OREGON SCOUT.

JONES & CHANCEY, Publishers

UNION, OREGON.

UNSENTIMENTAL VALENTINE.

If I met you face to face,
Maiden fair and full of grace,
I should bow and doff my hat,
Say "your servant," and all that.

While I watched your pretty ways,
I could only smile and praise;
And you'd never dream your lover
Could a flaw in you discover.

But I'm bolder, lady mine,
Hid behind St. Valentine;
And I'll count you one, two, three
Faults that I can plainly see.

Once I saw a tempest rise,
Clouding o'er your pretty eyes,
When a guest came to the door,
Who was old and sad, and poor.

Once I saw you turn away,
With a cold and freeful *nay*,
When your little brother came
Begging for some childish game.

Once I saw you sit at ease,
With a book upon your knees,
While your mother—patient saint—
Did your work without complaint.

Ah! my pretty Valentine,
E're I ask you to be mine,
I must know that lovely face
Shines with more than surface grace;
That your captivating art
Does not hide a careless heart.

Lest when tresses brown grow white,
Eyes get dim which now are bright,
Age and trouble come apace,
Stealing beauty from your face,
I should bitterly repine
Choosing you my Valentine.

—*Elizabeth P. Allen, in N. Y. Independent.*

THE GAME OF WHIST.

Played for 150 Years "According to Edmond Hoyle."

Originally Called "Whisk." It was Played by Plebeians Until Hoyle Modified It and Made It Go Among the Purple.

To be at once the least known and the most famous person in the whole world; to leave a name which forever remains a synonym for accuracy and authority, and which is daily on the tongues of thousands of people; to have written a work which is ranked among English classics and considered indispensable to every well-furnished library, is the unique position accorded to Edmond Hoyle, Gentleman. There are probably no readers of the *Herald* who have not often referred to him as authority, for to say that a thing is "according to Hoyle," means that it is exactly right or correct, and is applied to many things besides games of cards. And yet there are probably but few persons who use this phrase who have any knowledge whatever of the man they quote.

It is more than two centuries now since this distinguished individual first saw the light of day. He was born in England in 1672, and was educated as a lawyer. In his earlier years the game of whist as yet was not known, but there was a game named whisk, a very inferior and plebeian sort of game, which also went by the name of swabbers. It contained the possibilities of the royal game, but it had not yet reached the purple. It was played by four persons, to whom twelve cards each were dealt, so that the beauties of the "old trick" were not involved, and the points were nine. Certain cards at some period of the game were entitled to sweep the board, hence the name of whisk, a small broom or sweep. Most people think we call the game whist because it is a silent game, and most of the dictionaries tell us the name is so derived, but this is an error. It is merely a corruption of the original name of the game, thus modified when it was first introduced into polite society. Edmond Hoyle, lawyer and gentleman, had a greater genius for games than for law. He was probably of the same mind as the lawyer mentioned by Bulwer in "Caxtoniana." "I can," said the latter, "make £500 a year at my profession with much pain and difficulty. I can make the same amount at whist without great labor and with much pleasure. I, therefore, prefer whist."

Hoyle abandoned the law, took up whist, and became immortal, and more than fifty years after his death Byron wrote—

Troy owes to Homer what whist owes to Hoyle.

He seems to have studied the game of whist for many years, and thus learned its great capabilities. He enlarged its scope by playing with the entire pack, fixing the game at ten points. He was a man of good education, moved in good society, and he soon made the game fashionable. He gave it a permanent, logical, and scientific form, called it whist, drew it from its obscurity, and gave it an authentic station in the polite world. This was about the year 1730. He became so skillful a player that people sought him as a teacher, and in the course of his teaching he wrote out notes containing rules and directions for playing, which he sold to his pupils. In Johnson's "Rambler," published in 1750, a fine lady is made to say: "Papa made me drudge at whist until I was tired of it; and, far from wanting a head, Mr. Hoyle, when he had not given me above forty lessons, said I was one of his best scholars." In the *Gentleman's Magazine* for February, 1755, in an autobiography, the writer says:

"Hoyle tutored me in several games of cards."

