

SPORTS OF THE SEASON.

FREDERICTON, Sept. 6.—Yes, they have caught the fever—got it bad—and what is worse about it is that it has the shadow of an excuse for their hot heads. Why? because there is no base ball club in this booming city, and there are those who declare that Fredericton doesn't own anybody who can play ball even a little bit. I won't argue this point, because I haven't seen the boys on the diamond.

Some of those who take the keenest interest in all matters of sport declare that next year will see a first-class ball club in this city and plenty of money to back it up. Already quiet talk about a professional battery is being indulged in. I am glad the boys realize this fact that a first class club cannot be put together in one season without professional coaches. There are plenty of athletic fellows around, but they want training.

The idea, I understand, is to organize an athletic club, and run the base ball nine as its best card. The grounds can be had for the asking, because every man who loves horse racing won't go back on a ball game. I fancy that if the nine couldn't be got together in any other way, the Trotting association would see that it came to the front and run the club as its own venture. It will come some way, you can bet your last cent, and the boys and girls won't have to enjoy the battle from afar, but will pay their quarters, satisfy their craze and cool their fever upon their own ball field.

Just now this is an active spot. Scores of workmen are erecting sheds for the exhibition, which is to come off on October 3rd, 4th and 5th. The citizens are beginning to think that every New Brunswick farmer will visit them, and I guess they aren't much out of the way. There will be plenty of village delegations, anyway. But the shedding is on an elaborate plan, and the stock can't be comfortable in such quarters. The field upon which they are erected is as level as a board—I don't know its equal anywhere.

I want to compliment Secretary Flewelling and the association upon the exceedingly attractive posters they have distributed throughout the country. None of the kind have ever been used in the province before and they must, I think, pay. Of course their cost was large and it was enhanced by duty, but when such work cannot be done in Canada recourse must be had to our go ahead neighbors.

Who won't benefit by the show? Well, they will be hard to find. "Jack" Edwards, of the Queen, would like to rent the town for the week and accommodate everybody. I imagine host Coleman would also bid for the privilege, but as it is both will be happy and make money.

That enterprising newspaper man, McDade, has an idea—not a rare thing with Mac—and it is a good one. He intends, should the press and printers will it, to issue an exhibition paper. I can see every merchant in town rushing for space, paying cash in advance.

Everybody is for Boston here. I think every ball crank in town would lose a night's sleep willingly to see Boston ahead on Hawthorne's bulletin board.

White & Co. don't lose anything by giving the result of the St. John games. It's a good "ad" and the cost is trifling.

CARTER.

As the base ball craze assumes more alarming proportions stories float around. The best is told of a young base ball crank who is employed by his father. A short time ago, by a great deal of coaxing, the young man induced his father to go down to the grounds and see the game. The old man went. The next game the son wanted to go and see it, but his father said he wouldn't miss it for any money and the unhappy son had to stop and look after the business.

A friend in the Western Union office tells me that the amiable and innocent St. John correspondent of a Boston daily wired his paper 400 words, Thursday night, about the National-Social game—evidently thinking, in the simplicity of his heart, that, since St. John is interested in Boston base ball, Boston must desire to know all about St. John base ball. He learned his mistake when, of all his lurid despatch, the paper printed only this sentence: "Five men were hit by pitched balls in St. John, N. B., Thursday!"

"Felix," of the Halifax Mail, has experienced a change of heart, and doesn't expect as much as he did once. Hear him:

I suppose our base ballists will be returning from St. John with hearts more or less heavy and spirits lowered many degrees. But I hope they won't lose all courage on account of their defeat at the hands of the St. John men. The ball tossers of the city of fog and bad liquor are no mean players; in fact, I am beginning to think they have good grounds for indigning in loud crowing and claiming to be the best nine in the maritime provinces. It is true their team is a mixture of New Brunswickers and Americans, and that some of their men are under salary, but it is also an undeniable fact that they play better ball than the Halifaxians, and so my advice to our boys is to practice hard and go in to win when the return matches come on.

Charlie Leitch, who saw the 7-3 game in Boston between the home team and the Giants, Thursday week, isn't stuck on either of the nines. He didn't tell me so, but I think he has an impression that the Nationals could give them both points.

We shall be able to tell, on the 20th and 21st of this month, how the boys compare with professional players. Considering the ball the Manchesterers are putting up now, betting ought to be pretty even.

Saturday, we congratulated the St. John papers on dealing with the National-Social game with great show of modesty. We take it all back—Halifax Recorder.

A few weeks ago, we congratulated the Halifax papers on the good ball their nine was playing. We take it all back.

