

SPORTS OF THE SEASON.

THE BASE BALL AND TURF GOSSIP OF THE PROVINCES.

Notes and Comments on Local Clubs and Players—Something About the St. John-Moncton Games—Base Ball and Horse News From Everywhere.

The Moncton team didn't make the diamond make very much last week, either. Five straight defeats was the record.

But didn't Frederickton do it up brown on Friday. And yet it was not all that. The Forest city boys won by superior playing. If any luck there was, the Monctons had it, for in what batting they did their hits were bunched.

I don't believe anybody in St. John envied the Celestials' success. After having played in such hard luck on Wednesday, the fickle dame owed them another deal.

It was a lesson for some of the Moncton sports, any way. They have been making the loudest kind of talk about lugging off the pennant from St. John; never once did the idea of a defeat let alone two in one day, from the Celestial ball-tossers enter their heads.

I have a warm spot for the capital city players, because they are a team of gentlemen. They have done no boasting, and there is not a kicker on the nine.

The Frederickton club is strong in individual players, and with a little more team practice the nine will prove troublesome to any of the crack visiting teams.

And look how the colts, Estey, Hayes and McLaughlin, are improving. They are all sharp, reliable fielders, and with a little more experience, will show up well at the bat.

The team, as a whole, is sure to slug anything but a crack pitcher. In the first Moncton game they put Wagg to sleep for a total of sixteen bases in one inning! And in the second game they battered Moncton's pride, Jimmy Robinson, for thirteen base hits!

I don't know just how to divide the honors among the professionals. Call's catching is clean and neat, and his throwing to second bothers the best of them. Burns is a fine all-round player, and the life of the team.

Foster, besides batting well, surprised everybody last week by his elegant fielding. Thayer's batting was heavy and timely, and his stops and throws on the third bag were superb. The Shamrocks would like to sign Thayer, but he won't leave the Celestials.

Underwood is not only an excellent pitcher when he is well supported, but an old reliable at the bat and in the field. Graves at short leaves nothing to be wished for and wields the wagon-tongue with judgment.

Jimmy Hawthorne made a great mistake in allowing the Monctons to utilize Donovan in that second game. No player but a signed member should be allowed to take part in the league contest. However, the experiment will probably not be tried again, for the club winning by such tactics would be entitled to no credit whatever.

Larabee has been doing fine work for the Monctons from the first. He is a willing worker and would be an acquisition to any of the provincial teams. Soule bats heavily, but is sometimes a little off in holding thrown balls at second.

Parsons' generous aid to the Shamrocks, in helping them out of the hole occasioned by the illness of their pitcher in that game with Moncton, has cleared the air all round. It has been a long time since the Shamrocks and the Athletic nine felt so well disposed towards each other. In fact, I regard the hatchet as now buried finally. After all, it was only one or two cranky players that caused all the past ill-feeling, and I see no reason why two such gentlemen as Capt. Donovan and Capt. Bell should not ring in a new regime. The Shamrocks are slowly but surely gathering a fine team together. Let there be good, manly ball when the two clubs meet this season, and all will go well. And let the kickers be muzzled at the first crack.

Well! the junior league umpire has done the big thing at last. When the winning club admits that he made a very rank decision in their favor, nothing more can be said. If Umpire McVie is not asked to resign before this appears, it is time he should be, for there is not one club in the league that wants him to hold the position.

The West Ends may think him a fine fellow, but then every club hasn't got a clown who can turn summersaults and make the umpire giggle so that he can't see the game, and has to give his decisions whatever way the jester tells him to.

The game between the Emeralds and Franklins, Monday, was a good exhibition of ball-playing, and it was a pity that it was not played out. Connolly and Kearns pitched in the best of form, and the support was fair. That decision on third base did not favor anywhere, and it was at a very critical point in the game, which made the matter very much worse.

