

HISTORY

OF THE

ORIGIN OF THE ONTARIO BRANCH.

A private letter received by a member of the Toronto Club from a member of the St. Mary's Club, urging that the question of the formation of an Ontario Branch of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club be brought under the notice of the first named club with a view to its taking the initiative, led to action being taken in the matter. A meeting of those interested in the formation of such a Branch was called for March 9, 1874, and at that meeting a Committee was appointed, which drew up a form of petition, asking for the establishment of a branch of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club for the Province of Ontario. The principal reason set forth was that the then existing Canadian Branch, with its headquarters at Montreal, was practically managed by the five or six clubs of the Province of Quebec, who use iron blocks, while over forty clubs in Ontario use the time-honored granite for the practice of the game of curling. The petition went on to show that the difference in the mode of curling referred to, had, as a consequence, created a sort of dividing line, and that the curlers of the east were not personally known except to a few of the curlers in the west. Some other reasons were also pointed out, proving that the interests of curling would be advanced by the establishment of a Branch of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club for this Province independent of Canadian Branch. Copies of said petition were sent to every club in the Province for approval. Over thirty clubs returned the petitions signed by their respective Presidents and Secretaries.

These petitions were in April, 1874, duly forwarded to the Secretary of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club of Scotland, and were read at the annual meeting of that club on the 25th of July following, and to avoid any irregularity with respect to the existing Canadian Branch, were remitted to a committee.

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