

Bishop Meade, who knew him well, says that he "was a most conscientious man in regard to some things which others might regard as too trivial to be observed." On one of Meade's frequent journeys with Marshall between Fauquier County and the "lower country," they came to an impassable stretch of road. Other travelers had taken down a fence and gone through the adjoining plantation, and the Bishop was about to follow the same route. Marshall refused — "He said we had better go around, although each step was a plunge, adding that it was his duty, as one in office, to be very particular in regard to such things."<sup>1</sup>

When in Richmond the one sport in which he delighted was the pitching of quoits. Not when a lawyer was he a more enthusiastic or regular attendant of the meetings of the Quoit Club, or Barbecue Club,<sup>2</sup> under the trees at Buchanan's Spring on the outskirts of Richmond, than he was when at the height of his fame as Chief Justice of the United States. More personal descriptions of Marshall at these gatherings have come down to us than exist for any other phase of his life. Chester Harding, the artist, when painting Marshall's portrait during the summer of 1826, spent some time in the Virginia Capital, and attended one of the meetings of the Quoit Club. It was a warm day, and presently Marshall, then in his seventy-second year, was seen coming, his coat on his arm, fanning himself with his hat. Walking straight up to a bowl of mint julep, he poured a

<sup>1</sup> Meade, II, 222.

<sup>2</sup> Tyler: *Tyler*, I, 220; and see vol. II, 182-83, of this work.

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<sup>1</sup> White: *A Sketch*

<sup>2</sup> *Lippincott's Mag*  
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<sup>3</sup> *American Turf*  
and see Mordecai, 18

tumbler full of the liquid, drank it off, said, "How are you, gentlemen?" and fell to pitching quoits with immense enthusiasm. When he won, says Harding, "the woods would ring with his triumphant shout."<sup>1</sup>

James K. Paulding went to Richmond for the purpose of talking to the Chief Justice and observing his daily life. He was more impressed by Marshall's gayety and unrestraint at the Quoit Club than by anything else he noted. "The Chief-Justice threw off his coat," relates Paulding, "and fell to work with as much energy as he would have directed to the decision of . . . the conflicting jurisdiction of the General and State Governments." During the game a dispute arose between two players "as to the quoit nearest the meg." Marshall was agreed upon as umpire. "The Judge bent down on one knee and with a straw essayed the decision of this important question, . . . frequently biting off the end of the straw" for greater accuracy.<sup>2</sup>

The morning play over, the club dinner followed. A fat pig, roasted over a pit of coals, cold meats, melons, fruits, and vegetables, were served in the old Virginia style. The usual drinks were porter, toddy,<sup>3</sup> and the club punch made of "lemons, brandy, rum, madeira, poured into a bowl one-third filled with ice

<sup>1</sup> White: *A Sketch of Chester Harding, Artist*, 195-96.

<sup>2</sup> *Lippincott's Magazine*, II, 624. Paulding makes this comment on Marshall: "In his hours of relaxation he was as full of fun and as natural as a child. He entered into the spirit of athletic exercises with the ardor of youth; and at sixty-odd years of age was one of the best quoit-players in Virginia." (*Ib.* 626.)

<sup>3</sup> *American Turf Register and Sporting Magazine* (1829), I, 41-42; and see Mordecai, 188-89.

(no water), and sweetened."<sup>1</sup> In addition, champagne and other wines were sometimes provided.<sup>2</sup> At these meals none of the witty company equaled Marshall in fun-making; no laugh was so cheery and loud as his. Not more was John Marshall the chief of the accomplished and able men who sat with him on the Supreme Bench at Washington than, even in his advancing years, he was the leader of the convivial spirits who gathered to pitch quoits, drink julep and punch, tell stories, sing songs, make speeches, and play pranks under the trees of Richmond.

Marshall dearly loved, when at home, to indulge in the giving of big dinners to members of the bench and bar. In a wholly personal sense he was the best-liked man in Richmond. The lawyers and judges living there were particularly fond of him, and the Chief Justice thoroughly reciprocated their regard. Spencer Roane, Judge of the Virginia Court of Appeals, seems to have been the one enemy Marshall had in the whole city. Indeed, Roane and Jefferson appear to have been the only men anywhere who ever hated him personally. Even the testy George Hay reluctantly yielded to his engaging qualities. When at the head of the Virginia bar, Marshall had been one of those leading attorneys who gave the attractive dinners that were so notable and delightful a feature of life in Richmond. After he became Chief Justice, he continued this custom until his "lawyer dinners" became, among men, the principal social events of the place.

<sup>1</sup> Recipe for the Quoit Club punch, *Green Bag*, viii, 482. This recipe was used for many years by the Richmond Light Infantry Blues.

<sup>2</sup> See vol. II, 183, of this work.

