

The English Playing-Card Society



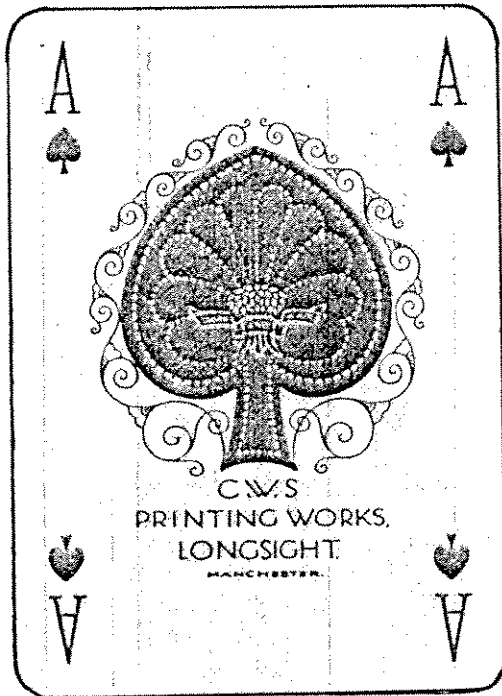
Newsletter

May 1984

THE ENGLISH PLAYING-CARD SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

The English Playing-Card Society was formed in January 1984. Its purpose is to bring together collectors, researchers and interested persons who wish to share information concerning designers and manufacturers of English playing-cards and card games 1660-1960.

EDITORIAL COMMENT



One of the most interesting aspects of playing-card collecting is the enjoyment of discovering unusual designs on standard cards.

The unusual ace illustrated here may at first sight be simply a new non-standard ace. But the inclusion of the words 'Printing Works' might suggest unusual court designs as well. As indeed was the case. And so a previously unknown standard design comes to light.

The same thing happens with boxes which do not always contain what one might expect. It is always worth checking the actual contents. Non-standard aces and jokers have turned up in the most unpromising packs.

AUCTION NEWS: Sotheby's auction of July 23/24 will include cards. Further details from their Grosvenor Saleroom 01-493-8080

INFORMATION

If you would like further information on any of your cards we will be pleased to help. Send a clear photocopy to either of us together with a stamped addressed envelope. We will supply what information we can. (English cards only. No valuations are given) Likewise if you have any information which you think would be of value to members of the society regarding the photosheets or the written information in the newsletters, please let us know. All additional pieces of information are more than welcome.

CATALOGUE

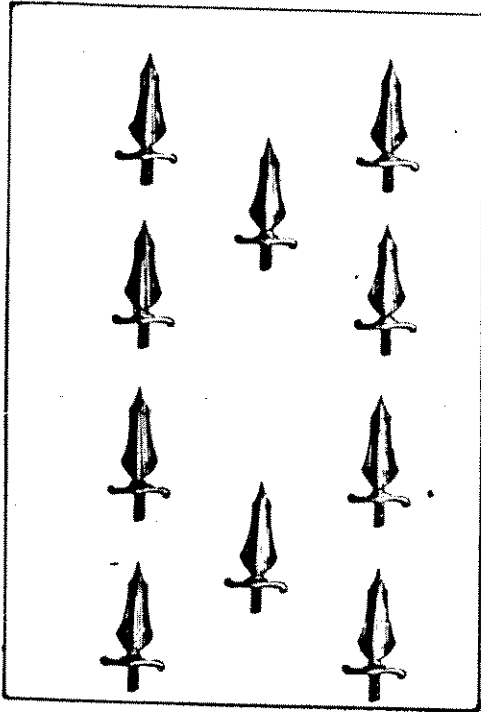
With each newsletter further photosheets, listings and references are issued from The Standard Catalogue of English Playing-Cards by R.T. Welsh and P.C. Way. These sheets are copyright protected. Photocopies may be taken for research or discussion purposes, but not for publication.

NB. We apologise for the print quality in this newsletter due to a fault with the photostat machine.

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The Rowley Pack



An interesting experiment in unusual suits was produced by Rowley & Co. about 1790. The conventional suits were altered as follows; CLUBS: a three leaved trefoil, coloured green; DIAMONDS: a faceted diamond gemstone, coloured yellow; SPADES: a pikehead, coloured blue; HEARTS: a chalice bearing an engraved heart sign, coloured red.

The court cards represent reigning monarchs of the period:
TREFOILS: King Frederick William II of Prussia (1786-1797)
 Queen The Queen of Prussia, (name?)
 Knave Soldier with double headed eagle on his cap
DIAMONDS: King Charles IV of Spain (1788-1808)
 Queen Marie Luisa, Queen of Spain
 Knave Soldier carrying a partizan
PIKEHEADS: King Louis XVI, King of France (1774-1793)
 Queen Marie Antoinette
 Knave Soldier carrying a pike.
CHALICES: King George III, King of England (1760-1820)
 Queen Charlotte
 Knave A beefeater.

Illustrated to the left is the ten of pikeheads showing the arrangement of the 'pips'. Each of these pikeheads is coloured blue in keeping with the rest of the suit. The overall arrangement of the ten 'pips' is conventional.

The cards are copper plate engraved and printed on a variety of paper grades. The style of decoration on the aces is particularly interesting. The ace of trefoils which is bordered with a wreath, surmounted with another wreath and supported by a small collection of agricultural implements probably represents the peasantry. The ace of diamonds which is surmounted in its frame by Mercury's winged hat, a caduceus and trident could well represent the commercial class of society. The ace of pikeheads, which being the 'duty' ace is framed by the garter and crown, certainly represents the military class. And lastly the ace of chalices with its bishop's mitre, crozier and cross is clearly intended for the church. The suits thus representing the 'Four Estates' of society. (See article March 84.)

Sold at the Patentee's Card-Manufactory, No. 6, in the Old Bailey; at the London Coffee-House, Ludgate-Hill; by M. DARLY, Printfeller, in the Strand; and by all Stationers and Country Shop-keepers. — Price 2s. 6d. for the Super-superfine; the Superfine 2s. 4d. and the Fine 2s. 3d. per Pack, with an Allowance to the Trade.

A D V E R T I S E M E N T.

At the said Patent Card-Manufactory, may be had all sorts of Cards now in use, viz. Moguls, Harrys, and Andrews; Message and Complimentary Cards, printed or plain; Blanks, Pasteboards; and Pressing Papers, for Exportation and Home Consumption.

Copper-Plate Printing executed in the neatest Manner, (and if required) with the PATENT INK, which has the singular Property of not setting off, and soiling the Backs, a Secret unknown but to the Patentees.

The top part of this advertisement refers to Rowley's pack as illustrated on the photosheet and in this article.

The lower 'Advertisement' suggests that Rowley was producing ordinary cards as well at his Card-Manufactory No. 6 the Old Bailey.

This has been taken from a contemporary document by Rowley describing his new cards. The original is in the British Museum.

