

Marshall vs Pillsbury

6.0 : 5.0 (+5 -4 =2)

The lifetime battle between two of America's greatest chess players

C43 H. Pillsbury – F. Marshall

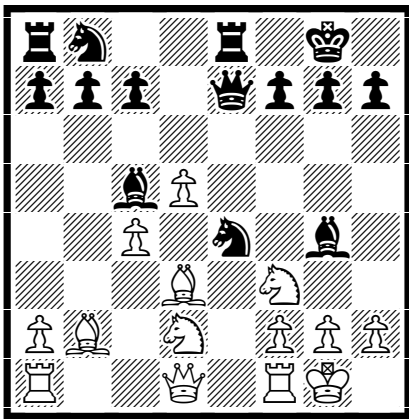
Paris 1900

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.d4 d5 4.exd5 exd4 5.Bc4?!

Better is 5.Bb5+

5...Bb4+ 6.c3 Qe7+ 7.Be2 dxc3 8.bxc3 Bc5 9.O-O O-O 10.c4 Re8 11.Bd3 Bg4 12.Bb2 Ne4!
13.Nbd2?

The theory recommends 13.Nc3=



13...Nxf2! 14.Rxf2 Bxf2+ 15.Kxf2 Qe3+ 16.Kg3 Qxd3 17.Kxg4 Re2! 18.Kh3 Nd7 19.Rc1 h5
20.Qc2 Nc5 21.g3 g5! 22.g4 Rxd2 23.Qxd3 Rxd3 24.Rc3 f5! 25.Kg2 fxg4 26.Nxg5 Rd2+ 27.Kg3
Rxb2 28.h3 Rf8 29.hxg4 hxg4 30.Kxg4 Rff2 0-1

D02 H. Pillsbury – F. Marshall

Buffalo 1901

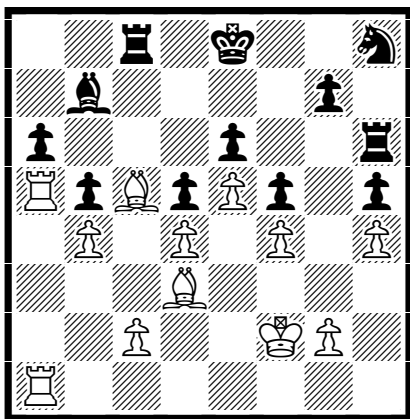
**1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 c5 3.e3 c4?! 4.Nc3 f5 5.Ne5 Nf6 6.b3 cxb3 7.axb3 e6 8.Bb5+ Bd7 9.O-O a6
10.Bd3 Nc6 11.Ne2 Nxe5 12.dxe5 Ng4 13.f4 Bc5 14.Nd4 Qh4 15.h3 h5 16.Qe1 Qxe1 17.Rxe1
Nh6 18.Ba3!**

After thus White achieves decisive positional advantage.

18...Bxd4 exd4 Bc6 20.Bc5 Nf7 21.h4 Rh6?

I have no explanation for the idea behind this move.

22.Kf2 Nh8 23.b4 b5 24.Ra5 Bb7 25.Rea1 Rc8



**26.Rxa6! Bxa6 27.Rxa6 Rc7 28.Bxb5+ Kf7 29.Ra8 Kg6 30.Be8+ Kh7 31.b5 Ng6 32.b6 Rb7
33.g3 1-0**

C22 F. Marshall – H. Pillsbury

Buffalo 1901

**1.e4 e5 2.d4 exd4 3.Qxd4 Nc6 4.Qe3 Nf6 5.Nc3 Bb4 6.Bd2 O-O 7.O-O-O Re8 8.Qg3 Nxe4
9.Nxe4 Rxe4 10.c3 Bf8 11.Bd3 Re6 12.Nf3 h6 13.h4 d5 14.Qh2 Bd6 15.Qg1 Qf6 16.Ng5 hxg5
17.hxg5 Qd8 18.Bh7+ Kf8 19.Bf5 Re8 20.Bxc8 Qxc8 21.Rh8+ Ke7 22.Re1+ Be5 23.Rxe8+
Kxe8 24.f4 Qg4 25.fxe5 Kd7 26.Qh2 Re8 27.Bf4 Kc8 28.g3 d4 29.Qc2 dxc3 30.Qxc3 Qe6 31.a3**

