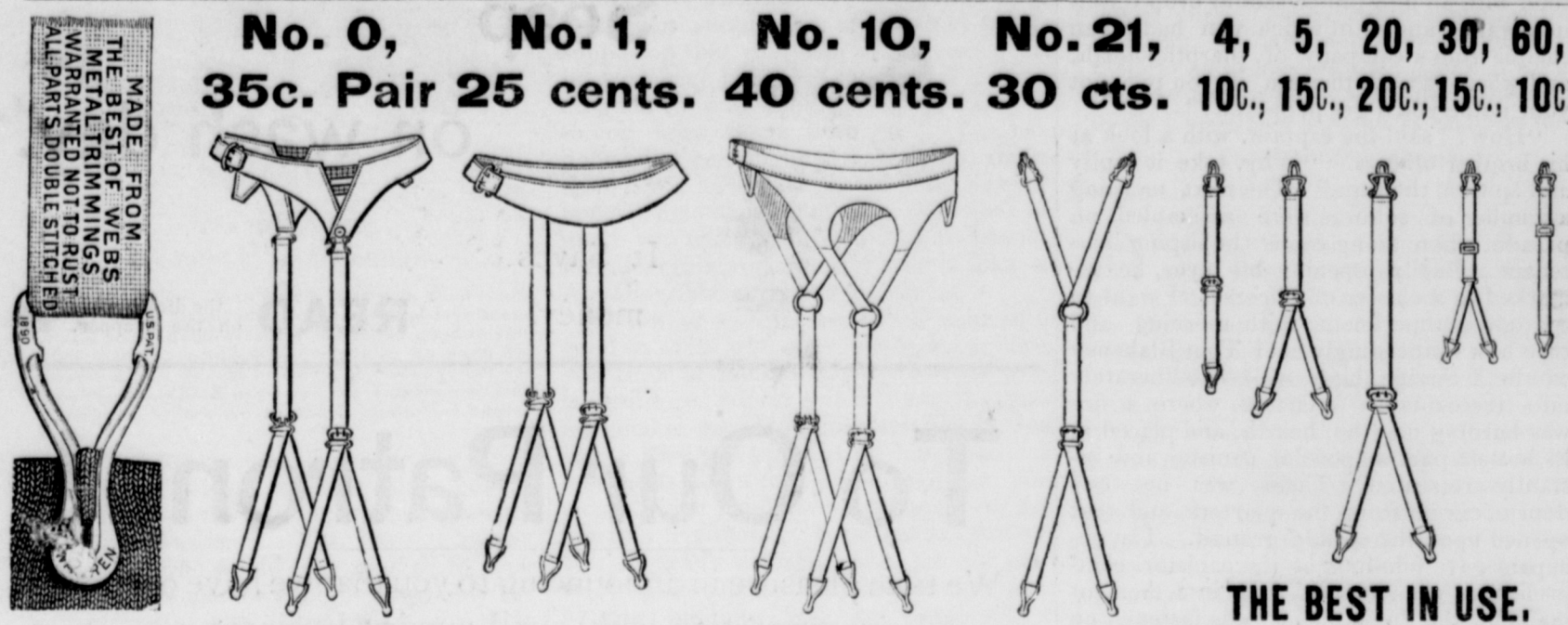


ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1892.



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See Adv. on Page Six.

THE FIRST IN AMERICA.

A CURLING CLUB THAT HAS FLOURISHED FOR NEARLY 40 YEARS.

The "Victories and Defeats of Fredericton Curlers from 1876 to the Present—A Concise Record of the Games—What the Pastime Requires.

FREDERICTON, Feb. 9.—Curling is essentially a gentleman's game, whether the player's blood be Scotch or only Gentile. It is a pastime which does not require that those who take part in it shall be trained athletes. It demands only a keen eye, a steady nerve, good judgment, good manners and at least muscle enough to get the "stone" over the "hog." It demands also initiation fee and dues.

Cricket in summer and curling in winter are the only lines of athletic sport that have ever flourished in Fredericton. The former turned up its toes some years ago and was planted, it seems, too deep for resurrection. Curling has been a popular pastime in the capital city for nearly forty years, and the record made by the knights of the broom is not devoid of glory.

It is with a view of presenting a concise yet complete record of the games of the Fredericton Curling Club, and of fostering public interest in this manly sport that this sketch has been written. It is a record which can hardly fail to be of interest to every curler in the maritime provinces.

