

HOW TO PLAY
CROQUËT

S. C. Dinch
July 1866

HOW TO PLAY
CROQUET

HOW TO PLAY CROQUËT.

A

NEW POCKET MANUAL

OF

Complete Instructions for American Players.

ILLUSTRATED WITH

ENGRAVINGS AND DIAGRAMS.

TOGETHER WITH

ALL THE RULES OF THE GAME; HINTS ON PARLOR-CROQUËT,
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CROQUÊT.



FIRST WORDS.

“CHARMING!” is the universal exclamation of all who play or who witness the playing of CROQUÊT. Its origin, though recent, is shrouded with a veil of mystery, this fact alone imparting to the game an additional degree of interest.

Whence it came, by whom invented, or why called “Croquêt,” are questions as unanswerable as the authorship of the attack on the celebrated Mr. Patterson. Like that, however,

it is a great hit; and its devotees do not trouble themselves much about "wherefores," being content to know that it is at once a very simple and a very charming sport, since its points may be learned in once playing, while the thousandth game is as new and as fascinating as the first.

Its claims upon public favor are many, and are daily becoming well substantiated. Introduced into England a few years since, it captured at once the popular taste, and became immediately the fashionable sport of the realm. It soon found its way across the ocean, and presented to the American people such a fair and pleasing appearance that it was welcomed as a friend, and invited to stay, which invitation it seems most decidedly inclined to accept; and we may, therefore, expect to see Croquêt grounds from one end of our country to the other, the hoops planted, the mallets swinging, and the balls croquêtting in all directions.

One prime feature of this new game is that it is an outdoor sport in which ladies and gentlemen may alike engage. Hitherto, while men and boys have had their healthful means of recreation in the open air, the women and girls have been restricted to the less

exhilarating sports of indoor life; or, if they ventured out, all the participation in the healthful out-door amusement and exercise they could indulge in was the tame and unsatisfactory position of mere lookers-on.

It is not to be wondered at, then, this being the state of things, that Croquêt should meet with so warm and universal a welcome. It comes as an outdoor sport for ladies, misses, and even little children,—for the rich and the poor, the strong and the weak,—easily learned and always intensely interesting and attractive.

We shall endeavor, in this "New Manual," to make all its points clear to every understanding, so that persons of every age, from the youngest to the oldest, may easily become proficient in a mode of amusement which cannot fail to be to them an inexhaustible source of health and happiness.

IMPLEMENTS REQUIRED.

The implements required are as follows:—

EIGHT BALLS.

EIGHT MALLETS.

TEN ARCHES, or HOOPS.

TWO STAKES, POSTS, or PEGS.

EIGHT CLIPS, or MARKERS.

These may be simply constructed of ordinary material; but if the game is to be established as a permanent institution, and the players wish to engage in it correctly, and on what may be called "scientific principles," a good degree of attention should be paid to the material, size, shape, and proportion of them. A nice, well-made set of these, kept in good order, always at hand, we have no doubt will soon be considered indispensable in every well-ordered family. When one considers how much real enjoyment and healthful exercise can be derived from such a collection of simple articles, that they are a protection from evil influences by keeping all the members in the household ranks, and that with rational amusements at home, no one will be inclined to seek irrational ones abroad, we think a great inducement is presented for the general adoption of Croquêt.

THE BALLS: THEIR MATERIAL, AND HOW TO MAKE THEM.



Among foreign hard-woods, sound Turkey boxwood is excellent for Croquêt-balls, and is used by those who wish and can afford a tip-top article without regard to expense. But our American forests furnish a wood, equally valuable for making the balls, at a much less cost. This opinion has been confirmed by every good player who has used balls made of rock-maple. This wood possesses sufficient strength and elasticity; and, when used with a suitable mallet, is of the proper specific gravity. Next to this material in value are oak and ash, either of which may be employed if the former cannot be easily obtained. No other wood is adapted for the purpose.

Roundness in a Croquêt-ball is an indispensable quality, and any wood that will not preserve that form is unsuitable. If made of any other material than one of those we have mentioned, the balls become indented after very slight usage; the structure of the wood yielding beneath the repeated blows of the

mallet, thereby impairing their spherica truth.

The diameter of the ball should not be less than three and three-eighths inches; its circumference thus being a fraction less than eleven inches. Some English players, and nearly if not quite all of the London clubs, maintain that the ball should measure three and five-eighths inches in diameter; but, as this size involves the use of a large and heavy mallet, the three and three-eighths diameter will be found the most desirable.

As we have intimated, an exact spherical form must be insisted upon, therefore, whether you turn the balls yourself, have them turned, or purchase them of a regular dealer, this feature must be looked after and secured.

After the balls are turned, they should be painted with at least three coats of good oil-color; each to be thoroughly dry before the succeeding one is laid on.

