

# BRIGHT NOTES FOR LACROSSE MEN.

**REDUCE THE NUMBER OF MEN.**—The lacrosse season is now well upon us; but as yet there is a little indefiniteness in the air, and prognostications are as few as prophets. The condition, the very life of the game, seems to be undergoing a change, the nature of which is gradual, but none the less, serve, although it may take a long time to arrive in the valley of complete perfection.

That the game has been improved wonderfully in the last twenty years is potent; but it will not be denied that it is far from perfect. It is likely that there will soon be an agitation looking to a reduction of the number of men on the field. Nine men instead of twelve would make the play opener and avoid a good deal of the bunching and mixing up which makes the game look rougher than it really is. It is in these scrambles that players are generally injured, and the avoidance of them would naturally reduce the number of casualties. Another point in favor of the smaller number of players is the fact that it would in many instances, paradoxical as it may seem, be the means of strengthening several clubs. Frequently a club can get together, ten or eleven first-class men, and the twelfth is a stumbling block. One weak man on a team is a considerable handicap if the other side have an even dozen of good ones. Now there are several of the smaller clubs who could muster nine men. Another point in favor of the change is that it would likely be an incentive in the larger clubs to steadier practice, as the chances for getting on the first team would be reduced, and only the most faithful at their work would be selected. There are several arguments which might be advanced as regards reducing the number. The objection may be made that in large fields like the M.A.A.A. or Shamrock grounds, the territory to be covered by nine men would be too great. It may be said that twelve men can have all they can do on these grounds, and after a stiff half hour game the sprinting qualities are pretty well taken out of a man, and his legs and breathing apparatus need every minute of the rest allowed. The reduction in the opinion of some people, would most affect the players in the field, on whom the burden of fast running falls. On large grounds the work would be too hard, and the fielders would be pumped out early in the game. This seems the principal drawback to the proposed change. But it must be borne in mind that the defence end of a team, under the new conditions, would be brought more actively into play generally. The suggestion is an excellent one, and President Pittaway, of the Se-

nior League, should take the earliest opportunity of bringing it before the clubs.

**GOAL NETS.**—Another innovation spoken of is the introduction of goal nets. This would certainly ease considerably the duty of the umpire. It would also prevent him from hearing some of the kind things which in the past have been said about him. On the field he had recognized the voice of some dear friends impugn his honesty by hurling at the back of his head the coarse word "robber," and he vowed inwardly that never again would he break bread in that man's house, or eat of his salt, until he had first broken his nose. Poor man, he feels sure he has been honest all his life since he gave up climbing apple trees; but the word "robber" still tingles in his ears.

This would have been avoided by the use of goal nets. Of course, the other point to be taken into consideration is the play behind the flags. Will it not hamper the goal-keeper, and do away with much brilliant play? That is a question to be considered.

**OFFICIAL REFEREES.**—Another question to come up for discussion in the near future will be that of official referees, the suggestion being that a board be appointed who will select their own chairman and place officials without the unsatisfactory delay of waiting for clubs to mutually agree. This would be a move in the right direction. Two other suggestions have been made in this matter. One is that referee and umpires should be taken from the town in which the match is played. This scheme has only one thing in its favor; that is saving expenses; it would be impracticable in the smaller towns where everybody knows everybody else; and if his team lost the life of the referee for a week or two would be like that of an Ishmaelite.

The second suggestion is that the referee should come from the opposing town; for instance, if Toronto is playing in Ottawa, a Toronto man should officiate. This method has some advantages; because after the referee had escaped and got his train he would be at home, and in no immediate danger. He would not be afraid to show himself on the streets of the town in which he lived. And then, again, it would ease the feelings of the townspeople whose pets had been defeated to say things about him at long range. They would never hurt him, because he would not hear them unless some kind friend or a long distance telephone were made use of. It is a ticklish question, is the nucleus of much food for thought, and will stand a lot of talking about before it is arranged.

**DIVISION OF PLAY.**—Still another point under discussion among lacrosse men is the style of play. Some there are who would like to see Rugby methods introduced, that is playing two half-hours from each end of the field, no rest between games, and a quarter of an hour's rest between halves; while others have a scheme by which four quarter hours would be played with a rest of ten minutes between quarters, thus making the time limits for a match as at present. The former idea has one serious drawback to the team who lost the toss, for the sun is an important factor in catching long passes. It would be of distinct advantage to the public, however, who like lacrosse, but who do not like too much of it, and who dislike breaking up family arrangements by arriving home an hour too late for dinner, if the latter change came into force. The complicated system of time-keeping might be looked into profitably in this connection.

