

IRELAND'S HANDBALL CHAMPION.

Fitzgerald Makes His Debut at the Brooklyn Club's Court.

(N. Y. Sun)

There was a representative gathering of handball players, promoters, and critics at the Brooklyn Club's court last week to see the Irish champion, James Fitzgerald, make his American debut. All were favorably impressed with the new arrival, and the aptitude he showed in adapting himself to the strange court, conditions and surroundings. It was a gala day at the premier court, and the Celtic star received a rousing welcome from the world's champion, Phil Casey, ex-Alderman James Dunne, Charley Johnson, and several other well known Brooklyn citizens, as well as from his fellow townsmen, M and J. McMahon.

Ex-Alderman Dunne took Fitzgerald under his wing, and the pair went in against Phil Casey and J. Dunne, jr., for a rubber. The Irishman stripped well and tipped the scales at 158 pounds, which is about twelve pounds over his championship weight. Although only 5 feet 6 inches tall, he has a good reach, and is well proportioned. Having been mostly accustomed to indiscriminate service, the ace-line rule puzzled him somewhat, and he also found trouble in reaching the three wall twisters which came along when the others went in. Still he succeeded in showing that he understands the manual of the game thoroughly, that he has a finished par of hands and the legs of a sprinter.

Before "Fitz" and the ex-Alderman got fairly well together the other pair ran away with the first game. From then on it was a splendid match, and the all round science displayed was a treat for the onlookers. The score was:

J. Dunne, Jr., and Phil Casey 21 21 21 30-83
Ex-Ald. Dunne and James Fitzgerald..... 6 14 17 21-58

Great interest was then manifested in Fitzgerald's past record, and it was found to be well worthy of scrutiny. He was born at Tralee twenty-five years ago and picked up the game naturally in the open court there. His first match of importance was in 1872, when he played a home and home match with Timothy Twohill, of Kanturk and beat him 8 to 7. Of these he took seven at home and one at Kanturk, Twohill scoring four at home and three on Fitzgerald's ground. His second effort was in 1873, when he met and decisively defeated William O'Herilby, of Cork, then champion of Ireland. The match took place at Kilkenny, and "Fitz" captured the rubber of best of thirteen in seven straight games. His next essay was against Michael Nolan, of Carlow, in a rubber of best of twenty-one. The match was played in 1874 at Carlow and Dublin. At home Nolan held his man well, and they broke even with five games each, but in the balance of the rubber at Dublin Fitzgerald ended suspense by taking six games to Nolan's one.

This paved the way for the match with John Lawlor, who returned to Ireland from this country specially to wrest the Gaelic crown from the Tralee boy. They met in August, 1875, at Cork in a two-day match of best of eleven games for the Irish championship. Lawlor professed great confidence, and his followers offered heavy odds on him, but Fitzgerald easily took the rubber and title, keeping his opponent anchored at three games.

Ever since Fitzgerald saw Casey and the Dunnes play under the Sun's rules in Ireland he has hankered to come and settle in this country, as he thought the modern system of play now in general vogue here would suit him. Now that he has carried out his design and fallen into such good hands he has no doubt for the future. He expressed strong admiration for the play of his partner and opponents in yesterday's friendly brush and also for the style of ball used, which he thinks far ahead of the Irish article.

Other games played during yesterday's celebration were:

J. O'Brien and W. Tierney..... 21 21 21-62
M. O'Donnell and M. McMahon..... 21 21 21-68
M. O'Donnell and M. McMahon..... 21 21 21-68
J. Ryan and J. McMahon..... 18 21 17-56
R. Hutton..... 21 21 21-63
C. R. Gurnett..... 17 28 12-54
M. McMahon..... 21 17-34
R. Hutton..... 13 21-34
R. Hutton..... 21 21-34
W. Tierney and J. McCormack..... 21 21 21-68
M. McMahon and E. Lawlor..... 21 21 21-64
James Liddy and George Healey..... 6 14 17 21-58

THE PROVISION MARKET.

The local provision market is without any new feature, business being quiet and prices about steady. New packed Canadian pork, \$11 to \$12, old at \$10 to \$10.50 per barrel; pure Canadian lard, in pails, at 6 1/2 to 7c, and compound refined at 5 1/2 to 5 3/4 per lb; hams, 9c to 10c, and bacon 8 1/2 to 9c per lb.

The market for heavy dressed hogs was easier, and the outside figure now for car lots is \$4.60 per 100 lbs., while in a jobbing way sales are being made at \$4.90 to \$5. On the other hand the tone of the market for light weights is firm at \$5.25 per 100 lbs. in car lots, and at \$5.50 to \$5.75 in a small way.

THE PRODUCE MARKETS.

The cheese market is quiet. What little stock remains is held firm at 12c, and so far there have been no bids of that figure. The cable advanced another 6d to 5c. This is the earliest wind up to the cheese market in years and bears out the predictions that have been made from time to time that stocks in Canada this fall were much lighter than usual.

Butter continues firm at 20c for finest creamery, which becomes scarcer each day. In fact, as we pointed out last week, exporters find it difficult to get any stock fit to ship, and consider that their trade is practically over until next spring.

