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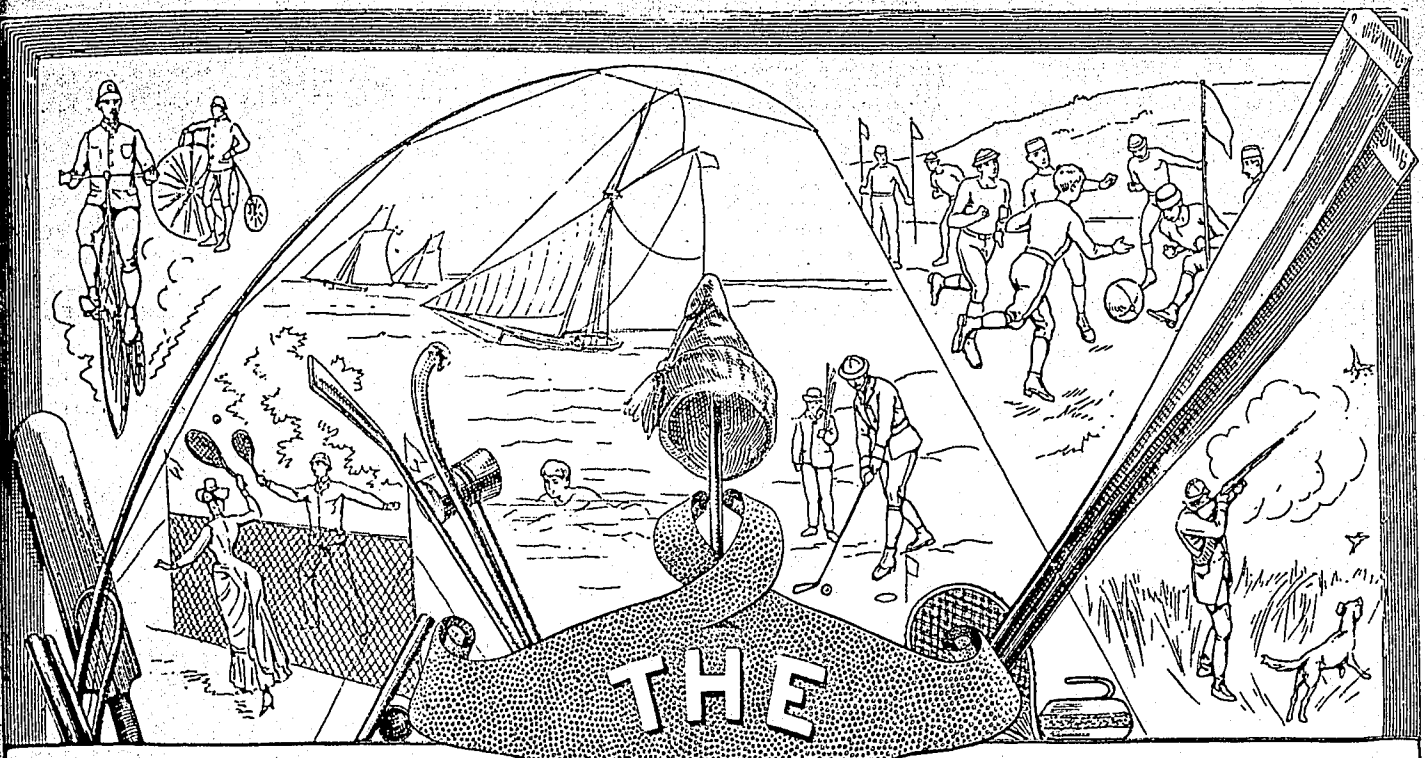
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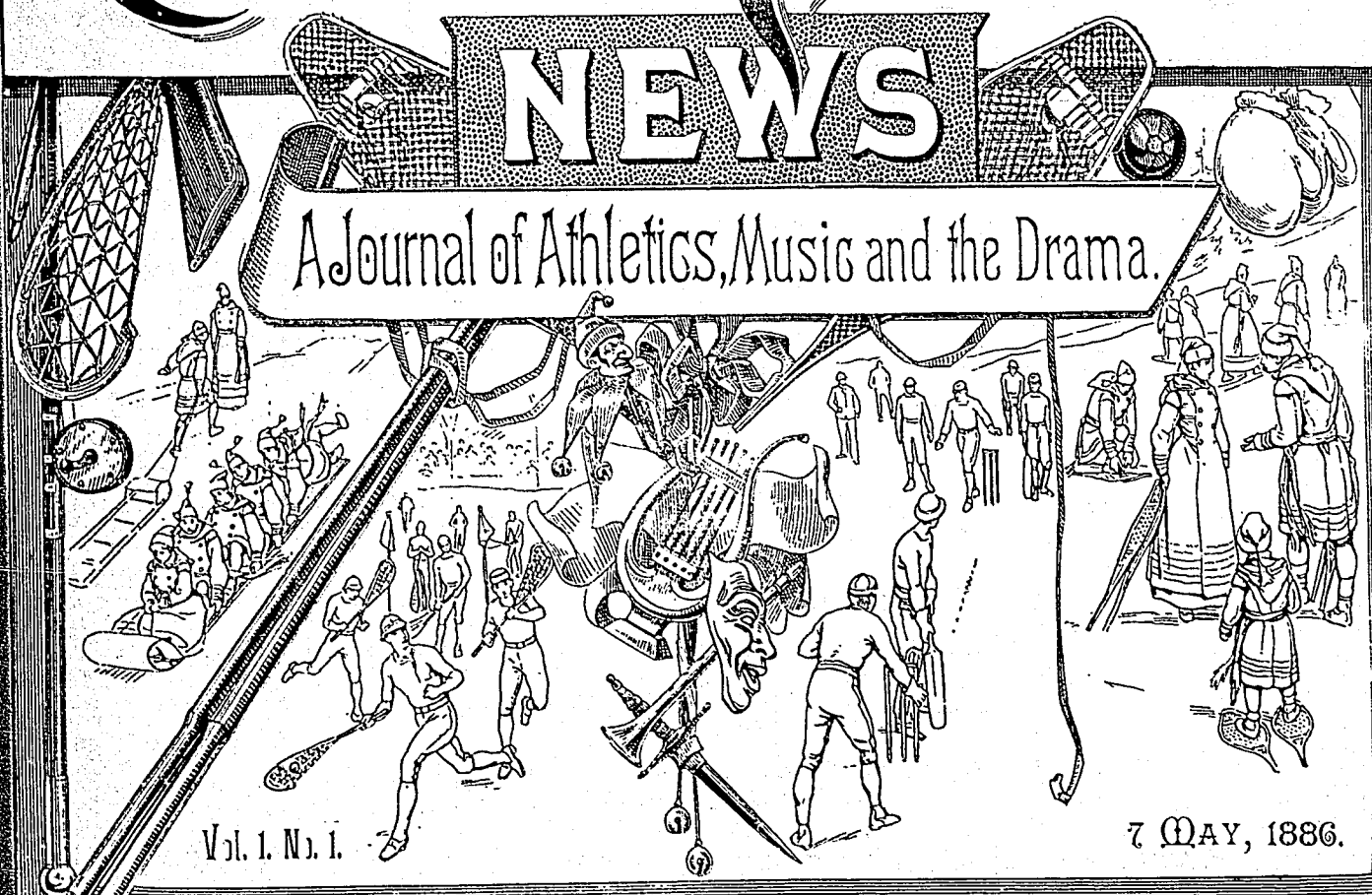


THE

CANADIAN ATHLETIC

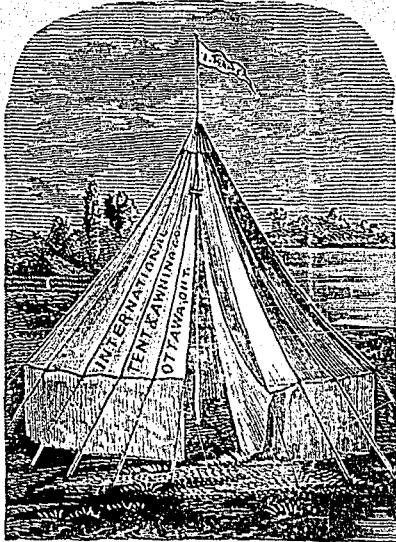
NEWS

A Journal of Athletics, Music and the Drama.



Vol. I. No. 1.

7 MAY, 1886.



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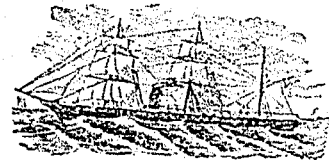
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T H E

CANADIAN ATHLETIC NEWS.

"Better to hunt in fields for health unbought
Than fee the doctor for a nauseous draught.
The wise for cure on exercise depend,
God never made His work for man to mend."

—Dryden.

Registered.

Registered.

VOL. I.

Montreal

FRIDAY, 7 MAY, 1886.

No. 1.

The annual subscription to the CANADIAN ATHLETIC NEWS is \$2.50, delivered free. For sale by newsdealers, 5 cents per copy. Subscriptions, advertisements, and all business correspondence, should be addressed to the MANAGER, CANADIAN ATHLETIC NEWS, P. O. Box 77, MONTREAL, QUE. All other communications should be addressed to the Editor.

A Word to Business Men.

Business men whose interest it is to reach the patrons of sports and games will find no medium in Canada equal to the CANADIAN ATHLETIC NEWS for their purpose. Application for terms should be sent without delay to the Manager, P. O. Box 77, Montreal, Que.

About Ourselves.

The CANADIAN ATHLETIC NEWS to-day makes its first bow to the public of the Dominion. A long address on this occasion would be unnecessary as well as tedious, but it is right that we should declare in few words the reason of our existence and the scope of our intentions. The great number of those now or formerly active in athletics, and their immense importance as a factor in building up the strength of our country, are sufficient reasons why athletic circles should have an organ of their own. It is our intention, so far as lies in our power, to assist the development, as well as to chronicle the history of amateur sports; to provide a common ground where athletes of every Province in the Dominion can meet and discuss the questions of most interest to them; and to worthily represent the best opinions upon these subjects.

The ATHLETIC NEWS will be in the widest sense a Canadian journal, having its numerous correspondents and contributors, of the highest capacity, in all quarters of the Dominion.

