

entering: Cheap Jack, Sweepstake, Daisy, Spoopendyke and Whynot.

Daisy—Andrew Wedge and J. Grady, Jr.—came in first. An oar was broken by one of the crew of Cheap Jack shortly after the start, and they dropped out of the race.

A single skull race was also arranged, but one of the boats swamped while being prepared, and the event was declared off.

The officers of the course were: Judges, J. A. McNeill, J. D. Enman, Kenneth Ellis; Starter, W. Manson; Timer, S. M. Greaves.

The water was smooth, and the air warm and balmy as in May.

Boating matters are said to be at very low ebb in Hamilton. The Nautilus Rowing Club have not recovered from the injury done them by the action of the C. A. A. O., in their treatment of the Donohues et al., which is still believed by them to have been unfair, and the Leanders are still rattled by the dreadful beating given them by the Argonauts last spring.

FOOTBALL.

The association match, Seattle vs. Albions of Victoria, B. C., played on New Year's Day in Victoria, resulted in a win for the visitors after a close and exciting struggle, by five games to three.

The visitors were afterwards entertained at dinner by the Victorian team.

The match (Rugby), England vs. the Colonies, played at Beacon Hill, Victoria, B. C., on New Year's Day has resulted in an appeal to the English Rugby Union.

The play throughout the game was fine and fast, and seldom has better football been played in Victoria. In the first half the Englishmen scored one goal (disputed) and a try, and in the second half the Colonists scored two tries. The result is said to be in doubt, although why I cannot see, if the umpire allowed the goal won by the Englishmen.

BOWLING.

A bowling match was played on the evening of the 9th inst. between teams of the M. A. A. A. and the Victoria Rifles on the alleys of the latter, with the usual result, the home team winning by 122.

Apparently the only point of interest between teams, one of which is playing on its own alleys is, what will the majority be? the result of the game being a foregone conclusion.

The exception which would prove the application of the above general rule was very nearly occurring on the alleys of the

Ottawa A. A. C. on the evening of the 16th inst., when the O. A. A. Club met the Victorias of Montreal and only saved themselves from defeat by one pin, Major A. P. Sherwood of the O. A. A. Club having the delicate task of delivering the final ball which saved his club from defeat.

The Montreal A. A. A. defeated Le Canadien Club on the alleys of the M. A. A. A. on the 16th. The latter club used the finger hole balls which have received so much attention of late.

In spite, however, of the difference in bowls, the game ended in the usual orthodox fashion, the home club winning.

LACROSSE.

The Toronto Lacrosse Club propose to give a big minstrel show and assault arms in the Academy early next month. They are reported to be sparing neither time, pains nor money to make the entertainment a success and hope to have a bumper house.

The minstrelsy and operatic performance will be diversified by international tug-of-war contests, fencing bouts, fancy and grotesque drills, and other startling innovations.

SKATING.

A fancy dress carnival was held in the skating rink at Portage la Prairie on the 6th inst., at which prizes were given for the best lady and gentlemen skaters and the best costumes. The event was a marked success both in point of attendance and the costumes worn.

A children's fancy dress carnival was held recently in the Rideau Rink, Ottawa. A large Christmas tree was erected in the centre of the building, on which were suspended some three hundred gifts presented by the management of the rink to the children. The tree was brilliantly and beautifully illuminated with coloured electric lights generously furnished by the Standard Electric Co. free of charge, and during the evening Santa Claus attended and distributed the numerous presents among the little ones skating.

CANOEING.

At a recent meeting of the Toronto Canoe Club, red and black were adopted as the club colours, and in future all cruising and racing members will wear a red ring on the breast of a black jersey.

Arrangements for their annual "At Home" have been completed and the members trust not to dim the success achieved by their two previous efforts in that direction.

Sailing canoes have of late been displacing the interest hitherto taken in

paddling. It is expected that the number of war canoes being contracted for and the great interest taken in the contest between these enormous machines will have a tendency to counter balance the decrease of interest in paddling.

Small canoe clubs are joining two or more to secure war canoes in common.

THE GERMAN FIELD PIECE.

Naturally, speculation has been rife as to the new gun with which the German Field Artillery is to be armed, but so far no actual details of the gun itself have been allowed to transpire, although plenty of particulars have been furnished as to its accessories. One thing, however, appears to be certain, and that is that the experiments with bronze have failed to give the satisfactory results which were at one time confidently predicted as likely to lead to the adoption of some form of alloy in which brass would carry the day over steel. From the exhaustive experiments carried out, it was found that bronze tubes showed signs of wear after firing 900 rounds, which made it questionable whether their endurance could be relied upon, whereas as many as 3,000 rounds were fired from cast steel tubes. The new guns, therefore, are to be of Krupp cast steel, and will probably retain the present calibre of 8.8 centimetres. The new limbers and carriages are to be entirely of iron, with an improved limber-hook. The limber boxes, instead of opening upwards, will open to the rear, so as to allow the ammunition to be handled more conveniently, and the gun to be more quickly served. Cartridge and projectile will also be in one piece, thereby ensuring greater rapidity of fire. The axle-tree seats will likewise be improved, and the footboards modified to seat the gunners more comfortably. The introduction of a metal cartridge, all in one piece, will be accompanied by a simplification of projectiles, one projectile being used for all general purposes, and only a couple of rounds of case being retained for each gun. This alone will greatly simplify loading during the heat of an action, besides greatly facilitating the renewal of ammunition to batteries in the field. These improvements, without taking into consideration further modifications which will probably be made in the gun itself, mark such a stride in advance, that it may safely be calculated that the new field guns will be able to fire three rounds to every one fired at present. In any case they go a long way to counterbalance the advantages lost to the artillery by the general introduction of the small-bore magazine rifle. At the present moment, 1,800 workmen are incessantly employed at the Spandau works, and as soon as the necessary credits have been passed, a still larger number will be taken on, so as to push forward the supply of new guns without a moment's delay.