

THE EVENING TIMES, ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1907.

Heroes of the Gridiron

BY A. DICKINSON DICKINSON JR.



THE YALE FOOTBALL TEAM

As the football season of 1907 approaches, it is difficult to avoid the fact that this has been the most memorable year in the history of the college game, and henceforth these teams constituting the "Big Five"—Yale, Harvard, Princeton, Pennsylvania and Cornell—will have to reckon with the "Little Fellows" who, heretofore, have been prone to tackle with a patronizing and condescending air. This year the Little Fellow has arisen in his might and asserted himself, and with his coming the stars of the football firmament are all tested the sting of defeat and the ignominy knows no bounds.

In years gone by, affairs football, were dominated by three universities, Yale, Harvard and Princeton, although in reality, Princeton was taken in through the treachery of Yale. The annual game between Yale and Harvard was looked upon as the one contest of importance of the season. With the admission of Princeton to the charmed circle another game was added to the season's schedule, but it was not long before John Harvard arose as a hero and decreed that it was beneath the dignity to battle with the Orange and Black gladiators and, in consequence, Yale was compelled to annually engage in two grueling contests, one each with Harvard and Princeton, while the other had only to reckon with Yale, thereby concentrating all her energy and reserve forces on this contest.

Not so many years ago Harvard contented to take up the University of Pennsylvania and after several struggles, in which John Harvard suffered several severe drubbings, relations were broken off and Pennsylvania was given the mitten. Princeton then took up Penn, but for some reason the Tigers, too, discontinued their relations with the Quakers and these efforts to all the lesser lights who annually sought games with them.

Each year a schedule was arranged by the triumvirate best calculated to give them good, fast practice preparatory to the real struggles among themselves. Such as one of the smaller lights winning a game was never given a thought, and it was only once in a lifetime that one of these lighter teams succeeded in scoring a touchdown; such a feat being sufficient to send the entire undergraduate body of the school in a delirium of joy. But now all is changed, and unless my guess goes far wrong we will see the big teams closely scanning the schedule in the future with a wholesome respect for the long despised "lesser light."

A few years ago the heads of the Army and Navy Departments recognized that a wave of sentiment had swept over the entire country favoring an annual clash in some neutral ground between the two of West Point and Annapolis, unwound many yards of red tape and allowed the game to be played. Philadelphia, because of its geographical advantages, was selected as the battle ground and now the game between the Army and Navy is regarded as the most popular one of the season.



CAPT. HOWARD OF THE NAVY



CAPT. GWYNNE OF THE NAVY



CAPT. BIDDLE OF THE NAVY



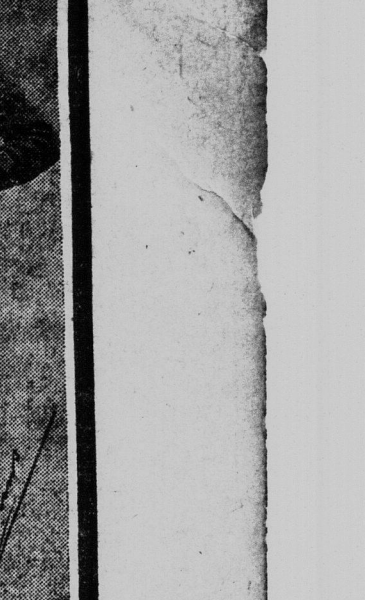
CAPT. BIDDLE OF THE NAVY



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even ranking in social importance, with that between Yale and Harvard, since the latter game is purely a contest for supremacy between the two rival universities, while that of the soldiers and sailors the entire country takes a proprietary interest in, and accordingly journeys to the Quaker City, there to behold a sartorial display which in reality is only secondary to that at the Madison Square Horse Show.

Football has undergone a marvelous change within the past year or two, and to this more than anything else the smaller college teams owe their success this year. Football's fate virtually hung in the balance two years ago, when presidents of several of the big colleges issued an edict whereby unless the sport was sufficiently modified so as to eliminate the element of danger, which they felt had reached alarming proportions, the game would be eliminated from the universities' list of sports. In fact, one university, Columbia, went so far as to place a ban on the game entirely, with the result that the big New York University is now represented on the gridiron. The faculties decreed that mass plays had to be done away with, and all who had prior to this edict fairly revelled in the "Flying Wedge" and such other plays from which the players so often failed to rise and off he did it was to limp off the field crippled for life, were compelled to look to the coaches to devise new plays and tricks to outwit the old and rugged tactics.