f6 32.gxf6 gxf6 33.b4 Nxe5 34.Kb1 Qd5 35.g4 Rh8 36.Rc1 c6 37.Bxe5 fxe5 38.g5 Rh2 39.Rc2 Rh1+ 40.Rc1 Qe4+ 41.Kb2 Qg2+ 42.Kb1 b6 43.Qxe5 Rxc1+ 44.Kxc1 Qf1+ 45.Kd2 Qf2+ 46.Kd3 Qf3+ 47.Qe3 Qf5+ 48.Ke2 Kd7 49.Qd3+ Ke6 50.Qc4+ Kd6 51.Qd4+ Ke6 52.Qe3+ Kf7 53.Qf3 Kg6 54.Qxc6+ Kxg5 55.Qc7 Qe4+ 56.Kd2 1/2-1/2

H. Pillsbury – F. Marshall
Monte Carlo 1902

Notes by Hoffer in The Field. (Thanks to Nikolai Bruni for providing the game score and notes from this source)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 Bb4

Marshall probably played this, the McCutcheon variation, thinking perhaps that he would have the same chance Reggio had against Pillsbury in the same variation.

5.e5 h6 6.Bh4 g5 7.Bg3 Ne4 8.Nge2 c5 9.a3 Bxc3+ 10.Nxc3 Nxc3 11.bxc3 Qa5 12.Qd2 cxd4 13.cxd4 Qxd2+ 14.Kxd2 Nc6 15.c3 Bd7

Black exchanged pieces too freely, and now has the inferior Pawn position and a backward development.

16.h4 Ke7 17.hxg5 hxg5 18.Bd3 Na5 19.Ke2 Rxh1 20.Rxh1 Rc8

20...Nc4, trying for Bishops of opposite color, would have been better.

21.f4 Rxc3?

This is a blunder, losing a piece.

22.Be1 Rb3 23.Bxa5 Rb2+ 24.Bd2 gxf4 25.Rb1 Rxb1 26.Bxb1 Kd8 27.Bxf4 Kc7 28.Bd3 b5 29.Bd2 Kb6 30.Bb4 a5 31.Bc5+ Kc6 32.Kf3 Bc8 33.Kf4 1-0.

D32 H. Pillsbury – F. Marshall
Hannover 1902

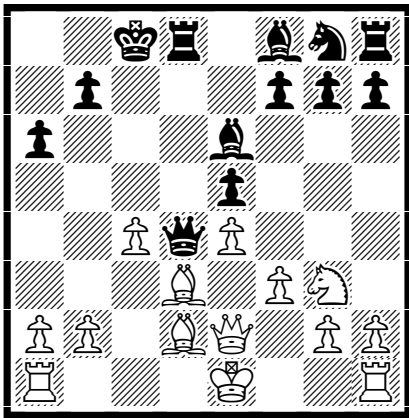
1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 c5 4.Nf3 Nc6 5.Bf4

This is a rarely used continuation, considered by recent theory as dubious.

5...cxd4 6.Nxd4 a6

6...Bb4!?