**CHAMPIONSHIP HONORS.**—The decision of the championship, or rather the method of deciding it, is keeping some ardent lacrosse men awake nights doing mental arithmetic. There is a growing feeling that the number of matches won should not be decisive, but that a championship should depend on the aggregate of goals scored during the season of scheduled matches. The billiard and bowling men have found this system very satisfactory, and there is one strong point in its favor—it would practically abolish tied matches at the end of the season. But again, there is an objection. Let us suppose a case not probable but possible. Suppose two leading clubs are running each other very closely when a goal or two on the aggregate may mean the championship, and suppose at the end of the season one of these clubs is opposed by an easy one, who may have thought itself injured by a vote in the schedule making or by some other cause. The weak club has no chance for the championship, but there is a little grudge for the other leading club with whom they are not playing that day. A little lassitude or carelessness may give their present opponents sufficient goals to win out the championship on the aggregate figures. Of course, it is not probable, but it is well within the range of possibilities, and possibilities are sometimes important factors in the decision of a championship.

Altogether there is much to be thought about in the management of the coming lacrosse season, which promises to be more interesting than for some years back.

ney," will deliver one lecture on "Mexico." Rev. H. M. Calmar, S.J., will give a course of three lectures, as well as the eminent convert, Rev. B. F. De Costa, D.D., of New York. Rev. M. A. Waldron, O.S.D., D. D., and W. S. Kerby, D.D., of the Catholic University at Washington, will each give three lectures. The subject of Rev. Kerby's lectures are: "The Labor Movement," two lectures, and "Socialism." Those who have attended the school will be pleased to learn that Rev. D. S. Brennan, A.M., of St. Louis, will give one of his popular illustrated lectures. The general subject of education will be treated in a course of lectures by the Rt. Rev. Thomas J. Conaty, D.D., the rector of the Catholic University.

"The Triumph of Christianity" is the subject of a lecture by Rev. J. P. Carroll, D.D., President of St. Joseph's College, Dubuque, Ia. Rev. Morgan M. Sheedy, of Altoona, Pa., and Hon. H. J. Wade, of Iowa City, Ia., will each give two lectures. Subjects not yet announced. Rev. B. F. Kuhlman, D.D., Professor of Philosophy at St. Mary's Seminary, Cincinnati, O., and Very Rev. P. R. Heffernan, D.D., President of St. Paul Seminary, St. Paul, will each deliver one lecture. It is expected that Henry Austin Adams and Most Rev. Archbishop Keane, of Rome, will each deliver a course of lectures.

The list will be enlarged by the addition of several other well-known speakers.

### A NEW ALLAN LINER.

The new Allan Line steamer "Tunisian," of 10,576 tons gross, arrived in the Mersey last week from Glasgow. The vessel has been built for the Canadian service by Messrs. Alexander Stephen and Sons, Clyde, and, to accept the words of a gentleman pre-eminently qualified by virtue of his position to express an opinion, the vessel is about as perfect an example of the combined passenger and cargo vessel which the naval architect's science and the skill of the shipbuilder and engineer can produce. The speed that the vessel attained was 16.875 knots per hour. As the passenger is usually chiefly concerned with the accommodation which a vessel may offer, we depart somewhat from the usual custom, and at the outset make reference to such as it exists on board the Tunisian. The accommodation of the Tunisian is on the four upper decks, viz., the upper deck, the saloon deck, the bridge deck, and the promenade deck above the bridge deck. First and second-class passengers are carried amidships, where, of course, there is a minimum of motion. On the promenade deck above the bridge deck are suites of rooms "en luxe." These apartments are self-contained, and include bedrooms, sitting-rooms, and bath and lavatory accommodation "en suite," and thus afford Canadian voyagers a retirement and luxury hitherto unapproached in any vessel running between this country and the Dominion.

### LUCKY BARBERS.

"Shave beggars" was a term of reproach which the great O'Connell used to fling at Chief Secretaries for Ireland, whether they were sent to learn the business of statesmanship. Being inexperienced politicians, they were considered good enough to govern the Irish. O'Connell's jibe was based upon the ancient custom of setting apprentice barbers to shave the beggars, because they paid nothing, and therefore it did not matter how roughly they were scraped by the "prentice hand." In O'Connell's time the Princes of commercial wealth were scarce. They are more plentiful now, especially in America, and one of the consequences is that there are such persons as "shave millionaires" in the great Republic. A notable one of the new order is Thomas Whalen, of Chicago, who nets nearly £600 a year by shaving four millionaires. By two of his opulent clients he is paid £15 a month, by one £10, and by the fourth £7. Whether they are at home or abroad Whalen's salary is paid as regularly as the months glide by. The lucky barber keeps a fast trotter, which flies with him every morning from house to house. Between 6 and 9 a.m. his work is done, and his day's business is over so far as the millionaires are concerned. How much Whalen makes out of his shops—of which he appears to have many—who can tell? We, at all events, may boast that no "shave beggar" is he.—London Universe.

