

SPORTS OF THE SEASON.

The fielding averages of the National big four, this year, are decidedly more satisfactory than those of last season were. This is the way they compare:

Player.	1888.	1887.
Bell, 1b.....	.921	.914
Milligan, 2b.....	.853	.830
Kennedy, 3b.....	.773	.677
White, ss.....	.593	.591

Considering the kind of clubs the boys have met, this year, I take it that this showing does them infinite credit.

Robinson's pitching average has also braced up. Last year the average of runs earned off his delivery in each game was 1.57. This year it is .823. Wagg's average is .625. Whitenet's fielding average is .762, and Larrabee's is .812.

One significant fact appears from the base-stealing record. Last year, in fourteen games, the Nationals stole 85 bases; this year, in 32 games, 286. That's the stuff.

The batting averages share in the general elevation. The boys have hit the cow a good many times, this year.

The Clippers, Tuesday night, received the Junior League cup that they so worthily won. The presentation was a feature of a very pleasant evening, the one and only drawback to the enjoyment being the absence of Mr. Jennings.

How many amateur champion nines are there in Maine, anyhow? The South Portland claim the title now, having won twelve games out of seventeen—a larger percentage than any other club—and without the aid of professionals.

If the testimony of unprejudiced witnesses may be believed, the Augusts got about the same sort of a deal in their second game at Halifax that the Nationals did. The intention to do them up was so apparent, the boys say, that they went up to the plate and fanned out in one-two-three order. It is hard to explain a 7 to 0 game in any other way.

I think I shall spend the holidays with Wagg and Larrabee. The sight of their genial faces after a three months absence would be worth more than any Christmas present a man could have.

A rumor was current today that Wm. Pickering intends suing the St. John papers (the Globe excepted, which, as usual, acted in the most gentlemanly manner in regard to the contest) for damages, in consequence of their remarks regarding him. The damages are to be placed at \$30,000.—Halifax Recorder.

Proceed, William.

I congratulate the enterprising gentlemen who advanced the cash to erect the C. and A. club grand stand upon the great financial success of their venture. It has paid for itself twice, and had it been as large again, the profits would have been a handsome sum.

I hear that an effort is going to be made to keep the Thistles together this winter and put a strong team in the field next spring. It would be a good move. The Thistles were the only nine in the Junior League that could play a good up-hill game.

It is also the intention to get some of the Franklins to play in the Thistles. Williamson and Allan would prove valuable to them. The former is pretty noisy at times, but it must be admitted, is a clean and sure player who can cover third base well. Allan is also a good player. The Thistles are likely to have good management next year and I hope to see them do well.

The National League closes its season Oct. 13. The association season ends the 16th.

Among the passengers who sailed on the city of Berlin, of the Inman line, last Saturday, was Mr. William O'Brien, under whose management the last six day go-as-you-please in Madison Square garden was a grand success. He has gone to England to secure pedestrians for the match that is to begin in the Garden on Nov. 26. "If possible," he said to a *Sporting Times* reporter, "I will secure Rowell, Littlewood, Herty, Guerrero, Noremac, Golden, Cartwright, Hughes, Moore, Connors, Hart, Strokel, and possibly Albert may enter. I will bring together the best men in the world and have the greatest race that ever took place in Madison Square garden."

The preparations for the Australian trip have been completed so far as the selection of the teams is concerned. The Chicago team will be comprised of the members of the present league team except Van Halten. The All-American team, which will also join the Black Stockings in their trip, consists of the following players: Kelly, Boston; Hanlon, Detroit; Ward and Tierman, New York; Fogarty and Wood, Philadelphia; Carroll, Pittsburgh; Healy, Indianapolis, and Donnelly, of Washington.

Mike Kelly has invented a new trick. With a man on third and another on first as soon as the latter goes to second he throws the ball, but before so doing, he places his mask on the line about four feet from the plate. If the runner on third attempts to score on the return of the ball, he will not be able to slide in on account of the mask being in his road. By this means Kelly can get the ball back in time to prevent the runner scoring.

An English yachting relic is about to disappear forever. The schooner *Alarm*, which, 37 years ago, sailed against the American schooner yacht *America* for the cup given by the Royal Yacht Squadron, and since known as the *America* cup, was recently put up at auction at Lympington. Nobody cared for the craft entire, and she was sold in "lots." The hull and gear brought about \$2,000, and subsequently the hull was sold for \$200 by the purchaser.

What a successful season it has been, from first to last! Never in the history of sport has any game taken such a hold upon a maritime public as base ball upon St. John. Everyone, from the respectable and

affluent citizen to the urchin, has deemed it a pleasure and duty to show themselves at nearly every game and cheer with victory or sorrow with defeat.

So far as base ball and cricket are concerned, the sporting season is ended. The last of the turf events is also announced, and very soon the muscle of the athlete will have begun its winter's rest.

One thing St. John can boast of—as honorable ball players as any American or Canadian city. No stranger can say of them that the slightest advantage was taken of his ignorance or his prejudice. The boys are square, and they have given everybody a square show.

In this way St. John has become a popular place with foreign clubs, Halifax, perhaps, excepted. With one voice they have acknowledged their honest, impartial treatment, and in the majority of cases the superiority of the home team.

I would like to print Secretary Barker's portrait as a wind up for the season; in fact, the rash idea of giving a group of the club, surrounded by the managing committee did enter into my alleged brain, but I remembered that there was no paper mill handy, where I could draw an unlimited supply of stock for the demand. Beyond that, it was too late in the season.

I suppose football will engage the attention of enthusiastic kickers for a time. I will warrant that if the boys kick the ball as energetically as they sometimes did at the umpire, no club this side of Ottawa will have any show at all.

The University club was once a good one, and I imagine has some, perhaps many, fine footballists in it now. The games last year were thoroughly enjoyable, and I would like them repeated this season.

Congratulations to "Jack" Edwards upon securing first prize for carriage horses. He put a magnificent team upon the track and the judges were of one opinion. It bears out my frequent assertion that Edwards has the best horses in Fredericton. He takes pride in them and makes money out of them.

As handsome a pair of grey ponies as I ever saw, he bought recently in St. Stephen. They arrived in Fredericton Thursday, and everyone who saw them fell in love with the beauties at once.

I regret the postponement of the races and my consequent inability to give the winners of the events. It was the finest field of entries ever written in the provinces. I won't say anything about the weather—it has become a chestnut.

In this I may be allowed to mention my friend McDade's *Exhibition Gazette*, as its contents gave much information of horses and the horses. It was very readable, very neat, and had a most decided air of prosperity.

My bicycling friend, Tom Hall, tells me that W. M. Wallace has hit upon a happy idea in the shape of a cycling shoe—especially adapted for the wheel. It is light and heeled, with a firm sole, upon which is attached a curved piece of thin steel or zinc, which prevents the rider's foot from slipping at all. JACK AND JILL.

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In order to facilitate the payment of a dividend (which we wish to declare at an early date) upon the notes issued for circulation by this bank and now outstanding, all holders of such notes are requested to lodge them with us at our office, Bayard building, Prince William street, on or before the

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