

on the water, and showing an advantage of a few feet in the opening strokes; but Lumsden, rowing faster, though shorter, took the lead in the first half-dozen strokes, and, making his boat travel at a great pace, was half a length ahead at the Mansion House. Here there was a marked disparity in the style of the men; for Nicholson, getting good length, was rowing five strokes only to Lumsden's six—the latter's style of going not being so machine-like as the well-finished sweep of the Stockton man. In the race to the Skinner Burn Nicholson steered a little bit wildly, and was a length and a quarter behind soon after passing it; Lumsden meanwhile steering a course straight as an arrow, and keeping up his wonderfully fast stroke. Half way up the Grindstone Quay Nicholson, seeing himself left behind, made his first spurt, which was indeed a useful one; for he was rapidly closing with Lumsden, and looked as if he would pass him, as the latter appeared to be troubled at the rapid manner in which his opponent was overhauling him. When Nicholson ceased spurring he was within a quarter of a length of the Blyth man, who, however, by a great effort shot through the Redhough Bridge (time 8 min. 7 sec.) with a bare lead of half a length. Lumsden, immediately after shooting the stricture, veered sharply in to the north shore, which was altogether unnecessary, as, had he kept his boat on the same line as he had steered to the bridge, he would have gained a bit; but Nicholson did not take advantage of this, for he again pulled too strongly with his left hand, and went almost into mid-stream. Lumsden, in the race past the Lead Works up to Hall's boathouse (the quarters of a mile) improved upon his lead, through Nicholson's indifferent steering. At length Percy got Nicholson to take notice of his signalling to keep more towards the north shore, and, responding to the call, the latter came with another grand rush, and was within half a length of the leader at Hall's boat-house. The race here upwards afforded a magnificent struggle, each man spurring against the other, Nicholson alternately drawing upon his opponent, and dropping half a length behind again as Lumsden responded to his opponent's efforts. A couple of hundred yards from home, Lumsden was in distress, but he kept gamely on to the finish. Meanwhile Nicholson, who was sculling strong, came with a final bid for victory, and was just level as Waterson's Gates were reached, the time being 6 min. 20 sec.—the fastest on record for an open boat race over the same distance. The referee declined to say who had won, as his boat was behind the men when they finished; and it was not until Mr. James Hall, who had been appointed distance judge, declared that it was a dead heat, that he could come to any conclusion about the issue. A meeting of the principal backers of the men took place after the contest, and they agreed for the men to row again on the same conditions. Accordingly the referee named to-day (Saturday) for the men to row, the start to take place at 9.20 a.m.—*The Field*, Dec. 9.

UNIVERSITY ROWING MATCHES.

THE REFUSAL OF CAMBRIDGE TO ROW AGAINST YALE AND CORNELL NEXT AUGUST.

The American universities of Yale and Cornell have at last formally and separately challenged Cambridge to row four-oar matches on the Thames from Putney to Mortlake in August next. Cambridge, however, has declined the offer, as it did when Harvard challenged it together with Oxford in 1869. It is to be regretted if the refusal of Cambridge to row should be interpreted, as very likely it will be, into a confession of fear of the prowess of American oarsmen. But the truth is that these foreign aspirations are a nuisance to university men. If accepted the long vacation is sacrificed, and that for a game which is not worth the candle. It is felt that there is no special honor to be gained by rowing and defeating

saw plenty of game, but their guns got so wet in the rain, which had fallen incessantly, that they would not go off, and when at night they tried to light their camp-fire they were dismayed by the discovery that their matches had shared the same fate. After spending a night even more uncomfortably than the preceding one, they found themselves in the morning still lost in the woods, but followed a stream downward, though their limbs were weak from exposure, failing them so much as to cause them to stumble and fall very often. About 10 o'clock on Thursday they heard a cow bell, the supposed direction of which they followed for about two miles, when, at noon, they came to the house of Mr. Quigley, about twelve miles from Chatham. Mr. Quigley received them hospitably and cared for them till Saturday, when they proceeded homeward.

The guns used were muzzle-loaders. Had they been breech-loaders, with metallic cartridges, half the suffering would have been avoided.

THE ENGLISH TURF.

Freeman, the veteran son of Kettledrum and Haricot, died very suddenly December 1, from inflammation of the lungs, a disease from which it was not suspected he was suffering when he took part in the Midland Counties Handicap the week previously. The iron-limbed veteran, who looked fresh and vigorous when he took part in the event won by Pageant, was seized with inflammation of the lungs some time after returning to Russley, and died very suddenly on December 1. Freeman was bred by Colonel Towneley, and was sold as a yearling to Robert Peck for forty guineas. He ran indifferently several times as a two-year-old, until he earned a name by winning the Freeman's Nursery at Newcastle. With age, however, he developed into a most useful handicap horse, and being sent by Peck to Mr. Merry, won for the last named gentleman the Great Northern Handicap in successive years, as well as the Roxburgh Handicap at Kelso, after a dead heat with Falkland. Being also disappointed with his running Mr. Merry disposed of him to Mr. Benjaige, after he had run second to Pirate for the Great Yorkshire Handicap, and for his new owner last year won the Chester Cup, just missed landing the Great Northern Handicap for the third time through the bad riding of his jockey, but carried off the Goodwood Stakes after being a good deal interfered with. During the past season he was within an ace of winning the Chester Cup a second time, and showed even improved form at Ascot, where he won the three miles Alexandra Plate. Freeman was seven years old.

