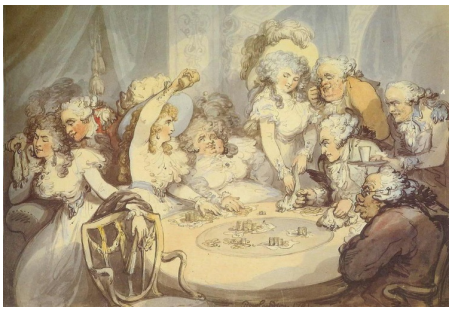
SPECULATION 18th C RULES by @costumersofcolor

'What shall I do, Sir Thomas? [asks his wife]:

Whist and speculation; which will amuse me most?'

— Jane Austen, Mansfield Park



SPECULATION is mentioned not only in Mansfield Park, but in Nicholas Nickleby by Charles Dickens, and numerous other novels.

Everyone starts with the same number of chips and at the start of each deal antes one to a pot. Deal three cards face down on the table in front of each player in a stack, then turn the next card of the pack to establish a trump suit. (Not that there is any trick-play. Trump, in this game, means the only suit that counts for winning.)

To be in possession of the highest trump when all cards in play have been exposed. For this purpose cards rank from high to low AKQJ1098765432.

The trump turn-up belongs by right to the dealer, so if it is an Ace the dealer wins without further play. If it is not an Ace, but is high enough to interest anyone else, they may offer to buy it from the dealer, and the dealer may haggle about it, or auction it, or keep it, as preferred.

Each in turn, starting with the player to the dealer's left - or, if the turn-up was sold, to the purchaser's left - turns up the top card of his or her own stack. This continues in rotation, but omitting the player who currently possesses the highest trump. If and when a trump is turned that is higher than the one previously showing, the player who turned it may offer it for sale at any mutually agreeable price, or refuse to sell it. Either way, play continues from the left of, and subsequently omitting, the possessor of the highest trump.

Furthermore, anyone at any time may offer to buy not necessarily the best visible trump, but any face-down card or cards belonging to another player. The purchaser may not look at their faces, but must place them face down at the bottom of his or her stack and turn them up in the normal course of play. (The time to indulge in this piece of speculation is when you currently own the highest trump and want to prevent someone else from turning a higher.)

The game ends when all cards have been revealed, or when somebody turns the Ace, and whoever has the highest trump wins the pot.

For more info go to https://www.parlettgames.uk/histocs/speculat.html

LOTTERY 18th C RULES by @costumersofcolor

'Lydia talked incessantly of lottery tickets,

of the fish she had lost and the fish she had won'

— Jane Austen, Pride and Prejudice

Take two packs of cards and designate two dealers.

Have all players deposit a fixed sum (in money or counters into the pot). Dealers shuffle cards and have them cut by the left hand person. The first dealer gives every person a card face down. This one is for the prize, on which is to be placed a value of counters from the pot by the recipient of the card. The second dealer gives every person a card for the ticket. The cards are then turned over. Whoever has the ticket card that matches a prize card wins the amount on the prize card. The dealers then collect the cards and proceed as before. The parties then put into the pot again.

From Hoyle, E. (1817). The new Hoyle. United Kingdom: G. Walker.

Historical Note: The Austen family certainly played cards at home, and with their neighbors. In Jane Austen's novels, card games take place frequently.

In Pride and Prejudice, cards are played at Netherfield, Rosings, and at Mrs. Phillips's supper party. here they played 'a nice comfortable noisy game of lottery tickets' – this was a game of chance, not skill, which involved betting on matching cards using counters or lottery fish.