After much thought and many conferences, the forward pass, long passes and onside kicks were evolved, which not only "opened up" the game but made it fast-

er, snappier and less subject to mishaps of a serious nature. The teams of all the colleges were drilled in the new style of play and when the games of last year were played it was found that the smaller college teams had made far greater headway in mastering the intricacies of the new plays than had their older brothers. With a vim and goad will the coaches of Yale, Harvard, Princeton, Cornell, Pennsylvania, West Point and Annapolis set to work to perfect the candidates for the varsity eleven in plays of the new style. Several of the big teams came dangerously near suffering defeat at the hands of lesser lights last year, and one and all were obliged to the extent of having some smaller team score against them, something almost unheard of heretofore.

When the eleven lined up this year it was to find that in nearly every team they tackled they found foes worthy of their steel. Holes were smashed into their centres; their ends were skirted by fleet footed youngsters who dashed straight and true for the jealously guarded goal posts and before the season was many weeks old all the big colleges had hit the dust and had had the elders had so long flaunted, lowered and gloried. Condemnation reigned supreme. Coaches raved, threatened and ejected, and shapes innumerable in the line-up of the teams followed in rapid fire order and every means resorted to to bolster up the team was resorted to.

Then came the real tugs of war. Harvard took on the long despised Springfield Training School and thereby met her Waterloo, going down not only to defeat, but finding herself unable to make a dent

in the score of her adversary, the game resulting 5-0. Yale had always looked forward to the annual game with West Point as the best practice game on her schedule, and imagine the consternation in Eli's camp when the final whistle signalled a cessation of hostilities with the score a tie, each team having failed to score!

This brings the season up to October 26, a day on which Princeton was scheduled to meet Cornell, and Pennsylvania measured browns and speed with the Carle Indians, and on that day was written Cornell history never to be forgotten. Cornell trounced Princeton to the tune of 6 to 0; while the wily Redskins fairly smothered the Quakers by a score of 26 to 6. More raving, more hair pulling, and more weeping and gnashing of teeth amongst the coaches of the defeated teams, until the players themselves were virtually placed in a bag and shaken up until they were so dazed that they stood on their heads or their feet.

The game put up by the Carle Indians proved a revelation to all who witnessed it and caused cold chills to chase up and down the spines of the coaches of the various big colleges who squatted on the side lines to get a line on the Indians' and Quakers' style of play. Here was to be found the forward pass put to practical use and utilized in a manner that the high-brows of the football world never dreamed it could be. Long passes, short passes and long runs were executed with a daring which, to the close students of the game seemed little short of foolhardy, but in every case the play was pulled off with a precision and reckless disregard for distance that

fairly made the spectators gasp.

After the Penn-Indian game the stock of the Redskins, whose fortunes had been all but crowded off our map, went soaring, and every expert in the country who writes football, declared the aborigine to be the best exponent of the new game of football in the world. But it is in the pass that the Redskins excel. As employed by them it is made from a number of formations, and some of the spirals cover at least forty yards. In the game with the Quakers conditions were ideal for the style of play adopted by the Indians. The ball would be tossed at great distance and to the casual observer it appeared as though a scramble was ensuing for possession of the ball, but an Indian invariably emerged from the ruck with the pigskin safely tucked under his arm and was streaking it down midfield until brought to earth by some brawny Quaker.

To a Yale player belongs the credit of having developed the Redskin team. Warner is the coach employed at Carle this year and never in football history has a team made such rapid strides as this in a single year. Especial attention was devoted by Warner to the onside kick, and in this play the Indians have few equals. Mount Pleasant, the star punter for the Indians, is a host in himself and is the terror of every team in the state of New York. The wonderful game the Redmen put up against Penn opinion was divided as to the winner of the game between Carle and Princeton. Neither team had the advantage as far as physical condition is concerned, as both had had grueling

games just one week previous.

