

separating when another gentleman, a stranger to all present, walked in, and laying his card on the table announced that the advertisement calling the meeting had been issued by him. This was Captain Cairnie of Largs since famous as a keen Curler, and the originator of the "shallow artificial rink." Captain Cairnie was voted into the Chair, and thus became the first President of the Grand Curling Club, in which office he has had so many distinguished successors.

From all that transpired both at the General Meeting, and at the Dinner, I was more than ever impressed with the conviction of the great benefits conferred by the Royal Caledonian Club on the cause of Curling, as that Association has been mainly instrumental in making the Game what it now is—a manly recreation guarded by well defined rules which place effectually both sides on an equality in their struggle for an honorable victory, and make Scotland's national game, more than any other game that can be named, a fit arena on which the nobler features of character may be encouraged and developed; and, knowing the sentiments of my brother Curlers in this Canada of ours, I ventured to assure the members of the Royal Caledonian Club, that we should do our endeavour on this side of the Atlantic to follow in their footsteps, and keep the noble Game of Curling up to their standard, as a Game in which men of the highest sense of honor, or those occupying even the most exalted positions, might engage with the conviction that it was worthy of their countenance. Further, I ventured to assure the members of the Royal Caledonian Club that we had the ambition to attempt to make Curling the National Game of Canada! And why should it not be so? Nature has been lavish in furnishing abundant means and lengthened opportunity for our attaining superior skill in the Noble Game, and if there be truth in the old adage that "practice makes perfect," why should we not succeed in improving our knowledge of the true Science of the Game, by testing the various methods both of *directing* and of *playing*, that we finally adopt the best; and also that we may become experts in the practical work of "drawing" and

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