A style of balls known in England as "The Club Set" is quite a favorite among the best players. In this set, the balls pertaining to each side are painted of one color, in rings; the number of which on each ball distinguishes the owner, thus:—

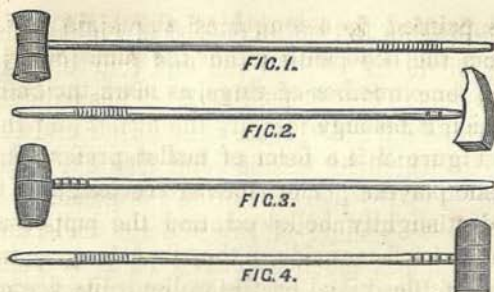
Supposing the set to consist of eight balls, four would be painted red and four blue, in rings, one to four respectively. Thus painted, the rings not only identify the owner and the side to which he belongs, but also show the rotation of the players during the game.

Another manner of painting the balls, and one which is much approved of, is to paint four of the balls, one blue, one black, one brown, and one green: these are called the "dark balls;" and the other four as follows, one pink, one yellow, one orange, and one red: these are the "light balls."

THE MALLETS: THEIR MATERIAL, FORM, AND SIZE.

The material of which the mallets are made should be the same as that of the balls. Their weight should be in exact proportion to that of the balls with which they are to be used, so that the latter will yield freely to the blow given to it by the player.

Various forms of mallet-heads have been adopted by Croquêt-players. The shape of that in general use is cylindrical, with the sides slightly curved, as represented by figure 1.



It should be four and one-quarter inches long, by two and three-eighths inches in diameter on each face; which latter should be slightly convex, to prevent fracture by collision with the balls.

The handle of the mallet should be made of straight-grained, well-seasoned wood; ash being considered the best for the purpose. Its length should be three feet; its diameter at the upper end about one inch, gradually decreasing to about one-half inch at the point where it enters the head. It should be turned smooth, and nicely polished, with circular indentations upon that part held in the hands, as seen in our illustrations.

For the sake of uniformity and convenience, as well as for the purpose of distinguishing the players, the handle of each mallet should

be painted to a length of about six inches from the head with either the same color, or the same number of rings, as mark the ball to which it belongs.

Figure 2 is a form of mallet preferred by some players. The faces are rectangular, the sides slightly hollowed, and the upper and under surfaces made on the curve, to agree with the arc described by the mallet in its descent. One end is left large, while the other is reduced one-half in thickness, in order to prevent injury to the foot when resting on the ball to make "the Croquêt." The handle of this form of mallet is inserted somewhat out of the centre, longitudinally, so that it may balance in the hands of the player.

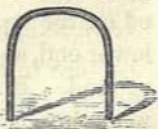
Figure 3 represents a form of mallet occasionally used. It is preferred by some players, but has not gained any great degree of popularity.

A new style of mallet, the form of which is shown in figure 4, is much approved of by experienced players. In the English "Club Set" before mentioned, the mallets are of this pattern; one end being convex while the other is flat. This shape undoubtedly possesses advantages, inasmuch as many good strokes

may be made with the convex face, whilst others may be obtained more successfully with the flat one. The handle of this mallet is inserted in the same manner as that of figure 2.

THE ARCHES: THEIR MATERIAL, FORM, AND SIZE.

The arches, which are also called "hoops," should be made of round iron rod; square or flat not being suitable, as it is apt to indent, or otherwise injure, the balls. For each arch you wish to make procure a piece of rod forty inches in length, and three-eighths of an inch in diameter. Bend it in the form of an arch as here shown, the distance between the prongs being ten inches. This will allow the points of the arch to sink in the ground several inches, leaving the space above about twelve inches in height. The prongs should be perfectly straight, with their ends pointed, so that they may be easily fixed in their positions. Paint the arches white in order to cause them to be easily seen, — a matter of no small importance to players, especially



when the close of a game is continued, as is frequently the case, in the dusk of evening.

THE STAKES.

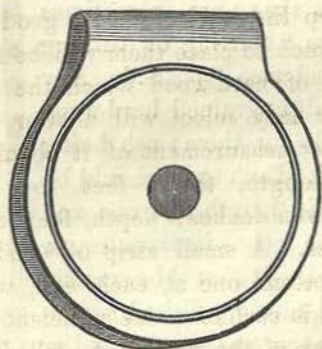
The stakes are sometimes called the "starting or turning pegs," and also "posts." Any good straight-grained hard-wood is suitable for them; ash being preferred. Each stake should be two feet in length and one and one-eighth inches in diameter, or about that. It should be smoothly turned, nicely polished, rounded on the top, and pointed at the lower end, so that it may be easily fixed in the ground. Rings of the colors corresponding with those of the balls should be painted on the upper part of each stake, — a dark and light color alternately.



