

THE SPORTING WORLD

LACROSSE.

On Saturday last the city was full of excitement over the senior league and other matches, and scarcely anything has been talked of since but the surprising defeat of the champions at Cornwall and the good showing made by the Montrealers against Toronto. Of course the latter team was not a very formidable one, there being quite a number of new men on, and its defeat did not call for any special exertion, still the play on the part of Montreal was encouraging to their friends and showed that the team as a whole are capable of doing much better, even against a much stronger combination than that pitted against them on Saturday. Jack Patterson was as reliable as ever on the defence, and he was very ably seconded by Anderson, Wilkinson and Barry, while the little goal keeper was a genuine surprise to the grand stand. On the home, W. Hodgson, as usual, showed up conspicuously, while Carling gave ample evidence that he has not altogether lost his old time fleetness and cunning. Sympathy with the Capitals' victory is openly expressed here, because the people think they see a way to the championship returning to Montreal, and great are the expectations regarding the Shamrocks in this respect. Of the junior matches, that between the Beavers and White Stars attracted the most attention, and although the former are the bigger and older team by long odds besides having the advantage of playing on their own grounds and having a full knowledge of its many peculiarities, they did not have such a picnic as they anticipated, the score of three to one notwithstanding. We understand also that one of the games taken by them was protested on the ground that the ball was thrown from out of bounds by one of the spectators, picked up by one of the Beavers and a game scored, which was allowed by the referee. Why the referee did not blow his whistle on this, as he did on every other occasion, has not yet been satisfactorily explained by that official. The following is a summary of the matches played:

- Capitals vs. Cornwall—4 to 1 in favor of the former.
- Montreal vs. Toronto—4 to 1 for the home club.
- Shamrock Juniors vs. Crescents—3 to 1 for the Shamrocks.
- Beavers vs. White Stars—3 to 1 for the former.
- Second Emmets vs. Gordons—3 straight for the Emmets.
- Montreal Juniors vs. Cote St. Paul—3 straight for the Juniors.
- Orients vs. Maples—2 to 0.

BASEBALL.

A friendly game of ball between the Hawthornes and Garnets, of St. Henri, was played Saturday. Good play on both sides gave a close victory to the Haws of 5 to 3. A match in the amateur league series between the Clippers and Gordons resulted in a victory for the former by a score of 7 to 4. The Clippers have got together the making of a good team, and the way they worked together on Saturday show they can play good ball when occasion calls. If they keep up good steady practice we expect to see them come out on top at the close of the season.

CRICKET.

The second eleven of McGill and Montreal Clubs played a match on Saturday on the College grounds, the collegians winning by 31 on the first innings, the scores being McGill, 54; Montreal, 23. In their second innings McGill scored 63 and Montreal 19 with the loss of three wickets. Mr. Fenwick's XI vs. St. John's School—Won by the former by 33 runs, the scores being 75 and 42 respectively. Beaver Cutlery Works vs. Wire Co. C. C.—A narrow win for the former, 31 to 26. The bowling and fielding on both sides was up to the mark, which accounts for the poor scoring.

THE BRASSWORKERS AT CUSHING'S GROVE.

The first annual picnic and athletic sports of Phoenix Association of Brassworkers took place at Cushing's Grove on Saturday last, and was an unqualified success. The weather was excellent for a day's outing, and the attendance large, the members of the association and their friends turning out in gratifying numbers. The large steamer "Cultivateur" was comfortably filled, and besides the varied amusements at the grove the company enjoyed in going and returning a pleasant sail on the river, a pleasure greatly heightened by the sweet strains of an excellent orchestra. Nothing whatever of a disagreeable nature occurred to mar the harmony of the gathering, and when the party arrived in town one and all were unanimous in giving expression to a feeling of satisfaction at the excellent arrangements made by the committee for their comfort and enjoyment. The games were exceedingly well contested, and resulted as follows:

200 yards, apprentices, 3 years at trade—J. Birchmore, 1; G. Boisvert, 2; M. Hurlion, 3.  
 100 yards, girls under 15—Miss A. Cafferty, 1; Miss Stevenson, 2; Miss Salter, 3.  
 1 mile, for amateurs—Clarke, 1; E. Dent, 2; M. Durcan, 3.  
 ½ mile, for amateurs—S. Wellock, 1; Nagle, 2; Ashby, 3.  
 ¼ mile, for members—J. Ashby, 1; H. Stevens, 2; Geo. Greening, 3.  
 100 yards, for married ladies—Mrs. Riley, 1; Mrs. Walker, 2; Mrs. Griffiths, 3.  
 100 yards, for young ladies—Miss Cafferty, 1; Miss Thomson, 2; Miss Birchmore, 3.  
 200 yards, for brassworkers—C. Wright, 1; R. Walker, 2; H. Stevens, 3.  
 100 yards, 3-legged race—Clark and Smith, 1; Hardman and Walker, 2.  
 200 yards, smoking race—Durcan, 1; Phillipps, 2.  
 Hop, step and jump—P. Whittle, 1; Phillipps, 2; Wellock, 3.  
 Putting the shot—J. Whittle, 37 ft. 7½ in.; J. Storey, 34 ft. 9 in.  
 Swimming race—J. Whitehead, 1; D. Stevenson, 2; Geo. Ashby, 3.  
 Special race—J. Wallock, 1; H. Phillipps, 2; Lamb, 3; Hardman, 4.  
 Irish jig—Pearson, 1; J. Hayes, 2.  
 Prize waltz—Miss McGauvran.  
 Bean guess—E. Brady, 1; P. Hamel, 2.  
 The following comprised the committee, who are certainly to be congratulated upon the success attending the first annual outing of Phoenix Association: Messrs. W. D. Burns, chairman; Joseph C. Brisson, secretary; J. Kenny, treasurer; E. Ford, E. Daoust, L. Corby, T. Griffiths, S. Windsor, A. Blanchard, F. Fugere, H. Cooper and J. Ford.

