

The Canadian Cricket Field,

A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF CRICKET IN CANADA.

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The Canadian Cricket Field.

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THE CANADIAN CRICKET FIELD,
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SLOW BOWLING.

The fact that the International Match of last year was lost through the inability of Canadians to play good slow bowling should prove for every one an incentive to master the art, not only of batting against but of bowling slows. We must naturally set about the latter first, for unless good slow bowling exists in our midst, we shall never be able to master that of foreigners when occasion requires. It is best to practise first without a batsman; but if with one, have also a wicket keeper and full field. Nothing is so discouraging to a bowler as to be skied all over the field when there is no one to take catches, or to be met out of ground every ball when there is no one behind the wickets. Yet this is very general in practice, and does a great deal of harm to would-be bowlers. If a bowler and batsman of the right sort would practise together good results would accrue. The bowler should instruct the batsman how to play his bowling, and the batsman act as if playing in a match, and give the bowler the benefit of his advice as to pitch, etc.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Simultaneously with the appearance of this journal, there was published in London (England) *Cricket*, the only weekly paper exclusively devoted to the game there. Its dress and appearance are thoroughly English, and of course its edges uncut. It will be published every Thursday, from May to September inclusive. The undertaking is in the hands of Mr. C. W. Alcock, who has already had considerable experience in cricketing literature. The reading matter is very interesting.

When the Australians visited England in 1878, their scores and those of their opponents were unusually small, owing to the innovations introduced by Spofforth and others into bowling, which were totally new to Englishmen. This year that same bowling has already been mastered, and the Australians

will have to look to their batting powers, which were hardly called into use three years ago, for success in matches.

Lord Harris writes to the editor of *Cricket* demanding a public denial of the charges against Ulyett and Selby, of Shaw's team. "The denial," he says, "made by Shaw and Shrewsbury was not so public as were the charges." He is willing to stake his honour on that of Ulyett.

The high scoring now going on in England is largely due to the perfection of the wickets and present dry weather there. Yet we cannot ignore the fact that the batting is gradually gaining the ascendancy of the bowling.

SHORT SLIPS.

Parkdale play Nelson on Saturday.

EQUATIONS.—Thin soles + hard ground = tender feet; soft hands + hot balls = butter fingers. Beer^o = 0 runs.

On May 24th, the married and single members of the Orillia Club played a match, which resulted in a victory for the married men. Score: Married, 121; Single, 52. J. Marsden made 56 for the Benedicts.

The Maumee Valley Club, of Toledo, visited Amherstburgh on the 24th ultimo, played the club of that place, and were defeated by 10 wickets. Score: Toledo, 48 and 22; Amherstburgh, 63 and 8. The return match will be played at Toledo on July 4th.

The generality of matches played between Hamilton and Toronto have heretofore been drawn. This year, in order to ensure its being played out, the Toronto Committee are endeavouring to arrange a two-day match to come off on June 30th and July 1st. It is to be hoped that no obstacles will be placed in the way of its taking place, and that henceforth it will be an annual event to occupy two days.

CRICKET, AND HOW TO EXCEL IN IT.

BY DR. W. G. GRACE.

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CHAPTER II.—BATTING—Continued.

Now as to the way you should hold your bat, and what length the handle should be.

Some players have the handles of their bats made two or three inches longer than usual, but what advantage they gain I cannot imagine. If your only object is to make one or two big hits, it of course stands to reason that with a long-handled bat, if you hit a ball hard and full, it will go farther than if you hit with a short-handled one—the longer the lever the greater its power; but your aim in batting is to get as many runs as you can, and to keep your wicket up, and you do this under difficulties with a long-handled bat. You can neither wield it so correctly nor so quickly as a short-handled one, and unless you are very careful, you will lose your wicket by knocking the ground when trying to hit the ball. There