

FITZSIMMONS THE VICTOR.

Makes Short Work of Peter Maher in the Championship Fistic Battle.

The Australian Knocks Out the Son of Erin in the First Round.

The Sporting Fraternity Pay Twenty Dollars Admission Fee for the Privilege of Witnessing a Fight Lasting a Trifle Over a Minute—A Right-Hand Swing in the Jaw Does the Work, Maher Not Being Able to Recuperate Before Time Was Called.

LANGTRY (Tex.), Feb. 21.—It took Robert Fitzsimmons just ninety seconds this afternoon to defeat Peter Maher and become the heavyweight champion of the world. The fight took place in the bottoms of the Rio Grande River on the Mexican side, a mile and a half distant from the Langtry depot.

Even to his friends it was evident that the Irish lad was not in it from the start. Before the round had progressed thirty seconds Maher attempted a foul, and was heatedly warned by the referee.

Fitzsimmons' coup was in the form of one of his famous upper hooks, with which he knocked out Maher. Maher broke the nose of Jack Sizer, his trainer. Maher made a gallant effort to get upon his feet when time was called, but after getting half-way to a recumbent position he fell back, and still had his head on the floor when time was called and the decision was awarded to the Cornishman.

When the train of sports arrived from El Paso at 2:30 o'clock there was no evidence that anything unusual was about to occur. The excursionists from Eagle Pass and other points had been belated, and only some fifty residents of the country about had gathered at the depot.

One company of the Texas Rangers guarded at the depot while the remainder went down to the bottoms on the Texas side, but not the slightest effort was made to interfere with the sports in any of their movements.

When the hour had been given, the visitors speedily found that although they had been on the road for over sixteen hours and journeyed 400 miles, the hardest part of the entertainment was yet to come. Following guides in straggling procession, they went across the river on the narrow 500 yards, and then commenced a precipitous descent of a seldom-used wagon road that went in a circuitous way down to the Rio Grande, over rocks and bowlders.

Now slipping on their backs, now clutching at a bramble to save themselves from a fall and a broken ankle, and now stubbing their toes against huge cobblestones or in cavities of the rocks, the sports toiled in double and single file until the bank of the river was reached.

Then there was a tramp of 500 yards more through sand and mud full ankle deep to the point where the seventy-five-foot pontoon bridge had been stretched across the Rio Grande River, which, swollen by recent rains, had been changed from a sluggish stream to a roaring torrent.

Once across the sports were on the bottoms of the Mexican side, and the canvas inclosure that contained the ring was to be seen in the distance. Five minutes more brought the perspiring and sore-footed pedestrians to the entrance stairs, where Bat Masterson and Joe Venning, ex-champ, and the board tickets and passed the holders within.

A more ideal spot for such an event could hardly have been selected. To the west, sloping down to the very foot of the inclosure, was a mountain 500 feet in height, rugged and almost perpendicular. Across the top of the mountain was its counterpart, and fringed along its stern summit, commanding a full view of the ring, were some 300 men and women who looked like pigeons to those below. Between the two mountains, and within a stone's-throw of the ring upon the bottoms, the river rushed with a dull roar. Heavy rain clouds overhead, and occasionally drops of rain, completed the picture.

The circus canvas with which the battle ground was inclosed was 200 feet in circumference and sixteen feet in height. The ring was composed of white pine covered with white duck, and had an elevation of four feet. Over the corner to the west were two diminutive tents for the convenience of the principals in making their final preparations.

Fitzsimmons and Maher, with their attendants in the front rank of the procession, walked down but a few yards apart, both reaching the inclosure in a profuse state of perspiration. They were taken to their tents and rubbed down.

At 3 o'clock, when Referee George Siler announced that all was ready, 102 people were at the ringside, the remainder of the visiting party, with the local contingent, having decided that a view from the Texas hills was preferable to the expenditure of \$20 for a ticket.

In response to Siler's call, Julian asked for ten minutes' delay. Quinn consented, and it was readily granted.

