

The Type-setting Tournament in Montreal.

[Arrangements had been made for a special report of the tournament for the *Miscellany*, but, at the eleventh hour, our correspondent failed us, hence we are compelled to be content with a compilation from the Montreal papers.]

On Saturday, 23rd ult., the craft assembled in large numbers at Perry's Hall, Craig street, Montreal, to witness the long-talked-of contest between the knights of the mallet and shooting stick. The *Gazette* says:—

The arrangements were admirable. The hall was well lighted and spacious, the floor being occupied by twenty "frames," while the gallery afforded every facility for the lookers-on. The doors were opened shortly after one o'clock, when there was a rush of regulars, subs, devils and reporters, while the general public dropped in by ones and twos to see this curious and interesting competition.

The competitors entered the arena, took off their hats and coats, turned up their sleeves, and tried to look as unconcerned as possible, as if it was a common, everyday affair. Their composure was in many instances evidently forced; but their *composition*—well, we will say more of that hereafter. Small chaff, hints about "re-print," "market reports," and other "solid matter," peculiarly interesting to the craft, were indulged in with much good humour. Previous to the start, divers "false motions" were made. Although there were several composing sticks to be seen, it may safely be said there were no sticks among the men who handled them.

The competitors were to set as much type as possible for two hours, when time would again be called, proofs taken and read, corrections made, and the proofs returned to the judges. Revises were then to be pulled, and the setting was to re-commence and continue until the last proof was corrected, when time was again to be called, the matter measured up, and the decisions to be made by the judges.

Mr D Bentley, the obliging and courteous referee, read the rules that were to govern the match, and said that the copy was to be strictly followed and the matter set solid. After the copy was followed and the matter measured, the prizes were to follow the winners. At the conclusion of Mr. Bentley's remarks, there was a dead silence for a few seconds—considerably longer than a three-em dash.

The type used was nonpareil from the Dominion Type Foundry, and the copy furnished was a reprint of an editorial from the New York *Herald*. Twenty copies of the article were procured—one for each man—and the same "take" or matter cut from each copy.

Time was called, when nineteen out of twenty entries fell to, and the warfare commenced in earnest. It was a study to notice the faces of the men as the match proceeded. Some of them were decidedly nervous; immersed as it were in a mental shower bath of perspiration. Others were as cool as usual. The competitors kept their eyes on their copy, perfectly oblivious of the subdued hum of small-talk from the lookers-on above. Above the buzz of conversation could be heard the click, click of the type as it was dropped squarely into the stick. Altogether it was an interesting scene, while the suppressed excitement was manifest on the faces of those who had something on the result. The varied style of the men was also noted and closely criticised by their fellow-workmen. Even the small boys ventured their opinions with the same air of confidence as men who had

grown grey in the trade. Some lost time on "false motions," that is the movement of their arms was superfluous, or in other words, instead of dropping the types fairly into the stick from the case, they first drew them to their breasts and then to the stick, thus going over the ground twice. Others were more direct in their motions, and of course gained in time on the others.

While emptying his first stick on the galley, A. Filiatreault "pied" or dropped two lines of type. Owing to this unfortunate circumstance Mr. Filiatreault withdrew from the match. This result was not an unnatural one, taking the circumstances of speed and excitement into consideration. The wonder is it was not repeated in other cases.

At the end of two hours, time was called, and the matter proved and read by Mr. Babcock, proof-reader, assisted by others. It might be mentioned here that, by a curious coincidence, outs were made by several of the contestants in the same lines of copy. About half an hour was occupied in reading the proofs, which were on the average fairly clean, or free from errors. The best proof in the eighteen was that of Alty, and the next best that of Hibbins, while Humphreys' was third. Some of the competitors admitted that Birnie's composition was the most faultless, though no one could find fault with that of Alty, Hibbins, Humphreys, Wardley, or in fact anyone, as the notification with respect to spacing was steadfastly followed.

Alty was the first to have his proof corrected, and, by the time the last man had corrected his, he had nineteen lines in type. The contest was then over and the match finished.

The following is the result of the match, and the first seven take the prizes:—

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Thomas Alty, of Larkin's Job office, 1st prize—silver medal, Webster's dictionary (unabridged) and \$12 cash.....	3,630
Wm. S. Humphreys, <i>Star</i> , 2nd—"Poets and Poetry of Printedom," silk hat and \$8 cash.....	3,604
Alphonse Mondou, <i>La Minerve</i> , 3rd—Graham & Co's prize, consisting of a complete edition of the Waverley novels, in 25 volumes, of the "pocket" size, issued by Adam & Charles Black, of Edinburgh; a case of English razors and \$6 cash.....	3,550
John T. Wardley, <i>Gazette</i> , 4th—T. & R. White's prize (a watch), writing desk and \$5 cash.....	3,498
A. Barrette, <i>Witness</i> , 5th, newspaper scrap-book, inkstand, &c., and \$5 cash.....	3,339
Isaac Glennon, <i>Witness</i> , 6th, \$6 cash.....	3,312
Alex. Allan, <i>Gazette</i> , 7th, a hat valued at \$5.....	3,206
Dan. McMullin, <i>Gazette</i> , 8th.....	3,021
Thos. Gilman, <i>Herald</i> , 9th.....	2,968
Samuel L. Kydd, <i>Gazette</i> , 10th.....	2,915
George Birnie, <i>Herald</i> , 11th.....	2,915
Alfred Sabourin, <i>Le Nouveau Monde</i> , 12th.....	2,915
Alfred Clement, <i>Minerve</i> , 13th.....	2,888
John Lynch, <i>Witness</i> , 14th.....	2,835
James Williams, <i>Gazette</i> , 15th.....	2,756
Wm. Hibbins, <i>Herald</i> , 16th.....	2,703
Alex. Walker, <i>Herald</i> , 17th.....	2,623
D. Taylor, <i>Star</i> , 18th.....	2,464
A. Filiatreault, <i>Gazette</i> , 19th.....	Withdrawn.
Wm. Logan, <i>Herald</i> , 20th.....	Withdrawn.

The following details of the time on each stickful of the seven prize-winners, is taken from the *Herald*:—

First Stick—Humphrey, 22m. 15s.; Wardley, 22m. 40s.; Barrette, 22m. 45s.; Alty, 23m. 10s.; Mondou, 24m. 15s.; Glennon, 25m. 55s.; Allan, 25m. 55s.

Second Stick—Humphreys, 42m. 10s.; Barrette, 44m. 15s.; Alty, 45m. 10s.; Wardley, 45m. 20s.; Mondou, 45m. 55s.; Glennon, 47m. 20s.; Allan, 48m. 15s.

Third Stick—Humphreys, 66m. 50s.; Barrette, 69m.; Alty, 69m. 25s.; Wardley, 71m. 10s.; Mondou, 72m.; Allan, 74m. 25s.; Glennon, 74m. 40s.