THEATRE PANIC IN MONTREAL.

A FALSE CRY OF "FIRE" IN THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

In the Academy of Music, on Christmas evening, the play "Naiad Queen," dedicated to the Countess of Dufferin, drew a tremendous house. Over 2,000 persons were in attendance, every available space of standing room being occupied. The gallery contained about 800 persons. About nine o'clock a cry of fire from some unknown party alarmed the audience, and a slight panic ensued. It is stated that a piece of framework fell down on a person seated in the dress circle, which also excited the audience. Two ladies tripped and were nearly trampled upon. A general rush from the upper gallery ensued, several falling headlong down stairs. The ushers in attendance partially quieted the audience, and the play was stopped for a second and then begun again. Several individuals pulled down the screens from the windows in their excitement. It is stated by those who sat in the dress circle that the gallery cracked. The audience were quieted and the play resumed. Several ladies fainted, and one or two went into hysterics. From the ventilators on the roof the hot air from the vast audience issued,

BOGARDUS AND CRITTENTON ROBINSON.

In the pigeon match for \$500, on the 23rd, at Oakland Park, San Francisco, between Captain Bogardus and Crittenton Robinson, champion of California, the former won after a close contest. Conditions, sixty single birds each and forty double. California rules. There was a good attendance, and excellent order prevailed. Bogardus led off with thirty-five birds to Robinson's twenty-seven, but Robinson later on outshot his Eastern rival, scoring fifty-four birds of the sixty, against fifty-one for Bogardus. His her-to betting was light, but, as Robinson is generally excellent at double birds, investments were made on terms. The birds were all strong on the wing, and on the first pair Robinson held his own, but in the next five Bogardus made up the difference, and they were even 74 each on the last five. Bogardus killed every bird; Robinson missed three; but the match could have been a tie until the last two barrels. The score was 84 to 81. Both contestants declared themselves satisfied with the decision. The winner was instantly challenged to repeat the match for \$1,000 a side.

A specimen of the golden eagle has been shot by Mr. Charles Tucker, of Newbury, and has been sent to Mr. Mummery & Son, London, to be mounted in the best possible manner. This is a very rare bird in Canada, but more plentiful in Scotland and Iceland.

Mr. Geo. Buttery, who resides in the Township of Adelaide, about three miles from Strathroy, has a rifle with which he has shot with his own hands 400 deer. The gun has been changed to a smooth bore, and is now used as a shot gun, but is considerably rusted. Mr. Buttery not having indulged in his favorite sport to any great extent for several years.

Amusements.

CITY.

The Christmas piece at the Grand Opera House, *The Palace of Truth*, was put on on Monday night and has continued to attract good houses all through the week. It has a great advantage over many spectacle plays in having a good plot and fine language, and would indeed be a neat comedy without the aid of elegant and spectacular scenery such as its production is aided with at Mrs. Morrison's. Of the cast of the stock company, it is unnecessary to speak, it is quite strong enough to do full justice to the ideas of the author. The piece has been elegantly placed on the stage, the scenery, the costumes, and effects, being all new and especially prepared for its proper production. The great attraction, however, is the dancing of Mlle Bonfanti, (Mrs. Hoffman), and Mlle De Vere. They have created quite a furore by their artistic, terpsichorean efforts, and are the clearest exponents of the saltatorial art we have ever had in the city. Owing to illness, Mr. Alt. Hudson was unable to appear as the King, a part which is agreeably filled by Mr. Stokes. On Saturday and Monday, besides the usual evening representations, there will be matinees, at the latter of which Santa Claus will make his second annual visit.

"Undine" has been the attraction at the Royal Opera House this week, and it has been a success beyond a doubt. The cast is very strong, while the scenic effects really are deserving of more than ordinary mention. The whole production of the

London—The Human Opera Fringe commenced a season of six nights on Monday last, the opening bill being the Princess of Trebizonde, Tuesday, Bluebeard. Mr. Brookhouse Bowler has succeeded from this company.

To Correspondents.

We would particularly request our correspondents and advertisers to send their favors as early in the week as possible—so that they will reach us by Wednesday morning. We are unable to use many items sent us in consequence of not receiving them in time for the issue intended.

(No notice taken of anonymous communications or queries. No answer by mail or telegraph.)

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