At 3:13 o'clock, Fitzsimmons, enveloped in a flannel bath robe, emerged from his quarters and bounded up the steps of the ring, selected as his corner the point to the west, with his back to the Mexican mountains. Maher appeared a moment later, and took his chair in the opposite corner, facing the Mexican side and his back to the spectators on the Texas hill.

Maher had in his corner Jim Hall, Buck Connelly, Pete Lowry, Jack Quinn and Peter Byrnes, while Parson Davies acted as his time-keeper. Fitzsimmons had behind him Martin Julian, Everhardt, Jackson Stelzner and Jack McCoy, while Burt Sneed of New Orleans acted as time-keeper.

The five-ounce gloves were produced from the boxes and fitted on.

The men were about to strip their overcoats, when Julian called George Siler to the center of the ring, and the two conversed quietly for a couple of minutes. At its conclusion, Siler demanded in strenuous tones, "Is Mr. O'Rourke here?"

"I am," replied the Bostonian, whose head barely came up to the level of the ring floor.

in the air. Fitzsimmons was watching the proceedings with keen interest. As the papers were produced his lips curled and he yelled: "That stuff don't go, Julian. I want cash. How do we know what these things are worth?"

"Did you cash these checks last night?" asked Siler of O'Rourke, while the crowd pressed in the neighborhood of the two men.

"Yes, I did. I was fool enough to 'But do you think I was fool enough to bring \$20,000 with me into such dignities as these? It's the first time that my honesty has been questioned. I tell you that the money is in the bank."

Matters looked squally for a time. Julian looked O'Rourke squarely in the face, defiantly said: "Nobody ever questioned your honesty, but you took the money. We will take no checks."

Then, addressing the crowd, he continued: "If there is any dissatisfaction it is not our fault. We notified the responsible people several days ago that the money was in the bank, unless the money was in the bank."

"Yes," chirped Fitzsimmons from his corner, "and they said it would be here."

Parson Davies made a remark at this juncture to the effect that Julian was wasting time on boy's nonsense, and several of the spectators yelled "Go on with the fight."

Julian retorted that the crowd had better keep their mouths shut, as he didn't intend to stand any dictation from outsiders, and serious trouble seemed imminent, when, like a tiger, the Cornishman leaped to his feet and made a bound to the center of the ring, and his face inflamed with passion, fairly shrieked:

"We'll take the checks. I give in to every bloody thing they want. Do you understand? We give in to this, even if it don't go to it."

The crowd bathed more freely, and a rousing cheer was given for Fitz. Then the men stripped. Fitz had chosen for his ring costume a navy blue breech clout with a belt of the stars and stripes. His legs were bare and his hands of the standard running shape.

Maher wore a black and white striped pair of pants, with a green belt. From the moment that the men had entered the ropes it was patent to all that while the Cornishman was toggled for the fray and full of confidence, his opponent was nervous and ill at ease.

His hands were twitching and he kept his thumbs twitching one after the other. Fitzsimmons eyed him with a sarcastic smile, and his breast heaved like that of an animal ready for its prey.

When the referee Siler called both men to the center of the ring to give them their instructions and warn them against fouling or other infractions of the code, the spectators enjoyed the first opportunity of seeing their face to face. Fitzsimmons presented a better appearance than at any of his previous encounters. His flesh was hard and pink and the veins stood out like whipcords. Maher, on the contrary, appeared somewhat flabby, while his movements on his feet lacked the agility that characterized those of Fitzsimmons.

Manager Quinn had evinced the opinion that he gave the United Press a copy of days ago: "Peter is not in the condition that I would like him to be in."

Time was called at 4:25 and the spectators pressed to the ropes.

Fitzsimmons led with his left, and Maher followed with his right, and a clinch followed. Maher struck Fitz with his right hand while he was clinched, and Referee Siler reminded him that if he did so again he would give the fight to Fitzsimmons.

After a breakaway Maher landed his left on Fitz's neck. Close in-fighting followed and Maher succeeded in landing his left on Fitzsimmons' upper lip. Fitzsimmons landed with left and right. A clinch followed. Maher fainted, and Fitzsimmons, with his right, fell short.