MISCELLANEOUS.

On Saturday afternoon the two mile rigged skiff race between Alex. McLean, champion oarsman of British Columbia, and McKay, took place at Vancouver, B. C., and was won by the latter by six lengths. McLean gave out near the finish, claiming that his arm was strained. The race was for \$100 a side. McLean beat McKay in 1890 on the Fraser river.

About 4,000 spectators witnessed the spring games of the Bank Clerks' Athletic Association of Philadelphia on the University of Pennsylvania grounds Saturday afternoon. The features were the efforts of Champion C. S. Mitchell, New York A. C., to break his shot and hammer records. He succeeded in the latter, advancing the world's record to 141 feet 9 inches by a grand throw.

J. D. Cummings, of Ormstown, Que., is out with a challenge to Dick Guthrie.

The cycle race from Paris to Clermont-Ferrand, June 6, was won by Harry Parman, an Englishman, in 17 hours and 28 minutes. The distance was 239 miles.

By the success of Sir Hugo in the Derby, the Earl of Bradford won £8,000 in addition to his yearling bet of £10,000 to £100, and the value of the stakes, £7,010.

The Irish bicycle record for a quarter is 32 seconds, which is 2 seconds slower than the time made by Zimmerman. McCredy, the Irish crack, holds the record.

John L. Sullivan will referee the 6 round bout between Jack McAuliffe, lightweight champion of the world, and Billy Frazier, of New England, at the boxing entertainment of the Manhattan Athletic Club next Wednesday evening.

Gus Sunstrom, the swimming master of the New York Athletic Club, who on May 19 challenged swimmer Magee, of Baltimore, for a match for \$500, is very anxious to know whether the latter intends to cover the \$100 now in the hands of the sporting editor of the World.

Mending Straw Hats.

It is convenient to know how to repair straw hats, as those of the children of the household get sadly battered in brim and crown. One should always keep one old straw hat of each of the ordinary colors—black and brown and white—to supply materials for repairing, and to this end it is wise to avoid buying the fancy straws, as the plain braids are much more durable and useful. Black thread No. 40 is used for all sewing of straw, except the finest grades of handsewed hats, and the domestic milliner may well follow the trade rule. The straw should be wet or dampened as it is sewed, as this will prevent its breaking.

When a brim is ragged rip off the torn braid, and taking a braid that matches, deftly weave the ends together and sew around the hat's edge as many rows as are wished. The brim can be made to turn down by stretching the upper edge of the braid tightly as it is sewed, or made to roll up by holding the upper edge of the braid loosely, the mender guiding the results by her taste and judgment as she sews. Torn crowns are replaced in the same way. Braids that do not match can be utilized wherever the trimming will hide the patch, and unfashionable low crowns may thus be transformed into those of any desired height.—Harper's Bazar.

DANGEROUS SUPERSTITIONS.

An article in these columns some little time ago dealt with the curious ideas as to medical treatment which linger, in spite of the Education Act, in various parts of the country. Equally quaint and grimly amusing are some of the beliefs and practices which we still find clustering round the dread presence of Death itself. Omens and "tokens" are articles of faith almost everywhere, and it is astonishing to find how many people, who really know better, allow themselves to be influenced in this way. There is scarcely a reader of Tit-Bits, in all probability, who has not met with something of this kind, and the misfortune is that in many cases the so-called "warning" largely assists in bringing about its own fulfilment.

The omens are very various. In Wiltshire, if the clergyman makes a mistake when reading the prayers, there will be a death within the week. "Our passion made a slip this morning," an old lady was overheard to say as she was leaving church. "I wonder who 'twill be this week." In Northamptonshire, a similar result is expected if the church clock strikes while a "passing-bell" is being rung.

