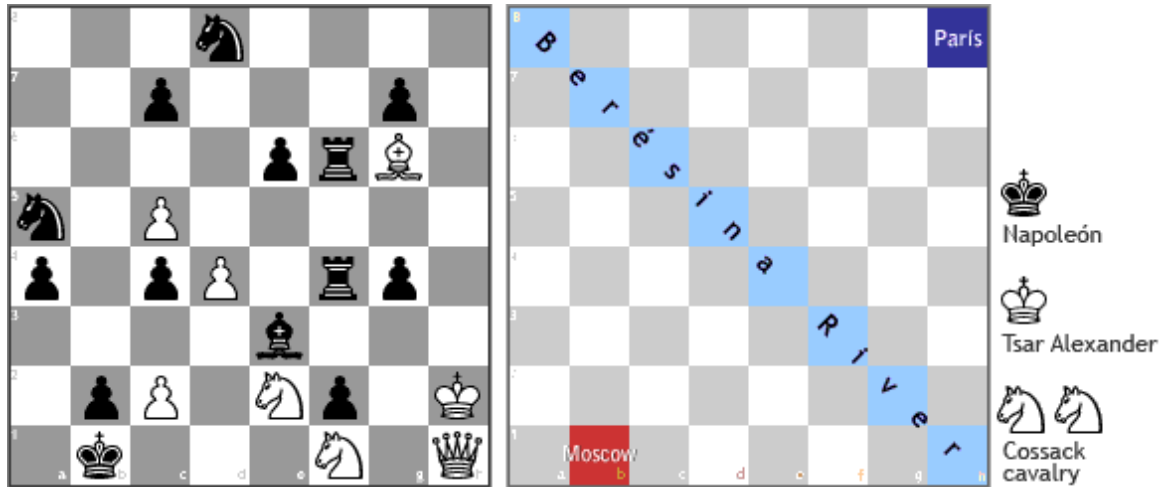


Napoleon escapes from Moscow to Paris

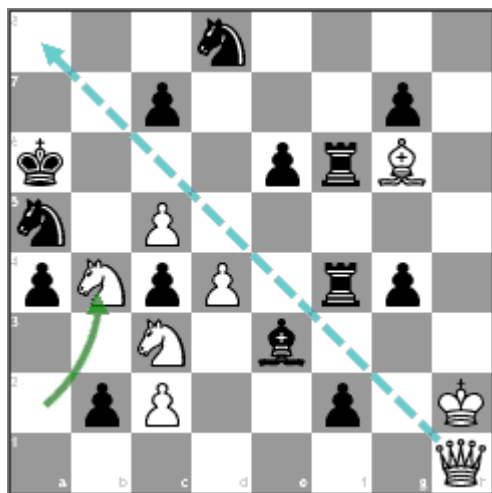
The Russian Alexander Dmitrievich Petrov (1794-1867) was 18 when Napoleon invaded his country. He was chess player and author of studies and problems. He is remembered as the Grand chess master in Russia. He analysed (along with Carl Jaenisch) the Petrov defence (1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6). His best known study is the withdrawal of Napoleon Bonaparte from Moscow, where it is shown how Russian cavalry expels Napoleon:



Start position and symbols shown

The black king represents Napoleon, located in Moscow (b1) The cavalry of the Cossacks begin to harass him.

1.Nd2+ Ka2 2.Nc3+ Ka3 3.Ndb1+ Kb4 4.Na2+ Kb5 5.Nbc3+ Ka6 6.Nb4+



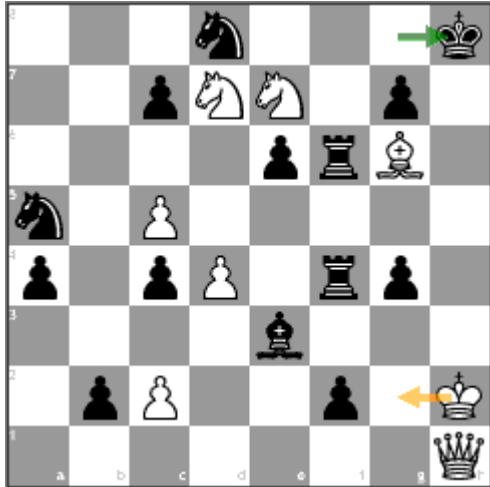
Position after 6.Nb4+

Here the white ones could have done the checkmate with 6.Qa8#. Remember though, that the

Russians, allowed that Napoleon was withdrawal after crossing Beresina river (represented by the diagonal h1-a8).

From there the Russian cavalry expels Napoleon to Paris. (h8).

8 ... Rc8 9.Ca7+ Rd7 10.Cb8+ Re7 11.Cc8+ Rf8 12.Cd7+ Rg8 13.Ce7+ Rh8



Position after 12...Rg8

14.Rg2# With the movement of the Tsar Alexander, Napoleon is defeated.

The complete sequence of the study of Petrov :

1. Nd2+ Ka2 2. Nc3+ Ka3 3. Ndb1+ Kb4 4. Na2+ Kb5 5. Nbc3+ Ka6 6. Nb4+ Ka7 7. Nb5+ Kb8
8. Na6+ Kc8 9. Na7+ Kd7 10. Nb8+ Ke7 11. Nc8+ Kf8 12. Nd7+ Kg8 13. Ne7+ Kh8 14. Kg2#

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