## Off-Color Overcoats.

• • •

We can't sell seal brown in Toronto, and we've quit guessing why.

Greys and blacks in similar cloths seem to be the local magnets, and so we have about a dozen handsome brown Chesterfield overcoats, without a Fit-reform price label on them to-day.

Made of that princely cloth—imported Montenac, silky as a kitten's ear to the touch, fleecy and aristocratic as eiderdown to the eye.

• • •

Superbly lined with silk velvet collar, and with workmanship worthy of the fabric,

Merchant tailors who could make such a coat would have to charge $30.00 to $35.00 for it, and the self same garments in grey or black we sell readily in Fit-reform at $20.00.

But the seal browns—those Overcoats which want to stay with us—they must go before Christmas.

Fifteen dollars—$15.00—will do.

What reasonable objection can you have against seal brown?

Your money back if dissatisfied.

• • •

**The Fit-Reform Wardrobe,**
**22 King St. West.** MANNING ARCADE
**The Kennedy Company, Limited,**
**Toronto--Montreal--Winnipeg.**



## The Best Striking Bags

Ever Made For the Money.

The Favorite...$1.50
The Leader.... 2.00
The Christy ... 2.50

Full size, double end, with elastic attachments from the ceiling to the floor, and will bear more pummeling than any other kind.

## Boxing Gloves

**BOYS' GLOVES**
At $1.25, $1.50 and $2.00 Per Set
**MEN'S GLOVES**
At $1.75, $2, $2.50, $3, $4, $5, $7.50 and $8 Per Set
FINEST VARIETY IN CANADA.
SEND FOR CATALOG.

## Whitely Exercisers

**Complete, Compact and Noiseless**

The Whitely exerciser requires no floor room, no changing of weights, for adjusts itself to any degree of resistance; no buckling of straps or other paraphernalia; can be put up in two minutes without the use of a single tool, and if desired can be removed from the hooks and put out of sight in a moment and readjusted for use just as quickly. It imparts an easy gliding motion necessary to the successful physical development, and packed for delivery it weighs but two pounds. It is equally well adapted for ladies, gentlemen and children, and physicians and physical instructors recommend the daily use of a Whitely Exerciser as the safest stimulant in the world to make up the powers of body, mind and soul.

**PRICES $2, $3, $4 and $5.**

ILLUSTRATED BOOKLET "Physical Culture a Pastime" SENT FREE ANYWHERE.

**THE HAROLD A. WILSON CO.,**
LIMITED,
35 KING STREET WEST - - TORONTO.


# THE AMATEUR AT HENLEY.

## He is Now the Ordinary Sculler or Oarsman Who Has Not Competed for Money.

## FOREIGN ENTRIES BY MARCH 31.

**American Sprinters Who Are Entered for the Christmas Handicap at Sheffield.**

The latest English mail shows that in spite of winter sport is still in the ascendancy in the Old Country. Oxford and Cambridge decided their trial-eight races on Dec. 3. The men who competed will form a nucleus for the 'varsity crews, who will commence training for their annual struggle early in January.

University circles have been concerned over the proposed alterations in the program of events for the annual games between Oxford and Cambridge that has stood untouched for years. Oxford contended for the introduction of a half-mile run and the exclusion of throwing the hammer and putting the shot. The Cantabs agreed to the addition of the half-mile. Oxford then gave way and agreed to both weights being retained. It was also agreed to adopt the A.A.A. rules for hammer-throwing in future, and use a 9-foot instead of a 30-foot circle. This change will make the program consist of ten events, and render the chance of a tie greater than under the old regime.

Secretary Cooper has denied the rumor that in the future foreign entries would not be accepted for the Henley regatta. He states that the entry of any genuine amateur crew or American university will be welcomed. The rule that foreign entries must be received before March 31, 1899, will be adhered to. The prevailing feeling in England is that, in stead of further limiting the class, greater license should be allowed, and that the exclusive Henley definition of an amateur, "one who has not worked for money," should be changed to "one who has not competed for money." The reason for this change of sentiment is the concerted movement now going on in Australia, Canada and South Africa to send representative athletic teams and crews to compete in England next year. The colonies will not send the athletes without the oarsmen.