The novelty and great value of these manuscript rules were soon discovered, and surreptitious copies began to get into circulation, when Mr. Hoyle, to secure his copyright, had them published in 1743, and in that way the famous work originated. It was entitled: "A short treatise on the game of whist. Containing the laws of the game and also some rules whereby a beginner may, with due attention to them, attain to the playing it well. Calculations for those who will bet the odds on any point of the score of the game then playing and defending. Cases stated to show what may be effected by a very good player in critical parts of the game. Calculations directing with moral certainty how to play well any hand or game, with variety of cases added in the appendix. By a gentleman."

The book had a great and rapid success. Edition after edition was sold, and Hoyle received one thousand pounds the first year. He states in this "Short Treatise" that he has framed an artificial memory for whist players, which he will communicate upon payment of a guinea, and that he will explain any case in the book upon payment of one guinea more. Later editions contain his system of memories, but good players say it is of no great value. It consists of a mode of arranging the suits in your hand that a keen-eyed opponent may often detect.

The effect of Hoyle's promulgation of the game in its improved form excited a good deal of satire. In the same year, 1743, there was published a witty and amusing play on "The Humors of Whist; a Dramatic Satire, as Acted Every Day at White's and Other Coffee Houses." It is a short comedy, the principal characters being Prof. Whiston (Hoyle), who gives lessons in the game; Sir Calculation Puzzle, an enthusiastic player, who muddles his head with Hoyle's calculations and always loses; pupils, sharpers and their dupes. The object is chiefly to ridicule the pretensions of Hoyle and the enthusiasm of his followers, and to show that skill and calculations are of no avail against bad luck or fraud. Hoyle had given out that he had spent forty years in its study, and the prologue says:

Who would believe that man could e'er exist,
Who spent near half an age in studying whist?
Grow gray with calculation, labor hard,
As if life's business centered in a card?
That such there is, let me to those appeal,
Who with such liberal hands reward his zeal,
So! whist he makes a science, and our peers
Deign to turn schoolboys in their riper years.

Sir Calculation Puzzle gives some amusing explanations of his loses. He says:

"That certainly was the most out-of-the-way bite ever heard of. Upon the pinch of the game, when he must infallibly have lost it, the dog ate the losing card, by which means we dealt again, and faith he won the game." Another passage is: "I find, Professor, your book does not teach how to beat four by honors. In my opinion there is still something wanting to complete the system of whist, and that is a dissertation on the lucky chair." In addition to whist Hoyle also wrote treatises on quadrille, piquet, chess, backgammon and brag.

Hoyle now became the celebrity he has continued to be down to our own day. His book, not himself, is frequently mentioned in the literature of the eigteenth century. In "Tom Jones" Lord Fellmar says: "I happened to come home several hours before my usual time, when I find four gentlemen or the cloth (servants) at whist by my fire; and my Hoyle, sir, my best Hoyle, which cost me a guinea, lying open on the table, with a quantity of porter spilt on one of the most material leaves of the whole book."

An epic poem on whist by Alexander Thompson appeared in 1791, which contains an apostrophe to the spirit of Hoyle.

But why thus vainly hesitates the Muse,
In idle doubt what guardian power to chuse?
What power so well can aid her daring toil,
As the bright spirit of immortal Hoyle?
By whose enlightened efforts Whist became
A sober, serious, scientific game.

The poet thus goes on to suppose that the shadowy ghost of Hoyle still hovers around the tempting boards arrayed in green.

Still with delight its favorite game regards,
And, though it plays no more, o'erlooks the cards.

