FOR THE SILVER TANKARD.

GRANITE CURLERS KNOCKED OUT BY PROSPECT PARK.

Markham Beaten By the Other Parkers—A Brampton Victory — Corbett Announces His Willingness To Meet Peter Jackson—The Racing Results—General Sporting Gossip.

And 'tis the Granite's Tankard rinks that go into history for the year!

Yesterday they met Prospect Park in Church-street in the first round in group 8, and succumbed to the Parkers' prowess by seven shots.

The ice was in perfect condition and a large number of spectators were in the rink. Indeed the contest looked more like the last match in the finals than a draw in the preliminary round.

'Twas a great battle between McMurtry and Carlyle. The Granite man took an early lead, which the Parker surmounted on the 18th end, and the man with the leather coat made six shots and finished two ahead.

But across the way the struggle was rather one-sided. Scott was altogether Creelman's superior and took the lead at the outset, which he never lost, and ended [illegible] shots up, thus leaving a majority of [illegible] all round. The score:

GRANITES.		PROSPECT PARK.	
[illegible]andee.		M. Hall.	
[illegible]awford.		R. Watson.	
[illegible]anVlack.		J. P. Rogers.	
[illegible]reelman, skip	15	J. C. Scott, skip	24
[illegible]arroll.		G. Mounce.	
[illegible]ooderham.	15	N. L. Patterson.	
[illegible]ilajohn.		J. G. Gibson.	
[illegible]Murtry, skip	22	David Carlyle, skip	20
[illegible]	37	Total	44

[illegible]y for Prospect Park, 7 shots.

[illegible]	0302110002010001000211	—15	
[illegible]	3010001110302433011001	—24	
[illegible]y	3110300310020001001033	—22	
[illegible]	0001020020102120202020	—20	

[illegible]ark Beats Markham by Two Shots.

[illegible] first draw in Group 9 for the Ontario [illegible]rd was played yesterday afternoon on [illegible]ictoria Rink, Huron-street, between [illegible]kham and Moss Park clubs. The ice [illegible] perfect and the game was very keenly [illegible] closely contested, as the following [illegible]ores will show:

MARKHAM.		MOSS PARK.	
J. J. Gleeson.		G. W. Johnston.	
F. Mason.		J. P. Clemes.	
W. H. Hall.		William Summerfeldt.	
H. Magill, skip	17	A. Hood, skip	21
J. Courtney.		R. Malcolm.	
G. W. Reesor.		J. W. Young.	
J. Magill.		J. Cragie.	
G. R. Vanzant, skip	20	William Scott, skip	18
Total	37	Total	39

Majority for Moss Park, 2 shots.

Scott	1002001601110210000020—18
Vanzont	0210110030002004112201—20
Megill	0000016200043200110013—17
Hood	2112101041800518001100—21

Brampton Beats Orangeville.

Brampton and Orangeville curlers played off their draw in the first round in group 8 for the Ontario Tankard yesterday afternoon at Prospect Park. Brampton won by 22 shots.

In Group 2.

LINDSAY, Jan. 23.—There were contests in Tankard group 2 here to-day. Peterboro beat Lindsay 42 to 32, Orillia beat Whitby 35 to 34. The final between Peterboro and Orillia resulted in a victory for Orillia by 49 to 31.

Brantford Wins at Buffalo.

BUFFALO, Jan. 23.—There was quite a fair attendance at the Caledonian Club's Rink this afternoon to witness the match between the Caledonians of this city and the Brantford, Ont., club for the Kirkover trophy, four rinks a side. The Brantfords have held this trophy for four years past, but prior to that time Buffalo had it for 15 years. It still remains with the Brantfords, who won to-day's game by the narrow margin of five points, the splendid work of the Brantford rinks skipped by Duncan and Woodyat saving the trophy for the visitors.

They'll Not Play the Province.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Ontario Curling Association it was practically decided to abandon the annual match between Toronto curlers and the rest of Ontario. Last season it was also found necessary to declare this contest off.

Clips from the Ice.

Prospect Park sends three rinks to play the Galt Granites on Thursday.

Prospect Parkers held a jubilation at their club rooms last night over their big victory in the afternoon.

The Caledonians' next Ontario Tankard match is with the winner of Moss Park-Toronto contest to-morrow.

The Toronto Club plays friendly matches with the Granites this afternoon and with Prospect Park on Thursday.

The Toronto Club sends three rinks to Guelph to play a friendly match with the Guelph Unions on Friday.

The second draw in Group 9 will be played to-morrow afternoon at the Granite Rink between the Toronto and Moss Park Clubs, commencing at 1.30 o'clock.

