

## Athletes and Athletics.

All about Chatham's Clubs.—Honors won by the Maple Leaf City's Men and Boys.—Kent's Well-Bred Horses.—All Sorts of Sports.

SOME people run wild over certain athletic games, while others disparage athletics entirely. To both of these classes the investigation of Dr. Schmidt-Mounard, of Leipzig, should be interesting as well as instructive. His argument is that the young should have less schooling and more out-of-door exercise. He finds after a long series of investigation that the physical growth of children, after the first year of school, both in height and weight is less than during any preceding year of life. That the average child only gains 2½ pounds in weight instead of four pounds as heretofore, and five centimetres in height instead of seven.

Children who do not go to school until seven develop into strong men. Still further, chronic ailments such as head ache, sleeplessness and nervous troubles are found among pupils of a higher grade, about 50 per cent. in the girls' schools and 35 per cent. in the boys'. Where the pupils are obliged to practice gymnastic exercises and where lessons are not taught in the class in the afternoons, the percentage goes down to 30 per cent., whereas where there are no gymnastic exercises and the pupils are obliged to study all the day the percentage runs up as high as 79 per cent.

School boards and parents should look after the physical condition of pupils and then the mental would be easier improved.

Chatham is a city of 10,000 and is placed in a position that it has no ground to hold a public demonstration or game of any kind, where an admittance fee could be charged. What the council of 1900 thought of to allow the athletic grounds to slip from their grasp? The land could have been bought at a fair price, the grand stand and two bleachers already erected and a good high board fence enclosing it all in, for about \$8,000. This could have been bought, and our citizens then would be able to do as other cities. Now, they have to use Tecumseh Park, that is owned by the Government and any moment they may demand entire use of it for military purposes. However, how are we to celebrate the First of July, Labor Day, etc? Having had the use of such a place for the past three years, it will be rather hard to have to play on the public green, as in a village.

### CURLING.

The Chatham Curling Club was organized in 1882. Among the first members were David Walker, I. B. Emerson, Hon. W. L. McCrae, Sheriff Mercer. The club has won and holds more prizes than any club west of London, but the curlers this year have been having a hard time of it. Their rink for a drill shed, and now the members are thinking of buying a new ice making plant and renting St. James' Club. This will enable them to go there and practice all summer vacation, then be able to have matches and then on their new rink close to build in time for Jesus Christ, the sport. With good and a young ice during the past season, and was officers of the club at present mother: Patrons, R. Ferguson, M.P.P., T. L. Pardo, M. P. P., Pres., Chief Young; Vice-Pres., W. D. Sheldon; Sec'y, W. E. Merritt; Treas., G. G. Taylor; Chaplain, Rev. R. McCosh.

### LAWN BOWLING.

The Chatham Lawn Bowling Club was organized in 1885, with N. H. Stevens as President, and J. S. Black, Secretary-Treasurer, with abt 50 members.

This historic game has endeared itself to a large number of Maple City citizens. Most people are not aware that this game is not of yesterday. The Admirals and Officers of the English fleet spent some jolly days bowling on the green while they awaited the arrival of the Spanish Armada. Shakespeare refers to this delightful game in many of his plays.

In 1897 Messrs. A. H. VonGuten and T. A. Smith donated handsome trophies for annual competition. Both of these have been finally won by Wilson Taylor, but the Smith trophy has been returned by Mr. Taylor for annual competition.

In 1899, S. J. Sutherland donated a very handsome trophy for competition by the clubs of the Western District. It was won the first year by the home club, and last year by the fast colts from Dresden.

The club has been very successful in the Dominion Bowling Tournament, having been the runners-up in 1898, winning very handsome prizes, and having repeated the feat last year with a rink composed of Dr. R. V. Bray, (Skip), J. S. Black, W. A. Thrasher and A. E. Jewett.

At Walkerville and London tournaments the local rinks have been hard people to run against, but luck and tough opposition have prevented great success for the Chathamites. In 1899, however, the Consolation prize came to a local rink. Their lawn is on the most beautiful spot in the city, at the junction of McGregor's Creek and the River Thames, and we believe we can assert that there is no such green elsewhere in Canada.

This year's officers are—J. S. Black, President; Dr. J. L. Bray, Vice-President; R. G. Fleming, Secretary-Treasurer; Dr. Fleming, W. A. Thrasher and A. E. Jewett, Executive Committee.

