SOME FACTS ABOUT THE GAME OF WHIST

A Vast Difference Between the Medera and Ancient Games.

Good Judgement, a Retentive Memory and an Even Temper Are the Three Prime Requisites -- Women Are Equally as Clever Players as Are the Men -- Some Notes About

This curious game when first a novice tries.

He wonders where its difficulty lies.
But let such shallow reasoners know What seems the easiest is not always so. The man who wishes well at whist to play To three propitious powers must homage pay: pay: To Memory first, whose fruitful mirror clear

Before our sight bids all our past ap-To Judament next, whose lamp's unerring Guide thro' the mazes of the doubtful way;
To Temper last, whose cool and wholesome breeze
From noxious mists the mind's horizon frees.
Let all who sit them down at whist to play From foreign objects turn their eyes away.
And to the verdant boards illumined round
Their fears their progress and their

The above lines from "Whist a Poem" by Alexander Thomson, published 1808, will be appreciated by all whist players. Thomson evidently knew what he was talking about. It is only after considerable study and application that one perceives the possibilities and strength of the game. A person can learn to play a strong game of "euchre" or other similar games in a month, but a whist player is always dissatisbut a whist player is always dissatis-fied with his own play.

Many people suppose "Modern Whist" to be governed and played by rules. It is true that it requires a thorough knowledge of all accepted axioms, and close study of situations and problems to become a good player; yet, as a matter of fact, an educated modern whist player plays less by rule than the ordinary player. The old rules of "second hand low," "third hand high," "return your partner's lead of trumps," etc., etc., no longer fetter the hands of the advanced player, whose knowledge of the game, acquired by close study, enables him to avoid the dangers, which his judgment and perception tell him exist in following the above rules, in certain situations. A knowledge of rules and axioms often furnishes the best of reasons for violating the same and with good results. The ordinary player while sniffing at modern scientific whist, is at the mercy of the one, two or three simple rules he has picked up. A "little" knowledge is as dangerous in whist as in other things. Scientific whist is absolutely free from rules, while the knowledge acquired enables one to use his natural faculties to the best advantage. The greater the knowledge, the brighter and less mechanical the play.

generations man has claimed as his alone, that it is not safe to fight longer on any other point. The whist papers are filled with victories of the gentler and not less brainy sex; and the men will have to work harder or stand in danger of being driven out of the field.

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Challenge games for the Andrews Trophy will now be the important feature of games between women. It was at first proposed to play all the games in Philadelphia, but as a Washington team won the trophy at the Women's congress it was necessary to go there for it. Mrs. Newbold's team of Philadelphia, was the first challenger and the match was played at Washington on Dec. 2, resulting in a victory for the "Newbolds" by 6 tricks.

At the recent tournament in Philadelphia, the following resolution was unanimously adopted: "Resolved, that the contestants in the Women's congress, held at 1119 Spruce street, Philadelphia, Nov. 11, 12 and 13, 1896, heartily approve of the formation of a Women's Whist league, and for the accomplishment of that object call upon the women whist players of America to organize whist clubs, and send representatives from such clubs to a meeting to be held for the purpose of league organization; that Mrs. T. H. Andrews be requested to act as chairman of a committee to five, she to appoint the other four. The duties of said committee to be to select the time and place for such a meeting and issue a call for the same. All women interest-

And to the verdant boards illumined round
Their fears, their prospects and their wishes bound.

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In the ladies' game at the Philadel-phia Whist club on Nov. 19, a most in-teresting question of discard arose. The dealers hand was as follows:

The dealers hand was as follows:

Spades—None.

Hearts—A. K. 8, 7, 5, 3. (Trumps.)

Clubs—A. Q. J. 7.

Diamonds—K. 10, 2.

The first trick produced the following play: S-2, S-Q, S-4. Question:

What should the dealer discard? Shall the D-10 be dropped, thereby signalling for trumps or the D-2. If the latter, partner will either continue with winning spades, allowing further discarding, or lead clubs, which will suit the dealer's hand. The D 2 is evidently the best discard.

D.-8, 5.
C.-A. 6, 4, 3, 2.
H.-A. 8, 5, 3, 2. (Hearts trump.)
He lost four tricks. It is true that
the result in any particular case is no
argument, yet it is a fact that none of
our leading players in Scranton would
think of making an original lead of
trumps from this hand.

On Thursday night the Scranton Whit club had its first ladies' night and the innovation proved so successful and agreeable that other ladies' nights are bound to be given during the winter. Progressive compass whist was played, Mrs. C. R. Parke and Henry Belin, jr., leading the wining section with a score of 180, and Mr. and Mrs. L. G. LaBar, the losing section, with a score of 177. Souvenirs in the shape of sterling silver coffee spoons were presented the wining ladies. The detailed score is as follows:

NORTH AND SOUTH,

NORTH AND SOUTH. C. R. Parke and H. Belin, jr..... John Owens and F. P. Price W. J. Brown and C. B. Penman . J. S. Kirkpatrick and J. S. Kirk-

Average, 172 1-3.

EAST AND WEST. L. G. LaBar and L. G. LaBar ... 177
1. F. Megargel and I. F. Megargel 172
E. J. Parrott and C. E. Wade 170
G. B. Jermyn and Dr. C. R. Parke 167
Myron Kasson and J. W. Dusen185 Mrs. G. B. Jermy.
Mrs. Myron Kasson and J. w.
Mrs. Myron Kasson and W. J. Brown . 1
bury
Mrs. C. B. Penman and W. J. Brown . 1
Mrs. F. W. Fleitz and F. W. Fleitz . . J
Miss Dale and M. H. Dale
Mrs. I. H. Allabach and Thomas

Average, 165 2-3.

The Scranton Whist club will play at Easton Dec. 28. The game will be played under the regulations governing played under the regulations governing the challenge trophy for teams of four. Scranton will send one team of four sure, and two if suitable arrangements can be made. Mr. Hamilton writes that they await the onslaught in fear and trembling: but it sounds like sarcasm. The Scranton men will certainly put up their best game, and will bring home the ribbon if possible. Hamilton and Nightingale are a good pair, and if they can draw to it successfully, it will be hard to beat, although a pleasure to play against.

TRUMPS HERE AND THERE. Several of the professors of Prince-ton university have lately organized the Princeton Whist club. Application has been made by this club for admis-sion to the American Whist league, and also to the New Jersey Whist as-sociation. sociation.

The annual congress of the New

England Whist association was held at Providence last month. It was the most successful in the history of the association. The vice-president's tro-phy was competed for by ten clubs and won by the Mercantile Library team of Boston.

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The sentiment as to the possibilities of women's whist playing has undergone as great a change in the whist world, as any other feature of the game. The introduction of the duplicate interesting features. The equality of the sexes has been so clearly shown in this game of skill, which for many in the sexes has been so clearly shown in the same of skill, which for many in the sexes has been so clearly shown in this game of skill, which for many in the sexes has been so clearly shown in the same of skill, which for many in the sexes has been so clearly shown in the same of skill, which for many in the sexes has been so clearly shown in the sexes has been so clearly shown in the sexes has been so clearly shown in this game of skill, which for many in the sexes has been so clearly shown in the sexes has been so clearly shown in the sexes has been so clearly shown in the following hand:

Here is a pretty coup for a not uncommon situation. It occurred in act all play in a game in Scranton:

North holds twelfth trump (a loser).

Whist is flourishing this winter in Scranton. The Scranton. The Scranton. The search was calculated the space and two small diamonds, are abled and shouth trump and four spades.

Whist call is previous play clearly many closurity

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