American professional sprinters appear to "have their eye" on the $500 in prizes, and accompanying wagers, offered by Ink Smith for the Christmas Sheffield Handicap. Though only three entered the New Year's event, there are no less than 11 who state they live in America and are on the list for the 132-yard race on Dec. 27 and 28. T. Keane has nine yards; Downer, the virtual scratch man, is on the 7-yard mark; Walter Christie, the Princeton trainer, has 10½ yards, and on the same mark with him are M. C. Williams, Cuckoo Collins, A. J. Rogers, C. Mann and C. Bullevant. Others from America who are more liberally treated by the handicapper are H. Bateon and J. W. Baxter, 12 yards; J. Gibson, 14 yards, and S. Peat, 15 yards.

Dublin and Edinburgh Universities fought out their annual cross-country race on Dec. 9 near Edinburgh, and, when the score was totalled, it was found that each University had scored 18 points.

## TALK OF BASEBALL SHUFFLES

**National League Contraction Should Assist the Minors—Toronto and the West.**

Baseball circles generally regard the consolidation of the Baltimore and Brooklyn Clubs as the first step towards a return to the eight-club league. On the heels of this transfer are growing rumors that the Clevelands are to be shifted to St. Louis, and if this is accomplished the rest will not be hard. The league will then have to buy out Washington and Cleveland and the eight clubs will have things their own way. Still many well-informed writers say that the old twelve-club circuit will prevail.

The effect of the proposed change, should it take place, upon minor league ball has not been closely figured. Minor leagues will welcome the change, as there will be more players on the market, and the drafting process will not be carried on to such a great extent. The four clubs that will be dropped in case of the change, average nearly 20 men each, and this will throw about 80 players on the market. As there will be no National League berths for these men they will doubtless be compelled to accept lower salaries and play in the minor leagues or quit the game.

Louisville would be desirable in the western circuit on account of the Sunday ball, but it would make a great change in the mileage of the teams. The eastern circuit would then run from Buffalo to Louisville, and it is a question whether the Kentucky town would be as valuable even with its Sunday games as Toronto would be with only six days of playing, says President Van Derbeck of Detroit.

"I do not expect to see an American association before 1900 if the big league does weed out useless timber. We could not form an association unless we had four eastern cities. Buffalo, Toronto, Baltimore and Washington would be the available towns, while in the west we would have Detroit, Indianapolis, Louisville, Kansas City and Milwaukee. One of them would have to be dropped, and I do not believe we could make as much money as we have with the Western League, because of the big jumps and the natural increase in salaries.

"They will all be paying attention to the Western League in the future and as we have the whip hand I guess we will just stand pat."

**Boxing Gossip From New York.**

New York, Dec. 22.—Mysterious Billy Smith has signed articles to box Charley Johnson before the Olympic A.C., Buffalo, on Jan. 3. The affair will be for twenty rounds.

Joe Choynski is expected to arrive in town some time this week from the west. He will get into condition for his battle with Gus Ruhlin at Coney Island.

Dave Sullivan began training yesterday in Westchester for his combat with Oscar Gardner.

A match between Tommy West and Joe Walcott is spoken of.

Young Pluto, the Australian featherweight, arrived in this city yesterday from San Francisco. He has been matched to box George Dixon at the Lenox A.C. on Jan. 17.

Spike Sullivan says that he will be present at the bout between Jack Daly and Joe Gans at the Lenox A.C., and will challenge the winner.

The contest between Pedlar Palmer and Will Curley has been clinched. The pair will come together before the National Sporting Club, London, on Feb. 6. The battle will be for $1000 a side under Marquis of Queensberry rules at 118 pounds.

**Around the Ring.**

Mysterious Billy Smith has been offered a purse of $4000 to fight Green in San Francisco. Green beat Smith at Carson City, but Smith put it all over him in New York.

Frank Craig, the Harlem Coffee Cooler, and G. L. Townsend, the English heavyweight, have been matched to box a limited number of rounds at the National Sporting Club, London, to-morrow night.

Oscar Gardner and Dave Sullivan have been matched to fight 20 rounds at the Lennox Athletic Club in January. Gardner wanted the weight 122 pounds, but Sullivan would only agree to catch weights.