And now, before proceeding to our work and endeavouring to fulfil the pledges here given, we must say a word of thanks to those who have already given such warm and substantial encouragement to our undertaking. We ask all who have the interest of Canadian athletics at heart to follow their example. Their co-operation,—by subscribing themselves, by obtaining the subscriptions of others, by giving us hearty support among their friends, and by sending in communications of interest, will do much to lighten a task the responsibility of which can never be anything but heavy.

Although we hope that we have already provided something worth reading, we have made no attempt to make this first issue a "show number," and we have no doubt that sympathetic readers will at first be lenient in their criticisms. When we are fairly launched, than have at us, by all means, when we deserve nothing better!

Sports and Loyalty.

I am ready to recognize it as an undeniable fact, that a great many people put too much thought and energy into sports. It is true that many give more time to the interests of a club than to that of their business; and what was once bodily relaxation becomes a real mental strain. My friend Jones let his note go to protest while he was playing cricket. I think it is Douglas Jerrold who tells the story of an angler whose dying uncle sent for him in haste. Just at that moment he had had a bite. His uncle sent for him again. The angler thought only of his fish. He lost a fortune. "But" said he joyfully, "I caught a trout!"

But this is no sort of rational argument against sports. One might argue away everything sacred as well as secular by the same process of reasoning. I certainly believe it is necessary to preach down excessive indulgence in any recreation. But it is just as necessary to preach up recreation itself. The difficulty is that some religious teachers pitch texts of scripture at public sports, as rowdies pitch stones at the police, from the magnificence of their ignorance. I honestly think the rowdies do the least harm. But if there is one feature of the social life of English-speaking races which distinguishes them from others, it is the love of hardy out-door sports by flood and field. Wherever you go into British public schools—let us trust it may become so in Canada too—the gospel of athletics is inculcated as conscientiously as algebra and the classics. In our own country the climate is our best disciplinarian. It is invigorating, and one is unconsciously impelled to let out some of his steam in out-door exercise. Those who do not, are either those who will not because they dissipate, or those who think they cannot because they are victims of "that rare and obscure calamity from which nobody is supposed to suffer"—*overwork*.

Some other time I hope to say more and better on my subject; but just now let me ask attention to one splendid fact in the physical outfit of our Dominion. From the Atlantic to the Pacific, we look into almost every city, town and village, and we find organized athletic clubs, preserving the character of amateurs. The instinct of sport is as natural to Canadians as that of loyalty. It is born of the same spirit which provoked the remark of the late Hon. Joseph Howe at a commercial convention in Chicago, "Young Canada would as soon fight as eat his breakfast." To my mind, I have always seen a potent and formative influence in these sports, forming one of the strongest bulwarks of national safety. How can all these elements be used for the national good of the state? The

natural instinct of recreation is moulded—not marred—by conjunction with national aspirations. It is out of such stuff as our amateur lacrosse, football, and cricket players, our snow-shoers, our oarsmen, that you get your hard hitters in business and the profession. It is out of such stuff that our best men of the future must come; and here I do not overlook the superiority of mental education, but fortunately our Universities cultivate the physical as well. Montreal, Toronto and Winnipeg have shown splendid examples of what amateur athletics can do in practical loyalty and national defence. We are proud, for instance, of our "Victoria Rifles," of Montreal, and of our "Queen's Own," of Toronto. Is there no significance to the disloyal in the names chosen by these corps? The Victoria Rifles were organized exclusively by young men of the "Beaver Lacrosse Club" at the time of the Trent affair, and almost every man in the regiment then, as now, was an athlete. The Queen's Own are of the same kith and kin, and its popular Colonel, Otter, was one of the first twelve of the Toronto Lacrosse Club.

When the game of lacrosse was made the national game of Canada, on the first Dominion Day of Confederation, was it not an expansion of athletic loyalty? When on two occasions its picked men showed on the fields of England, Scotland and Ireland, the stuff of which Canadians are made: played the game privately before Her Majesty the Queen and Royal Family at Windsor Castle; before the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the very best classes of British Society; when they made their sports medium for doing an immense deal of good, and distributing millions of pamphlets on Canada, was it not an athletic contribution to our national loyalty, never before attempted? This is my idea of what our organized athletic clubs should be and do—loyal citizens, cultivating patriotism as they cultivate their sports: centres of everything to make young men proud of their country and determined to do their best to defend and advance it. Patriotism is a matter of education. Education is a national duty. If a State is not able to make its youth patriotic it ought to cease to exist. Out of the thousands of our finest young men, the flower of our population, should come that firm

devotion to the development and honour of Canada, that will at least contribute to defeat the trickery of the political tramp, as well as to uphold the honest intentions of loyal statesmen.

W. GEO. BEERS.

Although our country is so famous for its interest in manly sports, it must not be forgotten that for the most part the young men who are enrolled as snowshoers, lacrosse men, cricketers, cyclists or football devotees in our clubs are of the naturally hearty, muscular class who are much less in need of athletics than their neighbors. There is a very large total membership in our athletic clubs, but rather a small fraction of the whole population, or even of such part of it as might be "eligible for election." The fact is that in this matter as in some others, taste is not a guide to need. Clerks, operatives and all who lead sedentary lives require wholesome exercise in exact proportion to their indifference towards it; just as dunces need more than their bright school-fellows the attention from their teachers which they neither seek nor attract and very seldom get. Exercise stated, exercise daily, exercise adapted to one's calling and opportunities, is a duty which when fulfilled lengthens life, adds to its rest, brightens the mind and sweetens the character. Dulness of feeling, irritability, morbidness are nature's demand for wholesome living, of which one important part is exercise. Athletics for the athletic, but exercise for all.

THE LACHINE BOATING CLUB is a representative institution, and bids fair to outstrip all previous efforts this season. Already steps have been taken towards holding the Association Regatta under the auspices of the club this summer, and the event will no doubt meet with the same success as when it was last held at Lachine in 1882. The Lachine Boating Club is the leading one in the Province, and in years gone by has on more than one occasion held the supremacy over the other boating clubs of the Dominion. Since the Western clubs have formed the Association of Amateur Oarsmen, to which the Lachine and Grand Trunk Clubs belong—through want of training and proper coaching and boat accommodation, the Lachine men have not kept up their earlier success. Of late years, however, things have steadily improved with the club and new life seems to have sprung up among the members. Mr. J. G. Monk, who has captained the club for two years past, and who for two years before had acted as assistant captain to the Winnipeg rowing club, took the right steps to get men to make up his crews. With this object in view and with the assistance of some generous members, two perfect practice boats were ordered and a new paper racing skiff also; bringing the total available club four-oars to five as expected, the result was that interest was immediately revived, and last summer the season was a most successful one and trial fours which for years had been unknown were patronized to such an extent that six crews were formed and rowed in the spring trials. The club at present is scarcely second to any in Canada in point of boating accommodation or other matters, and should be largely patronized by all young men who can possibly manage it. The club house is situated in Lachine, within twenty-five minutes railway ride of Montreal—easy of access, as trains will this summer run out every hour until 9 p. m. Good accommodation at most moderate figures can be had at Lachine, and this opportunity of getting some first class rowing, coupled with the advantage of spending the hot summer months in the country, is, as it should be, eagerly sought after; and now that things are in good shape, a large increase of active members may be predicted this season. The annual general meeting of the club takes place on Saturday, the 15th of May, in the boat house

at Lachine, when it is expected an excellent report will be submitted. The first fours come off early in June, and a keen competition is then looked for, as from the competitors the captain will put the junior and senior fours to represent the club at the Association Regatta.

The Parsee cricketers are expected to kick up some English dust when they arrive. They have a very fast right-hand bowler known by the name of Muncherjee. Muncher is going to break wickets, they tell us. Good boy, Muncher?—Two or three of your sorts are wanted badly here.

If all stories be true there *must* be some very funny places in this Dominion of ours. Here is the description of one on the shores of Lake Superior sent us by a correspondent:—

"There is little of a sporting character going on here. There are two trotting meetings every year, one summer, one winter, the latter usually on the ice. The report that this one is competed for by horses on snowshoes is unreliable. The cricket done here is . . . well, send me a few anathema in your next, to enable me to describe it and the Baseball with belittling vigor. There is no Football or Lacrosse except amongst the young boys, and life's too short to describe the doings of these juvenile horrors. There is a regatta once a year, but being composed mostly of fishing boats about the size of a village organ loft we feel it would be premature just yet awhile to challenge the "Puritan." There is some talk of tennis this year, but then there's always a deal of talk here about everything, especially amongst the ladies. There is some shooting about, but as the line is drawn at human beings, I do not find the sport so exhilarating. There is little swimming as the water is too cold till very late in the year, and the inconvenience of taking a stove with you is felt to be too great. This is a great "drinking" town (odds against any other town freely taken)."

"The cock may crow, the day may daw',
But aye we'll taste the barley bree."

Return fare from Montreal (exclusive of any necessary hospital repairs \$250.0.

Two propositions may be set forth in regard to Toronto, one bearing very strongly on the other. The first is that Toronto is a healthy city. The second is that Torontonians as a body are fond of sport. It is generally acknowledged in the city that anything which will take a man away from his business for a short time and whilst building up his constitution gives him a greater capacity for work is deserving every encouragement. The spring is fast bringing men into the field for the healthy exercise which does so much towards keeping the younger citizens in a proper state of health. Every game in the calendar of athletics is given its due; and in one or two instances the votaries of a single branch outnumber the aggregate number in the other sports and pastimes. Each individual has his hobby and according as he throws himself into efforts for the furtherance of his pet game will that branch of sport flourish. The variety of games indulged in is very great; and it may very plausibly be argued that the whole loses by the want of centralization. The benefits of competition are lost sight of. The advantages of having a constant stimulus to keep things moving are no mean ones. As for striving to curtail the number of games the task would be as hopeless as trying to change human nature.

The older men must learn to give room to the younger; and in this connection we may say that two bodies of men have been kept together by the timely recognition of the advantages of encouraging the youngsters. The Ontario Cricket Association and the Toronto Lacrosse club had this recognition forced upon them; but in neither case was it offensively done. The utmost good feeling prevailed; and the stronger side did not become flushed with success. Both organizations have come out of the struggle in better than they were before.

There is every prospect of Toronto bay being the scene of a big regatta this year. Hanlan is the chief mover in the scheme; and it will without doubt carry. Professionals will flock to the city to take part, as the prizes, though not very large, are sufficient to afford some inducements. The Island will be utilized to build grand stands upon every effort will be made to make the stay of the visitors pleasant.