"Billy" Donovan, the Shamrocks' catcher, is becoming more popular every day, both as a ball-player and an umpire. In the two games he umpired between St. John and Moncton there was no kicking, and the best of humor prevailed.

The Moncton managers dropped some cash on the games last week—personally I mean. The club made something, but not so much as it anticipated. It costs a trifle to keep nine to twelve men at a hotel in St. John for carnival week, and I fear that our Frederickton and Moncton friends didn't carry home a pocketful of yellow coin. Deducting all expenses Frederickton had a balance to its credit of between \$50 and \$100, and I doubt if Moncton did any better.

There was some complaint of the treatment given the two league clubs by our A. A. A. people—the charge of \$120, afterwards reduced to \$110, for the use of the grounds, including the grand stand, for the two games Friday. I cannot look at it in that light. The charge was reasonable and just.

Kelly and the Monctons are as wide apart as Kelly and the Shamrocks. Who and women have had considerable influence on the Moncton team. No more lusers this week.

I regret that Halifax seems to have lost every consideration for gentlemanly sport. Even the cricketers have broken faith with us and resorted to what is termed here "a contemptible trick," to make the maritime match take place in Halifax. No spirited St. John cricketer will have any part in the composition of a maritime team to play the match in Halifax.

Come, come, Mr. Times, of Moncton, don't begin to call names. "Manager" Skinner is not "consequence."

The "National" Dining rooms are the best in town. Dinners from 12 to 2. Choice lunches at all hours.

quental," nor is Frank White a "booby." Such a defence of Webster's dirty ball does not amount to anything.

A Moncton merchant says in a letter to the Times that it was a mistake to take McLean off first and suggests that Wagg replace Capt. Wilkins at short, and that the box be strengthened! There is wisdom outside the ball managers. With these and a few other changes, Moncton should be able to play a good game with Frederickton.

The financial standing of the Shamrocks is fair. Carnival week was a boon to them. There is a continued income from the junior league games. There is no equal division of the gate money with outside league teams. Take it all in all, the Shamrock club came in with the tide and floats without a leak.

What about Mr. Small's glass arm, Mr. Webb?

To explain: When the Presumptuous were here, Webb stated that Small had a "glass arm"; that his pitching days were over, and that the St. Johns had made quite a huge mistake when they engaged him!

Manager Hawthorne says that they are even with the game; that the subscriptions—\$1,000 in all—have been four-fifths paid, and that there will be no mortgage on the grounds in November. What's the matter with that?

The Lovell Arms nine wanted too large a portion of the sphere for us. Their terms were rigid. We don't mind hugging the north pole, but draw the line at climbing it.

"St. Croix's" interesting horse gossip arrived too late for complete insertion in this issue and is held for the next. The publication of his concluding paragraph, however, must not be postponed a day. He says:

I understand Mr. McKusick says he does not match his horses, and that School Marm will start in the 2.45 class during the circuit, and he hopes to see Speculation, Elgarde and his mare meet and settle the question of superiority.

A St. John man in New York writes to PROGRESS, describing a recent and first visit to a pool-room, where the favorites of the turf were being backed. He writes:

It was very much surprised to see the crowds of men of all ages, positions and nations, who filled the hall. Here a group of Germans, there a pair of Englishmen, Frenchmen, while in a far corner the sons of Uncle Sam are holding forth, helping swell the continual murmur, until one of the clerks calls a race. "They're off!" is the signal for complete silence, broken only by a little applause as the clerk calls the position of the horses, such as "Sorrento leads—Tomboy 2nd—Jubal 3rd." "They pass the mile, Sorrento and Tomboy neck and neck, Jubal 3rd." "Jubal wins, Sorrento 2nd." "Now the rear begins, and you can hear nothing but applause. Those who played Jubal to win or Sorrento for place, get their tickets cashed as soon as they can, lest there may be a mistake.

JACK AND JILL.

WILL WE PLAY THE SOCIALS?

The Old Story Again—The Fairest Explanation, but Not Quite Complete.