THE CLIPS.

When the players do not exceed two or three in number, no great difficulty is experienced in recollecting the particular arch a player has next to pass his ball through. When, however, many play, a considerable

time occurs between the several turns; and, hence, doubts and disputes as to the proper hoop often arise. To obviate this, the clip or marker is used.



CLIP, OR MARKER.

It is formed of a piece of metal bent over, the space between the sides being the width of the rods forming the arches. It is painted to correspond with the player's ball; one marker, or clip, being assigned to each player at the commencement of the game. A circular mark on one side (see illustration) indicates the direction in which the player is proceeding. The clip is intended to designate the arch, or hoop, through which the

player is next going, and at which, in his turn, he directs his ball.

THE CASE.

To keep the implements in good order, a case in which to place them will be required. Any kind of hard-wood which the fancy of the owner may select will answer for this. The inside measurement of it should be as follows: length, three feet four inches; width, eleven inches; depth, four and one-half inches. A small strip of wood placed on the bottom, one at each end, with four niches cut in each of a size sufficient to allow the handles of the mallets to fall into, will keep the implements in place.

THE STAND.

Where order, taste, and neatness are looked after on the Croquet-ground, a stand similar to a common round stand used for umbrellas is employed. Two circular pieces of wood, the lower one twenty inches in diameter, and the upper one eight inches, fastened to an upright centre at a distance of about thirty inches apart, the whole made of a neat and durable wood, will form the stand. In the upper

circular wood, eight niches should be cut to admit the mallet-handles.

THE GROUND.

The game of Croquêt is played on a lawn or a piece of smooth turf, and possesses an important advantage over most other outdoor games, inasmuch as any piece of grass-land of ordinary size will serve its purpose: in fact it may be played almost anywhere. The park of the mansion, the lawn or grass-plot of the villa, the ball or cricket ground, and the village green, even "the common" of our large towns and cities, are each adapted for it. To the great facilities within the reach of all thus offered for playing it, may, to some extent, be attributed its already great and rapidly increasing popularity.

The nature of the game will naturally suggest that the more smooth and level the ground the better adapted it is to the purpose.

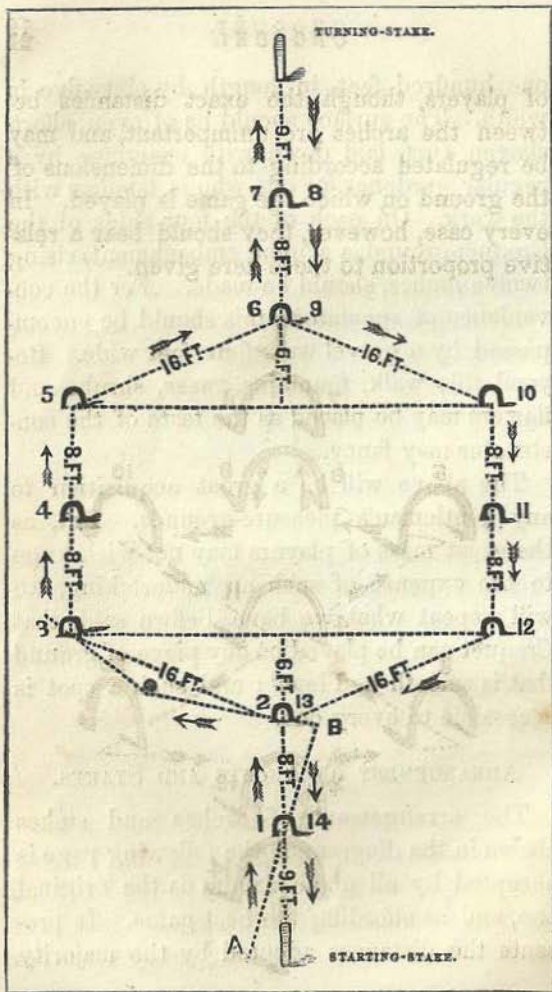
As a Croquêt-ground is not only a beautiful object in itself, but becomes a great and lasting source of enjoyment, persons having sufficient room and means will do well to lay out a permanent one. Its shape should be oblong,

one hundred feet in length by sixty-five in width. The surface should be of even, short-shaven turf, laid down with exactness by a regular gardener, or one who is familiar with the work. On each of the four sides of the Croquêt-ground, a sloping embankment, rising twelve inches, should be made. For the convenience of spectators, this should be encompassed by a gravel walk four feet wide. Beyond this walk, fountains, vases, shrubs, and flowers may be placed as the taste of the constructor may fancy.