The Toronto Yacht club is going ahead very rapidly as an energetic young club should. Already the members have got their boats in the water and are making arrangement for their summer cruises. The membership of the club has increased marvellously; and it bids fair to outdo the veteran club. The club house at the foot of Simcoe street is having some additions made to it; and in time it promises to be a very complete establishment in point of comfort. The Royal Canadian Club House was fortunate enough to escape serious damage in the late storm which so demoralized the buildings on the Island. The new yacht which the Gooderhams are having built to replace the old "Oracle" is not very far advanced and will not in all probability leave the stocks until the end of June. Several alterations have been made in her lines which it is expected will get better speed out of her. The sails have all been imported from England and are of the very best description obtainable.

The various rowing clubs of Toronto are making great preparations for the coming season which from the forecasts promises to be particularly lively. The same may be said of the Skill-sailing and Canoe clubs.

The Good Friday holiday brought out the Toronto Baseball club and a match was played. The nine tried their strength on a kind of cosmopolitan team, which, from the fact that several of the players were attending the University, was dubbed the "Varsity." Hundreds of the citizens made their way to the Rosedale ground to see the game. A good match was witnessed, and the best judges seemed to think that the team, though a trifle raw as yet, was a good one. The game promises to draw large "gates" during the summer; but many doubts are expressed by the lovers of other sports as to the length of time the feeling in its favour will last.

The Wanderer Bicycle club of Toronto had a large meet on Good Friday, and since that have had several club runs. The members have adopted a very natty uniform, much the same as the regulation dress in the States. A larger number of men were proposed for membership at the annual meeting and the club will go ahead as fast as ever.

The members of the Toronto Hunt club have had a number of meets during the past few weeks. The Ontario Jockey club has published its handicaps, and great efforts are being made to put the Woodbine track in good shape for the Queen's Birthday.

The Woodstock A. A. A. (which may be taken now and hereafter to mean nothing in the world but Amateur Athletic Association) is already out with its programme of Queen's Birthday sports, and such is the programme that the holiday has had to be extended over the 25th to admit all the twenty-one events. No less than twelve are bicycle races, with one competition for the tricyclists. The management is of the most energetic kind, and the W. A. A. A. claim that this will be "the athletic event of the year."

The democracy of the cricket field was exemplified the other day by our Governor-General playing in a team of the Ottawa Cri-ket Club—and being pretty thoroughly beaten! His Excellency is taking a good "all-round" interest in sports, and has given the Ottawa Rowing Club a silver challenge cup for their races.

Little has been done in boating at Peterborough for the last three years. All the glory won at Barrie and Lachine by the Peterborough four seems to have disappeared. A new departure, however, has been made this year. At the annual meeting of the Peterborough A. A. A., captains were elected to have charge of the rowing and canoeing departments, respectively. The choice was well made in every case; Mr. E. B. Edwards (formerly commodore of the A. C. A.) takes charge of the canoeing element; and Mr. K. G. Lech has management of the rowing department. It is to be hoped that more interest will be taken in the sport this year than in the past three; for really our club has a first class boat house and equipment. Better use should be made of them.

At the annual meeting of the Peterborough Baseball Club last week, the following officers were elected: Hon. President, R. A. Morrow; President, H. Calcott, re-elected; First Vice-President, W. D. Wayman; Second Vice-President, A. P. Choate; Secretary-Treasurer, W. T. Spencer.

It was resolved to open negotiations with the clubs of the Midland district to form an amateur league. It is likely that the club will secure the Riverside Park for practice and match play this season. Favourable arrangements were made with the Managers of the Park last season.

When the Peterborough Baseball Club was organized last year they were ambitious, as most young clubs generally are. They let their desire to win go so far as to engage a professional pitcher and catcher. The twain arrived from Hamilton, but from the beginning their general bearing was not of the character to impress one with the feeling that the game would be men elevated in tone by their connection with the club. They turned out to be about what they were expected to be. In return for a considerable outlay the club lost two matches, the only matches lost during the season. This year the nine will be strictly amateur.

If there is any possible way for lacrosse and baseball to get along amicably, it will surely be the case this year in Peterborough, for both clubs have lit on Mr. H. Calcott, and captured him for President. That fair round personage, thus forms a link of friendship between the two organizations. This is as Mr. Calcott would like to see sports conducted. Having himself correct ideas as to how sporting events should be carried on, he highly disapproved of the "tit" between the two clubs last year.

The Gun Club is Peterborough's "baby" sporting organization. The infant shows marked vigor, and promises soon to develop into full grown youth. The membership is steadily growing and already regular weekly practice has greatly improved the schooling of the members. Game, in the shape of artificial blackbirds and pigeons, is sprung from a trap. The birds skin along and are taken down by the marksmen, or if not, fall flat to the ground. The latter is generally the case with novices. A story is related as to how two aspirants for honors shot during a whole afternoon, each being credited with 0 on the score book.

It is to be hoped every gun club will follow the humane example of Peterborough in using "clay birds." The barbarism of pigeon-shooting is fortunately going out of date even in the Old Country.

The annual billiard tournament of the Quebec Garrison Club was won by Mr. W. C. Hall, who took every game he played. The silver tankard for which the tournament takes place has to be won three years in succession, and Mr. Hall was the winner last year. In 1853 Mr. H. Stanley Smith came out ahead, and in 1884 Captain Sheppard, A.D.C.

The new Caledonia Curling Club of Pictou have made a marvellous record for themselves. They publish this year the particulars of forty-one match games played since January 1st, 1879, out of which they have won thirty-five and lost but six. They have scored 2483 points, as against 1830 made by their opponents, and have proved themselves simply unconquerable.

The two rinks which took part in nine-tenths of these matches were as follows:—

Dal. Patterson,	John McDonald,
Chas. E. Turner,	Frank Dawson,
Dan. Sutherland,	John R. Davies,
Dan. McDonald, Skip.	John Yorston, Skip.

They have won the Provincial Trophy since 1884, and their trophy matches in 1886 were; with Halifax, which they won 62 to 28; with Truro, winning by 60 to 36; with "Bluenose," of Pictou, winning by 55 to 38; with "Stellar" of Stellarton, by 66 to 34, and with Antigonish, by 48 to 38. Can any Upper Canadian club beat this record?

Riflemen should have little reason to complain of bad ammunition this year. After much experimenting and investigation, seven thousand pounds of Waltham Abbey powder has been imported, and will be made up in ball cartridges at Quebec, for sale to volunteers and their associations.

Sir Frederick Middiection is going to attend a banquet in Toronto on the 12th of May, in commemoration of his "crowning mercy."

Sir Adolphe Caron's reply to the 5th Royal Scots, refusing them permission to take part in Queen's Jubilee celebration in the old country, calls to mind the old proverb—"Where there's a will there's a way". As to the Militia Act having no force outside of Canada, he was presumably correct. But, even taking for granted that every man of the 5th would have despised officers' orders when no Canadian soil was under his feet. Is our connection with the Mother Country so ineffectual that our volunteers could not possibly be placed under the jurisdiction of the home authorities? Or was it feared that the Royal Scots might mutiny on the high seas, turn the ship's head down the middle of the Atlantic, holding the Canadian navy at bay and terrorizing the world with piracy in kilts?

Mr. Baumgarten added another item to the long list of his favours to sportsmen by his management and his hospitality on Saturday. The puppy show which then took place at the Kennels was a most interesting event. The judges, Messrs. F. Stancliffe and G. Matthews, awarded the following prizes: for dogs: 1st, "Lucifer," Mrs. Hughes; 2nd, "Lansdowne," Mr. Curran; 3rd, "Trimmer," Mr. Scott. For bitches: 1st, "Dainty," Mr. Silcox; 2nd, "Magic," Mr. Lafond; 3rd, "Myrtle," Mr. Desclamps. A remarkable feature about the show, however, was that close examination failed to discover a single puppy that did not receive "honorable mention." A reward given to everyone loses all its value as a stimulus to the competitor.

The public have a little idea of the privations endured by jockeys. Lashmar having been promised the mount on Acadian, provided he could get down to within a pound or two of the weight, sweated no less than 13lb off during the last fortnight, and he was able to go to scale at 6st 13lb or only 2lb above the weight. He was so weak when he got off his horse that he fairly broke down under the excitement which followed. It is no secret that Giles so impaired his health last year by constant wasting that the doctors have forbidden him to ride again for the present, and, consequently, his services are lost. It is only by great self-denial and the frequent use of Turkish baths, that Archer is able to keep down his weight; and yet the Jockey Club insist upon retaining the absurd rule which sets the minimum impost at 5st 7lb.—*Sporting Chronicle*.

Although the rivers have been free from ice for some time, rowing can hardly be said to have begun in Winnipeg yet. Vigorous preparations for the season's work have however been going on at the Winnipeg Rowing Club's boat house. The boat house itself has been enlarged and also improvements made. The club has also decided to increase its fleet. A new four oared shell and a couple of four oared practice boats have been ordered from Toronto and are expected to be on hand shortly. With these additions, crews in training for this year's regattas should have plenty opportunity to get as much practice as they want. The annual meeting of the club took place a short time ago when the usual business was transacted and office bearers elected. The Treasurer's statement showed the club's business to be in a most satisfactory condition in spite of the heavy strain put upon them a couple of springs ago by their boat house departing on a voyage of discovery towards the north pole. The club learned wisdom from the experience, and its present boat house stands securely on the point, at the junction of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers, instead of floating in the river below. The site is quite historic, for there stood the old Fort Rouge in the days when Fort Garry and Fort Rouge were the rival pioneer settlements in the North West. An old grape-shot picked up last season at the boat house recalls the days when the H.B.C. and N. W. Trading Co. used to salute each other with such implements.

The senior crew who represented the Winnipeg Club at Hamilton last year will likely represent them this season, viz: F. W. Stobart (bow), E. R. H. Vanallan (2), Bruce M. Caldwell (3) and G. F. Galt (stroke).

With all the heat of international contests in sport, there is still a fraternity in sport that goes far to annihilate international lines. A most interesting specimen of this has been witnessed in the North West.