(RTEW)

The Wedding of H.R.H. The Prince of Wales

A WELCOME TO H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

THE NEW GAME OF THE BRIDE:

CONSISTING OF

FORTY-EIGHT CARDS, EACH BEARING A WILD FLOWER,

WITH ENGLISH AND BOTANICAL NAME, AND THE MONTH IN WHICH MOST GENERALLY FOUND.

JANUARY.	APRIL	JULY.	OCTOBER.
Daisy. Gorse. Coltsfoot. Moss.	Sweet Wallflower. Cowslip. Wild Hyacinth. Ground Ivy.	Pimpernel. Common Soapwort. Rock Rose. Ranunculus.	Corn Feverfew. Meadow Saffron. Common Mallow. Amphibious Periwinkle.
FEBRUARY.	MAY.	AUGUST.	NOVEMBER.
Lesser Celandine. Dandelion. Myrtle. Snowdrop.	Forget-me-not. Lily of the Valley. Herb Paris. Cuckoo Flower.	Peppercorn. Agrimony. Field Scabious. Nettle-leaved Bellflower.	Common Ragwort. Winter Green. Ivy. Yarrow, or Milfoil.
MARCH.	JUNE.	SEPTEMBER.	DECEMBER.
Primrose. Spurge Laurel. Fertwinkle. Sweet Violet.	Red Campion. Bird's-foot Trefol. Borage. Wild-Rose.	Red Poppy. Yellow Wort. Michaelmas Daisy. Corn Cockle.	Mushroom. Fern. Fern. Common Ling, or Heath.

RULES OF THE GAME.

The dealer to lay the Bridegroom (the Myrtle-sprig) in the centre of the table, and then deal the rest of the cards.

Each player to examine his cards, and if he discover any two flowers of the same month in his hand, must pair, i.e., lay them side by side, face uppermost, round the myrtle.

After each player in rotation has so paired *once* round, the game to proceed.

Each player in turn drawing one card from his neighbour, and pairing, if the fresh card enable him so to do; and so on, until the Bride (the Snowdrop) is left in the last player's hand, who is then to place her beside the Myrtle, in the centre of the other flowers, which may be so disposed as to form a wreath around the Bride and Bridegroom.

N.B.—A capital Game, on the plan of "The Happy Families," may also be played with these Cards.

FEBRUARY.



SNOWDROP

(Left)

John Jaques & Son issued this New Game to celebrate the wedding of the Prince of Wales and Alexandra of Denmark, the new Princess of Wales.

The snowdrop, which represents the Bride is the only card with a coloured background.

(Right)

The C.B.Reynolds pack which is illustrated on this month's photosheets was issued especially for the royal wedding in 1863.. The Ace of Hearts shown here features the bride and groom inside the heart sign.

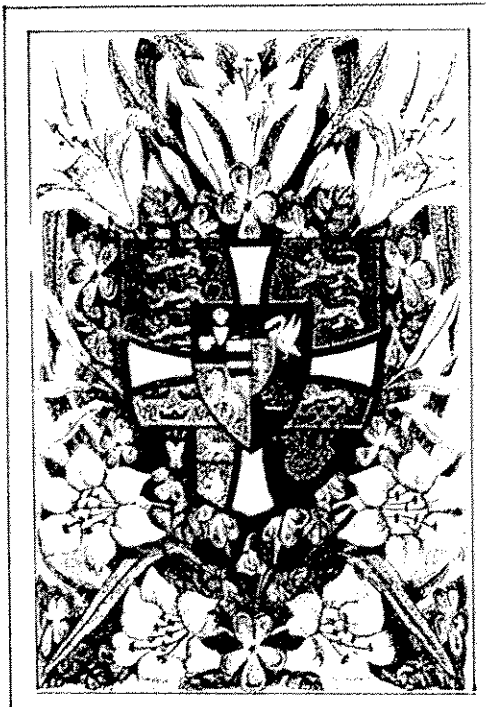


(Left)

These two packs were issued by De La Rue.

The pack on the far left shows the coat of arms of the Prince of Wales on a background of roses.

The nearer pack bears the coat of arms of Alexandra on a background of lilies. The lion and heart top left quarter is to be seen again on the Goodall pack illustrated overleaf.



Wales (S).

WISNITH

ALBERT EDWARD,
OF DENMARK,
PRINCE OF WALES,
HEIR TO THE THRONE.

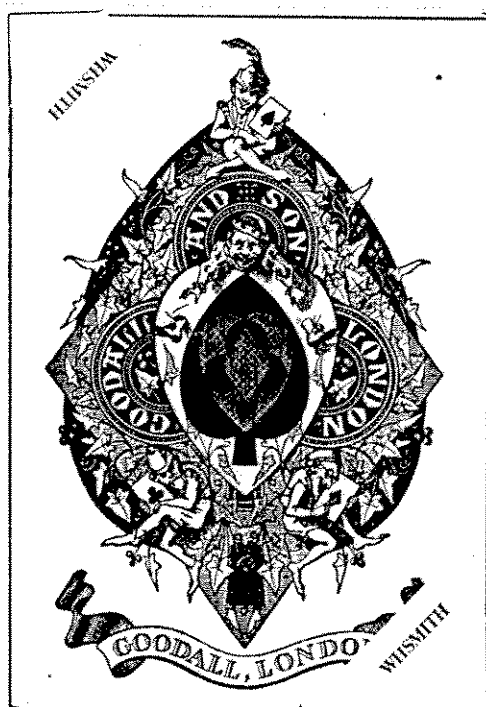
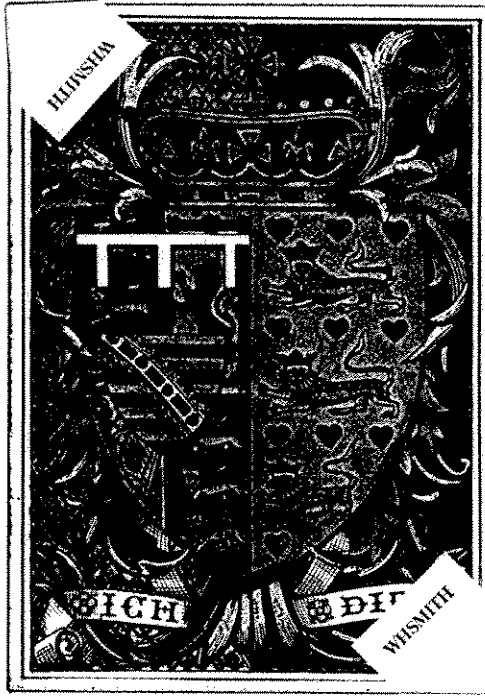
BORN 9TH NOVEMBER, 1841.
MARRIED 10TH MARCH, 1863.

