

1890d

John Jaques

Jaques of London is a family company, famous for creating and selling all sorts of popular games. The firm invented such well-known card-games as *Snap* and *Happy Families*. John Jaques, the third member of the family to have that name, joined the company in 1884 and about six years later issued the new game of *Skits*.



This is 'A game both instructional & pleasant. It tickles the fancy & sharpens the wits.' It consists of eighty chromolithographic cards measuring 77 x 58 mm., all with compass indicators at top right and plain backs. One set of forty has outline maps of the English counties and the other set of forty has caricatures in the shape of counties, in the middle of humorous verses. They are contained in a card box, 125 x 80 mm., with a colour printed title label featuring a map, together with a four page rules leaflet which includes a list of new games.



The map cards are numbered at top left and just show main places by circles and also rivers, with the titles printed below:

*Northumberland; Cumberland; Durham; Westmoreland; Yorkshire; Lancashire; Cheshire; Derbyshire; Nottinghamshire; Lincolnshire; Shropshire; Staffordshire; Leicestershire; Rutland; Norfolk; Suffolk; Cambridgeshire; Huntingdon; Bedfordshire; Northamptonshire; Warwickshire; Worcestershire; Herefordshire; Gloucestershire; Monmouthshire; Berkshire; Oxfordshire; Buckinghamshire; Hampshire; Surrey; Essex; Hertfordshire; Middlesex; Kent; Sussex; Wiltshire; Somersetshire; Dorsetshire; Devonshire; Cornwall.*

*Skits: a game of the shires.* London, Jaques & Son, (1890).