In the south, every remnant of Christmas decoration must be removed before Candlemas Day. Should a sprig of holly or other evergreen be left on any pew, one of its occupants will die within the year. In Wales, the miners, or at least some of them, consider it a sign of death to meet a woman when going to their work in the morning. Less than twenty years ago a woman was employed as a messenger at a North Wales colliery, and was often very early at her post. In this way she was frequently met by the men, who ultimately held a meeting and demanded her dismissal, threatening an immediate strike if their request was not complied with. A similar belief is to be met with in parts of Yorkshire. Quite recently a young lady visiting one of the prettiest villages in that county rose early one morning, proposing to take a walk before breakfast. Her hostess, however, begged her not to go out, as every collier on his way to a neighboring pit would, if he met her, at once return home, and so lose his day's work.

If a hen neglects her legitimate business of laying eggs and takes to crowing, or if her lord and master is uneasy and crows at midnight, there will shortly be a death in the owner's family. The same result will follow in Kent if anyone catches and keeps a sparrow, if a sick man asks for a pigeon, or if bees swarm upon rotten wood.

In Northamptonshire the sight of three butterflies at once sends dismay into many a heart, and a bird entering the house by means of the chimney is a visitor more to be dreaded than the tax collector.

In most parts of the country a dog cannot enjoy the luxury of a long, melodious howl without causing much trepidation, for it is supposed that he has seen death enter the house, and is unhappy in consequence. In some parts of Nottinghamshire death is supposed to enter the house in the shape of a little black dog. Only a year or two ago a lady of fair social position, whose husband was dangerously ill, absolutely abandoned hope because a strange black dog walked in at an open door and made a tour of the house. It was only when it was proved that the animal was an earthly acquisition of a neighbor that renewed efforts, fortunately successful, were made to save the man's life.

The privilege of a special private "warning" is enjoyed by many families. It is only very "old families," however, that are thus honored, and the possession of what may be called an hereditary omen is a certain mark of respectability. The Clifton family, who for at least 700 years have made their homes by the banks of the Trent, are warned of approaching doom by a huge sturgeon forcing its way up the river, while two gigantic owls, perched on the battlements of the family mansion, convey similar warning to the noble house of Arundel.

When a death has occurred in the family of a well-known earl, someone has always seen or heard a spectral drummer, beating an apparently material drum up and down the house, and many a laborer of a certain Cheshire estate will testify that huge trees may be seen floating on the lake near the hall, for many a night before the death of a Lord of the Manor. In days gone by, the Oxenham used to see a bird with a white breast fluttering in the sick chamber before the death of any member of the family, and the spectral vision of a Benedictine nun warned the Roman Catholic house of Middleton of approaching dissolution. Outside our own country the celebrated "White Lady" who foretells the death of members of the Royal race of Hohenzollern has attracted the notice of many writers.

In Devonshire, as the hour of death approaches, every door, drawer, and box in the house is unlocked, as anything fastened would hinder the flight of the spirit.

In Gloucestershire the door is opened at death to permit the passage of the soul. For

some reason, best known to the good west country folk, the windows must be kept closed, lest, perchance, the soul should find its exit by their means. Quite recently a coroner, finding the room wherein the dead body lay quite "stuffy," ordered the windows to be opened. The widow, who was present, protested emphatically. "What," cried she, "will you let the poor man's soul fly out of the window?" and with her back to that source of light and ventilation, she defied the coroner and all his men. It is interesting to note that the exact contrary of this custom is to be met with in Norway, where all the windows are thrown open to facilitate the upward flight of the spirit.

In the west again, a lingering, painful death is eased if dust, gathered from the floor near the altar, be sprinkled on the bed. A family, watching at the bedside of one of their loved ones, were interrupted by the old lady who acted as sexton, bringing them a carefully wrapped packet of this precious dust "to help the poor soul to go."

When death has actually occurred the bees must be informed and a piece of crape placed on the hive. If the body remain flexible there will be another death in the family within twelve months. In Warwickshire, when the funeral cortege leaves the house, the door must not be closed until its return, or another death will occur very shortly. When the corpse reaches the church-yard it "must go wi' the sun" no matter how great the detour.

Extraordinary convulsions of Nature, we are told, sometimes mark the exact moment of death, and even inanimate objects are mysteriously affected. Some years before the dawn of the "Ta-ra-ra" epoch, our asylums were tenanted by people who were constantly reiterating the history of a certain clock, which, after going "Forty years without slumbering—Stopped short, never to go again, when the old man died."

A near relation of this "Grandfather's clock" is to be met with at Grimsthorpe, where there is a timepiece belonging to Lord Willoughby d'Eresby, which formerly stood in the House of Lords. It bears a curious memorandum from the king's clock-maker to the effect that it stopped, without any apparent cause, at the exact moment when George III. expired. It was not out of order, nor did it want cleaning in any way, for, upon being set going again, it continued all right until Parliament was dissolved.

In conclusion, it may be necessary to say that these survivals from a superstitious age are not recommended for approval or adoption. On the contrary, it is hoped that the wide publicity now given may deal some of them a blow from which they will not recover.—London Tit Bits.

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