True patriotism, remarked Rev. Father Kavanagh, in his recent admirable address at Thurles, has ever been linked with other virtues. Indeed, I have often thought that a man who is not virtuous according to his light cannot be a true patriot. I believe only in the patriotism of men who fear God, love truth and hate injustice, and not at all in that of renegades to faith or contempters of the law of God. To be explicit, I do not believe in the patriotism of bad men, and especially of bad Catholics. As I would never expect any good from a man who was a disobedient son, so neither would I believe in the patriotism of one who raised his hand against his spiritual mother, the true Church of God, before whose altars countless Irish saints have worshipped and our ancestors have knelt for more than a thousand years.

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## THE NATURALIST'S CORNER.

**THE CAPTIVE THRUSH.**—One day a Lochaber lad caught a thrush and took it home. No cage was to be had, so the bird was placed in a basket with a lid. The boy's mother having told the Rev. Dr. Stewart of the capture, the minister—a naturalist well known throughout the Western Highlands of Scotland—came to see the bird. Whilst they were all talking about the prisoner, the lad spied a similar bird on an elder bush, and Dr. Stewart at once noticed that this was the captive's mate. He persuaded the boy to put the basket outside. This was done, and by-and-by the male bird flew down and began caressing the prisoner in many pretty ways. Then he attacked the basket lid furiously, hoping to peck a hole in it big enough for his consort to escape by. This so touched the boy's mother, and even the boy, that the latter agreed to let the captive free. Taking the basket back to the spot where the thrush had been caught, the lid was opened and the bird flew off with a wild scream of delight, its mate joining it in the wood—both thrushes, no doubt, happier far than kings.

**A WORD FOR THE SPARROW.**—Why should the English sparrow be considered such a pest? Any one who takes the trouble to consider their habits will see that much that has been said about them is untrue. They are not so quarrelsome as the petted canary, and much less greedy. They are considerate of their fellows, and ready to help them in trouble. And they are so cheerful and active—always on the alert, no matter how gloomy the day—that a group of the bright-eyed, chattering things is a practical illustration of the beauties of contentment. Sparrows should be protected, not only for the good they do, but for the pleasure they bring even to the slums of great cities, enlivening even the garrets of the sick with their gentle chirrup. They are undoubtedly the scavengers of cities, clearing away waste from every corner, and they have brought soft and loving feelings to the heart of the roughest prisoner, who from his stunted pittance of bread and water will save no small share for the sparrows at his window grating. They are the best of insect destroyers; they have attached themselves to man most confidently; they are beings with flesh and blood and brains, and most affectionate in their own way to those that love and care for them. Therefore let us care for and protect them in summer as well as in winter. For although the farmer may have good reason to object to their presence about their grain stacks, there are many reasons for encouraging them to thrive in our cities.

**FLIES AND RODS.**—Although there are more than a thousand styles of flies manufactured for anglers, the old standard flies, first patterned in England over a hundred years ago, are still regarded with favor by sportsmen. Makers are turning out new flies every day and adding to the list kept by sporting goods houses, but expert fishermen find that some of the old patterns cannot be improved upon. The couchman, grizzly king, professor, brown hackle, and black gnat flies are over a hundred years old, and still hold the fisherman's affections. Another thing noticeable is the difference in the fishing rods. Years ago a man would whip a stream with a rod weighing from nine to twelve ounces. The rods of the present day run from two to five ounces in weight. The rods are now built on different lines, and are shorter. A good serviceable five-ounce rod is about nine feet long. Almost everything used by fishermen nowadays is constructed on more scientific principles.

**ANIMAL CHIVALRY.**—No self-respecting dog bites a female except in the extreme need of self-defence, though the female, as a rule, has no scruple whatever about punishing to the full extent of her power any individual of the opposite sex that happens to be inferior to her in size or strength. So strong is this unwillingness to strike a female that few male hounds will attack a she-wolf or even follow her trail. Something of the same deference to the gentler sex may be seen among horses. Although a horse will promptly attack any other horse that may interfere with him, either in the field or in harness, he will very seldom attack a mare. Farm horses which cannot be worked alongside of any other horse on account of their savage tempers may be safely yoked in double harness with a mare. Mares, on the other hand, will attack their own or the opposite sex without the slightest hesitation whenever they feel disposed, yet I have never seen serious or retaliatory resistance offered by the latter.