During the winter Messrs. E. W. H. Vanallan and C. W. Armstrong, on behalf of the Winnipeg Rowing Club, visited St. Paul with the view of making arrangements for a series of international regattas in the North West. This visit resulted in the formation of a new rowing association called "The Minnesota and Winnipeg Amateur Boating Association." The Minnesota Boat Club and the St. Paul Boat Club were also represented. The meeting was throughout most harmonious and everything promises well for the new association. A constitution and by-laws were adopted and the following officers elected:—President, H. M. Howell, Q.C., Winnipeg; Vice-President, W. H. Hineman, Minnesota; Sec.-Treas., Herman Schoffer, St. Paul; Commodore, M. D. Munn, St. Paul; Vice-Commodore, P. W. Parker, Minnesota; Ensign, W. S. Gitty, Minnesota. The executive committee, to which is intrusted the sole management of the affairs of the association outside the duties of the officers, is composed of the following:—G. F. Galt and E. W. H. Vanallan, of the Winnipeg club; C. B. Gilbert and M. J. Boyle, of the Minnesota club and M. D. Munn and H. Scheffer, of the St. Paul club.

This M. and W. A. B. A. will hold its first regatta in Minnesota—possibly in lake Minnetonka—and its next at Winnipeg. Subsequent regattas will be held at such places as the committee select. The time for holding regattas was fixed as the second Tuesday after the first Monday in July. At each regatta there will be junior and senior four oars, junior and senior single sculls, and junior and senior double sculls. Each race will be two miles with a turn except the senior four oars which will be a mile and a half straight way. Each club also is pledged to send at least one senior four oared crew. The committee have power to add other races if they deem it advisable. Provision was made for the introduction of other clubs into the Association, provided they were composed only of amateurs.

A new feature in the Association is a committee called the Status Committee, where members hold office permanently unless by a vote of the Association based on some objection from one of its members is asked to resign. The duty of this committee is to decide who shall be entitled to row at the Association's regattas. A great deal of difficulty was felt by the delegates as to the definition of an "amateur oarsman," so many men bearing just on the border between an amateur and a professional, so it was so thought that the formation of a status committee was the best way to solve the difficulty. This committee, then, has absolute power to bar any man or any crew from a race whom they consider not to be carrying out the spirit of amateur rowing. The following gentlemen were elected the Status Committee of the Association. G. F. Galt, Winnipeg; W. H. Lightover, Minnesota, and H. E. Bransall, of the St. Paul.

Bicycle-making is wondrous profitable—to those who make good machines! The Surrey Machinists' Company has just paid 7½ per cent out of last year's business (a huge rate of interest, as manufacturers' profits are now running over there,) and has brought in another \$50,000 of capital. O, for the day when Canadian contractors will cease to take the name of Macedonia in vain! Then, perchance, will our wheeling pilgrims increase at such a rate that some capable man will think it worth while trying for that 7½ per cent.

Ottawa is to be congratulated. The former supporters of the "Young Metropolitans" met on 30th March and reorganized as the "Metropolitan Lacrosse Club." Mr. M. M. Pyke as President, Mr. C. N. Sparks, Captain, Mr. Spence, Secretary, Mr. H. Connor, Treasurer, and Messrs. Allan, Young and Desrochers as Committee. Mr. A. J. Seybold is honorary president. There is not only a large membership, but the citizens of Ottawa have "come down handsomely," and the club will not be hampered by lack of funds. A novel and handsome uniform has been chosen, consisting of navy-blue "knockabout hat" and knicker-bockers with garnet stockings and jerseys. The club deserves high praise for its pluck and energy in overcoming the difficulties that beset it in the previous three years of its existence. This movement will give an impetus to the national game in the national capital. It is a pity that the two delegates appointed by the club to the Convention at Toronto were unable to attend.

The Lawn Tennis Club at Quebec, recently organised, expect to have from 200 to 250 of a membership before the season closes.

BANK OF MONTREAL vs. OTHER BANKS.

A capitally contested game between the representatives of these institutions, was played on the Lacrosse Grounds on Wednesday afternoon. The ground was soft and spongy, but the play from start to finish was fast and exciting.

The Nondescript team won by five points to nil. Campbell, Stevenson, Hodgson, Whitclaw, Abbott and Drummond were conspicuous for good play.

MUSIC.

"I Pout for the music which is divine;
My heart in its thirst is a dying flower.
Pour forth the sound like enchanted wine;
Loosen the notes in a silver shower."

We intended to give in our first number a slight retrospect of the best musical and operatic events of last winter in Montreal. At the last moment, however, the delightful discovery is made that the eternal "want of space" which vexes journalistic man, precludes the possibility of any such attempt. All we can do is to refer very briefly to the two greatest works performed—Elijah, given on 18th December, and St. Paul, on 29th April last, both by the Montreal Philharmonic Society.

St. Paul was first performed at the Musical Festival of the Lower Rhine, at Disseldorf, 22nd May, 1836, Elijah at the Birmingham, Musical Festival, 25th August, 1846, both being conducted by Mendelssohn himself, thus giving to these performances an additional charm, which alas, they can never have again. It is difficult to trust oneself to speak of these glorious inspirations, so full of subtle beauties and so dear to the heart of every musician. Anything approaching a perfect performance of either would require all engaged to be as gifted performers as Mendelssohn was a composer, and to be supported by an organ worthy to accompany the Celestial Choir. For after all, what is the use of writing exquisite music if it is not to be exquisitely performed? Doubtless such a setting of these priceless gems would be enormously expensive, but what of it? Name anything more glorious in art on which money could be lavished. Those familiar with the best renderings at the great festivals well-know that even they have been "a thing where-in we feel there is some hidden want." Indeed as we remember some of the greatest of these, we feel it to be almost an ungracious task to record our impressions of these Philharmonic performances, all the more that we are well aware the able and enthusiastic conductor, Mr. Couture, made the very best of the talent at his command. But, if a perfectly satisfactory performance of these oratorios is really desired by our musical citizens, the inevitable expense of a thoroughly competent orchestra, accustomed to play this class of music together, and an adequate number of rehearsals with the chorus, must simply be faced, and liberally provided for. Under the circumstances both orchestra and chorus did wonders, but unfortunately the ear refuses to recognise "circumstances" and can only be charmed by the beauty, or pained by the imperfection of the sounds that reach it. The best performances are the cheapest in the end, for their memory is a priceless treasure. Better one superb concert than a thousand ordinary ones. "Better fifty years of Europe than a cycle of Cathay." Without a perfect balance between each voice part, orchestra band and organ, where is the harmonious whole? How soon do the choruses become little better than a vortex of sound. Look for a moment at the complicated scores of the greater ones and think of the talent and labour required to give anything like the effect intended by the composer. The best efforts of his genius have been bestowed upon them, but to what purpose if we are so lukewarm as to close our hearts and purse strings. What conception can we possibly have of a lovely picture which we have only seen in an imperfect light?

In St. Paul, Miss Moylan deserves great praise for her rendering of the heavenly "But the Lord is mindful" and the same tribute is due to Mr. Knorr for his "Be thou faithful unto death." The unmistakably hearty manner in which this was re-demanded shewed very plainly how thoroughly the audience would have appreciated a performance of marked merit throughout. To the chorus also we must accord a special word of praise for their singing of the two celebrated chorales and their exceedingly delicate rendering of the latter portion of "Happy and blest are they." Mr. Couture richly deserves a special vote of thanks for the admirable manner in which he performed on both occasions, the very arduous duties of conductor. Being sacred music, possibly the long "wait" before St. Paul commenced was intended to illustrate the boundless extent of eternity. Such delays are most irritating, and are simply a premium on all those who are so utterly destitute of good taste and feeling as to come late, to continue to do so. On leaving the Elijah we overheard the sentiment that "anyway the performance was good enough for us folks in Montreal." We were appalled. Our hair stood on end. We nearly broke our neck over a hog's back on our way home, as regardless of our feet, we got lost in a contemplation as to how Mendelssohn would have looked had he been asked to write an edition of his Elijah "good enough for Montreal."

FOOTBALL NOTES.

(ASSOCIATION.)

The season in Montreal was fairly started on Saturday, by a friendly contest between the Britannia and Valleyfield clubs. The weather though somewhat warm for the players was most favorable, and the ground in capital condition.

Having defeated the Montreal club on their own grounds last season, the strangers came with a high reputation, but strange to relate they were somewhat easily defeated by nine goals to three, a result mainly due to the unselfish and systematic passing on the part of their opponent's front division. Valleyfield are a light, but very active team, and their forwards time and again proved that they were no novices in the art of manipulating the sphere, but their passing was rather long and at times too erratic to be effective.

With a few exceptions the home team was much the same as that which will do battle against the Montrealers on Saturday in the Championship match. There was a marked improvement in combination and placing, but there is still a sad deficiency in shooting at goal. The halfbacks too, do not feed their forwards half enough, and lie altogether too far back to be of any use.

In the evening the players dined together at Hall & Scotts, where a most pleasant couple of hours were spent in the enjoyment of song and sentiment. The Lancashire lads seemed to possess an unlimited fund of humor, and the result of the match in no way affected them when seated around the festive board.

Saturday, 8th May is the date set aside for the great association contest between Montreal's two crack clubs. Both teams will place much stronger elevens on the field than on any former occasion, and as great strides have been made in the advancement of the Association Code, since its first institution, but a few years ago, a capital exposition of the varied beauties of the "passing" game is confidently anticipated.

The unusually fine spring weather has been very favorable to the early commencement of the game in Toronto, and a large number of important fixtures have already been made.

The Victorians were the first to get into training, and had a match on Good Friday with the local club from Buffalo. The game was very one-sided, and was easily won by the home team. On the Monday following the Vics journeyed to Berlin to fulfil an engagement with the present champions of Ontario, the Rangers, and a closely contested match was won by the Berlin players by 1 goal to nil.

The popular Toronto Club is again to the fore, and by a suitable combination with the Lacrosse Club have secured the use of the beautiful Rose-dale grounds, and the training advantages offered by the Athletic Association.

At their annual meeting most satisfactory and gratifying reports were made as to the club's sound and prosperous condition. After wiping out last year's arrears a substantial balance will be placed to the credit of the club's finances. W. J. Gibson was again chosen captain, and W. C. Baird, vice W. Jarvis, (now President) to the Secretaryship. Mr. J. Galt, the popular man of the club, positively refused any post of honor, but promised, as heretofore, to use his best endeavors to promote the club's interests in any way he could. On 24th May they will meet their old friends, the Rangers, at Berlin, and, during the festival week, will engage a picked team from St. Louis, Missouri.