7.e4! Qb6 8.Nb3 d4 9.Ne2 e5 10.Bd2 Bg4 11.f3 Be6 12.Ng3 d3 13.Bxd3 O-O-O 14.Qe2 Nd4
15.Nxd4 Qxd4



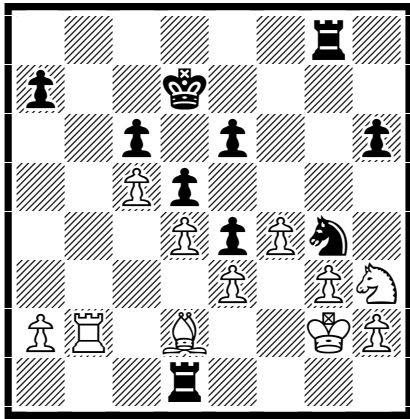
16.O-O-O!! Qc5

If 16...Qxd3 17.Ba5!! and White wins.

17.Kb1 Ne7 18.Be3 Qa5 19.Qf2 Kc7 20.Ne2 b5 21.Bd2 b4 22.Qa7+ Kc6 23.Nc1 Nc8 24.Qa8+
Kc7 25.Be3 Nd6 26.Qa7+ Nb7 27.Nb3 Qa4 28.Bb6+ Kc6 29.Na5+ 1-0

A85 H. Pillsbury – F. Marshall
Monte Carlo 1903

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 Ne4!? 5.e3 e6 6.Bd3 f5 7.Ne5 Qh4 8.Qc2 Nd7 9.O-O Bd6 10.f4
g5 11.Nf3 Qh5 12.Bxe4 fxe4 13.Nxg5 Nf6 14.Qe2 Qg6 15.c5 Bc7 16.Kh1 h6 17.Nh3 Rg8 18.Bd2
b6 19.b4 bxc5 20.bxc5 Ba6 21.Qf2 Bxf1 22.Rxf1 Rb8 23.Bc1 Ba5 24.Nd1 Kd7 25.Rg1 Qh5
26.Qc2 Rg7 27.Ndf2 Rbg8 28.Qd1 Qxd1 29.Nxd1 Rb8 30.g3 Ng4 31.Rg2 Rb1 32.Rc2 Rg8
33.Kg2 Bd2 34.Bxd2 Rxd1 35.Rb2



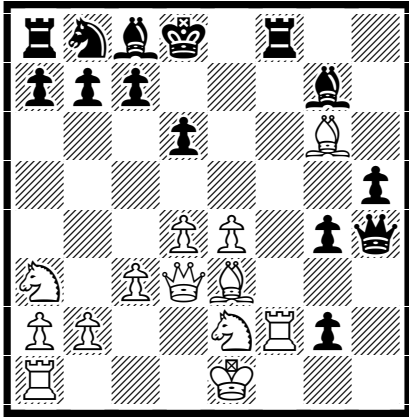
35...Rb8! 36.Rxb8 Rxd2+ 37.Kg1 Rd1+ 38.Kg2 Nxe3+ 39.Kf2 Ng4+ 40.Kg2 Rd2+ 41.Kg1 e3
 42.Rb1 e2 43.Nf2 e1=Q+ 44.Rxe1 Nxf2 45.Re5 Ng4 46.Rh5 Rxa2 47.h3 Ne3 48.g4 Rg2+
 49.Kh1 Rf2 50.Rxh6 Rxf4 51.Rh7+ Kd8 52.g5 a5 53.g6 Nf5 54.g7 Nxg7 55.Rxg7 Rxd4 56.Ra7
 a4 57.Kg2 Rc4 58.Ra5 Ke7 59.Kg3 Kf6 60.h4 Kf5 61.Ra6 Rxc5 62.Rxa4 Rc3+ 63.Kh2 Rc4 0-1