Several of the Socials who accompanied the team express dissatisfaction with the way the team treated J. Pender. He had eight chances in the second game and accepted seven. One of the two errors given him was a high fly that he could not possibly have got. He had twice as many put-outs as Milligan, the Nationals' second baseman, still he was ignored. The reason for this is that Jim expressed himself rather freely to the reporters after the first game—Halifax Mail.

Still gnawing the same old file, eh?

The usual amount of cheap talk about Tuesday's game between the Nationals and Colbys was current Tuesday night. As Wagg and Larabee had had an off day, they were the subjects of it. The smart

Alecks who used their mouths so liberally apparently forgot that Wagg and Larabee had been assigned as the battery for Wednesday, and that the change was suddenly made, and that no battery can go in at short notice and do good work.

One of the boys scooped in very nearly \$200 on that game. His confidence in the Colbys was something sublime, and Monday night and all day Tuesday he was around town with his fists full of money betting at any odds he could get from the visitors. Luck favored him. If the assignment of the batteries had been such as was originally intended, a man who bet on the Colbys on either day would have lost his money. We ought to have taken two straight.

Wednesday's game was a slaughter, a massacre, a cataclysm, but it was not base ball. The game of base ball requires nine men on a side and the Colbys had filled out their team with several small boys.

Nevertheless, I for one am glad to see the Colbys. Their name reminds me of the great days when the university club, for season after season, played as good amateur ball as to be seen in New England. The new men at Colby don't seem to gravitate as naturally towards the diamond as their predecessors did. Why is it? Not for lack of support from the alumni, I am sure.

So often as I hear the college club mentioned, I think of the Portland Advertiser office, where, in 1883 and 1884, I was scissoring brilliant paragraphs and writing better ones—of course. The editor of the Advertiser was a Colby man. So was managing editor Files; likewise city editor Brownson—both gentlemen whom it was a pleasure to be associated with, because both knew their work and did it. The Colbys were playing ball, great ball, in 1883 and 1884. Nine despatches out of every ten relating to them recorded a victory. When one of these came there was a general round of handshaking. When the tenth one arrived, the office, by common consent, took on funeral drappings, and every man's voice was hushed, as in the presence of a great calamity. I extracted so much unselfish satisfaction out of the sight of Files' and Brownson's delight, in those days, that I am feeling rather mournful just now. I fear the score of that second game will be almost too much for them.

Jimmy Christie has done some excellent umpiring of late, so good indeed as to almost to reconcile us to the temporary retirement of Morton. The latter has some bad bruises to show for Bangor and has been decidedly under the weather since his return, but is recovering slowly.

It goes without saying that his work at Bangor gave excellent satisfaction. On a league diamond, it would be just the same way.

The Clippers will receive the Jennings cup won by them, next week. The inscription, "Won by the Clippers," will be engraved at the base of the cup.

The Shamrocks say that the Moncton team is a good one. I hear that Stewart, the pitcher of the Landdownes, will locate in Moncton permanently and pitch for the Mutuels. His work Wednesday pleased the Monctonians immensely.

By this time, the old Shamrocks have probably found out that they are no good.

It may be early, but as most of the University students read what I have to say, I want to give them something to digest before their return to college halls.

The terms are now so arranged that it will be necessary to hold any sports which may be on the tapis in the fall. It is very probable that this fall won't see any exhibition of this kind and for this many people who are called upon to subscribe in the Celestial city will be thankful.

In the first place, boys, or gentlemen, when you make up your mind to have sports, don't run them on the subscription plan. Meet whatever expenses are incurred in connection with them yourselves and tear up the list of generous Fredericton gentlemen who have come to regard the "sports subscription" as an annual liability.

The expenses of the sports are ridiculous and from what I can gather they are increasing every year. Most of the money goes for elegant and expensive prizes, the like of which are offered at no other sports on the continent.

It would almost appear that the entries to the day's events were made more with an eye to the prizes than anything else. The paramount idea should be the success of the athletic exhibition, and not the rewards. Victory should be sufficient reward for any man.

I want to see our C. and A. club sports a grand success. We have the material, and I will venture that the boys are in training all the time. Sliding bases and swishing the air is great exercise.

We owe a good deal to our boys for winning as many games as they have this season—for bringing St. John out of the maritime rut, for making base ball popular and the hearts of the people glad, but our debt does not end here. We owe their generous employers, who grant them leave of absence so frequently, much for their enthusiasm and self-denial. May our nine ever have as generous "bosses"!