HALIFAX, July 30.—St. John has had large crowds at some of its games this season, but two games might be arranged which would draw larger than any yet. These would be between the St. John A. team and the Shamrocks, and the former and the Socials of Halifax, and it would not surprise me if both these matches are arranged or an offer considered by each of the clubs to have the same before the season is concluded, and the games between the St. John clubs would make great interest. I am not aware of the feeling in St. John, but in this city the patrons like to see the home club win, but there is not the interest there was formerly when the Atlantas and Socials played against each other. The Shamrocks now have a fine ground, and a series of games between the two clubs would be of more interest than any games played in St. John this season.

It is pleasing to know that a number of the St. John A. club who are acquainted with the facts look upon the talk about the \$100 as mere humbug, and as I found a great deal of misunderstanding about the Socials and the amount, allow me to make a statement as to the arrangements by the Atlantas and Socials last season. Early in the season these clubs agreed to play a schedule of games, but after two games, the clubs could not agree on umpires, and the schedule was abandoned. After being without games for some time, it was proposed that the Socials and Atlantas amalgamate and bring outside clubs to the city, but this was never consummated. Finally, a verbal arrangement was made that whenever the Socials brought a club to the city, they could have several of the Atlantas to make up their nine, and vice versa, but none of the additional players in the club to which they belonged received any benefit from the financial arrangements. When the Nationals came here, it was to play the Atlantas, who had all the correspondence with them. The Atlantas took the gate money, and were willing to pay the \$100 for the two games when the contract was carried out, and the only way in which their club was connected therewith was that a number of their team were asked to play with the Atlantas for that game, and they did so.

Here is the programme for carnival base ball: Tuesday, a. m.—Standards vs. Y. M. C. A. amateur league game. Tuesday, p. m.—John P. Lovells, Boston, vs. Socials of Halifax. Wednesday, a. m.—Socials vs. St. Patrick's, amateur league game. Wednesday, p. m.—John P. Lovells, Boston, vs. Woven Hose, Cambridge, Mass. Thursday, p. m.—John P. Lovells vs. Woven Hose. Friday, a. m.—Stanleys, of Halifax, vs. a visiting colored club. Friday, p. m.—Woven Hose vs. Socials. Saturday, p. m.—Standards vs. Y. M. C. A. amateur league game.

Our correspondent has not explained our point, the non payment of the \$100, satisfactorily. The Nationals left St. John Saturday night last year for Halifax, remained there Sunday, and were to play two games Monday and Tuesday. Rain fell Monday and there was no game. One game was played Tuesday. Had not the Nationals earned their \$100 expenses? Would the "Atlantas" have expected them to remain another day without an additional sum for expenses? Further than this the manager of the "Atlantas" wished to pay the amount to the National manager but was met with the request to forward the money when the club would take action upon it. Again, is it the custom in Halifax when rain postpones a game, to make that the loss of the visitors?

That is not the way we do things in St. John, and I trust no maritime club pursues such methods. A Bangor paper says the Bangors would treat St. John that way in regard to the recent trip to that city, but this is the first case I have heard of. Nothing would give me greater pleasure than to sit in the grand stand and watch the St. Johns down the Socials, but I want the old account balanced before any new entries are made.

GOOD CIRCUIT SUGGESTIONS.

Something Concerning the Entrance of Horses Into the Circuit.