The Fredericton Curling Club was organized on December 24th, 1854, when, according to the statement of its founder, Mr. John Neill, the game had not been heard of in any part of North America. For many years regular matches were held with the Saint Andrews club of Saint John, in which up to 1876 the Celestials were usually victorious. In that year the club was reorganized and it was not until 1882 that it succeeded in downing the Saint Andrews boys again, since when as between these two clubs honors have been somewhat easy.

The appended statement will be found a complete record of the "foreign games" of the club, from the date of its reorganization down to the present time. Until the year 1885 the home games of club were played either on the officers' square or on the river. On one occasion a match was played on the Nashwaak. The first foreign match in 1876 was played at Fredericton February 17th with the Saint Andrews' Club, the visitors proving easy winners.

On the 24th of February the home team was defeated on the square by the Thistles for the Royal Caledonia medal. The mercury registered 20 below zero; it was a cold day in more ways than one for Fredericton. The score:

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
J. B. Grieves.....	18	A. Malcolm.....	18
J. R. Howie.....	19	L. Stewart.....	20
John Neill.....	11	John Thomson.....	39
	49		73

On February 21st the Celestials achieved a glorious though closely contested victory over the Thistles on the Officers' square. From this out the annual matches with the Saint John Clubs were usually four-rink matches.

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
Wm. Grieves.....	20	And. Malcolm.....	17
J. B. Grieves.....	15	W. G. Whitaker.....	17
J. R. Howie.....	24	R. Courtney.....	12
J. D. McPherson.....	12	James Kennedy.....	22
	71		68

This was the year of the great Pictou bonspiel, when the placid Celestials distinguished themselves by a meteoric flight of glory. Fredericton sent two rinks to the bonspiel, which took place on January 30th and 31st. The first match was between New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, in which the two Fredericton rinks were pitted against a rink from New Glasgow, and another from Pictou. The score:

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
T. G. Loggie.....	11	Capt. McKay.....	12
E. H. Allen.....	13	C. P. Pringle.....	7
	24		19

The next event was a two-rink competition between Fredericton and Truro which resulted in a fine victory for the former.

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
E. H. Allen.....	19	J. H. McKay.....	19
T. G. Loggie.....	31	A. H. Patterson.....	18
	50		37

The two Fredericton rinks were then matched against New Glasgow and added another scalp to the string.

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
E. H. Allen.....	17	Capt. McKay.....	11
T. G. Loggie.....	16	J. D. McGregor.....	24
	33		35

This was followed up with a single rink competition with Chatham, which resulted:

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
T. G. Loggie.....	21	J. W. Fraser.....	9
J. B. Grieves.....	20	R. A. Courtney.....	11
	41		20

Finally Fredericton defeated Truro in a single-rink match:

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
E. H. Allen.....	22	A. L. Mackenzie.....	12
J. B. Grieves.....	20	W. C. Whitaker.....	18
	42		30

On the 15th of February the boys went to St. John and, as usual, were taken into camp by the St. Andrews team by the following score:

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
E. H. Allen.....	15	William Snider.....	23
T. G. Loggie.....	21	W. Watson.....	14
J. B. Grieves.....	10	John White.....	25
	46		60

Next day the visitors wreaked their vengeance on the Thistles.

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
J. B. Grieves.....	26	W. C. Whitaker.....	18
J. R. Howie.....	22	Samuel Welsh.....	18
T. G. Loggie.....	26	And. Malcolm.....	21
	74		57

At Fredericton, on January 24th, the home team were victorious in a match game with the Thistles, by the following score:

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
T. G. Loggie.....	18	James Kennedy.....	11
J. B. Grieves.....	20	R. A. Courtney.....	11
A. F. Street.....	20	W. C. Whitaker.....	6
E. H. Allen.....	14	Andrew Malcolm.....	15
	72		43

At Fredericton, on February 5th and 6th, the Celestials were defeated by the Saint Andrews Club of Saint John in a match game, as follows:

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
T. G. Loggie.....	16	William Snider.....	20
E. H. Allen.....	18	H. Melick.....	18
A. F. Street.....	9	C. Y. Gregory.....	23
J. B. Grieves.....	18	John White.....	18
	61		74

At Saint John, Fredericton defeated the Thistles on Fellows Lake, by the following score:

