

Sporting Notes.

Lovers of our national game in the Maritime Provinces have looked forward with no little interest to the match arranged to be played on Monday last between the Union Lacrosse Club of St. John and the Wanderers A. A. C. of Halifax. In spite of the fact that the game was fixed for 9.30 a. m., in order to allow of a baseball match being played on the grounds the same morning, a goodly crowd assembled at the Wanderers' grounds to witness what proved to be a very interesting game.

Although the home team was ultimately successful, the issue of the game was in doubt for most of the time allotted for play; in the end, however, the superior staying power of the Wanderers and the clever stick handling of their attack field won for them a decisive victory.

The first game went to St. John after about ten minutes of hot work, the Wanderers not having properly settled down to work, while the Unions played with great coolness and precision. The goal was thrown by McFarlane after a short run. The second game occupied about twenty-five minutes and was thrown by Henry for the Wanderers, from a clever pass by Grierson. The Wanderers played from then on with a vim which was almost irresistible, and although the Union's throwing from the defence field was far superior to that of the Wanderers, yet the energy and speed of Grierson, Mackintosh and Tracey in the centre field, and the neat passing of Neal, Fuller and Henry in the attack kept the ball for most of the remaining time hovering near the Union's goal, with fairly frequent excursions to the Wanderers' end of the field whenever the Union defence got a good chance to throw.

During this period three more goals were allowed by the umpires to the Wanderers, and one to the Unions, the umpire, in this latter case, almost immediately reversing his position without stopping the play. Of the Wanderers three goals, two, thrown by Neal and Tracey respectively, were disputed by the Unions, one at least being doubtful. The third, thrown by Henry just before the expiration of time, was unmistakable. Thus, leaving out of consideration the disputed goal, the Wanderers scored at least two goals to one.

For the Wanderers, besides those already mentioned, Cassels at goal and Oxley and Wallace at defence, distinguished themselves; while for the Unions, Bartsh and McCafferty on the defence, J. S. Esson at centre, Drury, Dr. Esson and McFarlane on the attack field were conspicuous.

It is to be regretted that the teams were not more representative of the full strength of the respective clubs. McLeod, one of St. John's best stick handlers, was unable to accompany the team, and F. McGee, also one of their best men, was injured before the game begun, and had to be replaced by a substitute, while the Wanderers' were without the services of James MacKintosh and Stewart, both valuable men.

Of the play as a whole, while it may be regarded as very creditable to both teams, at this early stage in the season, the criticism may be made that the ball was too often on the ground, and that there was a tendency on the part of players on both sides to swipe the ball along the ground instead of picking it up and throwing it. This may be accounted for partly by the inexperience of those players, and partly by their desire to make up in energy what they lacked in skill, defects which, it is hoped, will be rectified to a great extent before these teams meet again.

Comparing the play of the two teams, the Unions were unquestionably superior in body checking and in throwing, and perhaps, taking an average of the twenty-four men, also in stick-handling. The Wanderers', on the other hand, were faster and in better training, passed better and more freely, and in some instances, at least, showed much better command of the stick.

It is understood that a return match is, or will be, arranged to take place in St. John later in the season. This will, no doubt, be looked forward to with interest, and with more practice on both sides a better game may be anticipated.

On Monday's form the best team undoubtedly won. Whether the Wanderers' can produce the same results at the next meeting of these teams depends largely upon their work in the meantime. As the honour of Halifax is at stake, nothing should be left undone to make success certain. A win for St. John would leave the supremacy in doubt, another win for Halifax would settle it beyond question. "A wink is as good as a nod to a blind horse."

Two cricket matches were played at Windsor during the last week. A Cambridge House "past and present" beat the King's College team on Saturday, while the C. H. School team got a bad beating from the Collegiate School on Monday. Neither of the visiting teams played their full strength, though the one sent against the college was fairly strong. Monday's team was deplorably weak. On the other hand, the collegiates are really very strong this year—much stronger than the college—and have been in constant practice for a month past. Their bowlers, Masters and Worsley, are decidedly fast, and the ground is "shocking bad." We would like to suggest to Windsor boys, by the way, that although it may be very nice for them to practice every day on the crease till it assumes a contour only known to themselves, it comes rather rough on visiting teams. The return match will be played in Halifax, early in July. This week a combined team from the School and College have challenged the Wanderers. This should be a very good match, provided the Wanderers do not send all their strongest men.

On Saturday and Monday every lake within twenty miles of Halifax was pretty well thrashed, though very few good bags were taken. Many hundreds of fish came into town, most of them rather small. The best lot we saw came from a lake a few miles from Waverley, and included seven fish well over 2 lbs. Coming down in the train on Monday night fish tales were all the go. A Halifax man took the cake. He had been fishing in a lake with many islands, and described the exact position of his boat when the adventure happened to him. The boat had just passed a sharp headland, so that only the east and minnow were discernible from the other side. A hungry wild-cat made a dash for the minnow, and took it, hook and all. After several hours (we forget how many) careful and dexterous play, this strange fish was safely landed, and polished off with the butt end of a paddle. The cat—weighing 25 lbs., with the minnow in his mouth, can be seen at Egan's—at least, so we are told. Please call early and avoid the rush.

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