The St. Catharine's Club beat Dundas last 12th November by one goal to none—at least they claimed to have done so, and certainly put the

ball through the goal; but Dundas claimed that the ball was behind the line previous to being passed in front of the goal. The referee, it seems, had not been able to come up in time to decide the matter. The committee of the Western Assn., to which the losers appealed, has given a verdict in favour of both sides. That is, St. Catharine's is declared to have won, but the match is declared only a district one so that Dundas shall not be barred from further competition for the association cup.

The Committee of the Western Football Association, at a meeting in Galt on 3rd April, decided on international matches with the Western Football Association of America—at St. Louis, Mo.—and the American Football Association, of New York and New Jersey. Messrs. McKendrick and Erb, with Mr. D. Forsyth, secretary of the W. F. A., were appointed to arrange this matter. The counties of Simcoe and Dufferin with bordering parts of Grey and York have been converted into a "North-Eastern District" of this association; and the preparation of a scheme to readjust the various districts was entrusted to Messrs. Kennedy, Todd and Forsyth.

(RUGBY RULES.)

It has been decided to play off the annual spring championship match between the Montreal and Britannia Clubs on Saturday 22nd. The event will take place on the Lacrosse Grounds. Both teams have been in harness for some weeks back, and it is safe to predict an unusually exciting struggle for the supremacy.

The first and second fifteen of the Montreal Club will travel to Ottawa on the 15th of this month, to meet the first and second fifteen of the College Club.

From all accounts both the Montreal teams will have enough, if not more than enough to do, to hold their own. The result of the match on Easter Monday against the Cadets from Kingston (a first-rate team this year) ought to put the champions on their mettle.

Ottawa College, we are informed play more handball than football. The only kicking they do is punting. They are in splendid form and play together like one man, but they are said to "foul" considerably in the scrimmage.

An endeavour is being made by the Britannias to go to Kingston on the same date. In the event of the match not taking place the association team will travel to Valleyfield, and play off their return engagement, with the club there.

Dalhousie College, Halifax. Graduates vs. Undergraduates. This, the opening game of the season in Halifax, was played on the Wanderers new ground on 28th ult., and after a spirited contest resulted in favor of the Undergraduates by a try gained by Henry to nil. The match will be an annual event, and at a meeting of the graduating class held in the evening, officers were appointed to organize a graduates team for the season of 1887.

The Halifax Wanderers have had a very tempting offer for next fall. One of their committee was in the States a few weeks ago where he met Mr. Camp, a gentleman known as "the father of American football," and formerly of Yale football fame. His proposition was that the Wanderers team should journey to New York and there meet teams from Harvard and Yale, and that the Wanderers should be allowed their expenses. This offer has not yet been officially made to the club, but there is little doubt that if the plan should be adopted by the Colleges interested the Wanderers would be only too willing to combine with a pleasant trip, the distinction of meeting two such famous teams as these.

Referring to this our correspondent writes: "Some difficulty would arise owing to the radical difference existing between the rules of the Scot-

tish Rugby Union, under which the Wanderers play, and those of the American College Rugby Union Football Association, but I think that mutual concessions would make the games possible. From my experience of both games, I am strongly inclined to the view that in the event of these matches the advantage would be on the side of the Americans. In any case the Wanderers could not expect to cope with teams whose regular practice and training are so rigorously enforced, but the Wanderers would gain a great deal of valuable experience from such games, and if they could not win they could at least show them how to tackle low, in which the Americans are sadly deficient.

In a recent match between Windsor, Ont., and Chicago, the Canadians scored six points to their opponents four, but the Americans claim the match a tie on the ground that two of the touch downs in self defence should count but a point each. Harry Millar, an old member of the Britannias, and who played a few years ago with great acceptance for the Winnipeg Rugby Team, is specially mentioned for distinguished work. Just now his old clubmates could do with a few men like him behind the mauls.

One of the most interesting books lately published in London is the first of a "Historical Sporting Series"—"Football: its history for five centuries," by Montague Shearman and James E. Vincent. We shall have to refer to this valuable work again; but here is a paragraph which will be received with gratification or the reverse as the reader favours Rugby or Association football:—"If the view we have taken be correct, while the running and collaring game was the original national sport of England, the dribbling game owes its origin to schools in which the playgrounds were limited in size, and where various considerations rendered the rough horse play which characterized football in the ancient times impracticable. We have pointed out that the size of the close at Rugby rendered it possible for the boys of that school to play the original game without fear of being hurled when collared, against stone walls, or iron railings, or upon surfaces of gravel. Hence we should naturally expect to find, in the game practised at this school, an absence of any restriction in the way in which the ball was to be taken towards the adversaries' goal, and an equal absence of any restriction in the means of collaring or stopping one of the attacking party in his course, and with no limits to the field of play except those which necessity demanded. It is the very style of game which is known to have been in vogue at Rugby fifty years ago. Indeed, until within the last few years the Rugby school game suffered no alteration; but lately the tripping, hacking and indiscriminate charging have been abandoned, no doubt more in respect to the feelings of the numerous fifteens who visit the school to play matches, than from any assumed effeminacy of the hardshinned Rugbeians. At the present day we believe the Rugby school fifteens, at any rate in their foreign matches, conform to the Rugby Union Code."

Some football clubs have a happy way of inviting a certain number of press representatives to the annual club dinner. The Edinburgh Football Association, for instance, decided to give four press tickets, and then voted for the papers which should have them.

The Prince of Wales saw his first football match a few weeks ago, and was thoroughly delighted with it. A certain ancestor of the prince, King James the First of England, would have been highly scandalized; for His Majesty, after enumerating the sports fit for the patronage of his son, made a careful exception against "all rough and violent exercise, as the football—meeter for laming than making able the users thereof." So far from the Prince's presence exciting criticism, everybody is wondering how he escaped seeing a football match before.

A FOOTBALL EPIC.

A FRAGMENT.

APPARENTLY OF HOMER—RECENTLY DISCOVERED.

The muses invoked.

Sing! heavenly maidens, sing! and deign
With help divine to aid my feeble strain:
While I, complying, tempt the vast sublime—
Things unattempted yet—at least in rhyme.

The Choosing of sides.

Forth from the ranks two warlike chiefs advance
With stately step and high commanding glance,
In choice alternate cry their voices loud,
And choose their comrades from the anxious crowd.

The toss.

Then high in air the whirling copper flies—
A "head," a "tail," each valiant hero cries.
Obedient to the Fates, each takes his stand,
Surrounded by an ardent hopeful band.

The kick off.

"Ten yards!" "stand off!" a spring—now, look
out there!
The football whizzing, cleaves the parting air,
Nor stops till o'er their heads it flies afar;
Then "Greek meets Greek, and comes the tug of
war."
From toe to toe the speeding ball is tossed,
And many a hero humbly bites the dust.

The maul.

Now loud is heard on every side "a maul!"
The warriors hasten, eager to the call.
Sometime the reeling crowd sways to and fro,
Then, headlong rushes to the earth below:
There, prone, they grovel on maternal dust,
And scream, laugh, kick, drag, push and thrust.
Heels up, heads down, limbs tightly jammed and
fixed,
Small, great, strong, weak, promiscuously mixed.
At length exhausted nature can no more.
Faint, from the "deeps is heard a dull hoarse roar,
"Ball down." Then rising quickly to their feet,
The nimble heroes beat a swift retreat.
Again the ball pursues its devious way,
Again the warriors mingle in the fray;
Some "scrummage," and some push with all their
force,
Some catch the ball and speed it on its course.

The Run.

"Well caught!" "Run!" "Run!" Away the
hero flies,
While favouring plaudits rend the neighbouring
skies.
Lo! as he runs, to stop his mad career,
See! in mid course a valiant knight appear;
Firmly he plants himself, like ancient rock
That long has faced the billows' fiercest shock;
But all in vain his strength and steady art,
The supple youth shoots past him like a dart;
And while he still stands stupid with surprise,
Panting "in touch" the youthful warrior lies.

Send up.

Now comes the fiercest struggle of the whole,
The struggle that will gain or lose "a goal";
And while "line up!" resounds o'er the ground,
The heroes from all parts come trooping round;
They form in close array a serried band,
And man to man and foot to foot they stand.
"Make ready!" "Push!"—Alas! 'tis all too late,
And now remains one last resource of fate.

The charge.

The victor and his comrades backward fall;
The chief alone remains to "place" the ball;
The hearts of all beat anxious to their breasts,

These high with joy, those with fear distressed.
Swift swoops the hero on the leathern sphere;
Loud from the foe rings out a "charging cheer,"
And as two clouds surcharged with fiery leaven
Meet, burst, and rattle through the void of heaven;
So met the opposing forces, and so broke
Their rows as frightful, and as fierce their shock.

The Goal.

But high above the heads of either host,
Clear o'er the "Goal," the flying sphere is tossed;
Huzzah! the game is won! Lament! a game is
lost!

OUR NATIONAL GAME.

"In the spring a young man's fancy lightly
turns to his Lacrosse," and if I know anything about
the actions or feelings of a lacrosse player in the
spring time, (which I ought to, for I have had
strongly defined symptoms), a large number of
them throughout Canada have been having some
great games in their minds lately.

The spare moments in mornings or evenings
have been occupied in admiring and overhauling
the pet stick with which the owner did such
noble work in '85. How the back and tip have
been scrutinized and tested, and what terrific
home shots, long throws, and fearful and wonder-
ful "jukes" have been made within the limited
confines of a bedroom! How often has each
particular player at some stage of these imaginary
games felt that if he could only exchange the
four walls and ceiling for the fences and blue sky,
and the hard unyielding floor for the soft springy
sod, he could, even although he is the thirteenth
man on the second twelve, "do up" the generally
acknowledged star of the club's first team.

Then the pilgrimages that are made up to the
ground to see how the frost is going out and the
grass coming up; and the animated discussions
over last year's victories and defeats, and what the
coming season is going to bring forth!

And all this reminds me that spring is here, the
lacrosse season opening and that it would be
proper and polite for me to pay some of the lead-
ing clubs a visit, ascertain how they have wintered,
and find out as near as possible what bill of fare
is to be presented this season to the admirers of
national game.

Let us take the top of the tree first—the
champions.