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
T. G. Loggie.....	27	Andrew Malcolm.....	11
J. S. Neill.....	21	R. Courtney.....	15
J. B. Grieves.....	18	James Kennedy.....	15
	66		41

The following day Fredericton played the St. Andrews club and were defeated in a very hot contest. The score:

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
T. G. Loggie.....	16	John Thomson.....	21
J. S. Neill.....	21	William Snider.....	23
J. B. Grieves.....	19	C. Y. Gregory.....	14
	56		58

The Frederictons still continued to polish off the Thistles at every opportunity. At Fredericton on January 26th and 27th the Thistles went down to the following tune:

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
T. G. Loggie.....	20	James Kennedy.....	11
J. B. Grieves.....	28	John Thomson.....	18
J. S. Neill.....	23	Andrew Malcolm.....	7
A. F. Street.....	11	R. A. Courtney.....	17
	92		54

Later in the season the St. Andrews men came to Fredericton to play the annual match, but a heavy snow storm stopped the fun. Only one rink on each side played, the score then standing as follows:

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
T. G. Loggie.....	17	William Snider.....	20
	17		20

The Celestials went to St. John and defeated both of the local clubs on January 24th. The score in the Saint Andrews game was as follows:

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
E. H. Allen.....	24	A. O. Skinner.....	13
J. B. Grieves.....	9	William Snider.....	17
T. G. Loggie.....	14	C. Y. Gregory.....	14
	65		54

The victory over the Thistles was more decisive:

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
J. B. Grieves.....	16	Andrew Malcolm.....	15
T. G. Loggie.....	17	John Thomson.....	15
J. S. Neill.....	13	James Kennedy.....	9
E. H. Allen.....	16	G. Morrison, Jr.....	7
	62		46

On the following day the boys played the Chatham club, then in St. John. On this occasion the younger men of the team were appointed skips, which in one or two instances had a marked bearing on the result. Chatham won a hot contest by one point:

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
F. A. McInnes.....	20	Morris.....	13
E. A. Smith.....	15	G. L. Brittain.....	19
M. McLaughlin.....	9	E. Hutchinson.....	20
H. C. Rutter.....	16	William Wilson.....	12
	60		64

This year opened with an invasion of the North, the Celestials still smarting from their unexpected defeat last year, sent over an exceptionally strong team. Again did the Chathamites squeak out a point or two ahead. The score:

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
T. G. Loggie.....	18	William Wilson.....	28
E. H. Allen.....	26	George Brittain.....	22
J. B. Grieves.....	16	D. G. Smith.....	14
	60		64

The Celestials afterwards played the

Newcastle club in a match of two rinks a side, and came off victorious.

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
J. S. Neill.....	19	R. A. Lawlor.....	10
A. F. Street.....	12	James Brown.....	8
	31		18

Soon after this the St. Andrews club went to Chatham and downed the hardy Northerners. When they came to Fredericton, however, it was to meet their Waterloo.

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
J. S. Neill.....	24	John White.....	16
T. G. Loggie.....	37	S. S. DeForest.....	10
E. H. Allen.....	21	C. Y. Gregory.....	14
J. B. Grieves.....	23	William Snider.....	19
	105		59

The Thistles made a noble effort to break the long string of defeats they had sustained from the Fredericton club. The game waxed furious on the square until darkness set in, when skip Street played by the light of a match the shot that tied the game.

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
J. B. Grieves.....	24	Alex. Duff.....	15
J. S. Neill.....	15	W. C. Whitaker.....	15
E. H. Allen.....	17	R. Courtney.....	26
A. F. Street.....	16	R. Milligan.....	26
	72		72

The Celestials went to St. John and on January 23rd won a very keenly contested match from the Thistles by the following score:

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
E. H. Allen.....	24	Alex. Duff.....	15
T. G. Loggie.....	14	John Thomson.....	19
J. S. Neill.....	26	H. Milligan.....	13
A. F. Street.....	16	James Kennedy.....	13
	78		73

On the following day they played the Saint Andrews club, but the ice became so bad that the game was called a draw by common consent. At the time the play stopped the score stood:

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
A. F. Street.....	5	A. O. Skinner.....	15
E. H. Allen.....	17	C. S. Macgregor.....	17
T. G. Loggie.....	10	C. Y. Gregory.....	10
J. S. Neill.....	12	S. S. DeForest.....	6
	44		48

The next game was with the Newcastle club. It was the first foreign game played in the Fredericton covered rink.