The New Fort seven and the Imperial team engaged in an effective practice match last night at the Granite Rink. The military men scored 4 goals to the bankers' 2.

The match last night at the Granite Rink between two sevens from the law office of Blake resulted in a victory for S. V. Blake's side over Bob Matthews' men by 2 goals to 1.

The Brampton curlers who defeated Orangeville yesterday play Scarboro Maple Leafs in the second preliminary round. This match must be played before next Saturday night.

A match in the Junior Ontario Hockey Association series takes place to-day, starting at 9 p.m., on Victoria ice, between the Granite Colts and Toronto Second. The Colts will be: Goal, Bain; point, Livingstone; cover, Farrell; forwards, Somerville, Lillie, Crawford, Wright.

INTERNATIONAL BICYCLE MEET.

Preparations For the Reception of the Wheelmen At Chicago.

CHICAGO, Jan. 23.—Chicago will be the Mecca for bicyclists this year and great preparations are being made for their reception and entertainment. The National Columbian United Wheelmen's Association was recently organized there and it is doing a good bit of work for the riders of the silent steed. The association has a capital stock of $100,000. A fine club house is now being built at Madison-avenue and Fifty-seventh-street, near one of the main entrances to the Fair grounds, so the wheelmen will be near the attractions. It is expected that the building will be finished by the middle of March. There will be ample room for the machines, repair shop, restaurant, sleeping and bath rooms, in fact everything that goes to make up a first-class club house.

The association will be represented in various parts of the country.

The managers of the International meet to be held at Chicago this season report that the sum of money needed to carry out the scheme is being rapidly raised, and there is no doubt that the most elaborate plans can be carried out successfully.

Two well-known firms in New York are hard at work on designs for the International Trophy. The trophy is to cost $1000, and is to be competed for annually, the country making the largest number of points at the International championships to hold it for a year.

CORBETT BARS NO ONE.

Says If Mitchell Will Not Meet Him He Will Fight Peter Jackson.

CHICAGO, Jan. 23.—James J. Corbett is in this city with his theatrical show.

In reply to the recent criticisms about his waiting a year before fighting again, the champion said that he considered his course was perfectly justifiable.

"Goddard must win the championship of his own country before I will recognize him," he continued.

"I am the champion of America and I claim the right to say who I shall meet. I am prepared to fight the champion of England or Australia. I prefer Charles Mitchell, acknowledged champion boxer of England and an undefeated man. After his arrival in this country, which will now be in a very short time, I will allow him a certain period to show that he means business. In case of his failure to do so Peter Jackson is my next choice, and in case he does not come to the scratch I will meet any man in the world, barring none."

Pugilistic Challenges.

NEW YORK, Jan. 23.—Champion bantam weight Billy Plimmer of England has issued a challenge to fight featherweight George Dixon at 112 pounds for $2500 to $5000 a side and the featherweight championship of the world. Sol Smith of San Francisco is also desirous of fighting Dixon. His backer has issued a challenge and will bet $2500 on the side for a fight for the championship of the world at 118 pounds.

Knocked Out in the 18th.

LONDON, Jan. 23.—At the National Sporting Club to-night Abbott knocked out Baxter in the 18th round. Baxter had been backed at odds to win. The fight was for £200 aside.

They'll Start To-Day on the Hill Top.

GUTTENBERG, Jan. 23.—First race, ⅞ of a mile, beaten horses, selling—Oliver Twist 112, Miss Olive 112, Mucilage 108, Repeater 108, Malachi 104, Out of Sight 103, Narbonne colt 100, Rocket 92, Servitude 88, Olga 87.

Second race, 6½ furlongs, selling—Woodchopper 113, Blackburn 111, Duke John 107, Innovation 106, Lucy Clark 102.

Third race, ½ mile, selling—Elite filly 105, Hymn 104, Fagan 100, Faust Rose 95, Marilla filly 93, Favorban filly 91.

Fourth race, mile, selling—Panway 99, Gladiator 99, Leather Stocking 99, Mohammed 96, Renie 94.

Fifth race, ⅝ mile—Prince Howard 120, Remorse 106, Uncertainty 100, Vanwart 96, Lauretuska 95, Magic 96.

Sixth race, ½ mile, selling—Boyle Rhodes 125, Freedom 122, Extra 122, Fancy geld 119, Annie W. 114, Rightaway 107.

The Guttenberg Mill.

GUTTENBERG, Jan. 23.—First race, 6½ furlongs—Fred Lee 1, Laurestan 2, Marcellus 3. Time 1.25¾.

Second race, 4½ furlongs—Mayor B. 1, Mulhattan 2, Excellenza filly 3. Time .57.

Third race, 3-8 mile—Blossom Filly 1, Blue and White 2, Tody Smith 3. Time .36½.

