

ATHLETICS.

The second match in the City Hockey League was played on the Rideau Rink on January 15th, and resulted in favour of the Ottawa team. Mr. D'Arcy Scott of the Rideau H. C., officiated as referee, and Messrs. J. A. McDougal and J. F. D. Lemoine were umpires. The following were the players:—

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| <i>Ottawas.</i> | | <i>Varsity.</i> | |
| C. Kirby. | Goal. | Morel. | |
| Green. | Point. | Reynolds. | |
| Kerr. | Cover Point. | Sparrow. | |
| Ross. | Centre. | McDonald. | |
| Young. | } Forwards. { | Trudeau. | |
| H. Kirby. | | McDougal. | |
| Bradley. | | White. | |

When Ross and McDonald faced the puck, the general feeling seemed to be, that Ottawa would have a walk over, but this impression, though perhaps somewhat strengthened by the first ten or fifteen minutes' play, was soon after removed. An attack was made on the Varsity goal, but Sparrow and Reynolds worked well on the defence and Morel made some clever stops in goal. The Ottawas were playing a splendid forward game, but found it harder to score than they, perhaps, expected it would be. The Varsity forwards then took charge of the puck and transferred it to less dangerous territory. Some very fast and clever play was done by the forwards of both teams. Finally, after a desperate dash on the part of the Varsity men, McDougal succeeded in scoring the first goal for the Varsity. From this until the end of the first half, the puck travelled from one end of the rink to the other. Both goals were attacked, but neither effected any change in the score. The second half was begun by Ross winning the face and passing the puck to Bradley, who brought it within a few feet of the Varsity's goal, but Reynolds sent it to the middle ice. McDonald received it shortly afterwards, and he, White, McDougal and Trudeau stormed the Ottawas' goal, but Chauncey Kirby was equal to the occasion. Green transferred the puck to the centre and from there it went to Varsity's goal, and H. Kirby by a beautiful shot, scored for Ottawa. With the score even, both teams went to work with an air of determination. But soon, the Ottawas appeared to have the advantage, as they hotly besieged the Varsity citadel, which must have fallen before their fierce onslaughts, were it not for the faithful guardianship of Morel. In the end, however, the Ottawas succeeded in their efforts, Bradley doing the needful. There remained but little time in which to play, but Kirby's sure aim augments his team's score by one, and the match ended in Ottawa's favour. Score, Ottawa 3; Varsity 1.

The match was a much closer one than the score would indicate. The Ottawas have a splendid team and the Varsity men were certainly better than ever before. H. Kirby, Ross and Bradley distinguished themselves for Ottawa. It would be hard to say who played the best among the Varsity forwards, but Reynolds, Sparrow and Morel deserve special mention for their work in the first part of the match. The Ottawas will now play the final match with the Pirates of Dey's Rink, and the winners will be champions of the city league.

The Ontario Rugby Union held its annual meeting in Toronto on January 21st. There were present delegates from eleven different clubs. A rule was adopted empowering the referee to penalize falling on the ball in the scrimmage, or playing off side. The penalty is that the opposite side shall have the option of a free kick or an advance of five yards. A simple majority of points is sufficient to decide a match. Formerly, a majority of two points was required. The goal posts must now be twenty feet high instead of thirteen feet. In case of a touchdown behind the goal, the ball may now be brought directly in front of the goal. It was also enacted that a player who persistently violates the rules or is guilty of unfair or rough play, should be reported to the committee, and that body shall have the right of suspending him. We are of opinion that if a referee would rule off a player, for a part or the whole of a match, it would be a more effective means of preventing violation of the rules and rough play, than that adopted by the Union. A safety touch counts two points instead of one. This, we think, will give rise to a great deal of wrangling, as it is often difficult to decide between a safety touch and a rouge. The rules, of course, distinguish between the two, but when it comes to giving a decision on the field of play it is often found to be a more difficult task. The appointment of goal judges and touch-line judges has been made compulsory, and field captains have been abolished. A motion to reduce the number of players was introduced but was thrown out. In this we are somewhat disappointed, as we had expected to see the Union effect such a change. The Hamilton delegates strove hard for a reversion to the challenge system, but the majority decided otherwise. Another meeting of the Union will be held on April 25th.

On February 6th an exhibition game was played with the Gladstones on Dey's rink. After an hour's interesting play the score was, Varsity 2, and Gladstones 1. Mr. E. Dey satisfactorily performed the duties of referee.