

## WHIST DEPARTMENT.

(Conducted by Deaderick McClung.)

### MODERN SCIENTIFIC WHIST.

Before we return to the examination of the leads separately, I would like to say a few words which I feel sure will help the advanced player, as well as the beginner. A great many players imagine they know the American Leads, and that they have been playing them for years, simply because they know the first card that should be led from a high card combination. Now, the second lead is equally as important, and you should not only know what to lead from a high card combination at once, but what your partner and opponents have when they have opened a suit. A good way to learn how to locate cards is to get some one to lead your suit according to the American Leads, and let you try to locate the remaining cards of each suit. One word more and I have done: do not be discouraged if you can not master them at once.

Now we will return to where we left off in our last article, the fifth lead: With Ace, Queen or Jack, holding four or five in suit without other honors, lead fourth best, with six or more, lead Ace followed by original fourth best. Lead sixth; without other honors this suit is led exactly as with Ace, Queen or Jack—fourth best when holding four or five, and Ace followed by original fourth best when holding six or more.

Seventh lead: King, Queen, Jack, holding four in suit, lead King followed by Jack, but the first part of the first lead is lead the same way. How are they to be distinguished? In the first lead holding Ace you must retain the lead, unless the suit is trumped; but in the second, not holding Ace, it must fall on your King if your opponents hold it. If on the other hand the Ace is with your partner at once he knows it is not the lead from the first combination.

Eighth lead: Holding King, Queen, and two small ones, lead King; if King wins, follow with lowest; holding five or more the Queen is led; if Queen wins trick, follow with original fourth best.

Ninth lead: Queen, Jack, Ten, holding four lead Ten followed by Queen; third hand should hold up one, having also two or three small ones, with five or more lead Ten followed by Jack.

We will explain some of the advantages of leading fourth best card, also trump leads, in our next article.

What has become of the ever-babbling, never-ceasing flow of whist enthusiasm that flooded Knoxville three and four winters ago? It is strange to a whist lover how this delightful science could ever descend to "faddism." Yet a fad is what it has proven itself here, so far as the gentler sex—and weaker where whist is in question is concerned. It is to be hoped that a new impetus will be given the great game during the coming season.

### "VEEST!"

We were on the Savannah steamer bound to New York. The first morning after breakfast three Whisters were in the smoking-room looking for the fourth man. Every one seemed to be engaged except a round, jolly-looking German who sat in a corner puffing large volumes of smoke from a ponderous pipe. I approached him and asked if he would join us in a game of Whist.

"Veest! Veest! Oh yaw, I haf played dot game mid de ladies, but it ish no goot. I vill play de Poker mit one quarter up, or more."

"No," I told him, "we never play Poker. We have a game that we believe is a better game."

After much persuasion he decided to sit in. When his turn came to lead, he led his short suit, and soon came to grief. He continued in the old way for a few rounds, but being sharp and quick-witted soon found out what we were doing with him.

"Veest! ah Veest! is it?" said he. "It ish von goot game, ven you makes der two-spot take an Ace and a Queen and other goot cards. Ah! well I see, it ish von very great game. I will play him vonce more again."

So after dinner we found him ready, and when he found he could bring in his long suit as well, his enthusiasm knew no bounds. He ordered the best wines the steamer could afford. Every game played seemed to offer greater attraction to him. After every meal he would plant himself at the table and if any one was absent would at once send for the missing one and insist that one should lose no more time. He always paid for all refreshments, as if it was small compensation for being instructed in the modern way of playing the royal game. No plea of wanting to see

New York harbor as we were sailing up would satisfy him. I said to him, "if you would like to know the American leads, buy Coffin's 'Gist of Whist,' read carefully the instructions given, and learn by heart the rules as laid down there."

"Very goot," said he, as he took down the name. When we arrived at the dock, after he had shaken hands with a lot of friends who met him, the driver asked him where he would go. He looked quickly up and said:

"Veest! Veest! I vill haf von bookshstore!"—Whist.

### Club Notes.

The clubs which meet on Monday should send in their reports by Tuesday evening, and those which meet on Tuesday should send in theirs not later than Wednesday morning, to insure their insertion.—Eds.

Ossoli met as usual on Monday at 2:30 p. m.

After the ordinary business, Mrs. Saxton announced the election of three new members: Mrs. T. R. Cornick, Mrs. Worthington and Miss Mamie Johnston.