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
A. F. Street.....	24	R. H. Grimley.....	17
J. B. Grieves.....	20	E. L. Street.....	10
E. H. Allen.....	19	R. A. Lawlor.....	16
H. C. Rutter.....	22	J. R. Lawlor.....	11
	85		54

It was this season that Fredericton sent a rink skipped by Ned Allen to the Montreal bonspiel. The boys were defeated by Toronto 18 to 24 and shut out from the remainder of the competition. H. C. Rutter and J. S. Neill, however, were taken on to play as mates for the two rinks representing the St. John Thistles, which captured the second prize of the meeting; so appreciative were the Thistles that they made the two Fredericton boys honorary members of their club.

This year the local club held a provincial bonspiel for the Coleman cup. The St. John clubs were the only other competitors, and they were both defeated handsomely on January 14. The game was played on the river ice. The St. Andrews game was as follows:

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
E. H. Allen.....	12	S. S. DeForest.....	22
J. B. Grieves.....	23	A. O. Skinner.....	19
T. G. Loggie.....	22	A. C. Blair.....	14
J. S. Neill.....	22	John White.....	14
	81		67

The Thistle defeat was even more decisive:

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
J. S. Neill.....	17	J. T. Hartt.....	18
W. K. Allen.....	19	A. Watson.....	15
T. G. Loggie.....	18	F. C. Gregory.....	18
E. H. Allen.....	19	S. S. DeForest.....	17
	73		67

On March 3rd, in the home rink, the boys once more succumbed to the Thistles in a close contest:

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
J. S. Neill.....	13	D. R. Willet.....	19
T. G. Loggie.....	14	R. Miller.....	22
W. K. Allen.....	13	F. R. Titus.....	18
E. H. Allen.....	23	G. Morrison.....	12
	63		71

Six days later the new St. Stephen club came to Fredericton and were overwhelmed:

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
W. K. Allen.....	28	W. F. Todd.....	8
H. C. Rutter.....	19	J. D. Chipman.....	13
T. G. Loggie.....	34	R. H. Lytle.....	7
	105		44

The season was now late, and as the competition could not be concluded, it was held over until next year.

The bonspiel of 1887 was concluded at St. John in January. Fredericton defeated Chatham, its old-time rival, in a two-rink match as follows:

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
T. G. Loggie.....	20	F. R. Titus.....	10
E. H. Allen.....	12	Chessman.....	20
	32		30

Truro having vanquished all the Nova Scotia clubs, the final contest was between that team and the Celestials, and the latter secured a handsome victory, and with it the McSweeney and McLellan trophies.

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
T. G. Loggie.....	15	H. C. Blair.....	10
E. H. Allen.....	12	Geo. Gunn.....	7
	27		17

In the bonspiel of 1888, Fredericton did not fare so well. Its first contest was with Truro which resulted:

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
T. G. Loggie.....	10	H. C. Blair.....	18
	10		18

The next was with Pictou which resulted:

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
E. H. Allen.....	13	D. McDonald.....	17
J. B. Grieves.....	12	John White.....	12
J. S. Neill.....	12	S. S. DeForest.....	25
H. C. Rutter.....	29	A. O. Skinner.....	23
T. G. Loggie.....	14	J. T. Hartt.....	28
	73		88

On the following day the boys had better luck, beating the Thistles by the following score:

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
E. H. Allen.....	19	John Thomson.....	15

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On the 4th the combination was done up by the Thistles, and tears of joy and tears of grief were shed. The score:

Skip.	Score.	Skip.	Score.
T. G. Loggie.....	12	G. Morrison, Jr.....	19
E. H. Allen.....	11	John Thomson.....	23
J. B. Grieves.....	22	R. A. Courtney.....	18
H. C. Rutter.....	16	James Kennedy.....	21
	62		81

This was the year of the Interprovincial bonspiel for the McSweeney and the McLellan cups. Owing to bad weather it was found impossible to hold the competition at Moncton, as originally designed, and it was decided that the clubs in each province should play each other, and the winners compete for the trophies. The home team won a battle royal from St. Andrews club at the covered rink, on February 10th, the struggle in each rink being close and obstinate.

...this was the year of the Interprovincial
spiel for the McSweeney and the Mc
lan cups. Owing to bad weather it was
and impossible to hold the competition at
water, as originally designed, and it