

### A Canadian Fishing Idyl.

'Twas rainy day on Lac Rideau,  
Two \*skeef she's go to fish;  
Dey carry bottle, tackle, l'eau,  
Dey carry all you wish.

De one was call "King Charlay,"  
An' "Grit" was name of two;  
De captains she start h'erly—  
But first she's treat de crew.

De skeef she's sail around de bend,  
De crew he's pull de h'ore;  
De captains she's stay in de h'end  
And pass "un coup encore."

De sky was black, like any cat,  
De rain was come like pour;  
But still he'll trow de h'anke out  
One arpent from de shore.

Den Grit he tink a pike he'll caught  
And pull and pull his line;  
But Charlay say, "No fish he got,  
More lak some h'iron mine."

An' down de rain she still come yet,  
An' black and black de sky;  
But still de skeef he grow more wet,  
De crew she grow more dry.

Den Charlay call de h'anke in,  
De crew she's pull his bes';  
She's pull some more and tear his skin,  
But still de h'anke res'.

Den Grit he to King Charlay shout,  
He shout so big and fine—  
"Why not you'll pull dat h'anke out?  
Come here and pass de line!"

But Grit she's left dat h'anke dere,  
And pass dat skeef on shore;  
An' Charlay he look up and swear  
An' tak "un c up encore."

Now Charlay's crew when home she sit  
She get all bottles dere;  
An' mix a leetle "sniff" for Grit—  
Make h'im forget his "mère."

Den Grit when off dat coup he toss  
He swear to all de town—  
For sure it was de pike he los'  
Did hol dat h'anke down.

\* Skiff.

—EDWARD CLUFF in *Onting*.

## SPORTS AND PASTIMES

The re-establishment of a Canadian Rugby Union is a very long stride in the right direction, and now that the arrangements are all but completed, we may expect when the season comes round again to see something like a definite Canadian championship played for. We all remember what bickerings and heartburnings there were last year, when the winners of the Ontario championship were mildly said by the western press to own the greater part of the Dominion as it were. It is within recollection, too, that Ottawa college put forth its numerous hand to grasp at that intangible championship, while the McGill players looked about in vain for somebody to beat, so that they might win the coveted title. That will all be done away with now. At the last meeting of the Canadian Rugby Union Mr. Ed. Black was sent to represent the Quebec Union and lay the views of the latter body before the meeting. The western men saw the feasibility of the scheme immediately and at once appointed a committee of three to arrange details. The objects of the union can be briefly stated as follows: To arrange a match every year between the champions of Ontario and Quebec, the winners to be the champions of Canada, matches to be played alternately in Montreal and Toronto. Also to play an inter provincial match if possible. In order to make this championship a thoroughly amateur one there will be no medal or trophy of any kind for the winner. This is like going back to the days when a laurel wreath was considered sufficient at the games. It is one of the few things that may be said to be behind the times, but it is acceptable for all that. Another matter of importance is the revision of the playing rules by the Ontario Union, and the gentlemen who have had that matter in hand have acquitted themselves of their task very creditably. In fact it would be difficult to improve on the new set of rules brought forward, and as our Quebec rules are in anything but a healthy shape it would be very advisable if

the Ontario rules were adopted *en bloc*. It would have the one great advantage of having all rugby matches played under the same rules. This would do away with such disputes as marred at least one of the exhibition games played last fall; it would save the referee a great amount of trouble and annoyance and would place his decision, once given, beyond question. At the annual meeting of the Quebec Rugby Union in Montreal, a delegate from Ottawa college asked admission for his club into the Q.R.U. His arguments were specious but not sound and were rather tinged with the somewhat selfish idea that it would be a very good thing for the college boys. Under the circumstances, and especially as the Canadian Union will be bounded by well-defined territorial limits, it was not considered advisable to admit the collegians, especially as the Ontario Union, to which they rightly belong and which they left two years ago, is willing to again admit them to membership. The challenge system will again be in vogue in Quebec, it having been found to work much more satisfactorily than the tie system. The committee to meet the Ontario delegates consists of Messrs. Hodgson, Rankin and Hamilton, and the officials of the union for the present year are:—President, Mr. Henry Hamilton, McGill; vice-president, Mr. Ed. Black, Montreal; hon. secretary treasurer, Mr. B. B. Stevenson.

The lines of the executive committee of the Canadian Association of Amateur Oarsmen seem not to have fallen in pleasant places this year, and the privilege of holding the championship regatta is going a-begging, so to speak. According to the unwritten law it was Ottawa's turn, but when the committee meeting was held Mr. P. D. Ross, on behalf of his club, declined the honour, on the ground that the Ottawa river course was a bad one and also on account of the present financial condition of the O.R.C. This practically offered the regatta to Toronto, but up to the time of writing the Queen City had not made known its intention of accepting. At a second meeting a communication was read from Barrie, but no definite proposals were made. The committee were in favour of letting Barrie have the honour, especially as the date would suit the Toronto oarsmen nicely, August 10th being the civic holiday. According to the *Orillia Times* that little town was very anxious for the races, and said: "No matter which way the wind may blow smooth water may be had on either one side or the other of the lake; the whole course can be seen by the spectators; there are capital stations for a million or more on-lookers; there is ample hotel accommodation; railroad trains deliver people and boats on the spot; the air is always delightful, and altogether Orillia's charming Couchiching is the best possible place for an annual regatta." But as no application was received from this Canadian paradise, the good people of Orillia may wait another year or two.