The resignations of Mrs. Ainsworth, Mrs. Mercier and Misses Caroline and Mabel Taylor were tendered, and accepted by the Circle.

On motion of Mrs. Caulkins, a vote of thanks was given Mrs. McCue for the gift of the Longfellow portrait.

The literary program began at three o'clock and proved unusually interesting. With two such subjects as Dickens and Kipling this must be so.

After a preface, in which she wondered why the Circle should give her "the Dickens," Mrs. Cleage presented in her own bright way "Dickens' Democracy in Literature," and Mrs. Tillman gave "Kipling and His Message." Papers like these always receive appreciation and provoke discussion. It was curious, the different points of view.

Mrs. Cleage laid her hand in loving trust in that of him whom Bret Harte calls "The Master."

Mrs. Tillman, while recognizing Mr. Kipling's genius, owned to a feeling of apathy, if not real dislike to the man. Few women like Kipling (his looks). That "rag o' bone and hank o' hair" they do not forget—do not forget. He was not, however, without warm advocates even in a women's meeting, and altogether there was such a symposium of individual opinion as one would like to see and hear often in the Circle. Mrs. Hamilton and Mrs. Nash, as leaders, and Miss Temple as chairman, may congratulate themselves on their success in this way.

### TUESDAY MORNING CLUB.

Two choruses were rehearsed at the meeting of the Tuesday Morning Musical Club, last Tuesday. These will be presented at the next open meeting, November 28, when associate and honorary members will be invited to be present. Several items of business also came before the club. The most important was the enactment of two amendments to the by-laws. The first of these provides for a fine of one dollar to be imposed upon any active member who is absent from an open meeting or public entertainment presented by the club without a valid excuse has been addressed to the President.

The second amendment permits active members to extend invitations to guests for the open meetings. However, for every invitation the member must pay the club ten cents. Invitations can not be extended the same person more than twice in any one season.

The Tuesday Morning Club is doing excellent work, and is conserving its strength and influence as a musical organization. It will meet again next Tuesday morning at ten o'clock, at which time the following program will be observed:

"God Shall Wipe Away All Tears" (Sullivan); Mrs. J. H. McWilliams, "Sunshine Song" (Greig); Mrs. Wm. C. Sanders, The instrumental number assigned was "Legende No. 2, in A" (Paderewski), to Miss May Armstrong. She being absent, it is likely this will be omitted.

### Writers and Books.

(Atlanta Constitution.)

In no other region of our land, not even in New England or in California, is there as large a group of writers who are weaving the flowers of romance that abound in the lives and land around them into garlands of immortal fame, both for themselves and their country, as in the South. Pre-eminent among the number stands James Lane Allen, a type of those who aim for greater freedom and higher ideals in art. The purity and poetic sentiment of his work, as well as faithful delineation of

noble pioneer characters, entitle him to a permanent place in the affections of the people.

F. Hopkinson Smith has given us some delicate portrayals of life and manners during the "old regime." Thomas Nelson Page has revived with an impartial spirit and absolute lack of bitterness the sufferings of the South before and after the crucial period of the war. John Esten Cooke has immortalized in historic fiction some of the military heroes of that time. The inimitable stories of Ruth McEnery Stuart have a world-wide appreciation. Some of the work of Will Allen Dromgoole, combining tenderness, pathos and humor in illustrating the peculiar habits of the mountaineers and negroes, is worthy to be placed among the best short stories ever written in America. No one has been more ready to appreciate the old black mammy and her devoted services during times of need than she. John Fox is more restricted in his territory. So also is George Cable, who has caught up the fading color of the former splendor of old Creole times in Louisiana and has enhanced it with his witching mysteries. Grace King voices the chivalric spirit of the French occupation of Louisiana, and Julia Truitt Bishop has written some admirable sketches of the same locality. Joel Chandler Harris needs no mention to American readers, because his fame has become world-wide and will live in the permanent literature of the future. Frank L. Stanton is the most widely quoted poet of the present generation. Mollie Elliott Sewall, Julia McGruder, Virginia Woodward Cloud, Charles Egbert Craddock and Opie Read have each their coterie of worshippers. Where in the United States is there such another collection of local authors? As compared with the barren sterility of the North, in literature, the South has been prolific of writers. In each of these an absence of bias, prejudice and partisanship and a subtle odor of poetic romance, as delicate and daintily as the orange blossoms that pervade the atmosphere, have characterized their writings. To them the world has listened and is listening now.

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