

SEASONABLE SPORTS.

A Peep Into the World of Base Ball, Racing, Golf Bowling and Athletic Sports Generally.

BASE BALL.

LOW BALL HARDEST TO HIT.

"The hardest ball to hit, in my opinion," says Charlie Hickman of Washington, "is the one that comes low down on the outside of the plate but the fast, high inside balls brings its load of trouble to the batter, too. Sometimes the batter is fooled by himself instead of the pitcher. This happens when the batsman makes up his mind to hit the next ball pitched. That takes place once in a while with the best of them. When the batter gets the idea that he will hit the next ball it is almost impossible to get it unless he is young and the result is that he drives away at the next ball, whether it is high or low, in or out, and the chances are he will strike out, or at best fail to hit safe."

"A batsman should never figure on hitting any ball until he sees it coming toward him, and he is impressed that it will be a fair ball unless he hits it at it. Many players claim that when it is three and two on a pitcher who will try to curve the ball two and two. Pitchers are getting foxy. They are not putting them squarely over these days without trying to fool you by taking the corners, and there are a number of pitchers who will try to curve the ball over even with the count three or two. The percentage of probability of making a hit is greater when there are men on bases than when there are not. At such time the pitcher is more careful and the fielders more alert, but such a situation nerves up the batsman and brings out the best there is in him."

BATES LEADS NATIONALS.

Bates still leads the Boston National League team in batting, with an average of .274. Tenney follows with only .206, and Howard is third with .242. The only batsmen that have less than .200 thus far this year are Needham, Lindamar and Young.

Bates leads the team in home runs and doubles, while Tenney has made the largest number of triples. There is not a man on the Boston team who has fielded for less than .900 this year. Bridwell has made the largest number for errors, being marled with forty at short. The base running of the team has been poor this year, as Dolan leads the team in base purloining with nine stolen sacks.

LAJOIE LOOKS FOR PENNANT.

Cleveland, July 31.—This pennant race is not yet over, by a long shot," said Manager Lajoie today. "I really expect to win it. I expected some setbacks in the way of crimples when we started out in the spring. They have come, and we will try to overcome them. The schedule gives us much ground for hope. New York and Philadelphia, from now on, will play most of their games on the road, while we shall be at home most of the time. We can hold our own, I think, until the crimples round into form and then among the number, but flirtations watch us shoot ahead."

THE RING.

ALL FIGHTERS GO DOWN AFTER ONE HAND DEFEAT.

Will Jack O'Brien follow the ways of many other fighters before him and start down the line after receiving a hammering from a man he expected to beat?

It seems the history of the prize ring that a man goes down after his first decisive defeat. O'Brien was not defeated decisively by Sam Berger. Indeed, a draw would very probably have been the result had a referee held up the hand of either man. Berger received the great credit accorded him because he looked to have no chance on preliminary dope.

However, ring fans' view of the matter is that a fighter who loses when he himself believes he has almost a sure thing before entering the ring is always the fellow who fails to stand up after the sting of the battle is over. The ring is full of history of this sort.

YOUNG CORBETT'S START.

Young Corbett was picked by wise dopesters to whip Britt when the pair met on the coast. The Denver boy himself was brimful of confidence. Experts joined with him in figuring that no man of Britt's weight and inches could stand before that terrible right hand for twenty rounds and survive.

Britt clung on and stayed the limit. He was given the decision. It broke Corbett's heart. That decision has always been a thorn in the Kid's side and he has never been the same Corbett. Unprejudiced spectators at the fight say he won without a doubt. It stands to reason that he could not have been far shaded when he took on tough Tommy Mowatt a week later in Chicago, after spending three days and three nights on the road, and whipped him. Britt was not able to get out in society for ten days after the battle.

Corbett fought Eddie Hanlon again on the coast, and those who saw the fight declare he whipped Eddie. But again the unfortunate little fellow was given the short end of the deal, and today Corbett declares that he will never enter the ring again. It was the case of a great fighter being ruined by losing fights that he fully expected to win, and which in reality he should have had by good shades.

There was no more George Dixon after the lacing that Terry McGovern handed "Little Chiccolate." The Dixon of other days was only a wreck of the once great fighter who for years held his title. And Terry himself took his turn after Corbett

put him out at Hartford. He has fought some good fights since, but the once dashing, slugging machine vanished when that clip was hung on his jaw by the Denver boy.