A mix-up followed, in which Maher landed both right and left on Maher's side of Fitzsimmons' head. Maher led with his left, and another clinch followed. Maher measured his length on the floor, his head striking the canvas with great force. He vainly tried to rise, but could do no more than raise his head. When he called on his feet to get up, he failed to respond, and got back on the canvas.

The fatal tenth second was counted. Maher was declared out and Fitzsimmons announced as the victor after one minute and thirty-five seconds of rather rough fighting.

Fitzsimmons' admirers cheered him to the echo, and Maher's seconds carried the defeated Irishman to his corner. It was several minutes before he realized what had happened to him, and Fitzsimmons walked over to his corner and shook hands with him. Fitzsimmons shook hands with Quinn and the seconds in Peter's corner.

Barring a slight bleeding at the nostrils, occasioned by the left-hand jab of Maher's, the Cornishman showed no marks of injury, and appeared as fresh as at the opening of hostilities. Maher showed no sign of punishment except a slight break in the skin just above the point of the chin, where Fitzsimmons' master stroke had landed.

Peter Maher and his crowd were a disappointed looking lot of individuals as they tramped their way back across the rocks and sand to the train. Peter was unusually communicative.

"Well," he said, "it was a chance blow that did the work. I did the best I could under the circumstances. My condition was not the best, but as a further postponement was not to be considered, I was obliged to get into the ring. My eyes were in worse condition than I believed them to be, and I found my gauge of distance at fault. However, I still believe that I am able to whip Fitzsimmons or any other man in the world."

Fitzsimmons' proxy himself champion, I will challenge him again, and will be ready to meet him at any spot or at any time. I was not a bit over-confident. I knew my condition better than anyone else and fought Fitzsimmons only when his arbitrary actions made it necessary to do so or be proclaimed a coward."

Immediately after the fight Mr. Fecor, on behalf of the Kinetoscope people, offered Fitzsimmons and Maher a purse of \$5,000 to be battled for to-morrow. Fitzsimmons declared he would agree to it, necessary in six rounds.

He insisted on selecting his own time and place. He declared that under no circumstances would he fight before a

kinetoscope unless for a purse of \$10,000 and 50 per cent. of the profits. He based his position on the fact that the kinetoscope people had persistently ignored him, and now he was in a position to dictate to them. Nothing came of the proposition, and negotiations are off for the present.

After returning to the depot, and while waiting the departure of the train for El Paso, Fitzsimmons was surrounded by a crowd of admirers, who heartily shook his hand and congratulated him on his victory. He bore his newly made honors with characteristic self-satisfaction, and reminded newspaper men around about that he said all along that his opponent was only a stiff, and would be done up without difficulty. He admitted, however, that the battle was almost too short for his liking, and that he would have been glad of a little more opportunity of showing his shape.

At precisely 6 o'clock the train bearing the victors and the vanquished and their admirers, now he was in a position to draw away from the crude railway station, leaving only representatives of the press associations stilled in the one-hour hamlet for the next twenty-four hours. The departure signal was a discharge of carbines as a salute from the Texas Rangers, who from their point of vantage in the Texas mountains, had been willing spectators of the short contest.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21.—Senator Morgan resumed his examination of President C. P. Huntington of the Southern Pacific Railroad before the Senate Pacific Railroads Committee this morning, taking as the basis of his questions the report of the United States Pacific Railroad Commission, which examined into the whole subject in 1887.

—Messrs. Littler and Anderson making the majority report and ex-Governor Pattison of Pennsylvania the minority report.

Mr. Huntington was in a mood to rebel being driven to the wall, and he resented with some show of asperity what he supposed to be reflections on his veracity put in some of the questions put to him. He denied that himself, Stanford, Hopkins and Crocker made an enormous fortune, or even an undue profit out of the operations of the Contract and Finance Company, asserting that when the work was all done and paid for, half in cash and half in personal profit, Mr. Huntington, the Contract and Finance Company, was not able to pay its debts. It was only when the Central Pacific stock appreciated, as it did largely in a few years, that the Contract and Finance Company realized large profits.