The game played on November 2 resulted in a glorious victory for Princeton and upset the calculations of all who had figured on the outcome of the game. The Indians were shut out 10 to 0, and all the tactics so successfully employed in encompassing Penn's defeat failed to tell against the Tigers. Long, short and forward passes were resorted to, but in every instance when a Redman tossed the ball the Indian who was supposed to be on hand to receive it was crowded out and a little band of Tigers was grouped about, one and all ready to fall on the sphere and claim it. Then, too, the game was played in a sea of mud, the going was heavy and sticky and with a wet ball the Indians were completely at sea and soon became demoralized by the defensive tactics and superb interference of Princeton. Another factor in the Princeton's victory which the Indians did not encounter in the Penn contest was the presence of a Harlan, who played the game as only a Poe could have done. His kicks, plunges and runs were marvels of their kind, and fairly took the Redmen off their feet. Their defeat was almost as decisive that which they had administered but one week previous to Penn and in consequence the loss of this game, the first of the present season, all but broke the hearts of the platinists.

From now on Princeton will concentrate all her energies on the Yale game, while the sons of Eli will not only have to prepare for the struggle with the Tigers, but will have to build up her fences in such a manner as to be prepared to drub Har-

vard as well. The consensus of opinion among the experts is that Yale will break even in this dual struggle, losing to Princeton and winning from Harvard. But this reckoning, however, is entirely problematical, especially in light of the many upsets that have occurred in the present season. Princeton's back field is a marvel, as the game with the Indians demonstrated. Yale still has her bull dog tenacity and brawn to fall back on, to say nothing of her proverbial luck. Harvard is an unknown quantity in many respects, due to an entirely different system of play and training in vogue under the regime of her new head coach, who is radical, if nothing else.

The Army and Navy game this year will be the struggle on which the eyes of the football world will be focused. Experts pick the Army Male to kick his way to victory, but it must be remembered that this was done last year and as a result the brawny sailors ran the "Dough Boys" scalps up to their yardarms and victory was perched flimsily aloft. It is in a measure difficult to forecast the outcome of this gridiron classic. The Army played Yale to a standstill, and two weeks later Yale was only able to score a 11 to 4 victory against modest little Washington and Jefferson College, the same day on which Harvard won out from the despised Brown University by the score of 6 to 5.

The same afternoon the Navy team barely nosed out a victory from an almost unheard of team, the University of West Virginia, to the tune of 6 to 0. With such scores against such ordinarily weak adversaries experts are entirely at sea and are really afraid to hazard a prophecy on the outcome of any game, for never has form turned so many weird somersaults as it has done this year and never before have the members of the "Big Five" been so hard pressed.

The Navy never shows its real strength until late in the season. Her schedule is not as grueling as that participated in by the Army and form figures are generally at a loss to account for the strength demonstrated by the sailors in their final crucial test. After losing to Harvard 6 to 0 the future Admiral, Commander Ladd, of the College, 17 to 0, and a week later the Lafayette eleven dropped a game to their fellow state men, Pennsylvania, 15 to 0. But no matter who wins, those who are cited bits of postboard entitled to a seat at the Army and Navy game, will assuredly be a struggle between two of the finest teams that have lined up this year; teams that have made all the big fellows sit up and take notice and teams that will be many times stronger next fall when it is safe to predict that they will be even bigger factors in the state of the gridiron world than ever heretofore.

London, Nov. 21.—Steamer Almora (Br.), at Glasgow from Newport News, before reported damaged by collision with steamer City of Buenos, has forward hold full of water.

A REGULAR MUSEUM

The Marpesia Brought a Queer Collection of Animals Into New York.

NEW YORK, Nov. 27.—The Danish four-masted ship Marpesia, yesterday brought into port a varied collection of interesting animals. She has two Argentine pigs that are self-trained alarm clocks; a dog that trembles in storms from fear and is a woman hater, and a kitten whose life was saved by being fed six weeks

NATURE'S OWN REMEDY

MOTHER SEIGEL'S STIMP cure indigestion, biliousness, constipation, headache, wind, palpitation, oppression at the chest, loss of appetite, pain after food, dizziness, blood and skin troubles, and the many other ills that arise from a disordered state of the digestive system. Why? Because it strengthens stomach, liver and bowels, cleanses your blood, and purifies your whole system.