I think the Montreal Club will most probably
put the best team into the field for the first match.
This is of course to be expected of a champion
club but it does not always follow. Four well
known faces will be absent from the team this
year—W. D. Aird, J. Patterson, T. Paton and
J. J. Louison. A club that can bear with equan-
imity the strain that the loss of four such men
must cause, has surely remarkably good resources,
and certainly in the Montreal juniors the champ-
ions possess a magnificent reserve. Findlay,
Geraghty, Cameron and Norman are the young-
sters who this year graduate. Findlay will prob-
ably take the goal in place of Aird, and if he puts
as much energy into lacrosse as he does into
hockey—I am truly grateful that I am not the
inside home of an opposition team.

However, I have never yet seen a good goal
keeper who was gentle and good natured.
Cameron is another hustler at hockey, with a
rattling good record as a lacrosse player. He
should be able to fill Louison's position in all its
branches. But should Louison be induced to put
in another year—strong efforts are being made in
that direction—I think I had better devote an
issue of the NEWS to an essay on the possibilities
of the combination. Geraghty will be Paton's
successor, and he should be proud of it. For

years Paton has been an "old reliable," and to his
incessant and unselfish work on the home last
year the success of the Montreal team is largely
due.

Geraghty is a good player, is capable of any
amount of hard work, and in him with Hodgson
and Grant the Montrealers have a home that will
be hard to beat. Norman, the remaining new
man comes from the juniors with a good record.
He is a very fair fielder, either defence or home,
besides having quite a reputation as a goal keeper.
It must be remembered though that he comes to
fill Jack Patterson's position, and while I suppose
he is the best available man the task I am
afraid is beyond him. Any one who witnessed
Patterson's play on the home field last year,
cannot keep wondering how the matches would
have resulted had his place been filled by an
inferior man. As all the other players at last
year's team are, as far as can be seen at present,
available for this year's matches, the Montrealers
will be represented by: Findlay, goal; Cleghorn,
point; Cameron, cover; Sheppard, Carland and
Fraser, defence field; D. Patterson, centre;
Michaud and Norman, home field; and Hodgson,
Geraghty and Grant, home. These, with the
deservedly successful and popular field captain of
last year, Fred Larmouth, at their head, will
defend the championship emblem during the
season; and while I am not foolish enough to
attempt to predict the result of the matches, I
will say that the Montrealers start the season
with the best of the five teams that will contend
for championship honors.

The Shamrocks, the Champions of last year
and of many previous years, will commence this
season's work with what is perhaps the weakest
team they have put into the field in fifteen years.
It certainly is a novelty to allude to the Sham-
rock team as weak and I feel guilty of almost
treason when I do it. But it is a lamentable
fact, and careful and assiduous nursing will be
necessary before it regains its lost prestige. The
Shamrock club has not had the varied experience
of "ups" and "downs" that the Toronto and
Montreal clubs have had, and it will no doubt
for that reason come very hard to it in its old
age to commence raising a family again. How-
ever, there's life in the old club yet. Butler and
McGuire are still on the turf; more power to
them! If ever men deserved well at the Lacrosse
community's hand, those two men do. No better
exponents of the national game ever wielded
stick. It makes me feel old to think of the
number of years I have seen them in the front
rank of Lacrosse players, and in all that time I
have never heard of "Toby" or "Con" doing a
mean trick or playing other than a fair and manly
game: I say "long life to them," and

"As long as McGuire and Butler play,
The Shamrock club may win the day."

Of last year's team, in addition to McGuire and
Butler, Myles, Barry, Devine, Hart, Green and
Rowan are I believe to play. Cregan and McKay
are wavering between the Capitals of Ottawa and
the Cornwalls. Rumor says they are waiting for
the highest bidder: a bad state of affairs if true,
which I hope not. Surely the time is not ap-
proaching when it will be necessary for the
Association to appoint an auctioneer. Prior is
now with the Capitals but will likely join Prihey,
who is in Boston. Daly has retired, and so I
am informed has O'Reilly. The team will be
made up from Curran, Ahern, Skelly, Harkins,
Parland and Ellard of the Young Shamrocks,
all very fair men but with the exception of
Ahern without any pretensions to championship
form.

I don't think that the Cornwalls, last year's
intermediate champions, will show up very well
in the higher company they have aspired to. In
Lally and Lewis they possess two really first-
class men. Adams also is good one.

They have secured Blacklock, a man who has made a good and a bad record for himself in every club he has played in, (and he has played in quite a few), and if McKay and Cregan are "engaged," as they likely will be, this club will have six very strong men. But six men do not make a team, no matter who or what they are, and although possibly there may be concealed about Cornwall some future Napoleons of Lacrosse, they have not as yet betrayed their greatness. I would have been in great sympathy with Cornwall this year as Intermediate Champions, a title which I think they should have endeavoured to hold for a season; but I confess I am not with them in their flight for higher honors, buoyed up as they apparently intend to be with foreign talent obtained by "inducements."

A number of old familiar names are conspicuously absent from the list of officers of the Toronto Lacrosse club this year, and I judge that the youngsters have asserted their strength and exercised their voting powers while under the influence of an idea that the "old uns" had been directing their movements just a little too long. This may or may not be a wise move. At the close of the season I'll be in a better position to say, but at present I am inclined to believe that it will result well. New blood (when it is good), means new energy. If the players considered that the time had arrived for them to assert themselves and look after the interior economy of the club as well as its performances on the field, by all means let them do it, and the old fellows who have stepped out of office will watch them just as anxiously all through the year and at the end of the season, if they have done well, will tell them so, and at the same time gently remind them that "this is what we educated you to do—Bless you." It is a good thing that Jack Massey is still in the President's chair. In having him at the head of their ticket the boys showed that they had at least method in their madness. There will not be many new faces this year on the team. S. Martin, who virtually made his debut last year will probably take the goal again. Mills, Garvin Drynan and Bonnell will be on defence. Garvin, who has apparently allowed himself to be shelved in the position of Field Captain, will probably repent when the matches commence. A player second to none as he is cannot content himself with issuing orders. I've never yet seen Jimmy Garvin so busy—even when the play was at its hottest—that he could not find time to issue a heap of orders! Drynan, who by the way is now a newly fledged committeeman (I nearly wrote "chicken") has lobbed up more serenely than ever this spring, and a number of variations may be looked for in the grand combination play that he and Garvin seem to plan every winter, and spring upon unsuspecting opponents every summer. Bonnell promises to be stronger and faster than ever, and Mills I hear has improved wonderfully. Irving, Blight, Macdonald, Coulson and Meharg are the most likely fielders. It is rumored that Blight is on the retired list, but he like Garvin is another "good one" that can't stop, and shouldn't if he could. Of Irving, great deeds are expected and the expectations will I think be realized. To my mind he is the beau ideal of a fielder. Meharg is a hard steady player and Macdonald and Coulson are both fast and strong. The home consists of Dixon, Stow and McHenry, all well known as good and sure players. This may be varied by the addition of Ross Eckhardt in some of the matches, but absence from the city will unfortunately interfere with his playing. The team will feel this, as he was one of the best of last year. The remaining aspirants for the team are at present D. Coulson, Jack Irving and A. Mackenzie,—a likely trio in case of accidents. With these men the Toronto club claim to be able to win the championship. Before they take the field, however, they should add two names to this list, and then I would think more of their chances. Hubbell and Smith would improve respectively the defence and home; and I will

reserve my expressions of regret at their retirement until I know positively that it is inevitable.

The Ontarios of Toronto seem to have all their men to the fore this year. I did hear that Clark, who is decidedly their "crack" had been offered a "capital" situation in Ottawa and was likely to remove to that city; but this has been contradicted. This season the club will remove from the Jarvis street ground to the new Baseball ground in the east end, but as the latter is not yet in shape they are using their old quarters temporarily. Last year this club made its first essay in the championship list, but was not fortunate enough to win a match in the series. This year they hope to do better, and with Cornwall in the field their chances in that direction are certainly improved.

It was reported that the Ontario club in future would be run as a joint stock company, and I heard that a stock book had been opened and liberally subscribed to. I am too old fashioned to be able at this early stage of the proceedings to entirely get the idea of an amateur joint stock company Lacrosse club into my head; but strange things have come to pass in this nineteenth century, and I suppose it's all right. It is possible that this remarkable phenomena may never be visible, as I heard a rumor that the "liberally-subscribed to stock book" had disappeared. But then surely a "small" incident such as that would not seriously affect a great undertaking!

SPECTATOR.

THE COMING CRICKET SEASON.

"Let cricke on the hearth his music cease;
And me! play up at cricket on the crease?"

The music so highly commended by the anonymous rhymist is again heard in the land. The musicians are tuning up with instruments of willow and leather, and secretaries are busy arranging their fixtures, so far of an unusual excellence. To begin with we are to be visited by two important teams—one from the West Indies, chiefly from Demerara; the other of English Gentlemen. Canadian cricketers owe two distinct but equally urgent duties with regard to these Fellow-Britons: namely, to entertain them hospitably off the field, and to thrash them as often as possible on it. It may be utopian to think of beating the Gentlemen of England, but not to aim at victory is to court unmitigated defeat.

The date of the international has not yet been definitely fixed, but it is understood the Americans wish it to be played on the 17th and 18th of August at Long Branch. There is, they say, no chance of playing the match in Philadelphia during this month—the heat driving cricketers out of the place—while a team can always be got together at Long Branch. Nothing has been said as to the chances of obtaining a good wicket there; but the charm of novelty has much in it to please the players. The proposition is as yet in the clouds, and there it is likely to remain for some time to come. Speaking of the international, recalls an amusing comment in the *American Cricketer* after that of last year. The paragraph was not meant to be amusing, by any means: The writer tried to allay the pangs of defeat by proving (to his own satisfaction) that it was a moral victory. The "best American cricketers," it seems, had lost all interest in the event, victories having been too frequent; and they therefore did not make the team what it should have been. From this we surmise that they will take considerable interest in the match this year; and possibly even the "best American cricketers" may find their power not irresistible? Our worthy contemporary also observed: "If we had followed the Canadian custom, and played Englishmen in this fixture, the team could have been still further strengthened." Having ferreted out what we take to be the meaning of this remark we would suggest that, in a conglomerate and largely immigrant population such as that of both Dominion and Republic, it would be more than absurd to bar a

player from representing the country to which he now belongs because he once belonged to another.