I note that the amateur athletic games for the championship of the maritime provinces, under the auspices of the Maritime Provinces Amateur Athletic Association, will take place Saturday, Oct. 6, on the Wanderers Amateur Athletic club grounds, Halifax, commencing at 2.30 p. m. sharp.

The following are the events: 100 yards dash; 220 yards dash; 440 yards dash; 880 yards run; 1 mile run; 120 yards hurdles,

3 miles walk; running high jump; putting shot; running broad jump; throwing hammer; pole high leap; 880 yards run, M. S. Brown & Co. Jubilee Gold Medal, to be won three times before becoming the property of winner, open only to those who have not won a half mile run previous to 1885. The entries close Wednesday, Oct. 3. The above events are open to all amateurs. Any entry, unless from a bona fide amateur club, will require to enclose credentials in support of amateur standing. Entry fee, 50 cents in each event. The committee reserve the right to reject any entry. The track is one-fourth of a mile. All entries to be made by mail to George Tracey, Hon. Sec'y, Halifax, N. S.

There is no reason why St. John should not capture ten of these thirteen events. Go in and win, boys!

The Irish gentlemen who played in the cricket match here this week of only and persistently declined all invitations to "take something" during their stay. Many an athlete's sun has set prematurely from lack of sufficient wisdom or braveness to adopt the same rule.—Orilla Packet.

The success of the Souders family of pitchers has been remarkable. William has been doing finely for Boston, and is the steadiest of its twirlers, while John and Dave are winners for St. Paul and Lima, and the star twirlers in their respective leagues. Len is the hardest batter of the lot. He plays left field for the London (Ont.) club. The boys, in fact the whole family, take to baseball as naturally as a duck to water.

Young Ryan, Chicago's centre fielder, has shown himself to be the slugger of the league thus far. No one has equalled his record of 15 hits, with a total of 22, in five consecutive games—August 20-24. His average August 24 was .348. On this date he had made 85 runs and 133 hits, including 12 home runs, 8 triples and 24 doubles. His stolen bases numbered 30.

The skillful way in which a policeman can catch a schooner of beer almost fired out of the side door of the saloon without spilling a drop would seem to show that our base ball clubs are not being recruited from the right sources.—Wilkesbarre Leader.

If St. Louis wins the pennant this year, Comiskey will receive the credit of winning it with an aggregation of discarded players. King is a discarded league pitcher; Devlin, Lyons and McCarthy were not good enough for the Philadelphia; White was given his unconditional release by Louisville; the Athletics had no further use for Milligan; Herr could not hold his end up with tail-end Cleveland last year, and he was not even in demand by minor league clubs, and Cincinnati did not consider Boyle good enough to retain.

The umpire belongs behind the bat, where he should stand at all stages. When back of the pitcher or behind second base, it is almost impossible for him to give a decision on a ground ball batted close to the foul line. That alone is sufficient reason why an umpire should stand at a point where he can watch everything. Of course, in the old position, he runs the risk of having his teeth knocked out or his shins scraped with a sharp foul tip or breaking a rib or two with a passed ball, but he should not mind such trifles. No clever umpire would. Good umpiring comes high, but we must have it.—Sporting Times.

Betting on the races in Montana is frequently fast and furious, and in good-sized bundles. At the mixed trotting and running meeting at Helena, Friday, August 24, was a lively day, and over \$100,000 was wagered on the result of the various contests. Considering the population in that section this was high betting.

I clip the following from the American Cultivator: "With the exception of the habit of action, or gait, the same qualities which enable a horse to outstrip all his competitors on the race-course will enable the trotter to pass the field in the home stretch and lead the lot at the wire. Many argue as though the sole requisite for success was a trotting inheritance, or the possession of the trotting instinct in a very great degree. Such an instinct will enable a horse to do his best at the trotting gait, but speed capacity depends largely upon something more than trotting instinct. It is true that unless the animal possesses this instinct sufficiently when doing his best to enable him to stick to that gait, there is no possibility of ever becoming a winner. On the other hand, as has often been remarked, there are animals which are natural trotters, and will not break from that gait under smart application of the lash, yet cannot trot a mile in five minutes to save the world. The fact that the fastest trotters and pacers that have yet appeared inherit one or more strains from the most distinguished old-time winners upon the running turf, gives breeders desirous of producing speed a hint which they can use to advantage."

