

"THE FISHERMAN'S LOVE."
(From the painting by Kray.)





OCKEY in Montreal began in earnest on Monday evening last, when the Victorias met the present champions, the M.A.A.A. team. The 19th of the month seems a little late to begin the championship battle; but one of the rules, which was never enforced before, was this year utilized and that was the necessity of having all club fees paid up. The match was not one of

those to set the river on fire. In fact it was marked more by want of condition than by anything particularly brilliant. Neither club had their old time teams, but the weakness did not lay with the newcomers altogether. One thing should be remembered by hockey players, and that is, that if they intend to do their club justice in two stubbornly-fought half hours, they must practise sufficiently to be in tip-top form on the day of the match. This was the case with neither of the teams on Monday, although the Montrealers were in somewhat better shape than their opponents. On the Victorias there are strong points at both ends of the ice and the work of Barry was almost phenomenal considering it was his first senior championship match. Jones was a little weak between the poles, and, although perhaps the best man available for the position, he lacks the coolness of the veteran Paton. Warden and Ashe are remarkable for brilliant work, but it is done in streaks and is not continuous, and even when almost a

clean opening is left both are liable to be erratic at the supreme moment. This was especially noticeable when dribbling the puck down the ice. They usually went too far before the shot, and it almost invariably being from the side, the angle was entirely too small and left the chance at least two to one against scoring, even if there had been no goal tender guarding the sticks. In these instances a good combined rush of the forwards would have simplified matters wonderfully, but at these points team play seemed to be a forgotten quantity; it was not an unknown quantity for there wero several flashes of it, but not at the moment when it would do most good. The Montreal team has been weakened by the loss of Allan Cameron, for although Elliott plays a good defensive game he devotes most of his time to heavy checking a la lacrosse, and to the spectator this method does not always appear necessary. Of Paton and Stewart and McNaughton, it is unnecessary to speak, and Kingan was not a source of weakness to the team. The whole character of the match may be briefly described as brilliant in spots, slow in other spots, frequently dropping into raggedness, and on the whole not approaching really first class championship form. The first game was taken with a rush after three minutes play by Montreal and the second likewise went the same way, but only after a hard struggle and many close calls, in which only the coolness of Paton saved his side. The third game was scored by Kinghorn for the Victorias, after a nice bit of team play, about the only one the Vics succeeded in making effective in the whole match. Two minutes more and the M.A.A.A. had put another goal to their credit and that finished the first half time. In the second half there was only goal taken, which made the final result: -- Montreal, 4; Victorias, 1. There were a few little side issues in the match such as the laming of Barlow, and the collapse of the spectators' stand. Mr. W. J. McDonald, of the Crescents, acted as referee and the umpires were Messrs. D. Nash and R. J. Ross. The teams were as follows :-

M.A.A.A.	Position.	Victorias.
T. L. Paton	Goal	R. W. Iones
J· Stewart R. Elliott	Point	A. Shearer
G. S. Lowe	Forwards	E. Barlow
A. E. MacNaughton S. Lee	66	I. R. Kinghorn
A. B. Kingan	"	F. Ashe

In the Junior hockey championship the Crystals and the Maples played on the same evening as the foregoing match but on account of the frequent delays during the early part of the evening the match was left undecided, as both sides had scored three goals at midnight, when the electric light went out, and nobody can play hockey in Stygian darkness. The teams were:—

Maples.	Position.	Crystal Fr.	
W. Fenwick	Goal	O McNiece	
r talman	Point	C Dypetis	
W Murnhy	('AVAr	G H. A.	
J. Virtue	66	M (1100	
W. Gillellan			
A. Thom	"	W. Murray	
McQuisten, referee.			

There has been a good deal of anxiety expressed in Canadian skating circles recently about the American champion, Joe Donoghue, and one of the rink proprietors has struck upon rather a novel scheme to bring the crack to his rink and have him skate. The invitation published in a daily contemporary reads as follows:—

"I hereby offer a prize, valued at \$100, if Mr. Joseph Donoghue, the champion skater, will come to Montreal and skate a race in the Prince of Wales rink (thirteen laps to the mile). He can choose his distance from one to five miles and his antagonist will be an unknown. If Mr. Donoghue will come to Montreal all legitimate expenses will be paid. Good ice is guaranteed until March 15th. "J. STENHOUSE."