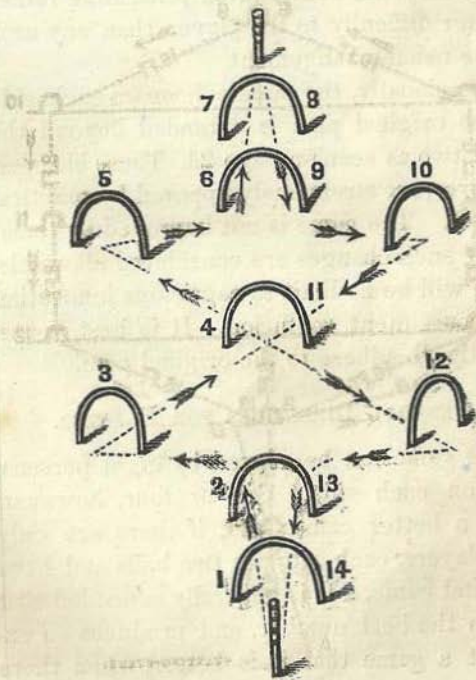
The above will be a great acquisition to any gentleman's pleasure-grounds. But, as the great mass of players may not wish to go to the expense of such an undertaking, we will repeat what we have before said, that Croquêt can be played on any piece of ground that is smooth and level; and such a spot is accessible to every one.

ARRANGEMENT OF ARCHES AND STAKES.

The arrangement of arches and stakes shown in the diagram on the following page is accepted by all good players as the original one, and as affording the best game. It presents the distances adopted by the majority



of players, though the exact distances between the arches are unimportant, and may be regulated according to the dimensions of the ground on which the game is played. In every case, however, they should bear a relative proportion to these here given.



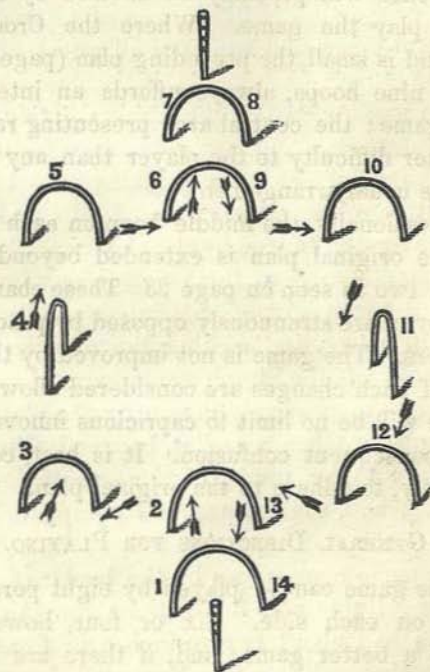
Variations from this plan of arrangement have been introduced in some places, and new ones will probably be devised by those who play the game. Where the Croquet-ground is small, the preceding plan (page 21), with nine hoops, always affords an interesting game; the central arch presenting rather greater difficulty to the player than any arch in the usual arrangement.

Occasionally, the middle hoop on each side of the original plan is extended beyond the other two as seen on page 23. These changes, however, are strenuously opposed by practical players. The game is not improved by them; and if such changes are considered allowable, there will be no limit to capricious innovation and consequent confusion. It is best, consequently, to adhere to the original plan.

GENERAL DIRECTIONS FOR PLAYING.

The game can be played by eight persons, four on each side. Six or four, however, make a better game; and, if there are only two players, each can use two balls and have a capital game. It is generally conceded that four is the best number, and produces so excellent a game that it is better, when there

are as many as eight players, to divide them into two sets, both playing on the same ground.



At the commencement, one of the party is chosen as umpire. His duties are a general supervision of the game; to move the clips,

to decide whether the balls are fairly struck, to restore balls and stakes to their places when disturbed by accident, to decide whether a croquëtted ball is moved or not, in doubtful cases, and to settle all questions of a like nature.

The umpire chosen, the players divide into two sides, which, if not even, may be made so by one of the players taking two balls; the division into sides, choice of balls, mallets, &c., being determined by the players. Should any dispute arise at this point, it may be decided by the umpire placing the Croquëtt-clips in a bag, and making the division and allotment of the implements according to the colors respectively drawn by the players. Each player takes a mallet, ball, and clip (if clips are to be used), of the same color or number; and, thus armed and equipped, proceeds to the starting-stake.

The game commences by the leader of one side (see Rules and Regulations No. 1) placing his ball about twelve inches in front of the starting-stake, and endeavoring, by striking it with one end of the head of his mallet, to drive it through the arch. If he succeeds, he then tries to drive it through the next arch,

and then through No. 3, and so on. As soon as he misses going through an arch, his turn is over. Thus, if he sends his ball through No. 1 with so much force that it goes past No. 2, he has to hit his ball to a place from which he can, perhaps, send it through at his next turn. If, however, at his first turn, he does not send his ball through the first arch, his turn is over; and he must wait until all the others have played before he is allowed to try again. The leader of the other side next plays; and the others in the order of the colors on the starting-stake (see Rule 2).

