

THE DAWSON CURLING CLUB

And What It Is Doing to Get the N. Y. Life Trophy.

Something of the Game's Antiquity and How They Play It—Lawyers vs. Doctors.

If you ask a Scotchman how long it has been since his countrymen began curling, he will probably refer you to someone older than himself for the information. The fact being that the origin of the game was long since lost in antiquity, the encyclopedias stating that it is known to have been in vogue as a Scottish pastime during the past three centuries, and how much longer is not known.

It is a game in which some of the characteristics of both quoits and billiards are noticeable, and it is surprising to what proficiency some of the players attain.

The stretch of ice along which the stones, weighing about 40 pounds, are cast is some 132 feet in length, and the target, or bulls-eye lined out upon the ice at either end, consists of four circles, surrounding the center, or tee. Back of these circles at either end of the rink, are notches cut in the ice, called hacks. These are for the players to put their toes in for a foothold when starting a stone for its mark at the other end. In front of the "ice," as the target is technically termed, some ten or twelve feet is a line known to players as the "hog line." All stones stopping before crossing this line are "dead"—that is they cannot be counted.

Through the center of the "ice" at right angles to the rink, is another line which signifies much to the enthusiast. The "skip" (or as he would be called in other games, the captain) of each side is provided with a broom with which he sweeps the ice before an approaching stone if its speed is not thought to be sufficient to carry it so its mark. As the players are four on a side, this leaves two at each end, and the "skip" sweeps for the stones cast by members of his team from the other end, or lets them alone according to his judgment, but he cannot sweep before the stones of the opposing team till after they have crossed the line drawn through the center of the "ice." Many fine points are observable to the practiced player little dreamed of by the somewhat mystified onlooker who has never seen the game.

Two stones are allotted to each player to be cast at a time—that is, he slides them to the opposite end of the rink and his partner slides them back in turn. This is termed an end. The length of the game is a matter of agreement, but here 16 ends are usually played. The number of stones lying nearest the "tee," cast there by a side, can be counted the same as in quoits.

Last fall the New York Life Insurance Company promised a trophy for the most successful team in Dawson this winter and when curling commenced ten "skips" were chosen, and the game being played now as to decide who is to be the future custodian of this trophy.

The doctors who are members of the curling club posted in the rink last week a challenge to the members of any other profession, "the legal preferred," to try conclusions with them at the warin game. This bluff was promptly called by the lawyers. On Saturday night the game was played. At the conclusion W. McFarlane's appearance was such as he might have presented if he had that night vaccinated the entire populace of the territory. Dr. Wills looked as we might imagine the genial mining magnate looks if the pay streak on Gold Run had plashed out, while Dr. Norquay and Dr. Richardson were as dejected as if all their patients had suddenly recovered. The lawyers on the other hand wore that air of calm triumph which is always noticeable on the face of an advocate when a decision in an important case has just been handed down in his favor. The names of the players and the result of the game are given below:

Lawyers—W. M. MacKay, F. G. Crisp, W. L. Walsh, H. G. Wilson "skip," 21.

Doctors—McFarlane, Norquay, Wills, Richardson "skip," 8.

Peculiarities of Hands.

There are many who ascribe credit to the possibility of character delineation and a forecast of events in a person's life from the hands, but these are generally found to be those who know nothing about the matter from a standpoint of

investigation, or any knowledge of the subject beyond what they have seen from time to time in parlors where the reading of palms was done merely for amusement, and usually by those who had never studied the science, and did not themselves believe in it.

To those the speaking of palmistry as a science will no doubt draw derision and incredulous remarks, but that it is a science, and an exact science at that, is a fact susceptible of easy proof.

Take the hand of the newly-born infant for example, and it will be found to be devoid of lines, and tight shut with the thumbs turned in under the fingers.

All idiots and most insane people will be found to close their hands in the same way, which may be accounted for by the theory that it is a mark of existence without the faculty of reasoning.

As the child grows older and gradually awakens to the knowledge of its surroundings if the hands are examined from time to time it will be found that the lines become more numerous and better defined, though as a general thing they are very light and not clearly marked till the age of seven years has been reached, when it will be found that in just proportion to the intellectual capacity of the child, the lines in its hands will be marked.

One great argument against the science is that the lines come from work. This argument is foolish and only serves to show that its makers do not understand the subject, as examination of hands will show that those who do the most work of a kind requiring the least thought, have the fewest lines in their hands.

But it is not by the lines alone that the palmist undertakes to tell anything of a person's character, but by the lines of both hands, the general shape and character of the hands taken as a whole and in detail, as many things indicated by one feature or set of features will often be much modified, but never wholly contradicted by another.

POLICE COURT NEWS.

It was an assorted assembly up on assorted charges that greeted Magistrate Rutledge on the opening of his court this morning.

John Fawcett had looked long upon red liquor, its effect being to cause him to become disorderly. John acknowledged the corn (it may have been Canadian rye) and was assessed \$5 and costs.

John Piffin had likewise looked upon the "old stuff" when it stood aright in the glass. He, too, was taxed \$5 and costs.