Besides the "national" trip to Long Branch or Philadelphia, or wherever our cousins can collect a team—the various cards before us shew an increased number of tours, Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal and Halifax have each decided to carry their bats abroad.

The interprovincial match East and West will be played at Rideau Hall and this new departure should have the effect of increased interest in the game at Ottawa.

A very hopeful sign, and of a more important kind is the attention shewn to cricket by our schools. Think of what cricket in England today owes to her public schools? not only are the inter-scholastic contests among the most eagerly watched of the season, but the boys trained on the school field are important factors on the fields of every county in the Kingdom.

Among other places we have already instances of good done at Upper Canada College, Trinity College School, Lennoxville and Sorel, and it is pleasant to know that at Montreal, more school boys than ever, will, this year be under the instruction of Lacey, the well-known professional.

It is very gratifying to learn that the threatened breach in ranks of the Ottawa Club at their opening meeting has been satisfactorily healed, and has had no other result save, mayhap the riddance of a few players who were more of a hindrance than a help to its progress.

Under the popular captaincy of Mr. Louis Costé, one of our best slow bowlers, a strong eleven will be placed in the field and the prospects of a good season at the Capital are indeed bright.

Early in the season the club will try conclusions in a couple of two days' matches with our old friends, the Longwood Club at Boston, and later, on the beautiful grounds and excellent wicket at Rideau Hall will be visited by Montreal, Perth and Toronto. The Eastern Association too, have very wisely decided to play the inter-association contest here, and the visit of the Western players and that of the West India Gentlemen is anticipated with great interest.

In Ontario the successful season of the past year seems to have borne the best of fruit. There is a large crop of new clubs in the Province, and their number seems to be increasing every day. Nearly all the clubs which were in operation last season have taken new life, and their hold has lost nothing by the long winter's rest. Those especially, situate in the cities, seem to have given the fixture system full recognition, and at the present writing there are a number of clubs which have no open dates between the middle of May and the middle of September. The Toronto club's fixtures are all made subject to the dates which will be asked for by the foreign teams which are expected to make an inroad on Canada this season.

The West Indian team has booked engagements in Ottawa, Toronto and Hamilton, and in each of these they will cause a little excitement. The English Gentlemen will again play in Toronto and give the local players some useful hints on the game. September is again the month chosen. A team from Staten Island and Halifax Garrison are among the possibilities. On these grounds it is possible to prophesy an active season as far as outside organizations are concerned.

The Toronto clubs will have all the benefits of greater unity this year, because a number of them have seen the inutilty of having too many clubs to the number of players. Whilst decreasing the number of matches in the city, there will be an augmentation of the matches played in the country. The Toronto club starts under the favourable auspices of a young and energetic management and the prospect of a large number of both foreign and home matches. The ground will be better than ever and a movement is on foot to increase the accommodation for spectators on the ground. Their

fixtures comprise games with an Osgoode Hall eleven, Trinity College, Aurora, Whitby, Hamilton, Buffalo, Upper Canada College, Trinity College School, Guelph, The West Indian Gentlemen, Peterboro, Montreal, Toronto University, Parkdale, Sons of England, Gooderham & Worts, Ottawa, and Orillia. The majority of these matches will be home-and-home; but a week's tour will be made, commencing on the 17th of July, Peterboro, Ottawa and Montreal being played. The strength of the club will be about the same as last year. The Gooderham & Worts team will be among the strongest in the city during this season. Several new men have joined the club this year, and now it will rank among its members three or four old professionals. They will make a very formidable team. Their ground has been put into good shape, and no money will be spared to make the club a success. Parkdale will again be active. They send a team to Port Hope on the Queen's Birthday. After that they will play the city clubs in rotation. The Sons of England and Oxford clubs are in a flourishing condition, the latter having taken the East Toronto's ground. Neither of these clubs go much out of the city. The Toronto colts will come to the fore, acting under the direction of the Toronto club, and playing on their ground.

The Hamilton organization is not as active as usual in the matter of arranging fixtures; but it has all the advantages of a good ground and a strong team, and any team visiting them may expect a warm reception. The team will be much the same as usual, and it is anticipated that a number of colts will be brought out.

Guelph has many difficulties to contend with as far as cricket is concerned; but the club seems to be in the best of hands. They will probably be driven off their ground this season by the baseball club which desires the exclusive use of the ground. Lemon, one of their best players of past seasons has gone West, and his place will be hard to fill. Carter is not likely to play this year. Guelph meets Toronto and Hamilton early in July, and Toronto University in June.

Galt, Listowel, Paris and Berlin have all re-organized, the first named being again under the energetic management of H. B. Murphy and the Hackings.

Aurora, Collingwood, Meaford, Owen Sound, Orillia, and Bracebridge will uphold the honour of Northern Ontario in the way of cricket. Uxbridge has not yet been heard from, but their ground is being made more like a cricket field than formerly.

Peterboro will be much weakened by the loss of the two Hamiltons and Norley, but the club is bound to be in the running again and with this intent have arranged a long list of matches.

The Whitby club has not yet re-organized, but Pickering is ready for them at any time.

Cobourg, Kingston and the Royal Military College are getting ready for the fray.

The Universities, Toronto and Trinity, have both arranged a number of matches; but their interest centres in the inter-university contest. Toronto meets Peterboro, Parkdale, Hamilton, Guelph, Trinity School, Toronto and Upper Canada College. Trinity will content itself with Toronto (two matches) Upper Canada College, Trinity School and Toronto University. Both teams will be stronger than usual and they will do good work.

The Schools will be represented by Upper Canada College and Trinity College School in the struggle for the supremacy which has been arranged to take place on the 26th June at Port Hope. An Ex-and Present match will be played on the Upper Canada ground on the 19th of June, in which the then and sinew of the past will be brought into contrast with that of the present.

The Ontario Cricket Association meeting, which was held in Toronto about the middle of last month was decidedly interesting to those who attended. To understand things properly we must refer to the circumstances which preceded this meeting. During the past season the association was as far as the clubs throughout the country were concerned, a complete failure, only three out of the large number enrolling themselves as members of the association. This was an unfortunate state of affairs and it was universally recognized that some efforts must be made to put the association on its legs again. Some suggested the formation of a Canadian association which would get rid of the anomaly of a provincial organization playing matches under the name of Canada, and at the same time afford the clubs of the country,—irrespective of province—a good opportunity of joining in to help the scheme through. Others suggested the introduction of tie matches on a slightly different plan to that adopted in the past. Both parties were strongly in favor of keeping up the annual match with the United States. The association itself formed a party too, their prime object being the strengthening of the association by the admission of individual members; and the contest thus lay between the three parties. The association men decided that their constitution did not call for the notification of the clubs of the province which did not belong to the association. Consequently the meeting was called by notices to the Trinity College, Listowel, and Royal Military College clubs. The other clubs were left in the lurch. Toronto, Guelph and the Canadian Zingari got wind of the meeting; and appointed delegates to look to their interests. Fifteen men assembled and the business of the meeting was commenced. Exception was taken to the presence of the three clubs which had not been notified, and a long discussion ensued on a constitutional point. By the exclusion of the nine delegates the meeting would have narrowed down to the committee and the delegates from Trinity College, and the provincial association would have suffered re-organization at the hands of one club. The chairman, Judge Dartnell (Whitby) sustained the delegates in their right to be present on the payment of their fees. This had already been done, and the business of the meeting proceeded uninterruptedly. The tie system had the most supporters, and the constitution was amended to admit of the introduction of individual members, a compromise being effected. A larger committee was elected to assist in making the association a success. The best evidence of the progress of the association thus far is the appearance of two circulars, calling on the cricketers of the country to assist them in carrying the tie system through. An adjourned meeting of the association takes place on Tuesday 4th May.

Rarely if ever in the history of the game in the Province of Quebec, has the outlook for a really good season been brighter.

Mr. Trimble, the new secretary of the Montreal Club, is busy filling up what already is an unusually attractive card—among the fixtures on which we notice matches with Ottawa, Lennoxville, Peterborough and Quebec,—while two-day matches have been arranged with Toronto at Montreal, Longwoods at Boston; Staten Island at Staten Island, West India team and a three days engagement with the Gentlemen of England at Montreal. Among the probabilities is an interesting contest with the Wanderers from Halifax. The Scratch eleven and the Juniors will also play a large number of matches.

Most of last years first eleven will again don their flannels and it is probable that the weak spot of the team, its bowling, will be strengthened by the acquisition of some new talent. Lacey, who did such good work last year has again been engaged and a special feature of the club's work will be the attention he will give to the instruction of the boys, a larger number than heretofore having been promised from the Academy and other schools.

The Grand Trunk (who will be minus the services of Geo. Vaughan, a young bowler of much promise;) the Woollen Mills, Victoria Rifles and a new club the Hochelaga, will all lengthen their cords and strengthen their stakes, and taken altogether the season in Montreal promises to be extremely attractive to player and spectator alike.

At Lennoxville the school eleven will be led by Mr. Gulger with Mr. H. F. Clinton as secretary—the team will have a number of absentees from last season, and will be somewhat weakened by the loss of its best bowlers. The "United" have had no meeting as yet and a report is current that Mr. G. R. White will not play.

At Sorel Mr. Lyall's lads will have the assistance of four masters, one of whom, Mr. H. J. Lane, an Australian who comes with a fair reputation as a left hand bowler, will play here for the first time. The ground is sandy, rough and bumpy, but this will be obviated by the innovation of a wooden flooring, over which a cocoanut matting will be stretched. This kind of wicket has proved decidedly successful in England to clubs handicapped by adverse ground or to those in practice for very fast bowling.

The Stadacona Club at Quebec have elected W. A. Ashe, captain, and among other engagements they will meet Three Rivers, Bishops' College School, Sherbrooke and Richmond. The club has secured the Thistle Lacrosse Association grounds for matches.