JIMMY BRITT'S CASE.

Jimmy Britt defeated Kid Lavigne on the coast when he first started to attract worldwide attention. For fight after fight he came home ahead with but a few doubtful decisions to mar his record. But he met Batling Nelson and the terrible Dane knocked him out.

When Britt fought Lavigne he was a wonder. He could punish, was tremendously fast on his feet and knew the game. But when he met Terry McGovern in Madison Square Garden it was another Britt. He was rated as little more than a novice when he beat the Saginaw Kid, but he was only an amateur against McGovern. He never recovered from that Nelson punch and never will. The toboggan is sloped downward now for James and the next good man who meets him will put him out of the running for all time.

Frank Ene was considered one of the best lightweights on earth when he went against Joe Gans. He held the championship and knew every angle of the game. But Joe clipped him with a sneak-over punch in the first round and Ene never was heard of again in a pugilistic sense.

Before this he had whipped Lavigne but it took terrible fights with McFadden, Wilmington Jack Daly and Erne to finally eclipse the piece of human iron from Michigan.

McFadden got his worst lacing from Gus Gardner in Chicago and Elbows was never the same man afterward. He fought a few good fights, but lacked the dashing vim that carried him through his battles of the early days.

BIG FELLOWS GO THE SAME WAY.

Among the big fellows, Jake Kilrain, and Paddy Ryan were back members after Sullivan defeated them. They never tried to climb the ladder again. John L. left the ring forever with a broken heart when Jim Corbett laid him low at New Orleans, and Corbett himself never won a square fight from the solar plexus punch Fitzsimmons administered at Carson city.

Fitz revived between the two defeats by Jim Jeffries, but it was never the same old Bob. He met a better man and that knowledge took away a lot of his fighting ability. Tom Sharkey was out of the running after Jeffries defeated him. Kid McCoy never came back after the Jack Root affair in Detroit.

Unknown Joe Cherry came from Kid Lavigne's own street in Saginaw and defeated Feltz in Detroit, when the betting was 2 to 1 on Tommy. That ended Feltz. The wonderful bulldog courage confidence of former days were gone and Feltz slipped steadily down the ladder until today he is fighting preliminaries.

Kid Carter took a lacing after lacing but his wonderful constitution carried him through far more. However he quit the ring a physical wreck. Al Wemig was in the same class. For a while Wemig's friends thought he had gone insane.

THE TURF.

FASTEST MILE THIS YEAR.

Cleveland, Ohio, Aug. 1.—The Chamber of Commerce stakes, of \$5,000 for 2.24 pacers yesterday was won by Ardelle, the favorite, owned by F. G. Jones, of Memphis. She paced three impressive miles, winning each heat easily. Her best time was 2.054. Bonanza took second money, Morone, the favorite in the 2.14 trot won the event by capturing the second and third heats.

The 2.06 pace was won by Boliver, who sold in the field. The time of the first heat, 2.044, is the fastest mile paced this year.

Lake Queen won the 2.12 trot in straight heats. C. K. G. Billings broke two world's records. First he drove the pacer, named Star, 2.044 a half mile to wagon in 594 seconds. Later he drove Major Delmar a half to wagon in 1 min.

KING'S HORSES FOR TORONTO.

New York, July 31.—Democratic west street saw the equine aristocrats of King Edward's stables yesterday when the Atlantic transport Minnesota brought from London six horses owned by His Royal Highness and also four stallions, the property of Lord Rothschild.

The ten blue bloods of the horse kingdom have come here to show the plebeian humans of Toronto, Ottawa and Kansas city how sleek and proud one may look after half a dozen valets have finished combing one's mane and glossing one's skin with silver and gold currycombs and silken sponges.

A special boat was waiting at the steamer pier to carry the equine visitors across the North River to the Lehigh Valley yards, where three special cars were prepared to take the animals to Toronto.

TURF NOTES.

Mars Cassidy has been engaged to do the starting at City Park the coming winter.

The council of Latonia village are now after the management of the Latonia race track. They demand a larger license fee, or threaten to cut a street through the track.