The laws of the game, as propounded by Hoyle in 1743, remained the only recognized authority until 1864, when a committee of the great whist clubs of London revised the old code and added some new laws. Hoyle's laws are, however, the basis. Whether the game of whist, if well followed, promotes longevity, may be a question, but it is certain Mr. Hoyle is an example that it does. He died in London on the 29th of August, 1769, at the age of ninety-seven. The papers of the day notice his death, and state that he was well known in the polite world, and that he lived to see his treatise on whist pass through no less than thirteen editions. And thus, full of years and honors, and secure of immortal fame, passed away the father of whist, Edmond Hoyle.—*Chicago Herald.*

—Sniffin (in his own estimation the rising poet)—Ah, do you know, Miss Bracing, that my fancies always come to me in my dreams? Miss Bracing—Yes, that is, perhaps, why they make other people so sleepy. Sniffin, after a moment's hesitation, concluded that it would be well to retire for a while.—*N. Y. Telegram.*

—A boy can walk four miles to go skating, and drag some other fellow's sister all the way on a sled, but when his mother wants him to bring up a bag of crackers from the grocery his kidneys are so weak that he darsen't.—*Burlington Free Press.*

—In a pistol fight at Tin Cup, Col., a spent bullet struck Tom Conners in the mouth and knocked out one tooth. The tooth fell to the floor, but Tom swallowed the bullet before he knew what had hit him.

PITH AND POINT.

—An engraver recently made this mistake: "Mr. and Mrs. —— respectfully request your presents at the marriage of their daughter."

—The world now makes use of 68,000 miles of submarine cables, mostly for the purpose of advertising traveling actresses and announcing the deaths of people nobody ever heard of.—*Lowell Citizen.*

—Jenks: "Do you think Miss Labelle is pretty?" Minks: "No, she is not pretty?" "I must confess I think her beautiful?" "Well, I did, too, but I asked my wife and she said I was mistaken."—*Philadelphia Call.*

—Employer to Clerk.—"I don't object to your going to a funeral once in a while; but I think you might bring me home a fish or two." Sunblush on the end of the clerk's nose extends rapidly to his ears.—*Roxbury Advocate.*

—A gentleman came home in the "wee sma' hours avant the twal," at the South End, recently, and was surprised to find his wife clad in black. "Why are you wearing these mourning garments?" he said, somewhat unsteadily. "For my late husband," was the significant reply. He has been in the house at ten ever since.—*Boston Budget.*

—Woman is rapidly trenching upon the domain of man, and the time will no doubt soon come when she will have monopolized all the trades, professions and occupations. When that happy day comes, man will occupy the proud position of the Indian brave, and have nothing to do but look handsome and keep the women at work. The lot of the coming man will be a happy one.—*Chicago Inter-Ocean.*

—It was at a ball, and the subject under discussion was vanity. A lady maintained that men were also given somewhat to vanity. "The men are ten times more vain than the ladies," she remarked. "That's impossible," said several gentlemen. The subject changed, and a few minutes later the lady remarked: "The handsomest man in the room has a spot on his white vest," whereupon every gentleman within hearing glanced down with a scared expression of countenance at his vest.—*Texas Siftings.*

—Man's troubles:

Man that is married to a woman is of many days and full of trouble.
In the morning he draws his salary, and in the evening,
Behold, it is gone!
It is a tale that is told;
It is vanished, and no man knows whither it goeth.
He riseth up clothed in the chilly garments of the night
And seeketh the somnolent paregoric,
Where to soothe his infant posterity.
He cometh as a horse or ox,
And draweth the chariot of his offspring.
He spendeth the shekels in the purchase of fine linen
To cover the bosom of his family;
Yet himself is seen at the gates of the city
With one suspender.
Yea, he is altogether wretched.

—*Arcanum Journal.*

A correspondent says he never looks at an asphalt pavement or rolls along over its smooth surface in a carriage without thinking of the curious island and the still more singular place from which the material is procured. In about the center of the island of Trinidad, a dot in the Caribbean Sea, just off the coast of Venezuela, there is an asphalt lake. It is said to cover about 100 acres, and is apparently inexhaustible. It is a black, sandy substance, and is believed to be crude rotten petroleum. A singular feature of the substance is that, although about 50,000 tons are taken out of this lake annually, it constantly fills up so that there is no lessening of the supply. This singular lake of paving material is owned by the Venezuelan Government, but is leased to a company in Washington. They have a fleet of schooners running to Trinidad, and, having a monopoly of the business, they import vast quantities of the material.—*Chicago Herald.*

SUDDEN RICHES.