At present the prospects of the coming season in the Maritime Provinces are not so assuring as one would wish. Rumour hath it if that the country clubs are discouraged by the severe defeats inflicted upon them by the premier club at Halifax during its tour last summer. If this be true, and we can scarcely believe it, we trust that a recurrence of fine cricket weather will dispel any such thoughts and bring with it a determination to try again to wrestle the laurels from the Wanderers. So far as Halifax is concerned, a number of good men will not be available notably Cochran and Burns of the Wanderers; McMahon, Russell, Connal and others of the Garrison Club, whose abilities and geniality will be long remembered. Then it is whispered that one of the best all round men in the Province, Mr. Geo. W. Jones, of St. John, whose name is so familiar to Upper Canadian "Wielders of the Willow" that we need only mention it, purposes retiring. His loss will be keenly felt not only by his club and Province, but in cricket circles throughout the Dominion. There are, however, one or two redeeming features in the outlook, and these are a contemplated interprovincial match between New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, and the possible acceptance by the Wanderers of a tempting invitation to visit Montreal and play two day matches with the M. C. C., West Indian Team and Ottawa. An endeavour will also be made by the Garrison Club to make up a combined team with the Garrison of Bermuda to play a series of matches in the States during September. These are as yet in embryo but the projects may yet take definite shape and give a much needed impetus to the game in Halifax. Truro at one time one of the strongest elevens in the Province will have a much weaker team than in former years. Hopper, the wicket keeper, and McCulley, left hand slow bowler are in the States. Franklin and Gourlay talk of retiring and Terry the best bat has gone to Winnipeg. Dr. Muir and Mr. Perry have been awarded prizes for the best batting averages last year. The St. John Cricket and Athletic Club will open its season on the 29th with an athletic meeting, and among the matches contemplated are Fredericton, Moncton, Sussex, Truro, Garrison and Wanderers of Halifax. Longwoods of Boston, Yarmouth and Windsor.

OLD COUNTRY NOTES.

(By our own correspondent.)

It is with no little astonishment I learned that an athletic nation like Canada had no paper of its own devoted to outdoor games, and that the existed no medium in the Dominion to record doings of a sport loving community whose hardy sons had obtained a fame and a pre-eminence in outdoor exercises which has extended to the old country. It is with feelings of pleasure that I find myself associated with the initiation of the first athletic journal ever published in Canada.

I feel sure it is only necessary to float such a venture to command success. There are many English, Scotch and Irish who have sought and found fortune in the more extended field offered in the great Dominion, and to them as well as to that large majority of its inhabitants who I know take a deep interest in sports, I shall in this column address myself from week to week.

Old country sport is closely watched by those whom destiny has forced to leave their native land. It will be my aim to keep the readers of the News well posted up in what transpires at home, and in doing so I hope to make this corner of the paper both interesting and instructive. The field I have to traverse is a very wide one. Each sport will be dealt with in its season as fully as the limited space at my disposal will allow.

We are just now between seasons. Football, the one great national winter game is going out and cricket, lawn tennis, and athletics and other summer pastimes coming in. The past football season has been a most successful one. In the early months of it there seemed every probability that a rupture was imminent between the rival associations of Scotland and England over the professional question, but by mutual forbearance on both sides, perhaps more so on the side of Scotland than of England the breach was healed at the last moment. Scotland agreed to play against professionals by the advance of the Welsh and Irish Associations.

The Rugby Unions too of the two countries had been at loggerheads for two years over a disputed try gained by England in the International Match of 1881. Through the intervention of the Irish Union the matter was soldered up, Scotland conceding the try and England agreeing to the formation of an International Board at which all the unions would have equal authority and to whom disputes could be referred. When I say that the English Union before this was considered the sole authority on the Rugby game, much was gained by the establishment of such a Board. Where discord reigned harmony now prevails, and no cloud disturbs the serenity of the home football firmament.

I have alluded to the professional question in its bearing to football; an explanation as to the status of paid players may perhaps not be without interest. Professional football players cannot compete at any other sport as amateurs. That has been laid down by the A. A. A. of England, but amateurs may play with or against them without infringing the rules of the A. A. A. On the other hand, professionals at other games, such as cricket, or professional "peders," may play football and do play football, but not Rugby football, without payment, but that does not entitle them to compete at athletic sports or at amateur games as amateurs. A professional at any one game can never compete as an amateur in any other game except association football.

W. Gunn, the great Nott's County Cricketer before the legalisation of professional, played with the Nott's Football Club. So did Sherwin, another Nott's County cricket professional. Gunn in 1884 formed one of the English team in the Inter-

national Football Match against Scotland. He was not then a paid football player but he is now. Ferguson, who in the early and more palmy days of the famous Vale of Leven Club, one of its best players was a professional runner. Instances might be multiplied. Professionals may play with amateurs at football without payment, but that will not constitute them amateurs.

The Athletic season was opened in Scotland on April 17th, with the sports and promenade of the West of Scotland C. C. This is usually one of the best as it is certainly one of the most fashionable meetings in Scotland, and is second only to that of Edinburgh University. Several old Edinburgh school-boys competed. A. S. Blair, the Oxford University sprinter who was brought up at Loretto, won the quarter in 52.2-5 secs. on grass and the hundred in 10.2-5 secs. A. G. G. Asher, another Oxford and Loretto, light, took the pole jump and cricket ball; J. W. Parsons, Edinburgh Wanderers and Fettes, carried off the high jump at 5ft. 8in. and the hurdles. Parsons is the only man in Scotland who ever cleared over 6ft. This he has done several times. The various Edinburgh schools have all held their annual sports, including Loretto, Fettes, Merchiston and Watson's College. Fettes has produced a flyer in the person of D. Landale, who ran second to Blair in the quarter, beating several well-known first class men. J. J. Smeaton, of Loretto, brother of the well-known Academical footballer and cricketer, Pat Smeaton and F. A. M. Mills, of Fettes, made creditable appearances as distance runners. C. Reid, the Academical International football player, put the weight 401.3 inches.

The coming cricket season in England promises to be a very busy one. An Australian team visits us, and by the time this appears in Canada's first national athletic journal the members of it will have arrived. The opening game is to be played as in 1884, at Sheffield Park, against Lord Sheffield's team. His lordship is an enthusiastic cricketer, and when I say he paid out of his own pocket £300 to Alf. Slaw, of Notts, to coach his county for a season and also for a handsome cup to be held each year by the best cricketer in the Sussex County Eleven; it will be seen his enthusiasm takes a substantial shape. None but first class matches are to be played by the Australians during this tour. It is probable they may play one game in Scotland, but no fixture has yet been made. A Parsee team of cricketers from India, tour in England this summer, but their visit does not excite much interest. They come to Scotland in July.

Rowing is just now in a moribund state. When Edward Hanlan, and Trickett and Laycock the Australian were here the sport was in its hey day. At that time the Britishers were all soundly beaten, and rowing has practically been a dead letter ever since and all attempts to galvanize it have failed. What the visit of Beach the conqueror of the all conquering Hanlan may do towards resuscitating the art remains to be seen. Should Beach and Hanlan meet on the Thames, which seems probable, the third race between these men will cause public interest to be again directed to rowing. At present we have no British rower that could extend either the Australian or Canadian. I shall have more to say on this matter in another letter.

I suppose the fame of W. Anderson, or as his friends delight to call him, "Billy" Anderson of the famous Queen's Park Club, one of the best dribblers that ever toed a football, has extended even to Canada. He is best known as the "Demon Dodger." His command over the ball was really wonderful, and his tricky dodging always created intense amusement and made him a great favorite with the populace. His partner on the right wing was Eddie Fraser now poor fellow no more, and it is admitted by everybody, and that they stood alone as a combination.

Anderson has obtained a lucrative situation in Montreal, and leaves for his new home in a week or two. He will, I am sure find many friends there to welcome him. He did not play football last season and is in consequence increased in bulk. He occasionally plays with the junior teams of the Q. P. just to keep his hand in.

ECHOES OF THE MIKADO.

Week 18th Jan. and 15th Feb.

BY AN ECSTATIC ECHOIST.

Yum Yum has Come! If the first visit was delightful, the second was doubly so, and fairly turned the heads of all the men. (As we are going to press the company is paying Montreal a third one.) Staid married men, whose conduct until that day had been more than perfect, were caught humming softly to themselves "he's going to marry Yum Yum." It was horrific to hear such sentiments from such lips. One began to despair of the city. Duels all round were thick as sleighs in St. James street. One challenge that we were honored with, broke down, because we claimed the choice of weapons and named "a cheap and chippy chopper." New scenery, dresses, music, everything, from Ko Ko's sword (we beg his pardon, "Snicker snee") to Yum-Yum's fan, the three little maids who all unwary, came from a ladie's Se-mi-na-ry," as full of mischief as a basket full of kittens, "How do you do little girls?" How do you do little girls?" All was such a change, such a blessed relief to the eye and ear; the oftener you went the happier you were. Of the charms of the music, and the unusual all round excellence of the performance, it is now superfluous to speak, so much has already been said in their praise, and both are so well known to those who crowded "in millions" to the Academy (admission by ladder to the roof, "evening dress not compulsory.") The gloriously joyous burst at the end of the first act. "We do not heed their dis-mal sound, for joy reigns ev-rywhere around," was enough to make a man forget the most terrific domestic cyclone, and send him home singing "Oh so happy! Laughing, hit, ha!" How charming was "Sing a merry Madrigal," you were off beneath the greenwood tree in a moment.

At first we implicitly believed Ko Ko's assertion that he knew that "tit willow, tit willow tom tit" intimately, but on thinking the matter seriously over we are haunted with a horrid dread he might break down under severe cross examination. The Mikado may have had good grounds for asserting that his daughter-in-law elect was "as tough as a bone, with a will of her own." We dare not doubt it, for to doubt the word of Mikado is, we presume, death. But after her more than delicious singing of "Hearts do not break," you just frankly and freely forgive her everything, and loved her for ever more. Oh, Titipu, thou charmed city, why art thou so far distant, and what, we wonder, is the fare? Space compels us most reluctantly to drop the curtain on the many delightful memories of this talented company's visits, and "With joyous shout, and ringing cheer" to say farewell.

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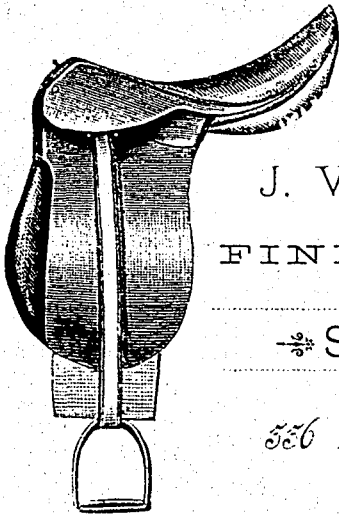
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1876	102,822.14	715,944.64	2,214,093.00	1884	278,379.65	1,274,397.24	6,844,404.01
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