Fourth race, 4½ furlongs—April Fool 1, Red Elm 2, Lucy Clark 3. Time .55¾.

Fifth race, 1 3-16 miles—Sir George 1, Baylor 2, Maggie K. 3. Time 2.04.

Sixth race, 6½ furlongs—Greenwich 1, Repeater 2, Vera 3. Time 1.24¾.

Gossip of the Turf.

Ed Geers is working 24 head of the Village Farm horses.

There are 150 horses in training at the Buffalo track and of this number 87 belong to the Village Farm.

The St. Joseph Fair Association was organized with 13 directors, whose first regular meeting was held on May 13, 1892. The association's first speed-ring program contained 13 races. Its first meeting began on Sept. 13 and it made $13,000. Who said anything about unlucky 13?

Dagonet died at the North Bergen track Friday from an attack of pneumonia. M. F. Dwyer bought Dagonet and Chicago from John Hunter last summer for $12,000, but had little luck with either horse, Chicago breaking down at the Monmouth meeting and parting with Dagonet for a small figure. He was 4 years old, by Tremont—Fair Lady.

General Sporting Gossip.

Nick Young is at work on a 12-club baseball schedule, which indicates that there will be no change this year at least.

In answer to Capt. Taylor's call, 45 candidates have appeared for the Cornell-Varsity baseball nine. The men have already begun training in the gymnasium.

Nearly all the English cycling papers are rejoicing over the fact that the attempt to bar the trade from cycle-racing was defeated at the meeting of the National Cyclist Union.

In form Sutton appeared easily superior to Capron at the balk-line game last Friday, and the student of the game would readily conclude that he could defeat the Galt man four out of five games. Yet Capron appears to want another match. Sutton says he will accommodate.

A Boston despatch says that Joe Lewis, the backer of Aleck Greggains, has posted a forfeit of $500 in the hands of Capt. A. Cooke of The Police News, and issues a challenge to fight any middleweight in the world before any recognized athletic club in America, and prefers Young Mitchell.

Ted Pritchard has made another match with Jem Smith, the man whom he put to sleep in such short order some time ago, to fight at catch-weights, with gloves, for $1000, open to $2500 a side and championship. The fight to be decided in the club offering largest purse, in 12 weeks, says a London cablegram.

Messrs. Sutton and Capron are both practising in the city for their straight-rail match, 700 points up, which takes place next Friday in the Auditorium. The former made several big runs yesterday, including one of 197 at the Rossin House, while the Galt expert appeared to have a string on the ivories at the Central Hall, Yonge-street.

Mr. Henry Bryant of Boston, whose name has been frequently mentioned as one likely to build a defender for the America's Cup, says that he had no intention of putting any money in a craft for this purpose, either wholly or as a member of a syndicate. The outlook, however, for a Boston defender is considered hopeful.

A fight has been arranged in Laramie, Wyoming, to take place next Saturday between a pedigreed bulldog, owned in that city, and a mountain wildcat captured in the hills surrounding the Centennial Valley, for a purse of $100. A week ago last night a similar fight took place and the cat was killed in three minutes. As the same dog is to fight next Saturday, the betting is in the canine's favor.

RUSSELL'S BUMPER HOUSE.

First Production of "Peaceful Valley"—The Academy's Opera Season Opens to Good Business.

Sol Smith Russell presented E. E. Kidder's "Peaceful Valley" at the Grand last night to one of the largest houses of the year. He has probably never made a greater character success than that of Hosea Howe. The character seems to have been suggested by the stories of Abraham Lincoln's early life. Hosea Howe is a green lad in the mountains of Vermont. He has educated himself and is a shy, self-conscious fellow, with a great fund of dry humor and a man whose naturally grand intellect is evidenced by a brilliant originality in his speech. Those who know Mr. Russell, and who does not, can understand what a perfect interpretation he gives of dry humor, the shy gawkiness and the peculiar pathos developed in the part. Every gesture, every bit of business, is perfectly in keeping with the part. Mr. Russell can reach the sympathies of an audience composed of all classes and make no sacrifice of art. He always governs the originality and force of his temperament with the skill of a thorough and conscientious artist.

It cannot be said that the dramatist has not sacrificed art to the "thing that the public expects." But a play written to develop the capabilities of one actor is seldom satisfactory in all points. "Peaceful Valley" lacks action. It is probable that the fact of a beautiful, cultured, almost angelic girl's falling in love with such an ungainly creature as Hosea Howe was rendered acceptable because Mr. Russell was Hosea Howe, not because of the intrinsic excellence of the character. Miss Minnie Radcliffe, who played the heroine, can be angelic in a wholly convincing manner. With a face that is full of soul, a pair of wonderful starry eyes and a delicious variety and sweetness of expression she played the ingenuous Virgil in a manner that made all her audience her lovers. The support is capable; Miss Lester, as the mother, and Messrs. Earle Sterling, Frank Batten and R. F. Rutledge had some excellent scenes.