FAMILY CONSISTING OF
DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK,
PRINCE EDWARD OF YORK,
PRINCESS LOUISE, DUCHESS OF FIFE, & THE DUKE OF FIFE,
PRINCESS VICTORIA OF WALES,
PRINCE AND PRINCESS CHARLES OF DENMARK,
THE LATE DUKE OF CLARENCE,
THE LATE PRINCE ALEXANDER OF WALES.

(Left)
This card is from a game called A Royal Game, Her Majesty the Queen, Empress of India, Children and Grandchildren. It is dated 1896 on the box, but there is no maker's name. It gives the date of the royal wedding as 10th March 1863. He was then 21 and she was 18 years old.

(Right)
These are two packs issued by Goodall for the event. The far right pack shows the Prince of Wales plume of feathers. The nearer pack has the arms of the Prince and the Royal House of Denmark halved.

Albert Edward, later to become Edward VII, was invested as Prince of Wales in 1841, thus being so for nearly 60 years, succeeding to the throne in 1901.



(Left)
Bancks Brothers on the far left probably added the HRH Prince of Wales in 1863. The Goodall elf has an erect feather for the wedding on the standard packs in that year. Other makers who may have produced packs for the event are Perry, Reynolds, Woolley, Steer and Kronheim. Does anyone have special, unusual or interesting packs by those makers? We would like to know of any other 1863 royal wedding cards.

(RTEW)

Kimberley's Royal National Patriotic Playing Cards

Kimberley's Royal National Patriotic Playing Cards are haunted by the error of past writers. The truth is, as the Patents Office records show, that William Kimberley applied for a patent in respect of his "improved playing cards" in February 1892 and his application was fully accepted on December 17th of that year. David Kimberley & Sons, who published the cards, were not previously printers or publishers but manufacturers of carpenters' planes in Birmingham at that time.

The cards bear no advertising material, nor is there any indication that they were intended for commemorative purposes. The fact that they ran into at least four distinct editions suggests a very considerable circulation during the nine or ten years of production. It is interesting to speculate to what extent they acted as a spur to more experienced firms like Goodall (who had an office in Birmingham at that time) whose Victorian Jubilee and other non-standard packs came some years after Kimberley's enterprise.

Kimberley describes his cards thus: "(They) differ from ordinary cards in having combined with each suit a special distinct nationality of style and appearance. Instead of the ordinary ace card, I make an ace which exhibits an illustration of the representative flag of that suit's nationality. Instead of the usual king, queen and knave, I propose to place a good portrait of the rulers or representatives of the countries indicated. The queen of diamonds remains the queen of diamonds although it may bear a portrait of the Queen of England or the Princess of Wales....."

The first edition is so different from the others in quality and method of printing I am convinced that different printers were involved. One of these was undoubtedly James Patrick. None of the cards is dated but if we can assume that printing

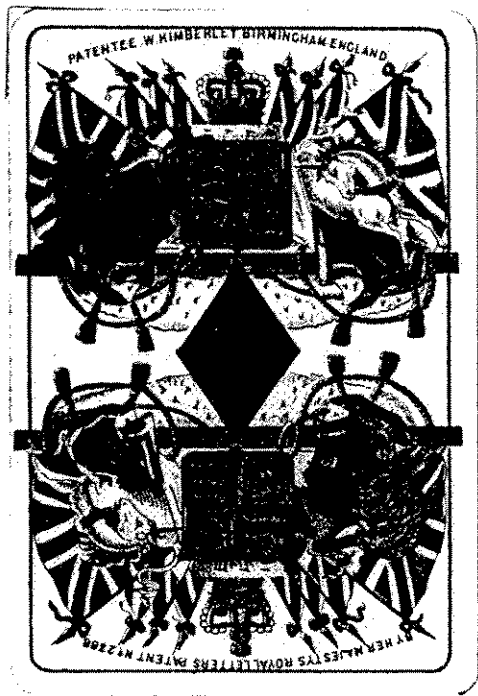
started in 1893 and ended about 1902, the following four edition dates would not be far wrong: A, c.1893; B, c.1896; C, c.1899; and D, c.1902.

The types designated A and B are distinguished by having the grey-whiskered Wilhelm I of Germany as the king of clubs. He carries a curved sword over his shoulder. At this time he had been dead for at least four years but must have lingered on in the imagination as "the German Emperor". Kimberley's national representatives were not necessarily contemporary.

The other main group of cards designated C and D replaces Wilhelm with Kaiser Wilhelm II who is shown holding the hilt of a sword or dagger in his left hand. The drawings must be by quite different artists, they are much closer to the accepted likenesses of the time and the hands and other details are more accurately drawn. The aces too are quite different in the arrangement of the flags. (Both types are fully illustrated on the photosheets.)

To come down to individual editions, several features distinguish type 'A' from all the others. It is printed very luxuriously by chromo-lithography using no less than eleven different colours, one of which is gold. Throughout the pack the suitmarks each have their own colour: black, blue, vermilion and crimson. All 52 cards have an ivory background panel separated from its white margins by a gold line. A grey geometric patterned background distinguishes the aces of hearts and spades. The drawings have a robust, provincial flavour, the work being more earnest than talented. There are no corner indices on the cards from 2 - 10, but the words 'King', 'Queen', 'Jack' and 'Ace' are written in full. The backs in dark blue and gold on white have forty-one clocks showing the variations in time throughout the world.

Type 'B' seems to be the least widely distributed edition; it is not difficult to see why. It attempts to reproduce the same designs as 'A' but by a much meaner printing process, a kind of poorly planned 3-colour halftone effect. Hence, although black is added for the spade and club suitmarks, only red, yellow and blue are to be found in the illustrations. They are superimposed on each other in places with the intention of producing colour mixtures, but the results are distinctly muddy. The delicate geometric patterns on the aces of hearts and spades were beyond the scope of this technique and are, accordingly, replaced by patchy cloud effects. The ivory background to the rest of the cards has also been abandoned. Corner indices are introduced on the cards from 2 - 10.

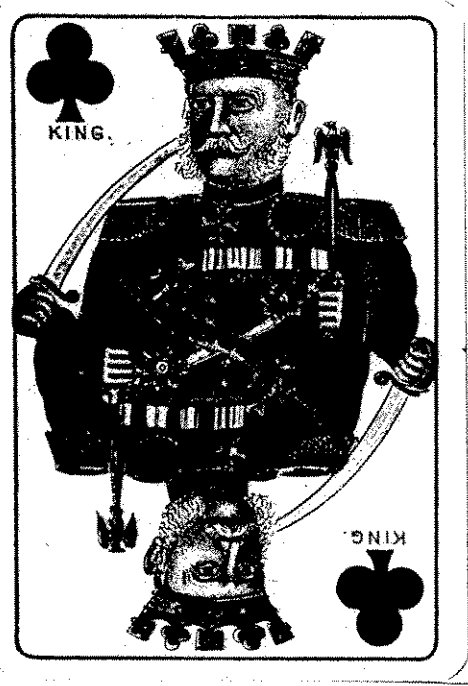


(From type 'A')

Whatever the reason for this change in the method of printing a much cruder image resulted. This must have been predictable since the designs made originally for the eleven colour version would impose an impossible strain on a three colour process of the kind attempted.