He denied that he had any work or anxiety that had been done for twenty years in building the road and in establishing it on a successful basis, he declared that himself and associates were not sufficiently remunerated.

On being pressed to name the amount of his personal profit, Mr. Huntington finally put it at not more than three or four million dollars.

"That is pretty good pay for twenty years' work," said Senator Morgan. "No, not for the work we did," said Mr. Huntington.

"I am not so much worked in twenty years," said Senator Morgan, "and I never got a twentieth part of that."

"I do not do that kind of work for any such price as that, not of my own volition," Mr. Huntington said.

Mr. Morgan asked if all the capital for the road was raised by the Government, and Mr. Huntington said it was not, but could not say just how much he did put in—certainly more than a million, and anyhow enough to make a great success of the work. It was put in from time to time as the necessity of the work demanded. There was no time when the road was not being worked, and he would have to carry on the work. He paid into the Contract and Finance Company eight or ten thousand dollars at the beginning, and several thousand afterwards. He could not state exactly how much. He was in the East the greater part of the time, and Mr. Hopkins had absolute control of that part of the business.

"Even your bank account?" asked Morgan.

"Yes," replied Mr. Huntington, "I always found it the better way to trust my money to the bank. It was also an escort of twenty-two men from the National Guard, of which the deceased was for many years a member. Brigadier-General C. B. Nichols, Col. C. F. McGlashan, of the Uniformed Rank, K. of P., and other officers of the National Guard, attended the funeral. Rev. R. M. Stevenson officiated.

Harry Welch, Samuel Katzenstein, H. N. Baumann, Art Irwin, Henry Stober and H. Wendt acted as pallbearers, and the Militant Band led the funeral procession to the cemetery.

AN OLD CITIZEN GONE.

Death of John A. Wilson, the Furniture Dealer.

The death of John A. Wilson, for many years a furniture dealer in this city, and a citizen well known and respected, occurred yesterday. Deceased came to Sacramento in 1850, but returned to St. Louis the following year and married Ellen Quisley. They soon after settled here in Sacramento and have resided here ever since.

At one time Mr. Wilson was associated with H. H. Hasselgren, the firm name being Hasselgren & Wilson, furniture dealers. He was a member of Sacramento Lodge, No. 40, F. & A. M., and Sacramento Lodge, No. 2, I. O. O. F. His wife survives him.

IMPORTANCE PURCHASE.

J. T. Stoll Will Erect an Imposing Building at Fifth and K Streets.

John T. Stoll, the well-known harness dealer and manufacturer, has purchased of Weinstein, Lubin & Co. that choice property on the southwest corner of Fifth and K streets, occupied by H. G. May's produce market and Long & Freund's meat market.

The property has a frontage of forty feet on K street and runs back to the alley 160 feet. The price reported to have been paid is \$17,000, but this is not authentic.

It is Mr. Stoll's intention to erect there a large and elegant business structure, which will be of modern architecture and an ornament to the city.

Hotel Arrivals.

Arrivals at the Golden Eagle Hotel yesterday: F. A. Mann, E. P. Luff, Chicago; Frank Schorr, E. D. Goodrich, E. H. McCaffrey, T. S. Battle, New York; D. H. Shepherd, George E. Sperry, Stockton; T. B. Beatty, Salt Lake City; Mrs. Johnson, Angels' Camp; Mrs. Thomas Allen, Big Canyon; D. C. Burt, Pa.; T. F. Hayes, E. Berge, H. H. Elliott, William L. Teim, H. A. Megenier, Louis Chester, C. A. Thurston, E. R. Clute, Mrs. Planchauer, C. J. Stauffer, J. Liebman, H. S. Keller, W. V. Carothers, R. H. Holt, E. C. Suttiffe, San Francisco.

L. W. Brook, George H. Thomason and W. J. Costor of Company A of Chico are here to participate in to-day's shoot at the range.

PACIFIC RAILROAD DEBTS.

C. P. Huntington Continues His Testimony Before the Committee.

Denies That Undue Profits Were Made by the Finance Company.