### FOOT BALL.

The Chatham Foot Ball Club is well known as follows:—Honorary President, Robt. Gray; Honorary Vice-President, Dr. Fleming; President, John Piggott; Vice-President, Wm. Murray; Secretary-Treasurer, Percy Piggott; Captain, Wm. Wilson;

"Freehan", 2:04, the fastest Canadian-bred pacer.  
"Little Jim", 2:15, holds the five-mile trotting record in Europe.  
"Frank Rysdyke", the fastest double-gaited horse ever bred in Canada, has a trotting record of 2:14, and a pacing record of 2:08.  
"Harold H", 2:11½, the unbeaten pacer of 1900.  
The pony pacer "Little Tim", 2:23½.  
The Spring Fair will be held on Saturday, April 27. The sum of \$50.00 has been appropriated for trials of speed. Diplomas will also be given this year for thoroughbred cattle.

### LAWN TENNIS.

The prospects for the coming season in lawn tennis matters are especially bright.

as a great many are fond of game, and owing to the laws of the country we are not allowed to buy game. The fee of membership has been put at the very low figure of \$2.00. The officers of the club for 1901 are: President, W. S. Richards, vice-pres., Geo. Massey; sec-treas., L. F. Wilson.

### ATHLETICS.

The directors of the Buffalo Exposition are making a special effort in their athletic department. Canada will surely be represented. Why not send some of our Maple City teams?

### GOLF.

Chatham had a golf club, but owing to not being able to secure suitable grounds has been disbanded.

## ERIEAU ON LAKE ERIE



Band Stand and Pavilion.

League Representative, F. D. Laurie. The club has competed for several years in the Walkerville Cup competition, taking a high standard and have held the cup on several different occasions, the last time being the spring season of 1900. Last fall the Chatham team was undoubtedly the strongest team in the league, playing exclusively with non professional players. The club representative is very much dissatisfied with the treatment received in the Peninsular League last fall, which he claims was very unfair, and if his views are adopted the club will enter the London, or Central League, and sever their connection with the Peninsular League.

### LACROSSE.

The national game of Canada is slowly but surely becoming a sport of the past, a fact that is much to be deplored. The game embodies health, strength and activity, although at times extremely rough.

Lacrosse was first played by the red men in North America and was the only game played by them. When Columbus landed on the shores of America, and the white man gradually worked his way into the interior of the country, they saw the game played by the Indians and soon learned how to wield the stick with the cross strings, and became even more proficient than the originators of this sport. Many centuries have passed since then, but lacrosse, until now, has remained a game for the Indians and towns during the year.

The officers for the year 1901 of the Chatham Lawn Tennis club are as follows: Hon. President, William Ball; president, Frank Malcolmson; vice-president, J. S. Turner; secretary, treasurer, Dr. Geo. Musson; general committee, Messrs. Rose, McLenn, McOsh and Ball; Messrs. Gunn, Crichton, Willoughby, Conte, Massey, Rispin and Fraser. Ground committee, Messrs. Rispin, Conte and Gilson.

As soon as the weather permits, the splendid grounds of the club, King Street West, will be put in condition for the coming season. It is the intention to have a number of matches with clubs of neighboring cities and towns during the year.

A number of towns' people have sets of clubs, among whom is Mr. Thomas, who has kindly offered a couple of sets to the Hospital for the use of the patients, providing they use them in halls and corridors only.

### AQUATIC.

After Rear Admiral J. S. Black gets the gun boat float, we would suggest, his forming a yacht club and use the gun boat as the flagship, instead of sending it to the Buffalo Exposition. Our citizens should have the privilege of admiring it, themselves and pointing out to visitors this very valuable relic of past wars. Let us hold what we have—to get.

## A GLIMPSE OF OLD DAYS ON THE THAMES.



The Chatham Rowing and Boating Club was organized in 1880, and until 1890 was the most flourishing aquatic club in the west.

While it was in existence the members were very active, also successful in their races on the Thames, and the largest rowing regattas on the continent where they competed, carrying off many prizes and holding the four-oared championship of the National North-western and Canadian Associations for several years.

It was no uncommon sight, when the club was in its zenith, to see two four-oared crews, one or two doubles and half a dozen single shells on the river at the same time. At a local regatta held here in 1882, Edward Haulan, then professional single scull champion of the world, (at a cost to the committee of \$1,000) attended and gave an exhibition which attracted an enormous crowd to the city.

About the only members of the old rowing club, now remaining in Chatham, are W. B. Wells, who stroked the winning four-oared crew and also held the single championship of several associations for many years, W. B. Rispin, who also took a great interest in many sports and who, with Mr. Wells, are Past Captains of the club, and J. West and H. Ball.