The inquest on this ill-fated edition seems to have resulted in more responsible procedures being adopted. The original designs were scrapped and the whole pack was entirely re-designed to suit the more modest printing method. Hence in edition 'C' the drawings are done by means of a fine line and stipple printed in black, to which are added mainly flat areas of colour. These colours are red, blue, yellow and pink. None of the courts owes much to the previous designs except in their general theme. The English jack of diamonds formerly a nautical nonentity now becomes the future Edward VII. The jack of spades carries a sword in place of the length of rope. The appearance of Kaiser Wilhelm is the most conspicuous subject revision.

Type 'D' uses almost identical designs and printing methods as 'C', though close inspection will reveal subtle changes to the diagonal drapery linking the two halves of the courts. This in turn is to make room for wider margins to accommodate the more noticeable feature of the edition, namely the new marginal indices replacing the full words king, queen, jack and ace which had been a characteristic feature of all previous Kimberley cards.



Emperor Wilhelm I
from Type 'A'

The designs on the backs of the cards also went through several changes. The earliest seem to have been the clock designs, which themselves take several slightly different forms. More than one type of heraldic design has also been noted. A joker featuring a lady holding up a card appeared in the later stages of production; precisely when this first appeared might be answered by the meticulous researcher. A descriptive card also survives in some packs, though in edition 'A' it took the form of a leaflet, and in 'B' information was printed on the drawer of the box.

(Trevor Denning)

Brief identification system:

A: Only version with gold in the printing. B: Cloud background to aces, except diamonds.
C: Only two flags on aces, 'King' etc. in full. D: Conventional corner indices throughout.



**ROYAL NATIONAL PATRIOTIC
PLAYING CARDS.**

This Newly Patented pack of Playing Cards is very far superior to the ordinary old fashioned ones now in use, and is patented in Great Britain, France, Germany, and America.

These "National" Cards represent Four Nations, viz.: England, America, France, and Germany. DIAMONDS represent England, HEARTS represent America, SPADES represent France, and CLUBS Germany.

The ACE Cards of the suits represent Typical Flags of each Nation, viz.: for England (Diamonds) Union Jack and Royal Standard; for America (Hearts) the Stars and Stripes; for France (Spades) the National Colours; and for Germany (Clubs) their Royal Standard and Esiggen, making most effective designs and yet not interfering in any way with the playing of the Cards.

After the Aces, instead of the old unsightly so-called Honours—viz.: King, Queen, Jack—these are splendidly designed portraits of a Ruler or Representative of each Nation, for instance, Diamonds—English Representatives; Hearts—American Representatives; Spades—French Representatives; Clubs—German Representative.

Thus there are in play the actual Representatives of each Nation pitted against each other. This raises the standard of Card Playing to that of a very superior game, to the old one; for instance, in play, instead of saying Ace has got the Trick, it might be England wins, or France wins, America or Germany, &c.; and with the Honours, the Queen of England wins, or Empress of Germany, and so on, thus making it a thoroughly Patriotic game.

These Cards are very beautiful in design and finish and very effective in play.

This new style makes Card Playing a game of the highest moral standard and most instructive, and fit to be in any home in the world, and will raise the standard of the mind, as whilst playing these Cards, the mind of the Players will be carried to the different Individuals and Nations represented.

The design for the backs of the Cards is very beautiful, featuring the Flags of the United Kingdom, and emblematic Colonies throughout the world.

CHARACTERS.

DIAMONDS represent ENGLAND.

KING—H.R.H. FRANCIS ALBERT AUGUSTUS CHARLES EMMAHUEL, Duke of Saxony, Prince of Coburg and Gotha, known as Prince Consort, born 26th August, 1819. Died 14th December, 1861.

QUEEN—H.M. VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland Queen, Def. of the Faith, Empress of India (Kaiser-i-Hind), Daughter of Edward, fourth son of George III., born Kensington Palace, 24th May, 1819, succeeded her uncle, William IV., 20th June, 1837, crowned 28th June, 1838, married 10th Feb. 1840.

JACK—GEORGE FREDERICK, Duke of York, second son of H.R.H. Prince of Wales. Born June 2nd, 1852, married July 6th, 1873, to Princess Mary (May) of Teck.

CLUBS represent GERMANY.

KING—H.M. WILLIAM II., third Emperor of Germany, and 9th King of Prussia, son of Frederick, Crown Prince of Prussia (afterwards Emperor) and Victoria, Princess Royal of Eng. Born Jan. 27, 1859, acceded to the throne Jan. 9, 1888.

QUEEN—H.M. EMPRESS OF GERMANY, PRINCESS AUGUSTA, eldest daughter of the Duke of Schleswig-Holstein-Sonderburg-Augustenburg, and niece of Prince Christian, married February 27th, 1882.

JACK—PRINCE FREDERICK WILLIAM VICTOR AUGUST ERNST, Cf. Prince of Germany & of Prussia, born May 6, 1882.

HEARTS represent AMERICA.

KING—GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON, first President of United States of America 1789 and 1793. Born 22nd February, 1732, died 14th December, 1799.

QUEEN—Wife of General George Washington, MARTHA CUSTIS, born 1732, married 1759, died 1802.

JACK—Typical representative of United States Navy.

SPADES represent FRANCE.

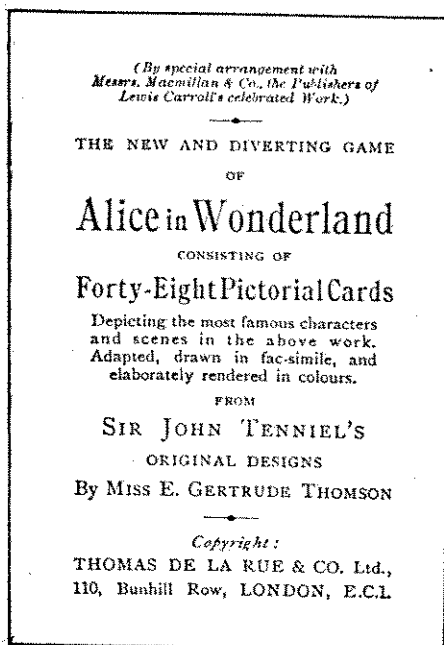
KING—H.M. LOUIS NAPOLEON, born 1808. Elected President of 2nd Republic of France, 19th December, 1849. Elected Emperor as Napoleon III. Nov. 22, 1852, deposed 4th September, 1870. Died January 9th, 1873.

QUEEN—H.M. EUGENIE MARIE DE GUZMAN, Countess de Teba, second daughter of Count de Montijo, Married Napoleon III., 1853.

JACK—Prince Imperial of France, NAPOLEON EUGENE LOUIS IVAN JOSEPH, s. of Napoleon III. and Emp. Eug. Born Mar. 16, 1856, killed in British-Zulu War, June 2, 1879.

