#### SKATING.

When you see a man skate it is highly probable that you will see a male flounder, and it is this wise. The skater, sooner or later, discovers something with the blade of his skate that compels him to terminate a figure by a sudden revolution of his perpendicular, and glide along on his ear, hat brim, and collar-bone, while his feet, suddenly removed from the ice, vainly endeavour to cut agares in the o'er hanging firmament.

This is called the "pitch precipitate," and is usually provoked by the skate iron making a passing acquaintance with a broken wig imbedded in the ice, or by its sudden contact with one of the various size I pebbles with which an English skating pond is smally paved by the local Davids as soon as the ice forms.

The first thing to learn in the art of skating is to get from your dair on the bank to the ice without sitting down suddenly on the wet edge of the pond. Having accomplished this feat so as to cause disappointment to onlookers, who have watched you waddling to the ice, in the anticipation of seeing you suddenly flop in the wet, you seize your stick, and whirling it in the air, to the learnment of the eyes of the other skaters and spectators, you struggle across the pond as though in a hurry to post a letter omewhere on the opposite bank.

As it requires some practice before you can fall upon your tick in such a manner as to seriously injure yourself, it is advisathe to put a strongly made pipe in your mouth so that, if you do fall forward, it will allow itself to be rammed down your throat without breaking

If the student fails in crippling himself in going straightforhard, he tries figures, beginning with the "figure eight," forwards, then backwards, and, if still alive, he attempts "grape vines," cross cuts," and "flower-pots," when, if he do not break his leg rneck over these, he may become a fancy skater, but his case is opeless as far as becoming an ice cripple or winter suicide is sucerned.

The "outside edge" is not performed, as is generally supposed, by the skater dropping into a hole, and practising on the outside I the ice, in order to get out, but consists in his trying how far be can over-balance himself, without actually lying on the ice. When you advance from the old-fashioned skates with square leels or ends, to the blades, and start off with a pair of "club" or acme" skates, don't attempt to stop yourself by turning up your toes, or you will find your back hair make a star on the ice, as your coat sweeps a slide for those who require it. If you find hou do fall after these instructions, please shout "Pick me up," then you are down, as it tends to advertise this paper.—Pick-Mest 1.

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