We have designated on our diagram (page 20) several strokes for the commencement of a game which present favorable opportunities for exhibiting both skill and beauty of play. Thus, a player at the starting-stake placing his ball at the point marked A might strike the ball with force sufficient to pass it through arch 1 and roll it to B. At his second stroke, by similar good play, he would strike it obliquely through arch 2, leaving it in a position, as shown in the diagram, to continue on through arch 3 at the next stroke.

The aim of each player is to drive the balls from the starting-stake through the seven

arches to the turning-stake, which must be struck. This is called "pegging." The balls are then to be driven back to the starting-stake; the course to the turn and back, to be in the direction indicated by the arrows on our diagrams.

The player who reaches the turning-stake first has great advantages for a time; for, as soon as he touches it, he commences his return journey, and, meeting the other players on their road to the farthest point of their journey, he is able to croquêt them, and considerably impede their progress.

The side whose balls are first driven round, and hit the starting-stake wins the game.

The excitement towards the end of the game is almost inconceivable; each stroke is watched with the keenest interest. Gradually one by one the players hit the post, until perhaps only two remain, and now occurs an opportunity for skilful play. If the two opponents are good players, they afford a rare treat to the bystanders. The object of each is first to hit the post, and, failing in that, to keep as far from his adversary as he can. Each endeavors, at the same time drawing nearer to the great object in view, to keep the stake between

his and the other ball. At length one plays at the stake, misses it, and sends his ball near his adversary, who first hits it, next croquêts it away, and then strikes the stake, while all his side wave their mallets aloft, and boldly shout, "Victory!"

ROQUËTTING.

When a player strikes his own ball so as to hit another at a distance, he is said to roquêt it. Having thus hit a ball, he can "take the croquêt" before proceeding farther in the game, or not, at his option.

TAKING THE CROQUËT.

As soon as a ball has gone through the first arch, the player may, with it, croquêt any ball that has also passed through the same arch. It is done as follows: when a ball has hit another at a distance, — that is, "roquêtèd" it, — the player lays his own ball against the other so that it touches it. He then places his foot on his own ball, and strikes his ball with the mallet. The effect of this will be to drive the other ball in any direction the player may choose, which, of course, will be governed by whether the ball thus croquêtèd belongs to a player on his own side or not,



PLACING THE BALL FOR A CROQUÊT.

A friend can by croquêtting send a partner through the arch he wishes to pass, or else drive an enemy who has obtained a good position, and who feels certain of going through an arch at his next turn, exactly in the opposite direction to that in which he wishes to travel. In order, however, to make this stroke very effective, great care must be taken with regard to the way in which the ball is driven. Many thoughtless players think nothing of driving a foe close to a friend,



CROQUÊTTING A BALL.

or, in the hope of assisting their side, send a friend in the immediate neighborhood of a foe; thus improving the position of the adverse side, and damaging that of their own. The difference that a few thoughtful players make to a side is wonderful. Whilst others hit their balls about without ever thinking that at his next turn a foe will probably croquêt them, the careful players, anticipating

the positions of the other balls, place themselves in a position from which, when their next turn comes, they can either go through an arch, or croquêt the ball of a more careless player.

WHAT IT IS TO BE A "ROVER."

When a player has gone the rounds and reached the starting-stake, he may either "peg," that is strike the starting-stake with his ball and retire, or, not strike it, and be a "rover," with the privilege of travelling over the ground to assist players on his own side, or damage the prospects of those on the other. Thus it will be seen that a good rover is of the greatest service to the side, and that the sooner he is placed *hors de combat*, the better for the opposite side. The rovers on the other side should therefore do all they can to make the rover's ball hit the post by croquêtting it against it, if possible; for although if all on his side hit the post before those on the other, the game is won, yet when the best player, being dead, is able to render no further assistance, the game often goes against that side. This plan, however, must be adopted with the greatest precaution and care; and on

no account whatever should a bad player be thus disposed of, since the mere fact of keeping him in the game is of the highest importance, as his services are of little avail to his own side, who cannot win as long as one of their party remains in the game.

WHAT IT IS TO BE A "BOOBY."

When a player fails in his attempt to pass his ball through the first arch, the ball becomes a "booby," and is taken up to wait the player's next turn.

PARLOR-TABLE CROQUËT.

A very neat and attractive indoor game for winter evenings is made by reducing the principles of Croquêt to a small scale.