Sporting Editor World: I wish to challenge any 140 or 142-pound man to meet Billy Hill, Muldoon's Pickaninny. (Signed) David Leahy, manager, Savill's Hotel, Boston.

Champion Jimmy Barry writes that he will meet Carroll, Elliott or any of the ambitious boys who have challenged him, providing they will post a forfeit as a guarantee of good faith.

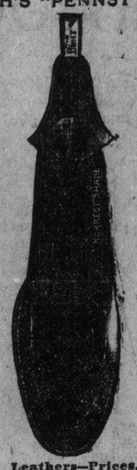
To-night Tommy Ryan will meet one of the best men in his new class as Dick O'Brien, the bout being scheduled to take place at Hartford, Conn. It was to have been held last week, but owing to Ryan's illness was postponed.

There is keen interest among lovers of boxing over the 20-round bout between Matty Matthews and Geo. Kerwin, Harry Gilmore's Chicago mystery, at the Pavilion to-morrow night, and the sale of seats at Harold A. Wilson's has been large. Rattling preliminaries are promised between Thomas and Carroll at 105 pounds, and Pat Kilty and Ted Chandler at catch weights.

Jack Bennett, the McKeesport boxer, who fought Eddie Connolly a draw at Toronto Saturday night, arrived in town last night to see what the prospects are for getting on a match here before the Olympic A.C. Bennett looked as chipper as ever, wearing that talkative Canadian top coat, and his dressiest suit and patent leather shoes. Jack knocks Mike (Beau Brummel) Leonard a twister in the dressing line, and he is away above his class as a fighter. Bennett said that he would like to meet Jack Daly, Eddie Connolly, Tom Broderick or any 133-pound boxer in America in Buffalo or any other place.—Buffalo Courier.


# The "Very Best" Shoes

KEITH'S "PENNSY" TOE.



Leathers—Prices.

| | |
|---|---|
| a.—"Extra" Box Calf, (White's) | $4.00 |
| b.—Box Calf | 3.50 |
| c.—Russia Calf | 3.50 |
| d.—Black Vici | 3.50 |
| e.—Tan Willow | 4.00 |

KEITH'S "ASTORIA" TOE.

a.—Patent Calf ..... $5.00

KEITH'S "MANHATTAN" TOE

Leathers—Prices.

| | |
|---|---|
| Patent Leather, no box | 5.00 |
| Calf, Creole Congress | 3.50 |
| Calf, Balmorals | 3.50 |
| Black Vici, no box | 5.00 |
| Black Vici, Congress | 3.50 |

When this business was established a few years ago, it was decided to sell only the very best shoes made,

That has been the great cause of the success of this store. From the start our energies have been constantly directed towards the improvement of our shoes and the lessening of the price.

Thousands of gentlemen recognize the ultimate economy of the best-made shoes.

A good shoe cannot be made by the Goodyear process and sold for less than $3.

After that the price advances with the higher cost of the leather and materials used.

This season we have placed the wearers of the very best shoes one step nearer first cost—by securing the sole sale in Canada of the famous Keith Shoe.

By special arrangement with the Geo. E. Keith Co., and the "Burt & Packard" Company, we sell their shoes in Canada at the same price at which they are sold all over America.

We have achieved success by conducting business on business principles—"Cash and One Price"—fit and wear guaranteed—the style you can see.

## CHRISTMAS SLIPPERS "For Him."

We have a line of very fine Slippers for gentlemen—in Morocco, vici kid and alligator leathers—all of them the "very best," too—$1.75, $2 and $2.25 a pair.

I like to emphasize the exclusive style of the shoes in this store—the finer finish and the more stylish appearance.

**John Guinane,**
No. 15 King Street West.

## Skates

Our Skate list includes both hockey and spring skates, in all sizes, ranging from 55c to $2.50 per pair. A special line of Forbes Skates, were $2.50, but now selling at $1.50. Our yellow birch sticks are again being used by all the leading teams. The best players say they will use no other. Prices, 50c; cheaper sticks, at 15c, 25c and 35c.

