

# **CHESS OPENINGS**

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Chess openings by F. W. Longman

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**F. W. LONGMAN**

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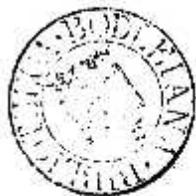
# CHESS OPENINGS.

BY

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HALL, COLE, OXFORD.

*SECOND EDITION, REVISED AND CORRECTED.*



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## P R E F A C E .

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It is generally admitted that a knowledge of the chief Openings is necessary to all who desire to attain any degree of excellence in Chess, but yet nothing is more common than to find amateurs destitute of even the rudiments of such knowledge, to whom the words 'Evans Gambit,' 'Muzio,' &c. are meaningless names. The cause of this widely-spread ignorance is, I believe, to be found in the nature of the existing books on the subject. There are many excellent works which may be profitably studied by all whose leisure and inclination permit; but the beginner is too often repelled by their apparent confusion, and by the formidable array of variations which crowd their pages and distract his mind.

Bearing this in mind, I have endeavoured to present the subject in a simpler and more attractive shape, by pruning with no sparing hand the

thick undergrowth of variations by which the parent stem is choked and concealed. I have embodied in the main theme the best moves for both parties, noting briefly wherever it seemed necessary the results of inferior play on either side. These short digressions have been printed in small type, in order that they may be the more easily distinguished. I have, moreover, as far as possible employed a narrative instead of a tabular form. The authorities from which my information has been drawn are the 'Handbuch des Schachspiels,' 'Die neueste Theorie und Praxis des Schachspiels,' Staunton's Handbook and Praxis, the Book of the Chess Congress of 1862, the Transactions of the British Chess Association, the Chess-player's Magazine, Chess World, &c.

In the classification of the Openings, I have not differed greatly from my predecessors; I have divided them into Regulars and Irregulars, meaning by Regulars all in which both players commence by 1. P to K 4, by Irregulars all in which either plays a different move. The Regulars are then subdivided into two groups of three. Of these the greater trio consists of the King's

Knights, the King's Bishop's, and the King's Gambit, all of which take their name from the piece or pawn on the King's side, which is brought into play by White at his second move. In the lesser trio are included the Queen's Knight's, the Queen's Bishop's Pawn's, and the Centre Gambit, in which the attack springs from the Queen's side or left wing. The Irregulars are divided into two groups according as the irregularity is committed by the first or second player. The Irregular Defences are the French, the Sicilian, the Fianchetto, and the Centre Counter Gambit. The Irregular Attacks which I have noticed are the Queen's Gambit, and the games of the King's and Queen's Bishop's Pawns. The notation employed is that ordinarily in use in England, but somewhat abbreviated; thus for P to K's 4th I have written P to K 4; a cross ( × ) has been used to denote a capture.

ASHLYNS, GREAT BRKHAMSTED :  
*Sept. 28, 1889.*