B01 F. Marshall – H. Pillsbury
 Monte Carlo 1903

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qd8 4.d4 Nf6 5.Bc4 c6 6.d5!? b5 7.Bb3 b4 8.dxc6 Qxd1+ 9.Nxd1
 Nxc6 10.Bg5 e6 11.Ne3 Be7 12.Ba4 Bb7 13.O-O-O Ne4 14.Bxe7 Kxe7 15.Nh3 Nc5 16.Bxc6
 Bxc6 17.Rhe1 Rhc8 18.Nf4 Kf8 19.Nd3 Nxd3+ 20.Rxd3 Rc7 21.Red1 Ke7 22.Rd4 a5 23.Rc4
 Rac8 24.Rc5 Be4 25.Rxc7+ Rxc7 26.Rd4 Bb7 27.f3 Ba6 28.Kd2 Rc5 29.a3 bxa3 30.bxa3 g6
 31.c4 f5 32.f4 Bb7 33.g4 Be4 34.Kc3 e5 35.fxe5 Rxe5 36.gxf5 gxf5 37.Nd5+ Bxd5 38.cxd5 Re3+
 39.Kc4 Kd6 40.a4 Re5 41.Rh4 Rxd5 42.Rxh7 Rd2 43.Kb5 f4 44.Kxa5 f3 45.Rf7 f2 46.Kb4 Ke6
 47.Rf8 Ke7 48.Rf3 Ke6 49.Kc3 Ra2 50.Kb3 Re2 51.a5 Kd5 52.Rf8 Ke4 53.a6 Re3+ 54.Kb4 Rf3
 55.Rxf3 Kxf3 56.a7 f1Q 57.a8Q+ Kg4 58.Qg8+ Kh5 59.Qd5+ Kh4 60.Qe4+ Kh5 61.Qe5+ Kh6
 62.h4 Qb1+ 63.Kc5 Qc2+ 1/2-1/2

C38 F. Marshall – H. Pillsbury
 Vienna 1903

1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.Nf3 g5 4.Bc4 Bg7 5.h4 h6 6.d4 d6 7.Qd3 g4 8.Ng1 Qf6 9.c3 h5 10.Na3 Ne7
 11.Ne2 Ng6 12.g3 fxg3 13.Rf1 Qxh4 14.Bxf7+ Kd8 15.Bxg6 g2+ 16.Rf2 Rf8 17.Be3



17...Bh6 18.Bxh6 g1=Q+ 19.Nxg1 Qxf2+ 20.Kd1 Qxg1+ 21.Kc2 Rf2+ 22.Bd2 Qxa1 23.Qe3 Rxd2+ 24.Qxd2 Bd7 25.Qg5+ Kc8 26.Bf5 b6 27.Qg8+ Kb7 28.Bxd7 Nxd7 29.Qd5+ c6 30.Qxd6 Rd8 31.d5 Rf8 32.dxc6+ Ka8 33.cxd7 Rf2+ 34.Kb3 Qxb2+ 35.Ka4 1-0

C33 H. Pillsbury – F. Marshall
Vienna 1903

1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.Bc4 f5!?

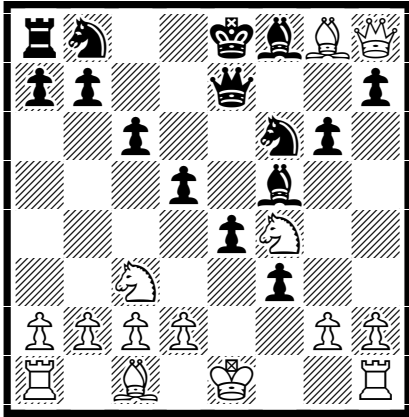
How many players know that this continuation even exists?

4.Qe2 fxe4 5.Qh5+ g6 6.Qe5+ Qe7 7.Qxh8 Nf6 8.Nc3 c6 9.Bg8 d5 10.Nge2 f3 11.Nf4

Tricky defense. If now 11...Bg7, then 12.Bf6+! Kd7 13.Be6+! and White wins.

11...Bf5!

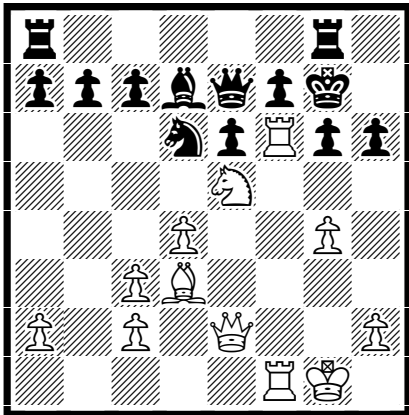
An incredibly interesting and original position. After only eleven moves Black is a Rook down, but it seems that he has enough compensation. The threat 12...Bg7 is now real.