How the discussion of one idea brings out another. The talk about moving the pitchers' position further back has brought out another idea of that experienced manager and close observer, Harry Wright, namely, to permit players to govern second base as well as first. Such a change, it is argued, would save the clubs the services of many valuable players, as more injuries are due to sliding to second base than all other causes combined. The change would also go to still further lighten the burden of the umpire, as most of the close decisions arise at that base, and under present conditions it is not always an easy matter to decide correctly whether or not the player is out when he goes down into the dirt and raises a cloud. These points are strong ones, but are offset by the question whether the game would not be robbed of interest by thus abolishing the clever sliding to second, which is now one of the features of every first-class game of ball—on which many a game hinges and turns. The idea, however, though not new, is worth more consideration than it received when first broached some years ago.—Sporting Life.

Principal Smith, of the Ontario Veterinary college, has imported from England the bay mare First Attempt, 4 years, by Chipendale—Fable. She started four times in England last year without winning.

The Irish cricketers were photographed in Toronto, Monday. No accident to the camera is reported, so I take it for granted that the change of climate has improved the faces they wore when they were sketched for PROGRESS.

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Saint John, N. B., 12th and 13th September, 1888.

Saint Stephen, N. B., 19th and 20th September, 1888.

Houlton, Maine, 25th September, 1888.

Woodstock, N. B., 29th September, 1888.

Fredericton, N. B., 3rd and 4th October, 1888.

MOOSEPATH PARK,	ST. STEPHEN PARK,	HOULTON PARK,
Wednesday, 12th Sept., 1888	Wednesday, 19th Sept., 1888	Tuesday, 25th Sept., 1888
3-minute class—Purse \$150	3-minute class. Purse \$175	3-minute class. Purse \$100
2-40 " " " 200	2-40 " " " 200	2-40 " " " 125
Thursday, 13th Sept., 1888	Thursday, 20th Sept., 1888	Free for all class. " 175
2.50 class. Purse \$150	2.50 class. Purse \$175	Entries close 20th Sept., '88
Free for all class. " 300	Free for all class. " 300	M. D. PUTNAM, Sec'y,
Reserved for special races. " 200	Reserved for special races. " 150	Houlton, Maine.
Entries close 5th Sept., 1888	Entries close 12th Sept., '88	
A. M. MAGEE, Sec'y,	J. E. OSBURN, Sec'y,	
St. John, N. B.	St. Stephen, N. B.	

WOODSTOCK PARK,

Saturday, 29th Sept., 1888.

4-year old class. Purse \$100.
2.50 " " " 125.
Free for all " " 175.
Entries close 22d Sept., 1888.

FOSTER BROWN, Sec'y, Woodstock, N. B.

FREDERICTON PARK ASSOCIATION,

Wednesday, 3d Oct., 1888.

3-minute class. Purse \$125.
2.40 " " " 175.

Thursday, 4th Oct., 1888.

2.50 class. Purse \$150.
Free for all class. " 300.
Reserved for special races 250.
Entries close 25th Sept., 1888.

W. P. FLEWELLING, Sec'y, Fredericton, N. B.

General Conditions.

All Races will be to harness, mile heats, best three in five, and be governed strictly by the rules of the National Trotting Association.

Entrance money will be Ten per cent. of the purse, payable 5 per cent. with nomination and 5 per cent. the evening before the race. Entries to be made with the secretaries of the respective tracks for the races thereon. Five to enter and three to start.

A horse distancing the field will receive first money only. Horses starting in the circuit will be eligible to enter the same classes throughout the remainder of the circuit.

Purses will be divided with 60 per cent. to first, 30 per cent. to second, and 10 per cent. to third.

Negotiations are pending with a view to having United States horses admitted in bond to attend these races in New Brunswick, and vice versa.

Arrangements will be made for special freight and passenger rates on the different lines of travel.

For further information address either of the undersigned, or the secretaries of the different tracks.

W. F. TODD, Chairman, St. Stephen, N. B.

Fredericton, N. B., 28th June, 1888

W. P. FLEWELLING, Secretary, Fredericton, N. B.

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SURPLUS.....\$18,104,254 85
Now Assurance.....\$138,023,105)
Outstanding Assurance.....489,029,562)
Paid Policy Holders in 1887 10,062,509; 1
Paid Policy Holders since

organization.....106,610,293
Total Income.....23,240,849 24
Premium Income.....19,115,775 47
Increase in Assets.....8,868,432 09
Assets to Liabilities, 127 1-2 per cent.

On the less rigorous standard adopted by the Canadian companies (which assumes that four and one-half per cent. will be realized on investments) the surplus of the Equitable is as follows:—

ASSETS.....\$84,378,904 85
ESTIMATED LIABILITIES (4 1-2) 61,582,000 00
per cent.....

ESTIMATED SURPLUS (4 1-2 p. c.) \$22,796,904 85
Percentage of Assets to Liabilities, 137.

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