## Snowshoes

Our stock of these goods is the product of one of the best makers in Quebec. The frames are split from clear-grained white ash, and are strung with the finest raw gut. To close these out our prices have been cut in two.

Men's finest, 41 x 17 in.....$2.75 ($4.50)
Ladies' finest, 33 x 10 in.....$1.50 ($3.00)
Boys' finest, 30 x 9 in.....$1.25 ($2.00)

All our goods are sold on the basis of your money back if not satisfied.

**The Griffiths Corporation, Limited,**
World's Largest Sporting Goods Dealers,
235 YONGE STREET, TORONTO, AND LONDON, ENGLAND



## Smokers' Christmas Presents...

**English and European Novelties.**

It will pay you to see our stock. Prices extremely reasonable and everything marked in plain figures.

SPECIAL—100 BRIAR PIPES IN CASE, HALF PRICE, AT 50c. EACH.

Fine assortment Tobacco Jars from 25 cents to $5.00.

A very acceptable gift would be a box of . . . Fletcher's Merchant

Packed in boxes of 10 at 50c, 25 at $1.00, 50 at $2.00, 100 at $4.00.

**FLETCHER'S** (Clear Havana) **MERCHANT**
is positively a 10c cigar. Box of 25 at 1.25, 50 at 2.50, 100 at 5.00.

SEE WINDOW AT

**FLETCHER'S MERCHANT CIGAR STORE**
4 King Street East, corner Yonge.



## Hockey Skates

Youths' and Boys' Hockeys, 75c to $2 pair.
Rocker and Straight Blades, 75c to $1.75 pair.
Ladies' Special Hockeys, $1.25 to $2 pair.
Barney & Berry Skates, 50c to $4 pair.
Acme Genuine Starr Mfg. Co., No. 5, at $1 pair.
Long Reach, no Nuts, Bolts or Wrench, 50c to $2.50 pair.
Skate Straps, 5c to 15c pair.

**Sheffield Warranted Cutlery...**

Carvers, 2-piece stag handle, $1 set.
Carvers, 3-piece stag handle, $1.40 set.
Carvers, 2-piece Xylonite, $2.25 set.
Carvers, 3-piece Xylonite, $2.50 set.
Pocket Knives, 15c to $6.50 each.
Table Knives, $2.75 to $10.50 dozen.
Dessert Knives, $2.35 to $7.50 dozen.

**The Vokes Hardware Co.,**
LIMITED,
Yonge and Adelaide Sts.


**Sporting Miscellany.**

The Queen City Bicycle Club pedro team visited the Ramblers' rooms last night, the home side winning by 22 to 18.

The Body Guards have been admitted to the Toronto Military Indoor Baseball League and will play their initial game with the Highlanders to-night in the Armouries.

A meeting of the Rovers' Athletic Club will be held this evening in their club room, Douglas Block, corner Bloor and Bathurst-streets. Members are requested to be present, as important business will be transacted.

The first annual dinner of the new Wanderers' B.C. will be held on Thursday, Dec. 29, at the Granite Club. A first class program has been arranged. The music will be supplied by Gionna's Orchestra.

The Queen City Homing Pigeon Club held their regular meeting on Tuesday evening in their room, 140 Front-street west. After settling the business of a season of successful flying, establishing records for short and long flights, that have not been equaled in the history of pigeon flying in Canada, it was decided to hold the annual show on Jan. 2, 1899.

Persiatic Plant Food enriches the soil; use it with plants being taken indoors. At your dealer's.

W. H. Comstock, Brockville, has bought two fast horses in New York, and will start them at the Ottawa Club's races.


We are glad to be able to offer OUR BEST WISHES to so many throughout this Dominion who have been cured of drunkenness, and the Drug Habit by this Institution during 1898, and trust that this holiday season may be one of the happiest ever spent. NO ONE EVER REGRETS THE CHANGE.
Manager Lakehurst Sanitarium, Box 215, Oakville, Ont.
The Ontario Double Chloride of Gold Cure Company, Limited. Estab. over 6 years.


One of the greatest blessings to parents is Mother Graves' Worm Exterminator. It effectually dispels worms and gives health in a marvelous manner to the little one. ed