12.Bxh7 Nxh7 13.O-O Nd7 14.gxf3 O-O-O 15.Qd4 Qg5+ 16.Kh1 Qxf4 17.d3 Qh4 18.dxe4 Bc5
 19.Qd2 dxe4 20.fxe4 Bxe4+ 21.Nxe4 Qxe4+ 22.Qg2 Qxg2+ 23.Kxg2 Re8 24.Kf3 Ne5+ 25.Kg3
 Bd6 26.Kg2 g5 27.Re1 Rf8 28.Be3 Ng4 29.Bg1 b6 30.h3 Ngf6 31.Rad1 Nd5 32.c4 Nf4+ 33.Kh1
 Kc7 34.Bh2 Nf6 35.Bxf4 gxf4 36.Re6 Ne8 37.a3 a5 38.h4 f3 39.h5 Rf5 40.b4 axb4 41.axb4
 Bxb4 42.Kh2 Ng7 43.Re3 Rxb4 0-1

B09 F. Marshall – H. Pillsbury
 Cambridge Springs 1904

1.d4 d6 2.e4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.f4 Bg7 5.e5 dxe5 6.fxe5 Nd5 7.Nf3 Nc6 8.Bc4 e6 9.Bg5 Nxc3
 10.bxc3 Ne7 11.O-O h6 12.Bf6 Bxf6 13.exf6 Nf5 14.Qe2 Qxf6 15.g4 Nd6 16.Ne5 Qe7 17.Bd3
 O-O 18.Rf2 Kg7 19.Raf1 Bd7 20.Rf6 Rg8

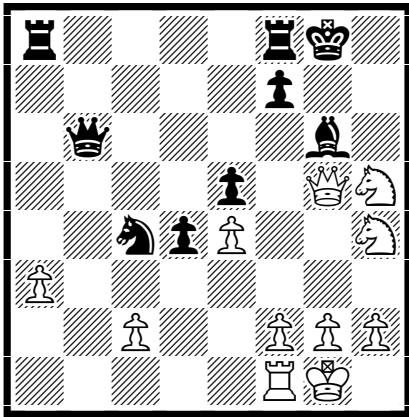


21.Nxg6! Qxf6 22.Rxf6 Kxf6 23.Qe5# 1-0

D02 H. Pillsbury – F. Marshall

Manhattan CC – Franklin CC (2nd board), May 30, 1904

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 c5 3.dxc5 e6 4.e4 Bxc5 5.Bb5+ Nc6 6.O-O a6 7.Ba4 Nge7 8.Nc3 d4 9.Ne2 O-O
10.a3 e5 11.b4 Ba7 12.Ng3 Be6 13.b5 axb5 14.Bxb5 h6 15.Rb1 Bc5 16.Bxc6 Nxc6 17.Rxb7?
Bb6 18.Nh4 Na5 19.Rxb6 Qxb6 20.Qh5 Nc4 21.Bxh6 gxh6 22.Qxh6 Bf5 23.Qg5+ Bg6 24.Nh5



24...Rfb8??

Black should play 24...Rfd8.

25.Nf6+ Kf8 26.Qh6+ Ke7 27.Nd5+ Kd7 28.Nxb6+ Rxb6 29.Qg7 Ke7 30.f4 Rf6 31.f5 Bh5
32.Rb1 Ra7 33.Rb8 Rfa6 34.Qh8 Kd6 35.Qf8+ Kc6 36.Qc8+ Kd6 37.Qxc4 Rxa3 38.Rb6+ Kd7
39.Qc6+ 1-0