Kaiser Wilhelm II and the information cards from Type 'D'

Alice in Wonderland



Front page of Rule Book

On July 4th 1862 three young girls, Lorina Alice and Edith were rowed up the Thames from Oxford to Godstow. Their oarsman was the Rev. Charles Dodgson, a lecturer in mathematics from Christ Church Oxford. The girls were the daughters of the college Dean, Henry Liddell.

Dodgson was born in January 1832. His father was the vicar of Daresbury in Cheshire. Being one of a large family Charles continuously invented games for his brothers and sisters. A particular favourite was the puppet stage which he made, for which he wrote all the plays and manipulated the puppets.

Being an outstanding scholar and mathematician he became a lecturer at Christ Church college in 1855. In the same year he began contributing articles poems and stories to the Comic Times soon to hide behind the pseudonym of Lewis Carroll. He was a shy, reserved man who shunned all publicity and even denied having any connection with Lewis Carroll. But he was thoroughly at ease in the company of young girls entertaining them in his rooms in college. There he kept an assortment of musical boxes, clockwork bears, mice, frogs, games and puzzles of every description.

It seems that Alice Liddell was his favourite companion and he had a special relationship with her. She was later to become Mrs Reginald Hargreaves (d.1934) living long enough to celebrate Dodgson's birth centenary. A book has recently been published containing many of the delightful photographs which Dodgson took of her as a child. Being a keen amateur photographer Dodgson had a studio and darkroom at college.

It was to pass the time on that boat trip up the Thames that Dodgson made up the story about Alice and her adventures underground. On their return to Oxford, Alice implored Dodgson to write out the story of Alice. This he did and illustrated it himself giving it to Alice for Christmas. It was not long before the suggestion of publication was made. John Tenniel was commissioned to do the illustrations and the book with its new title of Alice in Wonderland was published by Macmillan & Co. in 1865.

The original manuscript was auctioned in 1948 and purchased by Dr Luther Evans, Librarian of Congress, for \$50,000. He presented it to the British Museum as a gift from the American Nation.

The Alice which Dodgson writes about is a very self-assured Victorian child. Obedient to the rules of society she looks for the rules that govern this dream world. She discusses logically with herself all possibilities and has considerable reasoning power. She always appears in control of herself if not of the dream. She is puzzled by the way her flamingo mallet behaves in the croquet game with the Queen of Hearts but is willing to play because the game does have some rules. It is because there appears to be no order in the trial of the Jack of Hearts that she brings the dream to an end. It is for young children a frightening story because they are not ready to appreciate the core of self-command which Alice has.

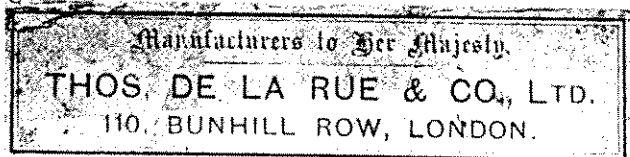
John Tenniel (1820-1914) had joined the staff of Punch in 1851. He contributed over 2000 cartoons many of which have become well-known. Being chosen to design the illustrations for 'Alice' began a long and fruitful



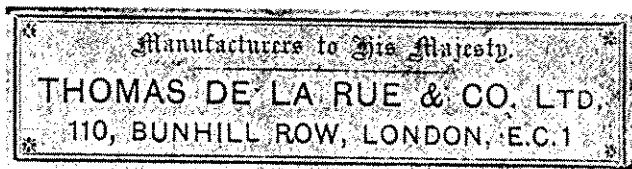
The flamingo mallet

partnership. Neither he nor Dodgson were pleased with the quality of printing for the first edition. The 1896 edition illustrations were used for the De La Rue card game, being adapted by E. Gertrude Thomson. Tenniel was knighted in 1893. (Collectors of games will be interested to know that he was responsible for the designs of Jaques 'Snap' which first appeared in 1866 and can still be bought today in an edition by 'Pepys' (now T.J & J. Smith) as Jaques 'original' snap game, nearly 120 years later!)

E. (Emily) Gertrude Thomson had already done some work for Dodgson. His strict religious views had caused him to ask her personally not to do work for him on Sundays. She was mainly a miniaturist having studied at the Manchester School of Art. She came to work in London in 1908, was elected to the Royal Miniature Society in 1912 and died in 1932. It is probable that the card designs were done in 1897. (PCW)



Side of the box from earlier edition stating HER Majesty, (Victoria)



Side of box from the later edition stating HIS Majesty, (Edward VII)

GOODALL'S HISTORIC PLAYING CARDS
 Duplex, Round Cornered, Thin, GILT EDGES OR PLAIN.

These Cards have special features of a highly interesting character, the Court Cards representing Portraits of the Kings, Queens, &c., of the longest reigns previous to that of Her Majesty the Queen, artistically produced in Colours, forming a veritable EDITION DE LUXE.

CHAS. GOODALL & SON, LTD., LONDON.

Goodall's Historic Cards

For Queen Victoria's diamond jubilee in 1897 Goodall produced a special design called 'Victorian'. The portrait on the back is dated 1837-1897. It was re-issued in memoriam dated 1837-1901 after her death.

This same design was renamed 'Historic' about 1900 as shown in the advertisement to the left taken from a Bridge booklet which is dated 1900 on the cover. The only significant difference being the lack of gold edging around all the pips, in other respects the packs are identical. (See photosheet) 'Historic' series B probably appeared at the same time as the newly designated Historic 'A'.

The three box fronts shown below are from these related packs. Illustrations of the cards appear on the photosheets issued with this edition of the newsletter.

(The portrait reverse is only found on the 'Victorian' pack)

GOODALL'S VICTORIAN PLAYING CARDS
 1837 1897 GILT EDGES.
 The portrait of H.M. The Queen is from a photograph by Bassano, Old Bond Street.
 MADE IN ENGLAND.
 Chas Goodall & Son, London.

'Victorian'

GOODALL'S HISTORIC PLAYING CARDS
 DUPLEX, ROUND CORNERS, THIN.
 These Cards have special features of a highly interesting character, the Court Cards representing Portraits of the Kings, Queens, &c. of the longest Reigns in English History, previous to that of H.M. the Queen.
 Artistically produced in Colours, forming a veritable EDITION DE LUXE.
 CHAS. GOODALL & SON, LTD., LONDON.