HALIFAX, July 31.—Correspondence such as that of your Frederickton correspondent in your last issue, can only be of great benefit to the Maritime circuit, and if horsemen will only give their views in this manner, the representatives of the tracks will just know what to do to suit the horsemen. The gentlemen who met in St. John last March, all strove to do the best they could to suit the owners of trotters, and if they find they have made mistakes this season they will be quite willing to consult them. Your correspondent's suggestion that a horse should not be allowed to trot throughout the

circuit, is one that has always been advocated by the managers of Nova Scotia tracks. This idea of allowing a horse to go through was in vogue in the states some years ago, but in any circuit where there are five tracks or more the entries are arranged to close so that horses can compete in about three meetings in the same class, and are then forced into the classes to which they belong. In the grand circuit this year, the classing of entries has been so arranged that horses are eligible for the same classes at Cleveland, Buffalo, Rochester, those that make their records at these previously held by them have to trot at Poughkeepsie in the class they then belong to, while for the Hartford and Springfield meetings, the records made at Cleveland and Buffalo are taken into consideration, and Rochester is added to these for the Albany races. For the New York and Philadelphia meetings, the record of a horse made before the Springfield and Albany meetings decides his eligibility. Similar arrangements have been made this year by the Northwestern circuit, the Maryland and Delaware, New Jersey and other circuits. The Pennsylvania circuit allows a horse to go through in the same class, but this is only composed of four tracks.

The substitution of the 2.25 class for a free-for-all is merely an experiment, and if it proves a failure, can be rectified next season. Had the representatives of the track any positive assurances they were likely to have four or five 2.25 horses, they would likely have made a free-for-all; but they have no desire to have a couple of horses coming on the tracks and give a dull, uninteresting exhibition. They substituted the 2.25 class with the hope of securing better racing, and give provincial horses an opportunity. I had a chat, the other day, with two prominent horsemen, who always start their trotters in races, and while one advocated a free-for-all, the other just as strongly endorsed the 2.25 class. So that it is difficult to satisfy everybody.

If the rule is changed about the closing of entries next year, it will not make such a great difference in regard to records at local races. The condition suggested by your correspondent will deserve consideration. The meeting at St. John last year was a great success in point of racing for this season of the year. Geo. Carvill has got a good colt Speculation, and he will likely start him in the 2.45 class in the circuit. George is well known in Halifax since the time he was an amateur sprinter, and ran against W. A. Henry of the Wanderers. Mr. Fowler has a handsome mare in Lady Sim. Her sire, Uncle Sam, is owned in Pictou county, and was once owned by Robert Bonner, the former New Yorker. John McCoy has got a trotter in Stanley, and Maggie ought to prove a good mare in her class.

J. C. Malon, of Truro, has purchased a four year old which is said to be fast. Rumor says she is a daughter of Electioneer. Mr. N. H. Magher, of Halifax, has been offered \$1500 by C. H. Nelson, Waterville, Me., for his two-year-old filly Theresa, by Nelson, Mr. Meagher paid less than half that amount for the filly a few months ago.

MRS. DONNELLY'S LEGAL MIND.

Why She Thought the Office Boy Was from Cork.

Mrs. Donnelly has been calling on my legal friend again, and her naturally active mind has been thrusting out tendrils in a new direction. Her conversational style inclines towards monologue, so I give her words as they were spoken: "Ah then, sir, it's a terrible climb up them stairs of yours, it is, and old bones want a long rest before climbing down again. Sure, sir, where's the lad with the red cheeks that used to be here? The wan that had his hair down over his eyes, so he had. A decent lad he was, too, for he was tellin' me he was born in Cork. Lord save him. I thought he was just lyin' to me then, but I've been thinkin' it over, and I believe it was all true, for he told me he'd been to the Lake of Killarney many a time, where the blessed St. Patrick threw the great serpent, all locked up in an iron box, so he did; rest his soul! And that lad told me many's the time he heard the serpent from the bottom of the lake cryin', 'Will tomorra never come, will tomorra never come?' And every good Catholic knows that's what the serpent says. So that lad must have come from the old sod. An' it's home I'll be goin' now, sir, for—the blessed saints between us an' all harm—it's many's the long day since I've been here without yer havin' some kind of a spasm in yer inside before I went, an' it's my belief yer that smul that nothin' but the holy wafer'd do ye any good."

To the Electors of the City of Saint John.

REALIZING that other than civic issues are involved in the election for the office of

MAYOR,

to be held on the 6th of AUGUST next, I beg to withdraw from my candidature, and at the same time to cordially thank those who have proffered me their support.