Form the "ground" by making a sort of tray, having its length twice its width; five feet by two and a half being a good size, with a rim around it two or three inches high. Line it with woollen cloth, — green bocking being the best, — and either fix permanently the arches and stakes, or have holes made in which they can be placed as wanted. The arches, stakes, and mallets will, of course, be made of a size corresponding to that of the

board. Of course the *Croquet* is not performed in quite the same manner as in the larger game; for it would be quite impossible to place one's foot on the little balls which are used in this game. The forefinger of the left hand is therefore used instead, and answers the same purpose equally well. The rules of the game are precisely identical with those used in outdoor Croquet, with one exception. When a player, in hitting another ball, drives it off the board, he at once ceases playing; and, when the next turn of the ball thus disposed of arrives, it is to be placed in that corner of the board nearest to the place where it was driven off. This game has, as may be imagined, many attractions to recommend it, and is now becoming very generally adopted as the substitute in the winter for the summer outdoor Croquet.

PARLOR-FLOOR CROQUÊT.

Another style of Croquet has been arranged to be played upon the floor of a parlor, drawing-room, or other apartment. The arches are made of flat hoop-iron, the balls and mallets being necessarily smaller than those for the regular outdoor game. If the balls are of

rubber, all danger of injury to furniture is avoided.

LAST WORDS.

In closing our Manual, we cannot but express the hope that we have fulfilled our promise, and taught our friends "how to play Croquet." There is one point against which we wish to warn all players, and that is, not to indulge too freely in the privileges of the Croquet. A growing love for and a too frequent indulgence in this practice does a great deal towards making people acquire a careless style of play. The first object to be borne in mind is the passage of the arches. If, however, by hitting another ball, a better, or even an equally good, position can be obtained, then, by all means, use the Croquet; but don't imitate some players, who are eager to go all over the ground, and attempt to croquet, instead of endeavoring to pass the arches. Such players are often croquetted themselves by more careful players, who run after a substance rather than a shadow. Besides, the privileges and the position of a "rover" are so very much more important than those of the other balls, that it should be each player's aim to attain that post before any of the others. Many a

game is lost by some laggard who has neglected the arches in the early part of the game, and has found out his error when it was too late to repair it.

Grace in holding and using the mallet, easy and pleasing attitudes in playing, promptness in taking your turn, and gentlemanly and lady-like manners generally throughout the game, are points which it is unnecessary for us to enlarge upon. None of our readers will fail to observe them, as they are the peculiar characteristics of Croquêt.

Another important piece of advice is, don't cheat. We are aware that young ladies are proverbially fond of cheating at this game; but as they only do it because "it is such fun," and also because they think that men like it, our male readers have not the same excuse to fall back upon. The practice spoils the game so much, that, if it is allowed, the rules may as well be done away with at once. The last hint we have to give is perhaps the most important of all,—when you are hit away from the arch you wish to pass, and are croquêtéd first by one ball and then by another, be sure that you bear the buffetings calmly, and—don't lose your temper.

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

THE FIRST PLAYERS.

1. Two of the party are chosen as leaders, one for each side. These two make a trial of skill in driving their balls to any point fixed upon: the one whose ball is driven nearest to it commences the game, and plays until his ball misses an arch, when the leader of the other side takes his turn.

ORDER OF SUCCEEDING PLAYERS.

2. The players on each side are to play alternately, according to the colors on the starting-stake; and the order in which they play shall remain unchanged during the game.

FIRST POSITION OF THE BALL.

3. On commencing, each player must place his ball at a distance from the starting-stake not exceeding the length of a mallet.

STRIKING THE BALL.

4. The first stroke must be to pass the ball through the first arch.

5. The ball must be struck with one of the faces of the mallet-head, and never with its side.

6. The ball must be fairly struck, and never pushed. [A ball is considered to be fairly struck when the sound of the stroke is heard. A ball is pushed when the face of the mallet is allowed to rest against it, and the ball is propelled without the mallet being drawn back.]

7. A player may play in any attitude, and use his mallet with his hands in any way he pleases, provided he strikes the ball with the face of the mallet.

8. If, in making a strike, a ball is driven beyond the limits of the Croquêt-ground, it may be taken up and placed at the point where it crossed the boundary line.

9. When the ball is by accident driven from its resting-place, it is to be returned to the spot from which it was started.

10. It is allowable for a player to rest the head of his mallet on the ground at a distance from the ball, and strike it by sharply advancing the mallet from its resting-place.

11. Instead of aiming at his arch or at another

er ball, a player may strike his ball towards any part of the ground he pleases.

12. A player having struck the turning-stake counts the stroke in the game the same as though he had passed through an arch, and continues to play.

THE ARCHES.

13. The balls are to pass through the course in the regular order of the arches. If a ball passes through an arch other than that arch next in its turn, or from the wrong side, the passing-through is of no account.

14. If a player hit his ball through an arch, he is allowed another turn, provided that it be the next arch in the order of his course.