Mr. Overton said that Belle Meade the beautiful took farm which belonged to the late General William H. Jackson, had been bought by a syndicate headed by Judge J. Matt

Dickinson, and that the famous property would be eventually sub-divided into building lots. A portion of the estate is now under lease to Walter O. Parmer, the turfman and his associates, and they are using it for a stock farm.

Radtke is in trouble again. He was suspended for three days by Starter Dade for his actions while at the post for the opening race. This will deprive James R. Keene of his services for the rich Brighton Junior to be run Saturday. Mr. Keene has six eligibles for the race, which is the richest 2-year-old event of the meeting.

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TALES OF WHITE SLAVERY.

Unfortunates Who Have Escaped Bring Stories of Terrible Conditions in Florida Camps.

New York, August 2.—The Times says: Another man returned from Florida to the Lower East side with a story of penance in Florida, and another letter has been received from a man there begging aid. There are still fifty immigrants who are known to have started for the Florida camps within the last six months who have not been heard from since.

David Krill, who lived with his sister, Mrs. Jennie Abramovitz on the top floor of 114 Lewis Street, came home Monday afternoon, after an absence in Florida of seven weeks. When he came home yesterday his sister did not recognize him and attempted to drive him out of her flat. His back was black and blue and still marked with deep red scars where he said he had been whipped. He had been taken to Jacksonville, he said, and from there to Matton. He was then carried to a camp in the woods, where there were huts and negro guards. At the end of two weeks he said, he found that he owed the company \$28 above his promised twelve dollars a week. He ran away one night and in the morning found that he was lost. Wandering about in the swamps, he suddenly found himself in the open and close to a camp. Before he could hide, he was seen, and, according to his story he was beaten in the presence of others who had just returned from work.

The next meeting, while he was at work in the swamp one of those in which he had shared the company stores shipped \$30 to him, which he said he had kept hidden in a boot. This man did not dare to escape but he begged Krill to take the money and if possible to get North so as to tell of the horrors of the slave-camp. That night Krill slipped through the lines and managed to reach the city. He worked his way as far as Baltimore and from there walked to his sister's home in this city.

PUSHING ENGINES.

A locomotive engineer out in St. Paul proposes to revolutionize the method of operating passenger trains by having the engine at the rear of the train instead of in front. He contends that a train can be operated with less power when pushed than when pulled. He would have at the forward end of the train a kind of observation car with a vestibule for the pilot who would watch the track and communicate with the engine crew by means of signals governing their action. In his prospectus he sets forth that one great advantage would be the freedom of passengers from the annoyance caused by cinders, dust, etc. As to cinders this may be true, but the dust would be set flying by the forward cars as well as by a locomotive. He also asserts that owing to the peculiar

construction of the steel frame on which the car rests mortality would be decreased greatly in case of head-on collisions. This does not clearly appear to the average man, who, we think, will regard an engine as a more satisfactory buffer. If there are any real advantages in pushing a train they would have been discovered long ago, for pushing is being done all the time in the making up of trains. And why should the advantage not be as great in operating freight as in operating passenger trains?

A SUCCESSFUL BARNARDO BOY.

Career of Rev. J. Havergal Sheppard, at Present in Toronto.

Rev. J. Havergal Sheppard, Vice-President of the Barnardo Old Boys' Society, which has its headquarters in Toronto, is in that city. Rev. Mr. Sheppard is pastor of the First Baptist Church, Babylon, Long Island, New York, where he has been for three years. He has been in the ministry for eight years in the United States.

Mr. Sheppard was born in Dunganon, Ireland, twenty-nine years ago, his father being a non-commissioned officer in the British army, who died leaving a large family in straitened circumstances. "Jack" was sent to Dr. Barnardo's home, and in 1893 came to America with some three hundred and fifty other lads from the same home. He worked in Canada for some years part of the time on a farm, part as a teacher, then for two years in the theatrical profession as a comedian. Later determining to enter the ministry, he studied in Providence University, Ohio, and in 1894 was called to the People's Union Church, Kingston, N. Y., and next year received a license as a Baptist preacher. It is expected that Mr. Sheppard will receive a call to the pastorate of the Second Baptist Church, Erie, Pa.

Teacher—And how many people did Sampson kill with the jawbone of an ass?

Boy—A thousand, sir.

Teacher—Right. And what were the people called that he killed?

Boy—O,—I have I got to tell you all their names, sir?

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