Wm. McMasters had engaged himself to John Cameron, a Hunker hotel keeper to wait on the table. On the strength of getting a job William invested in a bottle of oil of joy and when the dinner hour had been ushered o'er Time's threshold was so drunk as to cause him to spill consommé on the table, drop dishes on the floor, cuss in the kitchen and otherwise conduct himself in a manner not considered recherche in well appointed hosteleries. When Cameron remonstrated with his new waiter the latter, according to evidence, became pugnacious and wanted to solar plexus his employer. It took \$5 and costs to square William's account with outraged justice.

In his zeal to become a claim owner, Geo. L. Clark was charged by Constable Piper with having sworn falsely at the gold commissioner's office on the 19th of November, the property thereby acquired being the lower half of claim 99 below lower discovery on Dominion. As the evidence was very much against him, Clark was held over to appear before the territorial court. The prisoner was employed on 45 Hunker when arrested by Constable Piper Tuesday of this week.

Owing to the memorial services, no session of the court was held this afternoon.

The Yukon Mining Record.

The Yukon Mining Record appears between neat paper covers for the second time, having made its bow last month. It is a publication of 20 pages, devoted, as its name implies, to the mining interests of the Yukon territory, and contains much matter of general interest to the public generally and the miner in particular.

J. B. Tyrrell is the name appearing at the head of the editorial page, in company with that of H. J. Brand, the Record's manager. Both gentlemen are well known, and there is very little doubt that under their joint control the Record will receive the appreciation it deserves.

Goods sold on commission at Meeker's.

Pine fresh meats at Murphy Bros., Third street. crs

Flashlight powder at Goetzman's.

For Rent.

Office room in McLennan-McFeeley building. Heated with hot air. Apply McLennan-McFeeley store. crt

Mumm's, Pomeroy or Perinet champagnes \$5 per bottle at the Regina Club hotel.

Shoff, the Dawson Dog Doctor, Pioneer Drug Store.

Eastern oysters at the Postoffice market.

ALASKA COMMERCIAL CO.

Immense Reduction Sale

Read the Prices Quoted Below

Bargains For Men and Women

After these goods are disposed of we will be prepared to handle our Spring Shipments now on the way in over the ice.

Dress Goods

All Wool Dress Goods, fancy mixtures.....41 in. wide.....	Reduced from \$1.75 to \$.75
All Wool Dress Goods, fancy mixtures.....42 in. wide.....	Reduced from 2.00 to 1.00
All Wool Dress Goods, fancy mixtures.....42 in. wide.....	Reduced from 2.25 to 1.25
All Wool Dress Goods, fancy mixtures.....42 in. wide.....	Reduced from 3.00 to 1.50
All Wool California Flannels, fancy mixtures...30 in. wide.....	Reduced from 1.25 to .75
All Wool California Flannels, fancy mixtures...30 in. wide.....	Reduced from 1.50 to 1.00
All Silk Striped Shirting Flannels.....30 in. wide.....	Reduced from .50 to .25
All Wool Eiderdown Flannels.....45 in. wide.....	Reduced from 2.50 to 1.50
Outing Flannels, assorted colors.....30 in. wide.....	Reduced from .25 to .15
Dark Mixtures Cycle Cloth.....30 in. wide.....	Reduced from .35 to .15

Ladies' Underwear

Ladies' Silk Night Gowns and Chemise.....	Reduced from \$12.50 to \$ 5.00
Ladies' Muslin Night Gowns and Chemise.....	Reduced from 8.00 to 4.00
Ladies' all wool underwear in natural black & white, suit.....	Reduced from 9.00 to 6.00

Ladies' Suits and Jackets

Ladies' Tailor Made Suits.....	ONE THIRD OFF
Ladies' Jackets.....	ONE THIRD OFF
Ladies' Fur Coats.....	Reduced from \$40.00 to \$20.00

Ladies' Boots and Shoes

Ladies' Felt Shoes.....	Reduced from \$6 to \$4.00
Ladies' Black Oxfords, kid lined.....	Reduced from 5 to 3.50
Ladies' Tan Oxfords.....	Reduced from 6 to 3.50
Ladies' High Button Shoes.....	Reduced from 8 to 4.50
Ladies' Black Kid Shoes.....	Reduced from 8 to 4.50

Clothing, Furnishings, Etc.

Men's Corduroy Suits, light and dark colors.....	Reduced from 30 to \$17.50
Men's Scotch Tweeds and Worsted.....	Reduced from 40 to 25.00
Men's Heavy Frieze Pants.....	Reduced from 10 to 5.00
Men's Canadian Frieze Suits, brown & grey, water proof.....	Reduced from 25 to 12.50
Boy's All Wool Suits, short and long pants.....	Reduced from 15 to 9.00
Men's Short Fur Coats.....	Reduced from 30 to 15.00
Men's Fancy Vests, all sizes, new, neat patterns.....	Reduced from 12 to 7.50
Men's Heavy Gray All Wool Underwear.....	Reduced from 5 to 2.50
Men's Heavy Gray Undershirts [only].....	Reduced from 3 to 1.50
Men's Heavy Gray All Wool Socks.....	Reduced from 50c to .25
Men's Moosehide Moccasins, sizes 7 to 10.....	Reduced from 4 to 1.00

Alaska Commercial Co.