15. If the player at one stroke hit his ball through more than one arch, he is allowed only one extra turn.

16. If a ball is struck through its right arch by a blow from another ball, or is roquêté or croquêté through it, it is considered to have gone through its arch.

17. Any player missing the first arch takes his ball up, and, when his turn comes, plays from the starting-place, as at first.

18. If, by a single stroke, a ball passes

through two arches its owner can claim ground one mallet's length in any direction from the place on which the ball stopped; if three arches, two such lengths.



19. A ball has fairly passed through an arch, when it passes within and beyond it to any extent, or when, if the handle of the mallet is laid across two sides of the arch whence the ball came, the ball does not touch the handle.

THE STAKES.

20. Hitting the turning-stake is equivalent in its privileges to the passage of an arch.

21. As soon as the ball hits the winning-stake, after passing through all the arches, it is dead, and must be at once removed from the field.

22. When the ball of a player hits the starting-stake, after he has been through all the arches, whether by his own play or by being roquêtéted or croquêtéted, he is out of the game, and it proceeds without him.

23. A stake that has been displaced must be restored to its proper position before the game can proceed.

THE ROVER.

24. A ball is a rover when it has gone through all the arches, and has not hit the starting-stake.

25. A rover may not croquêt the same ball twice in one turn.

26. Whenever a rover strikes the starting-stake, whether by a stroke from its owner's mallet, or by being roquêtéted or croquêtéted, or by concussion, it is dead.

27. A rover has liberty to croquêt consecutively all the balls during any one of his turns, but cannot croquêt the same ball twice in a single turn.

28. If a rover hit a ball, but by that stroke be driven against the winning-stake, it is dead, and cannot croquêt the ball it has struck.

PLAYING OUT OF TURN.

29. If a person play out of his turn, and the error be discovered before the turn is completed, the ball will be replaced where it stood before, as well as any balls it may have moved. If, however, the turn is completed, the player loses his next turn altogether. The error, however, must be discovered before the commencement of the next turn, or else no penalty is attached.

THE CLIPS.

30. The clip is placed on the arch through which the player is next to pass his ball.

31. The clips are changed by the umpire, and are decisive as to the position of the player's ball; but if the umpire forgets to change a clip, any player may remind him before the next stroke.

32. Should there be no clips used in the game, a player is at liberty to ask any other player how he stands.

ROQUÊT.

33. A ball is roquêtted when it is struck by another, whether the ball striking it proceeds from a stroke of a mallet or is rebounded from an arch, stake, or ball which it has previously struck.

34. When a ball roquêtts two or more balls by one stroke of the mallet, he is said to *ricochet*, and can croquêt one or all, at his option.

35. A player having roquêtted a ball can croquêt or omit to do so, and pass to the next arch.

THE CROQUÊT.

36. As soon as a player has gone through the first arch, he is at liberty to croquêt any ball which has also gone through the arch. (See 37.)

37. A player cannot croquêt a ball which he has not roquêtted.

38. If, in croquêtting a ball, the player move his own ball, he must replace it in its former position.

39. A booby cannot croquêt another ball, nor be croquêtted.

40. A player is forced to move the croquêtted ball at least six inches, and cannot

croquêt the same ball a second time until he has passed through an arch.

41. If a player at one stroke hit more than one ball, and wishes to croquêt, he must do so in the order in which they were struck.

42. If a ball hit another ball that is a rover, and by the blow drives it against the winning-stake, he is allowed another turn, but cannot croquêt the ball, as, the moment it touches the stake, it is dead.

43. If, in croquêtting, the ball slip from the foot (flinches), and go through an arch, or strike the stake, the stroke does not count.

44. If, in an attempt to croquêt a ball, the player's ball flinches, the ball on which the Croquêt was to be executed is free, and can be struck in its turn by its owner.

45. In the act of croquêtting, when the player makes a splitting or following stroke, the foot may be held lightly on his own ball, but it is not obligatory to put the foot on at all. This is entirely at the option of the player.

46. If a player ricochet, he can croquêt one or all of the balls roquêtted in the order of the ricochet.

47. A Croquêt need not necessarily be a

distinct stroke. If the striking ball in its passage hit either a post or an arch, and then carom upon a ball, the privilege holds good; and if also one ball strike two or more others, each of these is croquêtted in the order in which they were struck, but the striker has only one additional stroke when he has croquêtted the lot, and not one for each ball he has struck.

48. A player, after striking a ball, is not necessarily compelled to croquêt it, but is allowed to play in any direction he pleases. [It must, however, be understood that he must play from the place where his ball is, and not, since he abnegates the privilege of it, as after a Croquêt, from a position touching the ball he has struck.]