**OSTRICH "TELEPHONING."**—When the eggs on the ostrich farms of California are at the point of hatching, says Charles F. Holder, a curious tapping of the shells may be heard. This the keepers call "telephoning." The sound is caused by the chicks inside the eggs endeavoring to break out. Those which cannot easily emerge are assisted by the mother bird, which will sometimes break an egg from which the telephoning is heard by pressing it carefully, and will then aid the chick to get out. At the Pasadena farm the sight of a boy riding an ostrich as he would a pony may sometimes be seen.

**PLANTS FROZEN IN SHIPMENT.**—It not infrequently occurs that plants shipped late in the fall or during the winter season, in mild weather, are caught en route by severe weather and become frozen. Many persons would think them perhaps fatally injured and of little value; but they should consider them as in about the same condition as any other plants which may be

planted out and are subject to just as great frost. Exposure to frost is not harmful, provided the plants may thaw gradually, unexposed to light and heat. The best plan, therefore, is to let the box remain unopened, and put it in a cold cellar. It may take a week or more to thaw out; but under proper conditions there will be no harm done.

"I found your medicine a blessing to me and my family."



There are women who feel something like a grudge against the children, who, one after another rob their mother of her beauty and strength. Men do not usually realize how much the mother gives to each child to her own loss. Women accept it as part of the obligation of Nature and pay the debt grudgingly. Yet in Nature's plan every child is a new joy and fresh happiness. It isn't the children that steal the mother's strength. It is the unnatural drains and pains which weaken her.

Every woman who has used Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription has found in it the one thing woman has waited for. It stops the drains, heals inflammation and ulceration, makes the baby's advent a pleasure and his life a blessing. No opiates or narcotics are contained in "Favorite Prescription."

"I read what your medicine had done for other people," writes Mrs. Edwin H. Gardner, Box 79, Beechwood, Norfolk Co., Mass., "so thought I would try it, and I found that it was a blessing to me and my family. I began in June and took six bottles of your medicine, and three vials of 'Pellets.' I took your medicine a year when I had a ten pound girl. I had the easiest time I ever had with any of my children. I have been very well since. I took three bottles of 'Favorite Prescription,' three vials of 'Golden Medical Discovery,' and three vials of 'Pellets.' I had no appetite and could not eat much without it distressing me. Before I took the medicine I only weighed 135 pounds, and now I weigh 175."

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## HAPPENINGS IN IRELAND.

**THE QUEEN'S VISIT.**—We have always had a profound respect for the editorial expressions of the London "Univers"—especially on all Catholic subjects and equally so on Irish matters. If anything could increase that good opinion formed of a contemporary, we believe it would be the timely, calm and patriotic editorial in the issue of 7th April, on "The Queen in Ireland."

After a somewhat good humored account of a trip across the Irish sea—which, by the way, is one of the roughest on the Atlantic—the "Univers" says:—

"However dissatisfied the people of Ireland may be on account of the ill-treatment of ages, they have always drawn a clean line between the Sovereign and the Government. To Her Majesty they impute no blame. Upon the heads of her advisers, however, they pile all their charges, while her statesmen in turn excuse their actions on the ground that they are in the hands of the electors, whose representatives and servants they are. It is all very well to dodge the responsibility in this way, whilst the Government hampers Protestantism at the expense of the Catholic population. Not only have Protestants all the educational advantages at their feet, but they occupy nearly all the best employments in every Government department."

And it adds:—

"No one doubted for a moment that the Queen would receive an enthusiastic welcome. Nor did any one imagine that the slightest unpleasantness would mar the pleasure of the visit. The national aspirations of the people are not in the least affected by the presence of the Queen in Ireland. The desire for self-government will remain and keep its firm grip on the hearts of the Irish race when the royal tour is at an end. It is no wish of the Irish masses to impart to Her Majesty's trip any political complexion whatever."

This is the exact situation in a nut-shell. Moreover, the Nationalist view of the event was clearly defined in the resolution of the Dublin Corporation, which we publish elsewhere in this issue, under the heading "Harrington's Resolution." The Irish people, and the Irish leaders wish to pay due homage to the venerable Sovereign and noble type of womanhood—Queen Victoria: in so doing, however, they wish it to be thoroughly understood that not the Queen's presence, nor any other event can possibly shake their determination to secure a Local Legislature of their own.