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from the filler of a fountain pen. The Marpesia has just arrived from Buenos Ayres, and on the way the crew amused itself by catching flying fish by the aid of bull-rope lanterns.

The arrival of the kitten on the ship was peculiar. The first mate went ashore one evening in Buenos Ayres. In the middle of that night, when asleep in his berth, on the ship, he was awakened by a faint moving, which, after a long search, he discovered came from the pocket of his overcoat. The kitten was too small to feel itself, and the cook had to use the filler of a fountain pen to give it nourishment. The two Argentine pigs are small affairs but they have developed the habit of going at four bells each morning to the door of the captain's room and awakening him for sugar. If he does not give it promptly they arouse every member of the crew.

The dog that came on board also at the first sign of storm trembles and hides in the hold. On the way north the Marpesia, she saw him from the deck of her vessel, but, not knowing that she was on the steamer and being busy navigating his ship, did not notice her and did not know that she was in this country until she appeared on his vessel.

A STRAP-HANGER.

President Shonts, of the Interborough Company of New York, told this at a recent dinner, according to The Washington Star: "I remember once being in a crowded car in Cincinnati. A man hung to a strap near me. He was a polite man, and to let people on and off he kept on the move. Now he ran to the front of the car, now to the rear, now to the middle, wherever there happened to be most space. And it was plain that all this hustling and bustling and running to and fro made him angrier and angrier as time went on. He restrained his rage till he came to get off. Then, all of a sudden, it overpowered him. He turned to the conductor and yelled, 'Give me my money back!'

"What for?" said the conductor.

"You've had your ride."

"Ride, do you call it?" asked the man. "Why, I've walked the whole blessed way."

Hon. F. J. Sweeney passed through the city last evening on his return home from Frederickton.

PIMPLES

ALTHOUGH, NOT A DANGEROUS DISEASE, ARE A VERY TROUBLESOME AND UNSIGHTLY AFFLICTION . . .

They are caused by either poverty or impurity of the blood and require the prompt use of a good blood medicine such as Burdock Blood Bitters, for their eradication, which it speedily accomplishes, at the same time strengthening the entire system. Pimples also often arise from dyspepsia and constipation, and in these cases Burdock Blood Bitters has the double effect of removing the pimples together with their cause.

Mr. D. P. Sammon, Okeola, Ont., writes: "I was troubled with pimples all over my face and hands. I paid out money to doctors but they could do me no good. A friend convinced me to try Burdock Blood Bitters, and after using two bottles the pimples vanished, and I have not been troubled with them since."

Burdock Blood Bitters may be procured at all Druggists and Dealers.

The Day's Fable.

As the Buffalo and the Rhinoceros were proceeding by separate paths to the pond to quench their thirst they encountered each other, and the Rhino at once called out:

"In case you get there first don't make a hog of yourself!"

"Hog! I'd like to see a bigger hog than you are!" was the reply.

"Then look at yourself! The last time you were at the pond you muffled the water all up so that no one else could drink for an hour."

"And when you were there the other day you simply wallowed in it for half an hour, I heard you grunt half a mile away."

"You are a liar!"

"You're another!"

"Be careful how you talk. I'm not in the habit of taking sass from anybody."

"Just my case. I demand that I go to the water first."

"I'll see you hanged before I'll stand back of you!"

Being thoroughly angered the two ani-

Just then the elephant came along. male closed with each other and had done grievous damage when the Elephant came along and called out:

"Here, now, but what is all this shindy about?"



"I was only on my way to the water, as peaceful as a Lamb—" began the Rhino, when the Buffalo interrupted with:

"And so was I!"

"I see," said the Elephant. "It was a question of precedence, I take it?"

"It was and I'll go first!" called out both in chorus.

"Gentlemen, it's not for me to butt into the discussion, but permit me to gently inform you that the pond is dried up tighter than an old drum, and it won't make a cent's worth of difference who gets there first or last."

Moral:

Few quarrels seldom have a good cause. JOE KERR.

Want to Use Room in New Y. M. C. A. Building.

Only two clubs were represented at a meeting of the recently formed basketball league, held last evening in the Portland Y. M. C. A. room, and as a consequence there was no business of importance. The matter of a room for the playing of the league games has been discussed, and it has been decided to petition the Y. M. C. A. directors to allow one of the basement rooms in the new building to be used.

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