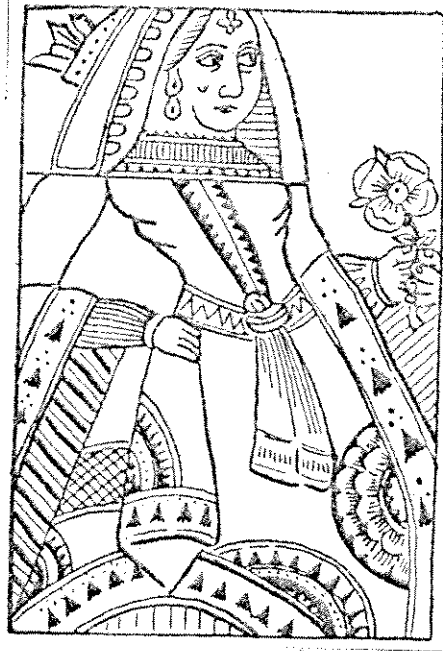
Historic 'A'

GOODALL'S HISTORIC PLAYING CARDS SERIES B.
 DUPLEX, ROUND CORNERS, THIN, GILT EDGES.
 These Cards have special features of a highly interesting character, the Court Cards representing the Royal Costumes of four reigns in English History, viz.:
 Clubs—Plantagenet,
 Diamonds—Tudor,
 Hearts—Stuart,
 Spades—Hanoverian.
 Artistically produced in Colours, forming a veritable EDITION DE LUXE.
 CHAS. GOODALL & SON, LONDON.

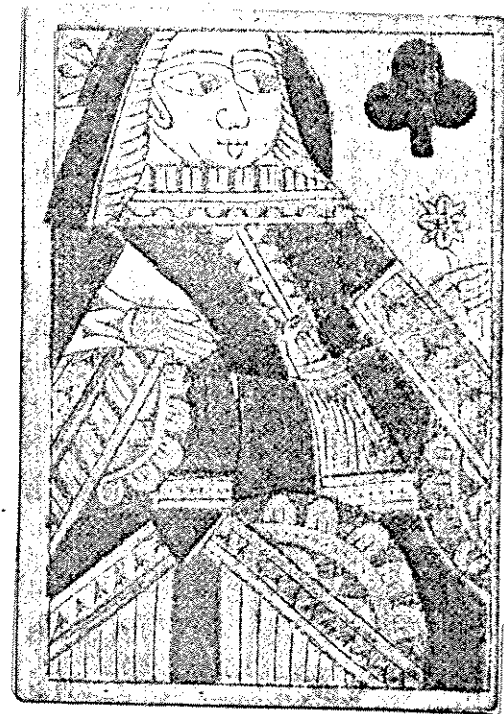
Historic 'B'



Marechal, Rouen 1570



English 1675



Brotherton 1800

The Queen of Clubs

Apparently nobody in particular she is a woman without a history! It seems that the best explanation of her most usual French name, Argine, is no more than an anagram for Regina which simply means 'Queen'. Although that is certainly true, I find it hard to believe that she is the only court card without a legendary counterpart.

In England the card used to be known as Black Bess. In Lincolnshire it was more usually Queen Bess and that is a clear reference to Queen Elizabeth I. As she was always, and still is, a particularly popular sovereign this was a high accolade for this card. It has lead commentators of card legend to describe the queen of clubs as a 'popular and lucky card'. It is doubtful that Black Bess should also refer to Elizabeth I.

The changes in the design over the years are relatively few except that this is one of the six court cards which become 'turned' during the second half of the nineteenth century to accommodate the suit sign on the upper left side of the design. Consequently she changes her gaze from the left to the right. By 1800 she has lost her earring and the curves of her robe have been straightened out. She retains the curve of her waist even in the double-ending but is eventually deprived of her ermine trimmings. The flower remains relatively constant in its appearance, except for Brotherton's miserable weed! (PCW)



Hunt & Sons 1830



De La Rue 1875



'SNIP'

The comical game of Snip produced by Mullord Bros. c.1880 is a variety of snap played with important characters of the nineteenth century. There are 56 cards in 14 sets of 4. Some of the characters are better known today than others, some references are not clear. It is a good example of a very collectable type of game with historical interest.

The two cards illustrated here were chosen because they did not reproduce (pale grey printing) on the photosheet.

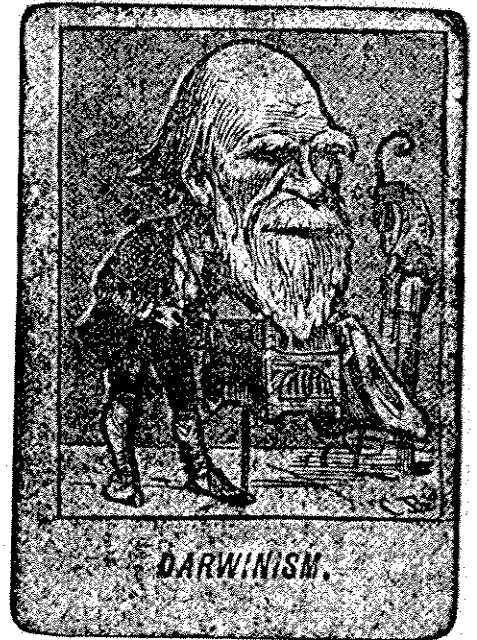
Captain Webb: The first man to swim the English Channel in 1875. He died attempting the rapids and whirlpool at the foot of the Niagara falls in 1883.

John Bright: Orator and statesman, introduced the Reform Bill of 1832, responsible for repeal of Corn Laws in 1849.

Grand Duke Nicholas: son of Alexander III, became the Tsar in 1894, abdicated during the revolution, murdered 1918.

This card is signed PR, undoubtedly the artist, but who?

A Regular Turk: uncertain, any ideas?



(Second row on photosheet)

Henry Irving: one of the most famous Victorian actors, the first such to be knighted. A literary buff might be able to supply the significance of 'Muffins'.

Little Billy: most probably William Wilberforce a prime mover for the abolition of slavery.

Dr Kenealy: not a name that springs to mind, he was a barrister and later an M.P. who moved for a Royal Commission of Inquiry into the conduct of the Tichborne case (see below).

Swee-eeep: subtitled 'A Low(e) calling', this refers to Robert Lowe, yet another lawyer and M.P., this time remembered for his championship of reform for child labour.

(Third row on photosheet)

Claimant!: this is the famous Tichborne claimant, heir to a fortune, who in this case was none other than Arthur Orton, a butcher's son from Wapping - yet another imposter.

Prince Bismark: the well-known Iron Chancellor who is much remembered for uniting Germany in 1871, the subtitle 'Cock of the Walk' indicates his standing in Victorian England.

Darwinism: a reference to the following of Charles Darwin and his very controversial work on the origin of species. This card appears to be signed by C.B.

Alfred Tennyson: Poet Laureate 1850 - 1882.

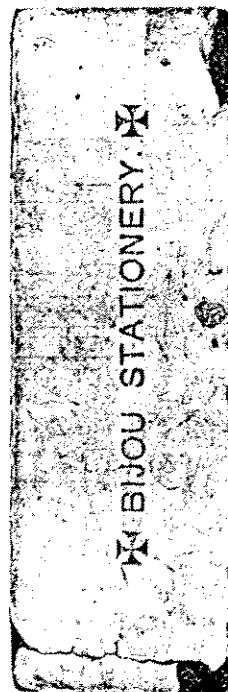
(Bottom row)

A favourite dish: presumably the partition of Turkey, cause of the Crimean War.