Keene at the Grand.

In this critical city, where the amusement-going public have a peculiar mode of being their own judges as to what they like and what they don't like, it is significant as a fact, as well as complimentary to the taste of Torontonians, that it was one of the first of the larger cities to welcome Mr. Thomas W. Keene as one of the greatest actors of modern times. Each succeeding year has his popularity grown stronger, until the announcement of his engagement was synonymous with taxing the capacity of playhouses where he appears. Mr. Keene's engagement at the Grand will open on Thursday evening with a magnificent spectacular production of "Richard III.," which is described as being picturesque in arrangement, artistic in grouping, historical and complete to the minutest detail. The scenery is from the brush of the well-known scenic artist, Burkey. The first act shows the Bloody Tower, a magnificent revolving scene, together with the Traitor's Gate and Keep Tower, while in the second act Old St. Paul's and the interior of Bayward Castle. Act three gives a street near Hornby, with one of the grand processions of the play, in which over 100 people take part. The crowning achievement of the artist and stage managers is the battle of Bosworth Field, which is said to be the acme of stage realism. Among the members of Mr. Keene's company are the following well-known artists: Henrietta Vaders, Maida Creigan, Mrs. S. A. Baker, Frank Rennig, Frederick Paulding, Julius Scott, Carl Abrandt and others. The following select repertoire will be presented during the engagement: Thursday and Saturday, "Richard III."; "Hamlet," Friday; Saturday matinee, "Richelieu."

Jacobs & Sparrow's Opera House.

A crowded house greeted the Byrne Bros. in the Nautical Pantomimic Comedy, "Eight Bells," at the Toronto Opera House last night. There is no plot in the piece, which relies principally upon the tumbling acts of the Byrnes, who, as all-round acrobats, are not surpassed. The principal attraction was, of course, the brothers, though some of the other members of the company came in for a share of the audience's appreciation. Mr. J. O. LeBrasse, as Major O'Connor, was excellent, and the same may be said of Mrs. Lee. Mrs. Helen Byrne sang and danced neatly. The Byrne Bros. went through a series of eccentric tumbles, Mr. Matthew Byrne doing some very good juggling. Mr. L. C. Heller gave excellent imitations of the warbling of different birds. The piece will be repeated every night this week with Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday matinee, and is sure to draw large audiences.

"The Bohemian Girl" at the Academy.

"The Bohemian Girl" was presented by the Nelson Opera Company at the Academy last night to a large audience. The experiment of playing opera to popular prices seems to have been rewarded with success. Balfe's lovely music never palls on popular taste, and the singers in the leading parts were greeted with several encores. George W. Traverner, the leading tenor, was too ill to appear and an inexperienced substitute was put on in the role of Thaddeus, but Dr. McFarlane states that in all probability Traverner will be able to appear to-night. Miss Essie Barton was deservedly encored in the part of Arline, while Miss Edith Barton was equally popular as the Gypsy Queen. Mr. Frank D. Nelson (Count Arnheim) has a fine ringing baritone, and "His Heart Bowed Down" met with great applause. The balance of the support was capable and a good-sized chorus fairly acquitted itself.

The Musee.

The man alive with a broken neck is the leading attraction at the Musee this week, and he displayed his physical peculiarities to admiring and wondering crowds yesterday. There is no doubt that his neck is well and truly broken. Ham and Sadie Stires, whistlers, are additional attractions in the lecture hall. The following bright program by good variety artists is given in the theatre: John and Willie Macarthy, sketch artists; Margurite Newton, violinist; Smith Brothers, statuary posing; George Homer, singing and talking comedian, and the three Racket Brothers in their latest creation entitled "The Musical Harvesters."

The Orchestral School Concert

Among those who will contribute special numbers to the program will be Miss Maud Snarr, soprano; Mrs. Adamson's class of lady violinists; Miss Kate Halliday, 'cello; Miss Gertie Black, contralto, and Mr. Wellman, violinist. The orchestra will consist of 80 members. The concert takes place in the Pavilion Monday, Feb. 13.

Notes.

Special attention is called to an advertisement in another column announcing a lecture to be given this evening in St. George's Hall by the Rev. Prof. Clark of Trinity University on "The Poetry of Lord Tennyson." The able lecturer will no doubt have a full house.

The annual concert of the Caledonian Society in the Pavilion this evening will be one of the best of the season.

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