Time will unfold the motives which caused Her Majesty to visit the neighboring island. While the papers are vaguely hinting at a desire to raise an Irish regiment, none have gone so far as to positively make such an assertion. But, be the motives what they may, not a few are speculating upon the results. The

same writer in another paragraph, says:—

"When Her Britannic Majesty has returned to England is Ireland to look for any scheme for the better government of the country—a Catholic University Bill, for instance, or such an expansion of local government as would bring it nearer to the heart's desire of the nation—namely, a legislative assembly empowered to make the laws of the land?"

Leaving this question unanswered, we take the last paragraph, equally consisting of questions that only the lapse of years can answer:—"Speaking at a public meeting some days ago, an ex-M.P. for an Irish constituency gave it as his conviction that a Home Rule system would gradually develop itself out of the royal visit. We should be very glad to believe that the ex-member's impression will prove to have been well-founded. But, whilst many are hopeful that Ireland will reap some solid advantages, the majority of the Irish people have been so often disappointed that it is nearly impossible to convince them that any benefit to their country will come out of the visit of the Queen. It takes years and years to squeeze an act of justice out of the British Parliament. Catholic emancipation was positively promised as an immediate consequence of the Union. For twenty-nine years the promise remained unfulfilled, and was then only granted in order to avert a civil war. Irish Catholics have been fifty years appealing to the House of Commons for a Catholic University Bill. When may they hope to get it? If the Irish are discontented who is to blame?"

The only fault to be found with Her Majesty, is that she so long neglected Ireland,—and while it is perfectly recognized that she is more a figure-head than a governing power, and that she could not even control her own advisers in matters of policy, still her attitude may impart an impetus that would eventually result in a closer attention to the needs of Ireland—and this, of itself, would inevitably have to lead to such legislation as would meet the views of the Irish people.

**MR. HARRINGTON'S RESOLUTION.**—At a recent meeting of the Dublin Corporation immense numbers flocked to witness the passage, or at least the discussion of Mr. Harrington's resolution regarding the address to Her Majesty on her arrival in the Irish Capital. The galleries were filled, and little interest was shown in what is hampering. The scene changed, however, as soon as Mr. Harrington rose to move his resolution. He was received with prolonged cheering. His speech was commenced all round for its moderation and fact. The only jarring note in the proceedings was that introduced by Mr. Brady, and he had on

more than one occasion to be called to order by the Lord Mayor.

The motion read thus:—"That inasmuch as a section of the Unionist Press in Great Britain and Ireland have misinterpreted the vote of the Council to present an address of welcome to Her Majesty as an abandonment of our claim for National self-government, this Council, assembled on the Centenary of the passing of the Act of Union, hereby declares that this Act was obtained by fraud and shameful corruption; that the people of this country can never give to the system of Government so established their loyal support, and that, so far as the vast body of the people are concerned, there will be neither contentment nor loyalty in this country until our National Parliament is restored."

After a warm debate in which several members of the Council took part, Mr. Harrington said that by a dignified expression of opinion on their part the Nationalists should make it clear that no recent event indicated an abandonment of their principles. He was satisfied from the expressions he had heard there that they had set themselves right before the public. He could assure his Unionist colleagues that there was no man there nor outside who had greater respect for the feelings of those who differed from him than he had. He hoped they would all manage to live happily together in this country, as Sir Robert Sexton had said, but to live happily together was in no way inconsistent with the possession by this country of the right to manage its own internal affairs and legislate for its own people. He and those who acted with him were quite as anxious as Ald. Ireland that no unpleasant incident should mar the character of Ireland for chivalry and hospitality. While they held their opinions and would fight for them, and express them manfully and boldly, they would be truly sorry, indeed, that, under the shelter of holding these opinions, anyone should, by any act, indiscretion, or word, bring discredit on the noble cause with which these opinions were associated.

The result of the vote subsequently taken was 49 for and 4 against the motion. This result was received with loud cheers.

### CATHOLIC SUMMER SCHOOL.

The programme for the session of the Columbian Catholic Summer School, at Detroit, Mich., from July 10 to Aug. 1, has been practically completed. Cardinal Gibbons will visit the school, as will also a number of bishops and archbishops.

The lecturers thus far engaged are as follows: Rev. F. E. Shields, Th. D., the well-known psychologist, will give three lectures on "Psychology," Dr. Thomas O'Hagan, of Canada, will also give three lectures on the following subjects: "Alfred Tennyson," "Henry Wordsworth Longfellow," and "French Canadian Life and Literature." Hon. Joseph Donnelly, the author of "Jesus Dela-