I am, respectfully yours,

T. W. PETERS.

To the Electors of the City of Saint John.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

At the solicitation of many of the citizens I have decided to be a CANDIDATE for the office of

MAYOR OF ST. JOHN,

at the coming election to be held on TUESDAY, the 6th August next.

Should you honor me with your confidence on that occasion, I shall endeavor to discharge the duties of the office in the best interests of the city.

W. A. LOCKHART.

23 Carleton Street.

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N. B.—Competitors who try to explain away the contrast between the large dividends of The Great Mutual and the small dividends of their own companies, by asserting that "The Mutual made its money out of the war," will have to invent something new.

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NEW GLASGOW, N. S., - - - August 23.

First day, 3 minute class, purse \$150, and 2.37 class, purse \$200. Second day, 2.45 class, purse \$150, and 2.28 class, purse \$250. Reserved for special purse \$150. Entries close August 21, with JAMES W. POWER, Secretary.

TRURO, N. S., - - - September 3 and 4.

First day, 3 minute class. Purse \$150, and 2.37 class, purse \$200. Second day, 2.45 class, purse \$150, and 2.28 class, purse \$250. Reserved for special purse \$150. Entries close August 27 with J. C. MAHON, Secretary.

FREDERICTON, N. B., September 11 and 12.

First day, 3 minute class, purse \$150, and 2.37 class, purse \$200. Second day, 2.45 class, purse \$150, and 2.28 class, purse \$250. Reserved for special purse \$150. Entries close September 9 with W. F. FLEWELLING, Secretary.

ST. JOHN, N. B., September 24 and 25.

First day, 3 minute class, purse \$150, and 2.37 class, purse \$200. Second day, 2.45 class, purse \$150, and 2.28 class, purse \$250. Reserved for special purse \$150. Entries close September 17 with A. M. MAGEE, Secretary.

HALIFAX, N. S., - - - August 27 and 28.

First day, 3 minute class, purse \$150, and 2.37 class, purse \$200. Second day, 2.45 class, purse \$150, and 2.28 class, purse \$250. Reserved for special purse \$150. Entries close August 21, with JAMES W. POWER, Secretary.

MONCTON, N. B., - - - September 7.

2.45 and 2.28 classes. Purse \$150 and \$250 respectively. Reserved for special purse \$150. Entries close September 2 with M. LODGE, Secretary.

ST. STEPHEN, N. B., September 18 and 19.

First day, 3 minute class, purse \$150, and 2.37 class, purse \$200. Second day, 2.45 class, purse \$150, and 2.28 class, purse \$250. Reserved for special purse \$150. Entries close September 11 with JAS. E. OSBORNE, Secretary.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I., Oct. 2 and 3.

First day, 3 minute class, purse \$150, and 2.37 class, purse \$200. Second day, 2.45 class, purse \$150, and 2.28 class, purse \$250. Reserved for special purse \$150. Entries close September 23 with A. E. WARBURTON, Secretary.

CONDITIONS.

All races will be to harness, mile heats 3 in 5, and governed by rules of National Trotting Association. Entries to be made with the secretaries of the various tracks for the races thereon.

Entrance fee, 10 per cent of the purses, payable 5 per cent with nomination, and 5 per cent the evening before the race.

Five to enter, and three to start. Should five entries not make the final payments, the race may be declared off, unless the remaining entries make up the balance of the amount.

A horse distancing the field will be entitled to first money only.

Horses starting in the CIRCUIT will be ELIGIBLE in the SAME CLASS THROUGHOUT the CIRCUIT.

Purses will be divided: 60 per cent to first; 20 per cent to second, and 10 per cent to third.

Negotiations are being made to have United States horses admitted in bond, to attend the races, and vice versa.

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

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

W. F. TODD, Esq., President, St. Stephen, N. B.

A. A. STER