

BATTLE OF BILLIARD CUES.

SCHAEFER RETAINS THE CHAMPIONSHIP.

Student Slosson Beaten by 800 to 225.

A Big Crowd Saw the Play-Records of the Experts—His Friendly Match with Currier Stoney and Hockey Sticks.

New York, Jan. 22.—The great billiard game for the ball-championship of the world between John Schaefer and George Slosson took place here to-night. The contest was at 800 points up for a stake of \$1000 and the cup at present held by the Chicago expert.

These wonders with the cue have met 33 times for stakes, either in matches or tournaments. Of the total number Slosson has defeated Schaefer 17 times and the Wizard has been the victor 16 times.

Their meetings include every style of modern billiards—straight rail, cushion carom, champion and bank game, and although Schaefer is generally admitted to be a superior all-round billiardist the question of absolute supremacy has never been satisfactorily decided. Each has a large following, and plenty of money is wagered every time they meet.

An enormous crowd packed the Lenox Lyceum Theatre that had been specially prepared for the match. Schaefer, with perfect confidence and with a majority of over 200 points. The score was: SCHAEFER, 800; SLOSSON, 225.

ABOUT THE EXPERTS.

How Schaefer Won the Cup—History of the Champion.

Schaefer was born in Milwaukee, Feb. 2, 1853. He is 5 feet 6 inches in height, but notwithstanding this has a wonderful reach. His first effort with a cue was when he was six years old, on a pigeon-hole table. His family moved to Leavenworth, Kan., and when he was 11 years old his father purchased two regular billiard tables, and Jake soon learned to play. He has for the game done to a passion, and all his spare time was spent around a billiard table. At 15 he could easily defeat all the champions of Leavenworth, young or old. His first match was with Adam Kleson, champion of Wisconsin. Jake won, 150 to 0. After playing a number of matches he was put up against Slosson, but the student ran away from him. He then moved to Chicago and in 1880 he was 400 to 200. In California he won considerable cash. After a short stay on the Pacific slope he landed in Chicago and, falling there to make a match, drifted to New Orleans. During his southern trip he carried many shingles. Jake has always been willing to make a match at any style of billiards. His reputation was made at the ball-champ game and some of his performances at this style are wonderful. The most important match was that played against Maurice Vignaux at New York Jan. 26, 1898. Schaefer won his great contest by a score of 800 to 225, with a grand average of 20.15-14. His style of play is that of that of any other billiardist. Quickness, dash, brilliancy and seeming carelessness are the characteristics of his play. When he is "rattled" or sees the game coming from his grasp he rubs his right eye. He is a matter of surprise and despair across his features.

Slosson's Record and Style.

Slosson was born in De Kalb, St. Lawrence county, N.Y., on March 5, 1854. When 15 years of age he made his first public appearance as a billiardist in a tournament at Rochester, N.Y. There he met and defeated Maurice Daly and Moses Vetter; in fact, he defeated them all and took first money. Soon after he went to Chicago, where he met and defeated Michael Phelan, the old-time champion, now dead. Phelan took a fancy to the young expert and called him under his wing. Slosson first met Schaefer in 1874 and defeated the "Wizard" in a tournament. He played many tournaments and gave exhibitions in all parts of the country from that time until now. The following year he went to Freuchen at the champion's game. Every one who saw this match agreed that the plucky American was the victor. He was in view crossed the ocean again in 1882. A third match was arranged with Vignaux, and this time Slosson was victorious, and incidentally established a record of 398 caroms at the champion's game. Slosson is the champion of the world in 1108. His style of play differs materially from that of Schaefer. His style is what is known as the "forearm stroke," while Schaefer's is the "wrist stroke." He is a left-handed player and has acquired his skill as a billiardist only after the hardest kind of work. He studies his shots carefully, and seldom misses an easy one.

COLONIAL CRICKET.

Blackwood on the Australians—About Professionals and Amateurs.

A clever article appears in Blackwood's Magazine for January on "Cricket and Cricketers," giving a wealth of reminiscences, a short history of the grand old game and a criticism on players and different styles of play.

Professionals generally are deprecated. The Australian players are referred to as "disturbing elements." It must be remembered that the article goes on, "that many members of the colonial teams were formidable and some of the best in their respective countries." The article does not mention the visits of Canadians or Americans.

THE SENSATIONAL ARION.

His New Owner Thinks He Will Secure a \$20,000 Mark—Bonner Defers.

Malcolm Forbes, the new owner of Arion, and Bob Bonner do not agree on the prospective mark that the great trotter will make. Mr. Forbes thinks he will be able to go a mile in 2:07 1/2 next season.

Mr. Bonner is evidently of the opinion that Arion may never improve greatly upon his phenomenal record of last year. In a recent interview he said: "As to Arion's future it is hard to make any predictions. It very often happens that a horse will travel as fast in his 2-year-old form as he ever will after. This visit to this country were believed to be prompted not so much by ideas of play as of pace money."

But there are examples in England of this last named idea according to the London Star. Dr. W. G. Grace, England's greatest cricketer, got \$2000 for his Australian trip, together with his own expenses and those of his wife and two children, who accompany him.

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WHERE THEY FIND A HOME.

HOW DESTITUTE LITTLE GIRLS ARE CARED FOR.

The World Visits the Girls' Home in General Street. Everything Home-Fraught—Proceedings at the Annual Meeting—Those Engaged in the Good Work.

The thirty-fifth annual meeting of the supporters of the Girls' Home took place yesterday afternoon at that institution. There have been a number of structural changes since the last annual meeting, and accordingly a World reporter was sent to the Home at an earlier hour than that of the meeting, and thanks to the kindness of Mrs. Scott, was allowed to roam at his own sweet will around the building.

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