Seven Steamers and Eighteen Sailing Vessels Wrecked During Heavy Storms on the Black Sea, and Over One Hundred People Believed to Have Perished—Two Men Blow Open the Safe of a Kansas Bank and Secure Thirty-Six Hundred Dollars.

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L. W. Brook, George H. Thomason and W. J. Costor of Company A of Chico are here to participate in to-day's shoot at the range.

Stepper found everything in confusion. Lime and papers covered the floor, and nothing of value remained but personal notes.

Depositors will not lose, as the funds are fully insured in the Fidelity Company. There is no clew to the robbers.

SOCIAL EVENTS.

(Readers of the "Record-Union" are requested to send to this office personals, weddings, engagements, society notes and home gatherings of every kind. Write on one side of the paper, and give your name and address, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.)

For the past few weeks the young lady members of the Sans Souci Club have been laying plans and making preparations for a well Leap Year party, and they are deserving of a great deal of credit, it being their first experience, for the manner in which last night's affair terminated at Turner Hall.

The hall was beautiful in the extreme with its luxuriant floral decorations. A long streamer of evergreens was hung from each corner of the hall to the center and under this center, suspended from the ceiling, was an immense floral piece in shape of a ball, and being made of cashew blossoms, largely resembling a golden sphere. Small wax tapers were used in ornamenting the chandeliers and sides of the wall, and palms, breaks and other potted plants did their share of beautifying. A tall piano lamp with its red shade lent a very charming effect to the hall. The most gratifying spectacle of the evening was the full young ladies in their gala attire. They had full sway and with an assuming dignity enforced the rules, which were indorsed on the covers of the programmes. The young men, on a few occasions, were compelled to note these, which read as follows: 1. Gentlemen are not allowed to walk across the floor unescorted by a lady. 2. Gentlemen must be careful to act in a lady-like manner. 3. Gentlemen are requested to remain in the hall during dances. At the conclusion of the programme, which listed eighteen dances, the satisfied expressions on the faces of the young men and women in Arrangements and Decorations was enough to vouch for the evening's pleasure. The committee consisted of Jesse Mott, who acted as floor director, assisted by Misses Minnie Eber, Jennette Birdsall, Eda Herndon and Maude Morkley. Miss Mabel Blake and Miss Mabel Turner were also on the committee. The lemonade stand, which consisted of a booth trimmed in red bunting, was presided over by two bright-faced little girls, Mabel Forbes and Ethel Parsons, and the way in which they performed their evening's task was characteristic of their lovable nature.

This evening at 6 o'clock the Critic Club, in accordance with its custom for many years, will honor Washington's Birthday by a banquet at the Mason Temple. There are but ten members in this club, who are present, and they will have fourteen or fifteen guests. The large room of the restaurant will be used. Dr. W. A. Briggs, who is President, will preside, and Dr. George Pyburn will be toastmaster. Instead of the toast being announced in the usual way, a program will be placed at the head of the table, and which has been "filled" for the occasion, will announce the sentiments and call out the speakers with appropriate introductory remarks. This novel feature, it is expected, will be the cause of no little merriment, as the program can not be pursued, nor need it be presented, and anticipated that it will speak its mind very plainly. The American flag will be the decoration of honor and "the day," and its teaching value, will be the chief sentiment of the occasion.

TO THE CEMETERY.

Funeral Yesterday of the Late Captain Fred Eisenmenger.

The late Captain Fred Eisenmenger's funeral yesterday was largely attended. It was under the auspices of the Knights of Pythias and Turn Verein, and there was also an escort of twenty-two men from the National Guard, of which the deceased was for many years a member. Brigadier-General C. B. Nichols, Col. C. F. McGlashan, of the Ununiformed Rank, K. of P., and other officers of the National Guard, attended the funeral. Rev. R. M. Stevenson officiated.

Harry Welch, Samuel Katzenstein, H. N. Baumann, Art Irwin, Henry Stober and H. Wendt acted as pallbearers, and the Militant Band led the funeral procession to the cemetery.

