ♘f5 5. ♗g3 ♘g6 6. ♗f3 ♗d7 7. ♘d3 e6 8. O-O ♖c7 9. c4 O-O-O 10. ♘×g6 h×g6 11. ♖a4 ♗b8 12. b4 ♗h6 13. ♖b3 ♗f5 14. a4 e5 15. d×e5 ♗×e5 16. ♗×e5 ♖×e5 17. ♘b2 ♖c7 18. c5 a5 19. ♖ad1 ♖×d1 20. ♖×d1 ♖h4 21. b×a5 ♘×c5 22. a6 b6 23. ♖e1 ♗a7 24. ♘e5 ♖d7 25. ♗e4 ♘d4 26. g3 ♘×e5 27. g×h4 ♗d4 28. ♖d1 ♖d5 29. ♖e3 ♗f5 30. ♖e1 ♗d4 31. ♖d3 f5 32. ♗g5 c5 33. ♖e3 c4 34. ♖d1



34. ... , ♗×a6 35. ♖a3 ♘f6 36. h3 f4 37. ♖g4 ♗a5 38. ♗f3 ♗b4 39. ♗×d4 ♗×a3 40. ♗c2+ ♗×a4 0-1

27. ... , ♘f5 28. ♖d2 ♖e6 29. ♗c5 ♖h6 30. ♗e5 ! 30. ... , ♘×d3 31. c×d3 ♖×h4 32. ♗d6 ♖h6+ 33. ♗c7 ♗f5 34. ♗b7 ♗d4 35. ♖f2 a5 36. ♖×f4 ♗e6 37. ♖g4+ ♗f8 38. ♗×c6 ! 38. ... , ♗×c5+ 39. ♗×c5 ♖e6 40. ♗×d5 ♖b6 41. b4 a×b4 42. a×b4 ♗e7 43. ♗c5 ♖f6 44. ♖d4 ♖f5+ 45. ♗b6 ♖f6+ 46. ♗c7 ♖f5 47. ♖e4+ ♗f6 48. ♗c6 ♖f2 49. g4 h5 50. g×h5 ♗g5 51. b5 f5 52. ♖b4 f4 53. b6 f3 54. b7 1-0 (54. b7 ♖c2+ 55. ♗d5 f2 56. b8=♖ f1=♖ 57. ♖g3+ ♗f6 58. ♖e5+ ♗f7 59. ♖b7+ ♖c7 60. ♖×c7+ ♗f8 61. ♖h8#) 1-0

Here's another difficult game, from Petrosian, featuring a bold king run

[Event "olympiad"] [Site "varna "] [Date "1962.??.?"] [Round ""] [White "duckstein, a."] [Black "petrosian, t."] [Result "0-1"]