49. If a player croquêt a ball illegally, he loses his next turn.

50. If a ball, when croquêtted through its arch in a wrong direction, roll back through the arch, it has not to pass through the same arch in the same direction again.

WHEN PLAYERS ARE OUT.

51. A player whose ball has passed all the arches in their order is out as soon as his ball strikes the winning-stake, whether this is

caused by his own stroke or by his ball being roquêtted or croquêtted by another.

52. Each player continues to play his turn so long as he drives through the next arch in its order, roquêts, croquêts, or roquêt-croquêts another ball, or strikes the turning-stake; failing to do either of these, he relinquishes the ground to the next player, and waits his turn.

DISPLACEMENTS.

53. A ball that is by accident put out of its proper place must be returned before the game can proceed.

54. An arch or stake displaced, or deprived of an upright position, must be properly restored before the play can go on.

55. Should the course of a ball be interrupted by any person, the player can allow it to remain at the point where interrupted, or it can be moved to where he supposes it would have reached.

56. If a player play with a wrong ball, he has to replace the ball and lose his turn. [This is not enforced unless the error is discovered before the arrival of the player's second turn.]

57. If a ball be moved by a player when it

should not have been touched, it must be restored to its former position, even if the stroke have sent it against a stake or through an arch.

THE UMPIRE.

58. The umpire is chosen by the entire party.

59. The duties of the umpire are a general supervision of the game; to move the clips, to decide whether the balls are fairly struck when any question on that point arises, to restore balls and stakes to their places when disturbed by accident, to decide whether a croquêtted ball is moved or not in doubtful cases, and to settle all other disputed points.

THE GAME CLOSES.

60. When all the players on one side have passed through all the arches, and struck both stakes, the side that first accomplishes this wins the game.

- Booby.** A ball that has failed in an attempt to pass through the first arch.
- Croquet.** To strike one's own ball when in contact with a roquetted ball.
- Croquet sans pied.** Roquet-Croquet.
- Dead Ball.** A ball that cannot play.
- Dismiss.** To dismiss a ball is to croquet it to a distance.
- Flinch.** When a ball with which a player is about to take the Croquet slips from beneath his foot.
- Following Stroke.** When a player strikes his own ball so that it follows the ball he is croquetting.
- Free Croquet.** That method of playing which allows the player to hold the mallet in any way he chooses.
- In Hand.** A ball that cannot play; a dead ball.
- In Position.** A ball is said to be "in position" when it rests opposite its arch, so that, by one stroke of the mallet, it may be driven through it.
- Made its Arch.** A term applied to a ball when it has passed through an arch.
- Match.** The best of three games.
- Out of Position.** A ball whose locality is such that the player cannot drive it through its proper arch by a single stroke of his mallet is "out of position."
- Pegging.** The same as staking.
- Pushed.** A ball, when the face of the mallet is allowed to rest against it, and it is propelled without the mallet being drawn back, is said to be pushed.
- Ricochet.** The act of roquetting two or more balls by one stroke of the mallet.
- Roquet-Croquet.** This is performed by taking a ball that has roquetted another, and placing it near the roquetted ball; then, without placing the foot on the ball as in the Croquet, striking it with the mallet, driving both balls to any point or points that may best serve the player.

- Roquetted.** A ball is roquetted when it is struck by another ball.
- Rover.** One who has been through all the arches, and struck the turning-stake, but instead of striking the starting-stake, and going out, prefers to continue in the play.
- Sent up Salt River.** A term applied to a side when all its members fail to pass the arches, strike the stake, and go out.
- Side Stroke.** A player is said to make a side stroke when he holds his mallet in one or both hands, and hits his ball with it at the side of or across his body.
- Splitting Stroke.** When a player strikes his ball so that it takes a different direction from that of the croquetted ball, he makes a splitting stroke.
- Staking.** Striking the stake with a ball; pegging.
- Straight Stroke.** A player makes a straight stroke when he hits his ball by holding his mallet perpendicularly in front of his body.
- Take a Stroke off.** A player is said to "take a stroke off," when he places his own ball to touch the roquetted ball very lightly, so as to leave it, when croquetted, in nearly the same position; but, in doing this, the croquetted ball must be perceptibly moved.
- Take the Croquet.** To take the Croquet, is to lay your own ball against a roquetted ball, so that it touches it; then placing your foot on your own ball, you strike it, and thus drive the other ball in any direction you wish.
- Tight Croquet.** That method of playing which compels the player to hold his mallet in a certain way.
- To Roquet.** To cause your ball to strike another ball at a distance.
- Tournament.** The best of three matches.
- To Stake.** To strike a stake in the order of the game.
- Winning-Stake.** The starting-stake is so called, because when it is struck by a returning ball, the game is won.
- Wired.** To be wired is to have your ball in such a position that an arch prevents the stroke you wish to make.

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