The Lachine Boating and Canoeing club is now an accomplished fact, and both the old Lachine Boating club and the Lake St. Louis Canoe club are to be congratulated on their amalgamation. It will make for the general good of aquatics on the lake front and bring together two interests to work in harmony, something which has occasionally been lacking in the past. Of course, at the first attempt it was a little difficult to divide honours satisfactorily, especially as the Canoe club had already elected its officers for 1891, but a happy medium was struck and a fusion ticket presented that was satisfactory to all parties, the commodore of the canoeing club being elected president of the organization, the president of the rowing club first vice-president, and so on alternately, the committee of ten being equally divided. Next year when all the members of the L.B.C.C. have got into the new way of things there will be no such thing as this differentiation in elections. The report of the secretary, which covered the ground fully, contained some admirable suggestions, which the meeting afterwards discussed and decided to follow out. The practice boats which were purchased two years ago from Toronto have turned out a distinct disappointment from the first, and they are now hardly worth the expense of repairing, being neither so well built nor so fast as the old ones that were sold to the St. Lambert club. Some new boats are wanted this year, but it is safe to say they will not be ordered from the same makers. The recommendation that double and single sculls be purchased met with general approval, and Messrs. Duncan Robertson, C. Gwilt and C. Howard were appointed a committee to look after that part of the work, the sum of \$150 being placed in their hands, and to further clinch the matter a resolution was unanimously adopted, which will force the club

to take a more active interest in aquatics than heretofore. It was to the effect that the funds of the club be devoted, after providing the necessary club facilities,—first, to sending competitors to the C.A.A.O. regatta, and secondly, to promote the general interests of boating and canoeing. A committee for the revision of the constitution to suit the new order of things was also appointed and the following officers elected:—Honorary president, T. A. Dawes; president, A. W. Morris; 1st vice-president, A. J. Dawes; 2nd vice-president, E. W. C. Phillips; 3rd vice-president, S. P. Howard; captain, C. E. Howard; secretary, W. A. Shackell; treasurer, J. W. Routh. Committee—E. Arnoldi, G. H. Duggan, C. Routh, F. W. Stewart, A. Shearwood, S. Jackson, W. O. Ryde, Geo. Auldjo, F. C. Fairbanks, F. Stewart. Auditors—Messrs. Irwin and Jackson.

The Province of Quebec Trotting Circuit seems no longer a thing of mere conjecture, and all admirers of the trotting horse will feel happy that the gentlemen who took the matter in hand went about it in a business sort of way. A circuit has been formed of nearly all the leading tracks in the Province of Quebec, the distances are such that nobody has cause for complaint in travelling, and the dates so arranged that owners can travel at easy stages and find very little idle time on their hands. If the present programme is carried out, and there is no reason why it should not be, the new departure will have a most salutary effect on both the trotting and breeding interests. Representatives of the principal tracks met last week and mapped out the programme of the campaign, to which was attached a most excellent rider to the effect that all members of the circuit must belong to the National Trotting Association and must rigidly adhere to its rules. This is a move in the right direction, but it is still not enough. Some few weeks ago I wrote about the advisability, or rather the necessity, of having one set of judges appointed by the N. T. A., who could cover the whole circuit, and who would thus be looked to as responsible men without any personal interest whatever, who could afford to enforce the rules without fear or favour. I have since spoken to several horsemen about the matter and the suggestion seems to have met with general approval, but in one or two cases the import was slightly misunderstood. The fact that the N.T.A. should appoint judges does not necessarily mean that the judges should come from the other side of the line and bring up expenses to the top notch. There are any number of gentlemen in this Province well known to the officials of the N.T.A., and who are thoroughly competent to fill the judges' box creditably. Appointments from among these would give general satisfaction, and as I understand that Secretary Morse has been in communication with gentlemen in Montreal it looks as if the matter would be satisfactorily elected. Mr. P. Jodoin, of Belœil, has been unanimously elected president of the new trotting confederacy, and Mr. J. B. Bureau secretary. Nearly \$18,000 will be given in purses, and that amount ought certainly be sufficient inducement to guarantee good meetings. A glance at the following schedule will show how nicely the dates dovetail, the longest jump being from Lepine Park to Quebec city:—June 2, 3 and 4, Blue Bonnets; June 9, 10 and 11, Lepine Park; June 16, 17 and 18, St. Cesaire; June 23, 24 and 25, St. Hyacinthe; July 1 and 2, Belœil; July 7, 8 and 9, Blue Bonnets; July 14, 15 and 16, Lepine Park; July 21, 22 and 23, Quebec city; August 4, 5 and 6, Longueuil.

The McGill University Cricket Club have been busy during the past week, and the annual meeting gave promise of an improved order of things during the coming summer. Last year's results were more encouraging than those of previous years, both as regards play and membership, and the prospects now are so bright that it was decided to engage the services of a groundsman, and the grounds ought to be ready for play in a few days. Dressing rooms for the players are to be put up and necessary means for watering the grounds provided. Some excellent playing talent is found this year at McGill, and when Bishop's College and School meet towards the end of this month the Montreal collegians say they will give a good account of themselves. Professor Moyses was elected president for the year; Mr. A. R. Oughtred, vice-president; Mr. F. W. Hubbard, secretary; Mr. J. F. Mackie, treasurer; while the committee of management will consist of Messrs. T. Ramsay, C. W. Dean, E. H. Hamilton and A. F. Langley. Mr. Hamilton will captain the eleven.