There was no change in eggs. The demand is chiefly for small lots to fill actual wants. Montreal limes and choice candied stock are selling at 14c to 14 1/2c. Western limes at 13c to 13 1/2c, and held free at 12c to 12 1/2c per dozen.

The demand for beans was slow, and

NERVOUS Troubles are due to impoverished blood. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the One True Blood Purifier and **NERVE TONIC.**

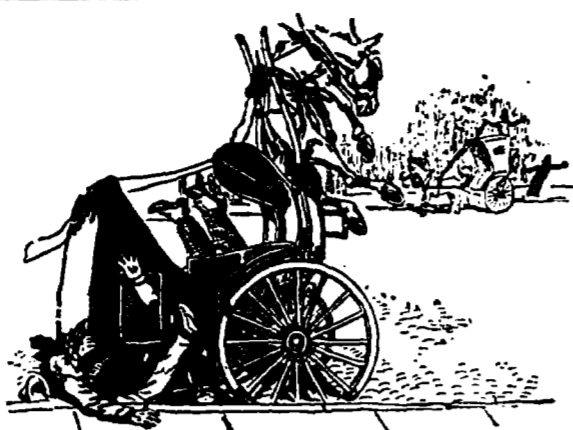
the market is without any new feature. Car lots are offering at 80 to 85c, and in a small way sales are being made at 90c to 95c.

The market for potatoes continues quiet and about steady at 35c to 40c in car lots, and at 45c to 50c per bag in a small way.

There was a fair enquiry for fresh killed poultry of which the offerings

were small and buyers in consequence found it difficult to fill their wants. Business on the whole was quiet. Turkeys at 8c to 9c; spring chickens, 6 1/2 to 7c; frozen stock, 3c to 5 1/2c; geese, choice, 6c to 7c; frozen, old, 5c to 5 1/2c; and ducks, 7 1/2 to 8c per lb.

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YOU have been waiting for WE snow for the last three months.

You have it now and we hope that you will make good use of it.

We can help you by selling you one of our sleighs.

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You can't afford to go elsewhere if you are looking for a bargain.

Our stock of sleighs is the largest in the city.

Give us a call.

LATIMER'S

592 St. Paul Street.

Merchants' Bank of Halifax.

GENERAL STATEMENT, December 31st, 1896.

LIABILITIES.

TO THE PUBLIC-

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes items like Notes in Circulation, Deposits at Call, Deposits subject to notice, etc.

TO THE SHAREHOLDERS-

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes items like Capital, paid up, Reserve Fund, Dividends, etc.

ASSETS.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes items like Specie, Dominion Notes, Notes of and Cheques on other Banks in Canada, etc.

STATEMENT of the Result of the Business of the Bank, for the Year Ending December 31, 1896.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes items like By Net Profits, By Balance carried forward, To Dividends, etc.

STATEMENT Showing the Progress of the Bank in the Past Ten Years.

Table with 3 columns: Description, 1886, 1896. Shows growth in Capital, Reserve Fund, Circulation, etc.

Last 4 Days of our January Sale.

We are making great reductions this week, in order to clear the balance of our Winter Goods before taking stock. We have a few lines that we have reduced specially; see:

- 400 dozen fine Huckaback Towels, size 20x40 in., our regular 20c ones; reduced 12c each.
25 pieces of pure Linen Roller Towelling, 16 inches wide, the one we always sell 8c yard. 5c yard.
200 dozen Unbleached Bath Towels, the 15c ones, reduced to 8c each.
24 White Knitted Quilts (samples) slightly soiled on the wrong side. They are regular \$1.35; reduced to 90c each.
150 White Honeycomb Quilts, with Fancy Colored Borders, for cradles, the price is 50c. 25c each.
150 pieces of Dish Towelling, twenty-five inches wide, as we have too much of it, we will sell at 10c yard.
In our Flannel Department all the goods at your own price. Swansdown Flannellette, the 18c kind, 10c yard.
In some of the above lines quantities are not large. Come early for choice.

HAMILTON'S St. Catherine and Peel Sts., and Dominion Square.

COLONIAL HOUSE, PHILLIPS SQUARE.

Great Annual Sale.

Liberal Discounts in Every Department during this Month.

SEVERAL FINE LINES OF Dress Goods, Prints, Percales, Etc., Etc.

Very much under Regular Prices.

SILKS.

1000 Yards to be Cleared at a Great Reduction. Special Job Line of Figured Silk Poplin, Dresden Designs, price \$1.00, less 33 1-3 per cent, and 5 per cent extra for cash.

Superior Cotton Underwear.

LADIES' GOWNS.

Full Lengths, Large Sleeves, Empire and other styles, 75c, 85c, \$1.25, 1.35, 1.50, 1.75, 2.00, 2.25, 2.50, 2.75, 3.35, 3.75, 4.00, 4.25, 5.25, 6.00, 6.50, 7.00, 7.50, 8.00, 9.00. Less 20 p.c. discount, with 5 p.c. extra for cash.

LADIES' WHITE SKIRTS.