How a Clothes Peddler Brought Wealth to a Cap talist.

Gabriel Karsky rang the bell. His business was that of a second-hand clothes-dealer and the bell was that of No. 20 Liberty street, where David Cohen, a capitalist, resided. Karsky kept a little stuffy shop at 335 Sixth street and often in the pursuit of his calling he took a turn in the fresh air and gathered up old garments to be furnished up as new. Gabriel had often rang the bell at No. 20 Liberty street and when he did so this rainy afternoon, about a month ago and Mrs. Cohen came to the door she said, pleasantly, "Nothing to sell to-day Gabriel."

"I have though" said Karsky, drawing a crumbled paper from his pocket, "I've got a Louisiana lottery ticket here and that is a coupon of ticket 73,987, and I want to sell it." Mrs. Cohen, however, would have nothing to do with the coupon, Karsky insisted and the argument went on until Mr. Cohen impatiently shouted from the sitting-room to take the coupon, give the man a dollar and let him go. The ticket and Mrs. Cohen's dollar changed places and Gabriel pocketing the piece went on his way in the quiet contentment of small profits.

On the 16th of February the list of prizes was published in the *Chronicle*, and Mrs. Cohen looking over it with mild curiosity, saw with amazement that ticket No. 73,987 had drawn the first capital prize, and that her coupon was worth $15,000. She collected the money through Wells, Fargo & Co's bank, and remembering the circumstances of her purchase, sent Karsky $100.

This was not the only sudden fortune that came to San Francisco from New Orleans last month. Another tenth of the first capital prize was drawn here; $2,000 came in a lump to an old woman who held a coupon of ticket No. 14,105, and two young men with Murphy, Grant & Co., have become $5,000 richer by holding a coupon of ticket 45,151, which drew the second capital prize.—[San Francisco (Cal.) *Chronicle*, March 3.

BAMBOO CULTURE.

Burmese and Siamese Cities Literally Built on Stilts.

The Chinese have developed bamboo culture into quite an art, and can produce it black as well as yellow. The Emperor of the Chinese has an officer whose business it is to look after his bamboo gardens.

This grass tree is found in all tropical and sub-tropical regions, both in the eastern and western hemispheres. An attempt has been made in England, and with some success, to raise a dwarf species found at an altitude of 12,000 feet in the Himalaya mountains. The new world furnishes bamboo of the greatest diameter. The stems are usually very slender, but in the northwestern part of South America is found one species with a diameter of sixteen inches. The Chinese put this plant to a greater variety of uses than any other people. So we will see something of what they do with this remarkable production.

Some kinds of it when it first shoots up from the ground are used as a vegetable as we use asparagus, or it can be pickled in vinegar or made into delicious sweetmeats. The plant has to be thirty years old to blossom, then it bears a great profusion of seeds and dyes. These seeds can be used like rice, and a kind of beer is also made from them.

In 1812 severe famine in portions of China was prevented by the sudden blossoming of a great number of bamboo trees. The stems of all the varieties are remarkably silicious. One kind found in Java is so hard, that it strikes fire when the hatchet is applied to it. This has only a very slender stem, which is polished and used as stems for tobacco pipes. This protean tree furnishes material for houses, boats, cordage, sails of vessels, telescopes, aqueduct pipes, waterproof thatching, clothing, water wheels, fences, chairs, tables, bookcases, boxes, hats, umbrellas, shields, spears and paper. The pith is used for lamp wicks, so there is no part of it that can not be used for something. From some of it exquisite carvings, inlaid with gold and silver, are cut, that exceed in beauty the ivory carvings, for which the Chinese are so famed.

Recently it has been put to another use. Mr. Edison has found that the carbonized fibers of the bamboo furnish the best material for the incandescent electric lamp, and has made use of it in his system of lighting.

In Burmah and Siam, whole cities are built from bamboo. These houses are made in pieces, lashed together, and invariably raised on posts several feet high. Think of a city on stilts!—*Cor. Cleveland Leader.*

MARKED CARDS.