Rowing is a splendid exercise, well calculated to develop the physique of young men, and it is to be hoped that the old Chatham Rowing and Boating Club will be revived and thus give the young men of Chatham an opportunity to take advantage of this excellent exercise.

MRS. W. A. HADLEY.

knowledgeable game of North America. Our friends in the United States have substituted other games and Canada is slowly, but surely, following their example.

Chatham heretofore has very creditably maintained the standard of the game. During the seasons of 1895, 1896 and 1897 not a game was lost, the recompense being the winning of the Groette Cup.

### HORSES.

Here are some of the HIGH PRICES PAID FOR HORSES:—

"Flying Fox", the famous English Thoroughbred, sold for \$191,625, the highest price ever paid for a horse.

"Turk", the high-stepping Park Horse, sold at the American Horse exchange for \$7,800, April, 1900.

"Ariel", sold for \$105,000, the highest price ever paid for a trotter.

Here are a few facts about KENT COUNTY FAST HORSES:—

### BASE BALL.

The C. M. C. Base Ball Club has been reorganized for the season of 1901 with W. R. Landon, as President; James Anderson, Vice President; Arthur Berry, Manager; Warren Myers, Captain; W. S. Ball, Secretary. They are already getting into shape and will be prepared to do battle royal with any other amateur team in this neighborhood, as soon as the weather and grounds are in a condition for playing. They have signed several new members and will put a stronger team in the field this year than they ever had before. Where are the other clubs? Get ready.

### THE GUN.

A Gun Club has been organized for trap shooting and should be encouraged by the sporting fraternity. It is intended for amateurs to make them more perfect in flight shooting.

### CRICKET.

The Chatham Cricket Club has not yet been organized for 1901. Some of the older members are talking of retiring, which would be much regretted, as they have done such very good work in the past. The club intends engaging the services of a professional player to coach the new members.

### HOCKEY.

The Chatham team: Goal, R. L. Cook; point, S. Courtney; cover point, M. D. Fraser; forwards, W. D. Elliott, S. Mercer, A. W. Larmour, S. Hicklin; official referee, N. D. Harper; mascot, "Winnie" Turnbull. They played—they lost! But they had an excuse—No rink and no practice.

Archery is a good game for ladies. Why not form a club and practice marksmanship?

MRS. W. A. HADLEY.

## EASTER

### FIXINGS.

It isn't unreasonable to suppose that a thousand men in Chatham will indulge in a new Hat for Easter—twice that many will come out with a bright new Tie. If you are among this number, the Black and White Store can interest you. All the newest Hats are here—Stetsons, Roelofs, Barringtons, Woodrows, Christy, and all of them—\$8c., \$1.98, \$2.50 and \$3.00. If you haven't seen our EASTER NECKWEAR at 50 cents, you've missed the greatest tie show in town.

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## JUST A MOMENT PLEASE

Your time is money: we will not detain you—we merely wish to mention three special lines we are offering at close prices, the best value in the city without a doubt.

**Soluble Cocoa**  
Only 15c. per pound worth 30c.  
**Our Rajah Blind Coffee**  
Ground Fresh to your order, per pound 25c.  
**Quebec Maple Syrup.**  
Only \$1.00 per Gallon, 25c. Quart.

**J. H. BOGART,**  
Japanese Tea House,  
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All letters promptly answered.  
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Our Thirty-five Years' Experience has enabled us to select the best goods in the market, which we offer our customers at close prices.

Be sure and see our Brush Department, a full line of excellent Paint, Varnish, Kalsomine and Whitewash Brushes always on hand. Call and inspect our stock and be convinced that we excel in this line.

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The Chatham Public General Hospital  
Is one of the best managed institutions of its kind in Canada.

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All Up-to-date People use Gas for Cooking. It is the Cheapest, Most Efficient, and least troublesome fuel.

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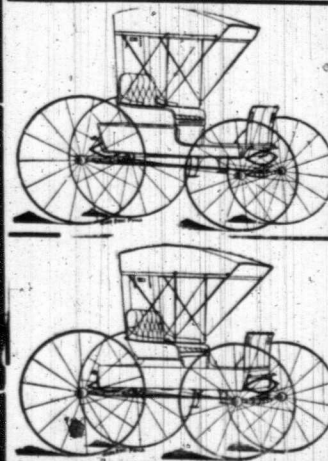
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