Full Widths, Hand-embroidered Trimmed, Lace and Embroidery, \$1.25, 1.75, 2.15, 3.25, 4.25, 5.00, 6.00, 8.00, 10.00, 12.00. Less 20 p.c. discount, with 5 p.c. extra for cash.

LADIES' COTTON DRAWERS.

Ordinary and Umbrella Shapes, 55c, \$1.00, 1.25, 1.50, 1.75, 2.00, 2.35, 2.65. Less 20 p.c. discount, with 5 p.c. extra for cash.

LADIES' CORSET COVERS.

Low, Medium and High Neck, 50c, 75c, 1.00, 1.25, 1.50, 1.75, 2.00, 2.25, 2.50. Less 20 p.c. discount, with 5 p.c. extra for cash. Ladies' Chemise, 75c, \$1.25, 2.25, 3.4, 2.75. Ladies' Margaite Chemise, Chemise and Skirt Combined, \$2.25, 3.50, 4.50. Less 20 p.c. discount, with 5 p.c. extra for cash.

CURTAINS, Etc.

- Special lines of Lace Curtains, Less 20 per cent
Special lines of Sash Curtains, Less 20 per cent
Special lines of Tapestry Curtains, Less 20 per cent
Special lines of Silk Curtains, Less 15 per cent
Special lines of Drapery Silk Curtains, Less 50 per cent
Special lines of Furniture Coverings, Less 20 per cent
Special lines of Furniture Coverings, Less 25 per cent
Special lines of Furniture Coverings, Less 33 1-3 P.C.
Special lines of Furniture Coverings, Less 50 per cent
Remnants of Drapery and Fancy Fringes, Less 50 per cent
Remnants of Shades Laces, Less 50 per cent
Remnants of Curtain Materials, Less 25 per cent
Remnants of Furniture coverings, Less 25 per cent.

HENRY MORGAN & CO., MONTREAL.

Live Stock Trade.

LONDON, January 26.- On account of the short supply of cattle, for which the demand was good, trade was firm and prices show no material change from a week ago. Choice States cattle sold at 11 1/2 to 12c, and Argentine at 10c. The market for sheep was easier and prices slightly lower.

A private cable received from Liverpool quoted choice States cattle easier at 11 1/2 to 11c, and sheep unchanged at 10 1/2 to 12c.

Messrs John Olde & Son, live stock salesmen, of London, Eng., write W. H. Beaman, live stock agent, of the Board of Trade, under date of January 14th, as follows:--At Deptford market to-day the beasts in all numbered 1,506, a decrease against last Thursday. From the States, 1,136 were received, and from South America, 170. Trade for all descriptions was of a fairly steady nature, best qualities being a shade dearer, but sales at any advance were difficult to effect, the best States' beasts making 5 1/2 to 5 3/4, and Argentine cattle 4 1/2 to 5 1/4. The sheep supply consisted of 6 1/2 of these 102 came from the States, and 502 from South America. Trade was a shade firmer at fully last market's prices, viz., 5d to 5 1/2d.

MONTREAL, January 25.-Although cable advices have been firmer in tone during the past two weeks, with the tendency of the market upward, and in some cases noting an advance in prices, recent private cables have been received giving actual sales of choice American cattle which showed a loss to shippers of 1 to 2c per head, which, their state is due principally to the high prices ruling in Chicago and the freight rates. The local market to-day for export stock was very quiet and no sales were reported.

At the East End Abattoir market there was a fair supply of cattle offered but owing to the extreme cold and rough weather that prevailed the attendance of buyers was small, consequently the market on the whole presented a quiet appearance, and trade was rather slow. The tone of the market, however, was steady and values show no material change as compared with those paid a week ago. Although the supply was smaller than usual for Monday the indications early in the day were that some would be left over. A few extra choice steers and heifers brought 3 1/2 to 4c, while choice sold at 3 1/2 to 3 3/4, good at 3c to 3 1/2c, fair at 2 1/2 to 3c, and common at 2c to 2 1/2c per lb. live weight. Sheep and lambs were somewhat scarce, and trade in consequence was quiet, but prices continue to be fully maintained. Sheep sold at 3c to 3 1/2, lambs at 4c to 4 1/2, and mixed lots at 3 1/2 to 4c per lb. live weight. The supply of calves was very small, and prices ranged from \$9 to \$10 each as to size and quality.

At the Point St. Charles cattle market trade was dull owing to the fact that local dealers had ample supplies on hand; in consequence there was no demand for cattle, and drovers forwarded their stock to the above market. The receipts of live hogs were small, for which the demand was fair, and prices were steady at \$4 to \$4.40 per 100 lbs.

"What's the trouble, my darling? You seem to be in deep distress."

"I am, Henry, and I'm all tired out, besides. Oh, dear! I never was so discouraged in all my life."

"But you haven't told me the cause of it."

"Why, it's that Christmas present Cousin Phoebe sent me. I've been all over town and haven't found a place where they can tell me what it cost." - Cleveland Leader.

He--Can you tell me the difference between an Irishman frozen to death, and a Highlander on a cold day?

She--No. He--Well, one kills with the cold, and t'other's cold with the kilt.--London Funny Cuts.

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