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tom chairs, a pine table covered with grease and ink, a cracked pitcher and broken bowl." The host ate with his guests and used his fingers instead of fork or knife. When court adjourned for the day, Marshall would play quoits in the street before the tavern "with the public street characters of Raleigh," who were lovers of the game.<sup>2</sup>

He was immensely popular in Raleigh, his familiar manners and the justice of his decisions appealing with equal force to the bar and people alike. Writing at the time of the hearing of the Granville case,<sup>3</sup> John Haywood, then State Treasurer of North Carolina, testifies: "Judge Marshall . . . is greatly respected here, as well on account of his talents and uprightness as for that sociability and ease of manner which render all happy and pleased when in his company."<sup>4</sup>

In spite of his sociability, which tempted him, while in Richmond, to visit taverns and the law offices of his friends, Marshall spent most of the day in his house or in the big yard adjoining it, for Mrs. Marshall's affliction increased with time, and the Chief Justice, whose affection for his wife grew as her illness advanced, kept near her as much as possi-

<sup>1</sup> Account of eye-witness as related by Dr. Kemp P. Battle of Raleigh to Professor Henderson and by him to the author.

<sup>2</sup> Another tavern was opened about 1806 by one John Marshall. He

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<sup>3</sup> *World's Work*, i, 395. T  
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# QUOIT FACTORY

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 5770 Sullivan Trail  
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## Official Rules for Slate Quoits and Tailgate Quoits

Pronounced: Quoits is pronounced kwaitz

Objective: Player or team to reach 21 points wins the game

Distance: Quoit Boards shall be 18 ft hub to hub

Game Play: 2 or 4 players divided into teams

- Each team is designated 2 rubber quoits

- A coin is flipped to determine who pitches first

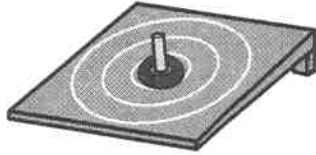

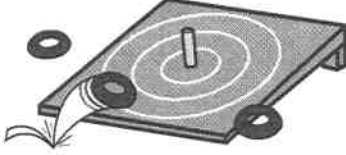

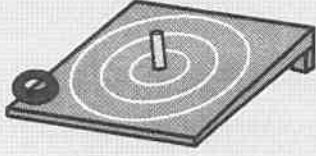

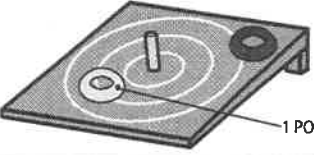
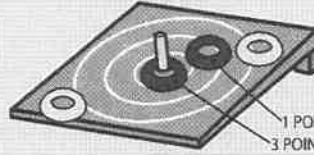
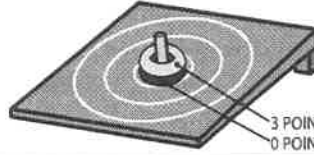
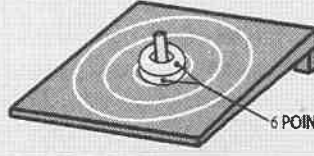
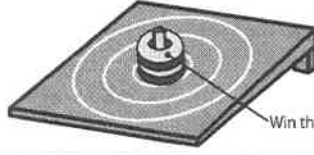
- A player's foot may never pass the front of the quoit board when pitching.

- Play alternates between players until all 4 rubber quoits have been pitched. The teammates at the opposing quoit boards tally the score and the winning team begins the next round or until 21 points are reached.

### Tips:

- Quoits is a game of strategy and skill. Some players approach the game with the "ringer" mentality and aim for nothing less. Other players enjoy "point" pitching and strategically pitch their quoits snug against the hub making a "dig" extremely difficult.
- "Digging" your opponet's quoit off the board is one of the more exciting game play features to Quoits and is similiar to the game of Shuffleboard.
- Pitching technique is critical and takes practice. Never pitch like horseshoes or across your chest like a frisbee. The quoit will likely bounce off the quoit board. A player must develop a technique similiar to a bowling motion with a release point between their hip and chest. A flat tight spin on the quoit once a player pitches is ideal for aiming and performance.

## QUOITS SCORING CH

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<b>FOUR TIMER</b>  Win the Game		If all opp player with Achieving

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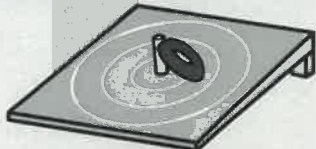
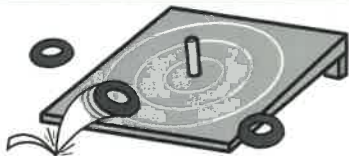



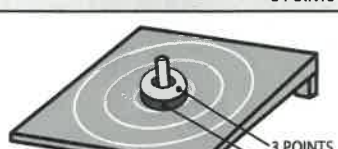


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