Mr Plimsoll M.P.: the sailors' friend who was responsible for the Merchant Shipping Act of 1876 and the Plimsoll Line on ships.



(RTEW)



Above right is shown part of the box, Bijou Stationery is the only clue to the maker, Mullord Bros, who also produced a game called Snip Snap Snorum (32 cards, 8sets of 4) with the following: Gladstone, Our Empress, Disraeli, Sir W. Lawson, Sir Charles Reed M.P., Dr Kenealy M.P. (again), Mr Butt M.P., Mr Stanley. Has anyone a copy of this?

Some Correspondence

A Letter re the Bancks Bros. Bond:

You ask why the Bancks Brothers bond of 1855 illustrated in the March 84 newsletter does not correspond with that of their Frizzle Ace registered in 1849.

A beginner wishing to set up as a card maker would have been required to follow this procedure. Firstly he notified the Stamp Office of the address at which he proposed to work. In Great Britain his premises must have been situated in London, Westminster or Southwark. Nowhere else was allowed. In Ireland manufacture was similarly restricted to Dublin only, (also Cork for the years 1828 - 1831). (9 Geo IV c78 s7)

At the same time he gave the names and addresses of two householders of good standing who were prepared to act as sureties for him in a bond to ensure proper payment of the duty arising from his manufacture. The penalty of this bond was fixed by the Stamp Office, bearing in mind not only his expected output liable to duty but also to any penalties a court might impose for the non-compliance with the law. Since the courts might have power to impose penalties much above the value of the goods involved in the infringement, the Stamp Office set the bond penalty quite high, and therefore it cannot be used as any direct evidence of the size of the maker's trade.

With the bond signed and completed by the principal (i.e. the card maker) and the sureties this would have been submitted to the Stamp Office with an application for a maker's licence. The fee for this licence would have been struck as an embossed stamp on the licence itself.

Not until the licence had been issued would the maker have been in a position to order their paper to be stamped by the Stamp Office with the special aces required from 1765-1862. At first he would have had to use an unappropriated ace which bore no maker's name. If he wanted special plates showing his own name he would have to pay for the cost of engraving. These would probably have come later when he was well established. It is possible that a number of smaller makers never had their own plates engraved, and to discover their names now is a very difficult task.

Once a bond had been completed the Stamp Office would have made periodic enquiries to ensure that its conditions remained unchanged. A change of address of the workshop, a change of partners or a considerable increase in trade, an increase in the rate of duty, the death or incapacity of one of the sureties would all have required a new bond.

So once the first bond was signed, the date of any later bond would have had little or no relation to the date of registration of an appropriated (named) ace. Consequently without reference to the previous bond it is impossible to say why a new bond was needed in 1855.

(John Chandler)

Re the De La Rue Pneumatic series:

.....With reference to your notes on 'pneumatic cards' I enclose a photocopy of Series D, (patent) for your information. The printing colour is brown. I rather enjoy the thought of Thomas Andros de la Rue who was the first of the family to cherish social ambitions. He bought a house in Cadogan Square and insisted on the other houses being re-numbered so that his could be no. 52!

Gordon Douglas

Identified!

Game no.4 which was on the back of the last newsletter has been identified by Richard Woodley. It is called Sister Susie Snap and was produced by Valentine & Son of Dundee. His set included 'Tipperary Tommy Taking Troops to Turkey.' but not the 'Hieland Hamish...' An exchange of photocopies was of mutual interest and benefit!

The other three games illustrated last month remain unidentified. There are some more queries on this month's back pages. Please remember that we are always willing to help with identification of unknown packs or makers which you may have, in some cases we may be able to provide photocopies of missing cards.

Catalogue Notes

Notes for this issue:

Section 1 : Standard Design. DLR's first design was a failure. It is an extremely rare pack. Confusion has arisen because the second design has often been wrongly described as the first DLR pack. It is interesting to note that in the second design the KH and QC have been turned to conform with other makers.

Section 2 : Non-Std Design. a) Rowley, see the article. b) C.B. Reynolds, an extraordinary design issued for the royal wedding, see the article on the wedding cards. There are quite a few variations of this pack. c) Kimberley's Patriotic cards, see the article. d) Goodall's Historic packs, Historic 'A' has the same courts as the 'Victorian' pack, but no gold edging on the pips. The 'Victorian' pack only has the portrait of Victoria on the back. The boxes are illustrated in the article.

Section 8 : Souvenir. (Only for packs with photographs on the FACE of the cards) Goodall produced vast numbers of these for North America. Often only the box is marked with their name. Much less common are those illustrated, one with a plain standard ace and the other marked 'C.G. & S. Ltd. London Eng' under the photo on the AS. Souvenir cards were very rarely used for playing and are most frequently to be found in excellent condition.

Section 20 : Games. There are articles related to both these photosheet packs.

Notes for last issue: (inadvertently omitted)

Section 1 : Standard Design. The Hunt design is probably the most frequently met of the designs from the nineteenth century. It continued to live on through the Bancks Brothers after the demise of Hunt & Sons, until the supremacy of Goodall and De La Rue.

Section 2 : Non-Std Design. See the article on the Shakespearean packs. The Faulkner Joker was not available for the photograph but will be issued later.

Section 12 : Tobacco Adv. An enormous area for collecting as so many have been produced. Generally, artist signed full colour backs are the most collectable. Earlier examples with unusual cigarette packets shown are also interesting, e.g. Gold Flake 1.

Section 20 : Games. A listing of Jaques card games researched by Donald Welsh shown below.

Section 24 : Non-Std Aces. Craven 'A' NSA 1 is found in only a few Craen 'A' packs, more usually a standard ace is found. There is considerable collecting interest in NS aces.

(PCW)

Jaques card games listed alphabetically, the numbering is NOT chronological.

- | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 14. Anno Domini | 57. In and out of Luck | 46. The bee and the butterfly |
| 13. Anno Mundi | 20. Kick Off (Fireside football) | 3. The bride |
| 65. Banker Binks | 11. Kingdoms of Europe, West | 49. The old soldier and his dog |
| 66. Birds of a Feather | 12. .. East | 47. The Golden Egg |
| 45. Candid Confessions | 82. Laughing made easy | 33. The Realm |
| 67. Caught in a Trap | 42. Lend me five shillings | 38. The Wedding |
| 83. Chord | 56. L'Entente Cordiale | 8. The White Cat |
| 44. Characters of C. Dickens | 21. Loading the Donkey | 16. The XVI Century |
| 64. Comic Races | 40. London Post | 17. The XVII Century |
| 35. Counties of Eng. (1st.) | 32. Mayday | 18. The XVIII Century |
| 36. .. (2nd.) | 76. National Gallery, Brit. | 19. The XIX Century |
| 37. .. (3rd.) | 77. .. Dutch School | 69. Tints |
| 63. Counties of Britain | 78. Nursery Rhymes | 22. Tip |
| 84. Countries of the Empire | 41. On guard | 68. Tip tap and take it |
| 62. Doctor Busby | 55. On Spec | 73. Trente-six |
| 43. Epsom Races | 80. On the cards | 29. Ujiji (search for Livingstone) |
| 75. Faces | 54. Oppo | 70. Victoria |
| 61. Fireside Fun | 23. Parole | 85. Weights and measures |
| 28. Floral Snap | 15. Picture Pumblechook | 71. Who knows? |
| 74. Follow Me | 53. Quinks | 34. Who's Sir Roger? |
| 36. French for Fun | 26. Quits | 39. Worlds Parliament |
| 60. Frogs and Toads | 7. Robin Hood | 72. Zoological snap |
| 58. Great Galumpus | 79. Sam | |
| 37. Great Guns | 52. Shakesp. Fortune Teller | |
| 30. Happy Families | 51. Shearing the sheep | |
| Hide and Seek with the Kings & Queens of England..... | 81. Skits | |
| 4. (1st. series) | 24. Snap | |
| 5. (2nd. series) | 25. Sol (Zodiac signs) | |
| 6. (3rd. series) | 9. Sovereigns of Eng (1) | |
| | 10. .. (2) | |
| 59. Hunting the Hare | 1. Spider and the Fly | |
| 2. Illustrated Proverbs (1st) | 50. Spelka | |
| 27. .. (2nd) | 48. Streets of London | |

NB. Snap has 64, 56 or 32 cards
Happy Families can have 48, 44, 40
28, 24 or 20 cards, the box will
state the number contained.

(RTEW)

The numbers are the catalogue
reference numbers.

e.g. Jaques 54 = Oppo

? Queries ?



Ask for the "GLOBE" Series of Games.

National Families.

The new round game.

This game which gives endless amusement can be played by any number of persons. There are 52 cards consisting of 13 complete families, each family being composed of Father, Mother, Son and Daughter. The following are the names of the families

Mr. John Bull	The Englishman
" Sandy	" Scotchman
" Paddy	" Irishman
" Jonathan	" American
" Pariezvous	" Frenchman
" Fatherlander	" German
" Macaroni	" Italian
" Quixoté	" Spaniard
" Vaneleg	" Dutchman
" Gotakoff	" Russian
" Dryfigs	" Turk
" Ting-Tong	" Chinaman
" Uno-Sum-Sing	" Japanese.

The cards are dealt out one at a time to the players in rotation face downwards until the pack is exhausted.

The game is commenced by the player on the left of the dealer, looking at his cards and if he holds a complete family in his hand, he lays it down in front of himself on the table. He should then try and complete another family by asking any player he chooses for a card with which to complete a family. If the player asked does not hold the card he says "Not at home", and the right of asking passes to him and thus it becomes his turn to ask for a card from any of the other players.

A player who is fortunate enough to receive from another the card asked for, is entitled to keep on asking until he receives the reply "Not at home." A player must not ask for a card unless he holds one of the same family in his hand and the player so asked is bound to hand it over if he has it. The game is continued in this manner until all the families are completed, when the player who has made the most complete families is the winner.

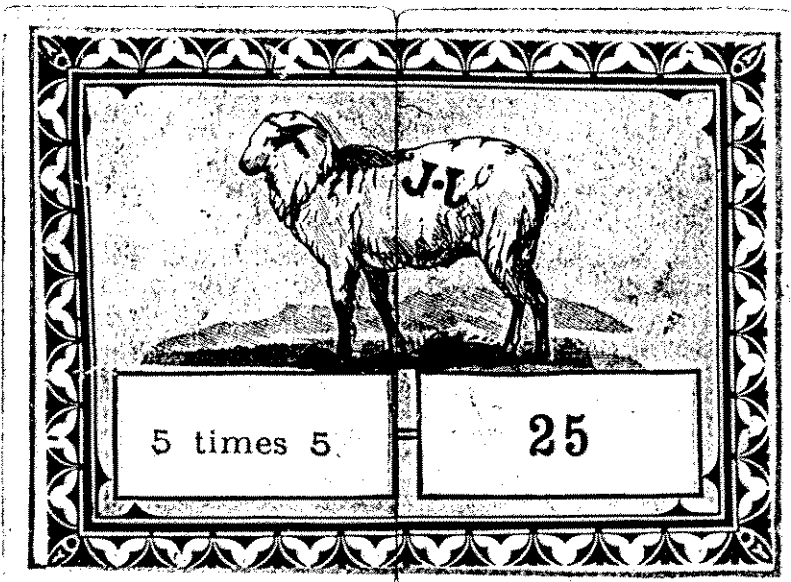
A different way of playing the game is by forming a pool. Each player contributes a certain number of counters and

Play "GLOBE" Ludo.

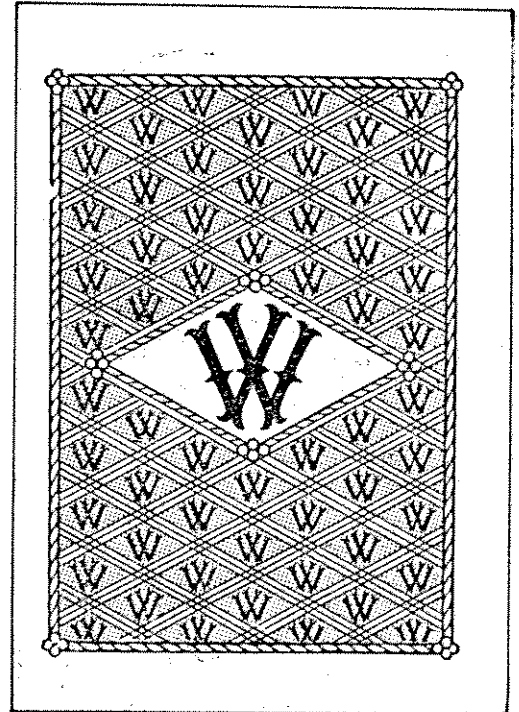
Play "Checkmate".

Ask for the "GLOBE" Series of Games.

1. Globe Series. There are several very fine quality games by this company, printed in Germany. But who are they? Trade mark is on the box.



2. Animal Multiplication. There are 106 cards in this set, pairing questions and answers. It looks like a trade mark on the sheep's back. Any ideas?



3. The Game of Snap. 12 sets of 4 No maker's name on the box but this back is distinctive. This game has sets such as: Road Up, On Guard, The arm of the law, A Cert, etc.

4. Jaques & Son - Counties of Britain.

On the rules for Counties of Britain served by The London and North Eastern Railway it is stated that the following are 'in preparation':

Counties of Britain, served by The London, Midland and Scottish Railway
 ; .. The Great Western Railway
 ; .. The Southern Railway

Does anyone have any of these three games?