A Druggist Reveals Some of the Secrets of the Gambling-Sharpers.

"A man to be a successful card player must have extraordinary sharp eyes," remarked a druggist of this city.

"Why so?"

"I have had an opportunity to observe a thing or two."

"Do you ever play?"

"Never. But card-sharps have come to make blue and red ink of the same hue as that on the backs of the cards generally used in poker. They can make a fine blue line on the back of a blue deck that I couldn't possibly see, and yet they can distinguish it across this counter. They can do the same with a red mark on a red deck. I take a cork, hollow it out and fill it with a prepared ink that is, when dry, hard as the cork itself. The corks, one filled with blue ink and the other with red, are kept in the vest pocket of the player. When he desires to mark a card he has but to moisten one of his fingers by putting it in his mouth and then touch the ink in one of his corks. The card to be marked is touched in the desired spot while the card is being handled in the ordinary progress of the game."

"You say that you have made many such inks for patrons?"

"Lots of them for professional poker-players. I made a set for a man once who went East and played poker at the watering places. He came back with a big bundle of money and went into legitimate business here, but failed. He lost all he had made playing marked cards."

"How comes it that a man who would want inks prepared for the purpose of cheating at cards would tell you his object?"

"Those who told me knew me well, and I had their confidence. They knew that I would not divulge their names for any thing in the world. There are firms that make a business to furnish short-card sharks with prepared inks, and they advertise them through the medium of circulars. Their charge is five dollars a bottle for a small vial half as big as your finger. They get the names of poker-players in all of the cities that they can, and mail them the circulars, setting forth the advantage of playing with the use of the inks advertised. And they get many a customer, too."—*Cincinnati Enquirer.*

Mostly a Native.

"You are a native of this parish?" asked a Scotch sheriff of a witness who was summoned to testify in a case of illicit distilling. "Maistly, yer honor," was the reply. "I mean, were you born in this parish?" "Na, yer Honor; I wasna born in this parish, but I'm maist a native, for a' that." "You came here when you were a child, I suppose you mean?" said the sheriff. "No, sir; I'm just here about sax year noo." "Then how do you come to be nearly a native of the parish?" "Weel, ye see, whan I cam' here, sax year sin', I just weighed eight stane, an' I'm fully seventeen stanes noo, see ye see that about nine stane o' me belongs to this parish an' the ither eight comes frae Camlachie."—*Montreal Witness.*

NOT A DRUG.

Compound Oxygen is not a drug. It does not introduce an enemy into the system, but a kind and gracious healer. It does not assault or depress nature, as is always the case when crude drugs are taken, but comes to her assistance and restores her weakened vital forces. All of its effects are gentle, pervading and vitalizing. If you are suffering from any disease which your physician has failed to cure, send to Drs. STARKEY & PALEN, 1529 Arch Street, Philadelphia, for their pamphlet, and learn all about this wonderful treatment.

Orders for the Compound Oxygen Home Treatment will be filled by H. A. Mathews, 615 Powell street, San Francisco.

In the Catholic church of the United States there are one cardinal, 12 archbishops, 61 bishops, 7,658 priests, 1,530 ecclesiastical students, 6,910 churches, 3,281 chapels, 36 theological seminaries, 88 colleges, 393 academies, 485 charitable institutions, 2,697 parochial schools and 535 725 pupils in attendance at these schools.

A SUGGESTION TO THE TRAVELING PUBLIC.

Tourists, emigrants and mariners find that Hostetter's Stomach Bitters is a medicinal safeguard against unhealthful influences, upon which they can implicitly rely, since it prevents the effects of vitiated atmosphere, unaccustomed or unwholesome diet, bad water, or other conditions unfavorable to health. On long voyages, or journeys in latitudes adjacent to the equator, it is especially useful as a preventive of the febrile complaints and disorders of the stomach, liver and bowels, which are apt to attack natives of the temperate zone sojourning or traveling in such regions, and it is an excellent protection against the influence of extreme cold, sudden changes of temperature, exposure to damp or extreme fatigue. It not only prevents intermittent and remittent fever, and other diseases of a malarial type, but eradicates them, a fact which has been notorious for years past in North and South America, Mexico, the West Indies, Australia and other countries.