JOHANNESBURG EXPLOSION.

The Railroad to be Held Responsible for It.

JOHANNESBURG, Feb. 21.—President Krueger and the chiefs of the several executive departments of the Government of the South African Republic made an inspection of the scene of the dynamite explosion at Videndor yesterday and visited the injured men, women and children in the hospitals.

President Krueger, viewing the scene of devastation, declared that the Netherlands Railway Company, which had cars the dynamite exploded, would have to pay the amount of damage done, calculated at £1,000,000. The President was greatly affected.

DRIED FRUITS.

Meeting of American River Producers on Thursday Evening.

The meeting of fruit growers of the American River district held at Hangtown Crossing on Thursday evening was largely attended and much interest was manifested in the subjects considered. The meeting was presided over by P. J. Shields.

Dried fruits received the chief attention, and the meeting was addressed by several growers of that district on the subject of marketing, how to obtain better prices, etc. Among those who delivered addresses were Mr. Shields, John Markley, Secretary of the State Fruit Exchange; Joseph Studarus, James Cornell, ex-Senator Roulter, Charles Studarus and others. The address of Mr. Markley dealt with all phases of the question of marketing dried fruits.

A resolution was adopted pledging those present not to ship any fruit on consignment the coming season. Charles Studarus strongly favored storing the output of dried fruits and advised the erection of a concrete building for the purpose. American River growers, he said, were taken to San Jose and sold under the brand of the ex-charge there and at good prices. The American River growers, he said, should organize, establish their own brands and get the credit for their own products, which are not excelled anywhere.

After extending a vote of thanks to Mr. Markley for his practical advice and information, the convention decided to send delegates to the meeting to be held in San Jose on the 23rd, where the dried fruit interests would be more fully discussed and some plan adopted to protect the interests of producers.

Y. M. C. A. NOTES.

Washington's Birthday Will be Celebrated This Evening.

There will be a birthday party to-night at the rooms of the Young Men's Christian Association. Everyone who is interested in making the rooms more attractive is invited to send as many pennies as he is years old.

Incandescent lamps have just been placed in the rooms, and they will be lighted for the first time to-night. The refreshments will be served by the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor of the Sixth-street Presbyterian Church, and an interesting programme has been arranged. Not the least of the attractions will be the exhibition of work done by the classes in mechanical and freehand drawing.

The Sunday meeting will be led by a member of the Salvation Army, and Miss Frances Nourse will sing.

PERSONAL MENTION.

H. Hart of Los Angeles is here for a short visit.

F. A. Kerrigan of Folsom was in the city yesterday.

E. N. Walter of Oakland is paying Sacramento a visit.

H. Snyder of Biggs Station is here for a short stay.

T. W. Deane of Courtland made a business trip here yesterday.

Dwight Hollister of Courtland is here and registered at the Capital Hotel.

Miss Cora Hammer has gone to San Francisco and vicinity for several weeks.

LATEST NEWS FROM CUBA.

Absolutely No Confirmation of the Report That General Maceo is Dead.

The Rumor Not Credited Even in Official Circles.

Later Details of the Attack of Gomez and Maceo Tuesday Night on Jaruca Show That the Insurgents Burned All the Records and Destroyed the Town Hall—Altogether Twenty Buildings Were Burned.

HAVANA, Feb. 21 (From a staff correspondent of the United Press).—The rumor of the death of General Maceo, which was reported this morning, rests entirely upon a report made by the Spanish commander at the town of San Nicolas. He says that a peasant told him that rebels had met informed him that Maceo was dead, and there is absolutely no confirmation of the report, and it is not credited even in official circles.

Colonel Hernandez reports that after his second attack upon the forces of Maceo and Gomez on Wednesday last, he continued his march and found that the rebels were retreating but had taken up a strong position, which they made with strong effort to hold. The Spanish troops made three bayonet charges, and finally routed the enemy.

The troops then entered the town of Catalina, to which the rebels had set fire on their retreat. The troops prevented the destruction of the place, although several houses were completely destroyed. The Spanish loss was fifteen wounded