

A HANDBOOK OF CHESS

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A Handbook of Chess by George Frederick Pardon

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GEORGE FREDERICK PARDON

**A HANDBOOK
OF CHESS**

A H A N D B O O K

OF

CHESS.

BY

GEORGE FREDERICK PARDON,

AUTHOR OF "BILLIARDS," "BACKGAMMON,"
"DRAUGHTS," ETC. ETC.

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P R E F A C E.

THE following pages were written expressly for, and appeared in, the *LONDON JOURNAL*, during the brief management of Messrs. Mark Lemon and Davenport Adams, a period in which many valuable improvements were introduced into the pages of that important and widely circulated periodical. Having received the stamp of public approval, these lessons are now gathered together and condensed, in order to provide young players with a cheap and correct Manual of Chess. Care has been taken to render the elementary instructions as plain and perspicuous as possible; and the writer would fain indulge a hope that through his means many young people may become proficient in the ancient and honourable Game of Chess.

Of course it would have been manifestly impossible to have included all the Openings and Endings of games within the compass of this book, but enough has been done to fairly start the student upon his journey through chessland; and it is hoped that, possessing this Little Guide, he may neither falter nor stumble by the way.

G. F. P.

BEAUMONT SQUARE,

March, 1868.

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HANDBOOK OF CHESS.

CHAPTER I.

THE BOARD AND THE PIECES.

THE game of Chess is one of the most ancient and intellectual of pastimes. Without attempting anything like a history of its rise and progress, it may be mentioned that the honour of its invention has been claimed by various nations, and that it has ever been a favourite recreation with kings, warriors, statesmen, and philosophers. Though easily learned, the game of Chess must not be considered a mere frivolous amusement, for its combinations are so many and so complex, that even the highest mathematical judgment may be employed in their solution. As a wholesome mental exercise this noble game is without a rival; and as an innocent and amusing means of employing a leisure hour in the repertoire of home recreations, it stands undoubtedly first.

Without further preface, then—for in a little book like this a long dissertation on the origin of Chess would be impossible—we proceed to

acquaint the reader with the history and mystery of Chess.

The Game of Chess is played by two persons on a board of sixty-four squares, alternately coloured black and white, with sixteen pieces of opposite colours. The following is a representation of—



THE CHESS-BOARD WITH THE MEN PLACED IN ORDER.

The chessmen consist of eight *pieces* and eight *pawns* on either side. The pieces consist of a King, Queen, two Rooks (or Castles), two Bishops, and two Knights. To each of these belongs a Pawn, which at the commencement of the game stands in front of its master.

It is not necessary that we should further specify the position of the pieces than to say, that