Try breathing fumes of turpentine or carbolic acid to relieve whooping cough.

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Hundreds of so-called diseases under various names are the result of indigestion, and when this one trouble is removed the others vanish. The best known remedy for indigestion, according to thousands of testimonials, is one that has been used in the United States for more than fifty years—BRANDRETH'S PILLS. These Pills will cure the worst form of indigestion or dyspepsia, and by their use the national disease is easily conquered.

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TRY GERMEA for breakfast.

RELIGIOUS AND EDUCATIONAL.

—The minutes of the last Presbyterian General Assembly show that 115 of their churches last year received additions of 50 and over each.

—Two or three clergymen in Brooklyn introduced the practice of giving brief talks to the children before beginning the morning sermon.—*Brooklyn Union.*

—Rome papers report that the Pope intends to establish a great university in the Lateran Palace. The head of the Universitias Leonina is to be the Jesuit Cardinal Mazzella.

—The Chinaman in America is being more and more cared for. According to the New York *Tribune* "twenty-two Chinese missions have been established in New York and Brooklyn since 1878, and are in a flourishing condition. What is more, a large proportion of the convert 'stick'"

—In an article published in the *Nouvelle Revue*, a French traveler declares that there is scarcely a village in Syria without a Protestant church; more than one may be found even in the gorges of Mount Hermon. At Beyrout there is a German hospital and American university, where the most practical sciences are taught, especially that of medicine.

—"A Century of Protestant Missions," is the title of a book published in England by the Rev. James Johnston. It makes the startling estimate that while 3,000,000 converts have been added to the churches, there are now 200,000,000 more heathen in the world than there were when Protestant missions began a hundred years ago.—*N. Y. Witness.*

The *Illustrated Christian Weekly* follows up the remarks of President Eliot, of Harvard, in denunciation of the tendency to extravagance that seems to be increasing among collegians with some appropriate remarks of his own. Owing to this extravagance, the scale of expenditure is raised to all, and it will cost the frugal student of to-day from 50 to 100 per cent. more than it did their equally frugal fathers to take a college course in similar comfort.

—In Brazil are found the best schools in South America. They are divided into three grades—the primary, the secondary, and the technical schools. The first two correspond to the various grades of our public schools. There is but one institution in the country corresponding to our college, namely, "College Don Pedro II." in Rio de Janeiro. The lower schools are free, and the law even demands compulsory attendance.

—The Bishop of Rochester does not approve of the popular clamor for brief sermons. "Do not," he advises his ecclesiastical subordinates, "readily give in to what is often only a worldly cry for short sermons. You need a great deal more experience than you can claim now for making a fifteen minutes' sermon that shall be really useful. Either so much will be compressed into it that it will become loaded and obscure, or what is perhaps more likely, so little will go into it that it will be impossible to endure it."

—The figures laid before the Methodist conference show the steady growth of the Methodist Church in Canada. The membership is placed at 197,479. There are 1,610 ministers and probationers. The church has property to the value of $9,975,043. The number of Sunday-schools is 2,675, with an attendance of 191,185. Sabbath-school papers have a circulation of 229,639. The work of temperance, according to the report of the statistics committee, has been carried on energetically, as is witnessed by the fact that 46,280 Sunday-school scholars have taken the total abstinence pledge.

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We will pay your fare from any part of United States to Portland and hotel expenses while here if we do not produce indisputable evidence from well-known bankers, doctors, lawyers, merchants and farmers as to our reliability in the cure of reduceable rupture or hernia, without knife, needle or sharp instrument. You are secure against accident from the first day until cured, and the cure guaranteed permanent or money refunded. You can work every day, no matter what your occupation, without danger or inconvenience. Consultations free. Office hours from 10 to 4 daily. Correspondents will enclose stamp for reply and address Drs. Forden & Luther, rooms 8 and 9, First National bank, Portland, Oregon.

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When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria.
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When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

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