FUN AT A HORSE AUCTION.

WHAT A NOVICE SEES AND HEARS AT TATTERSALL'S.

Persuasiveness of the Delsartean Auctioneer and Responsiveness of the Big Man Who Knows All About Horseflesh—Women at the Sale—Reminiscences.

If the persons who do not attend horse races or sales of thoroughbreds had dropped in at one of the sales at Tattersall's last week they would have been more than repaid by observing the curious character of the assemblage, the picturesqueness of some of the most prominent figures, and the amusing nature of some of the incidents. For half an hour before the race began groups of horse lovers were gathered around the box stalls looking at wild-eyed youngsters, or seated around the ring telling stories of exciting, amusing, or pathetic experiences on the turf.

The ring looked small and the whole appearance of the interior of the building was illusive. When the reporter first started to walk round the room he thought he was moving through a series of circular rooms of medium size, with low ceilings on the outer rim and a big opening in the centre, through which could be seen two narrow circular galleries; but after he had walked around once he found that there was only one room. Half a dozen women sat in the lower gallery. There were no women on the main floor.

TELLING A STORY.

The difference in horsemen's ideas of personal appearance was emphasized in many groups. There were numerous "swells," known among the stable boys as gentlemen, in distinction from the roughly dressed ones. Nearly all of these wore wonderful heavy, light-colored, double-breasted box overcoats with big pearl buttons, or big gray, white, or yellow mackintoshes. The biggest buyers were not in this class, however. A characteristic group of big horsemen was seated near the reporters' table. Four more curious types could not be imagined. The man who did most of the talking was big and strong, with a bronzed face and brown moustache, powerful hands that had evidently not been idle, a slight inclination to obesity, and a calm, deliberate way of speaking. He wore a brown check suit of quiet pattern, and his jewelry was a watch chain strung across his chest, a plain gold ring, and a gold collar button with a diamond centre. At his right was a severe-looking man with a rather long gray and black beard, and a black patch over one eye. This man wore a gray and black suit, a black slouch hat, and no jewelry. The third man was evidently a Hoosier, and he frequently interrupted with suggestions of his own. He was tall and thin and wore a remarkable shirt with broad blue stripes, and a dark suit. His watch chain was in massive links, and his big seal ring would have cut ugly gashes in a fight. The fourth man was small and rather cadaverous, and looked very knowing. He never said anything, but sat listening to the others with tightly compressed lips. The bearded man was silent, too. The big man was just relating a reminiscence of Commodore Kitson when the reporter approached.

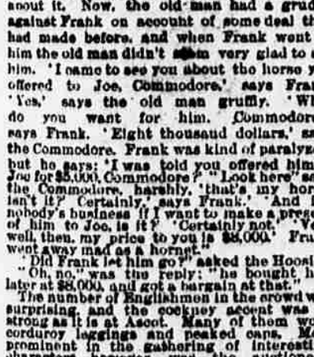
THE SALE IS ON.

"The old man," he was saying, "had promised to let Joe have the horse for $5,000. Joe wasn't buying just then, but he thought the offer a mighty good one, so he told Frank about it. Now, the old man had a grudge against Frank on account of some deal they had made before, and when Frank went to him the old man didn't seem very glad to see him. 'I came to see you about the horse you offered to Joe, Commodore,' says Frank. 'Yes,' says the old man gruffly. 'What do you want for him, Commodore?' says Frank. 'Eight thousand dollars,' says the Commodore. Frank was kind of paralyzed, but he says: 'I was told you offered him to Joe for $5,000, Commodore.' 'Look here' says the Commodore, harshly, 'that's my horse, isn't it?' 'Certainly,' says Frank. 'And it's nobody's business if I want to make a present of him to Joe, is it?' 'Certainly not.' 'Very well, then, my price to you is $8,000.' Frank went away mad as a hornet."

"Did Frank let him go?" asked the Hoosier.

"Oh, no," was the reply; "he bought him later at $6,000, and got a bargain at that."

The number of Englishmen in the crowd was surprising, and the cockney accent was as strong as it is at Ascot. Many of them wore corduroy leggings and peaked caps. Most prominent in the gathering of interesting characters, however, was the auctioneer. Horsemen all over the world have heard of William Easton, who, besides being the auctioneer, is the manager and director of Tattersall's branch in New York, and many have met him. To the big crowd that faced him when he stepped on the platform and raised his little gavel, he was evidently a source of entertainment. He is a big, strong man, faultlessly dressed, and schooled in all the tactics of a great auctioneer. His manners were courteous. The most accomplished graduate of the Delsartean school could study with profit his apparently unstudied postures.



"SMALL I SAY GONE?"

Mr. Easton fixed his gaze directly upon a big man with a very red, clean-shaven face, who sat opposite him. This man wore a heavy ulster and was anything but stylish, but he was evidently a big man. Not everybody within twenty feet of him kept appealing to him for information and advice as the sale proceeded. He looked up when the auctioneer first glanced down and, as their glances met, the big man's eyes turned modestly toward the floor and an amused smile spread over his face. That smile remained throughout the sale. In fact, all the horsemen seemed to be rather tickled by the pleasantries and talk of the auctioneer. That Mr. Easton was English was shown beyond question by the first word he uttered. He was delighted, he told all, to see so many good judges of horseflesh present, and he was more than pleased to be there himself. Some excellent horses were to be sold during the evening, and he was sure they would be appreciated. At all events, the sale was open and the bidders were going to have everything their own way.

"Yes, gentlemen," he added with a drawl, "you shall have your own sweet way, and I declare that you will see great bargains. Now, the first lot that I have to offer you just arrived in the city from Montana. They have been seventeen days on the way, locked up in a freight car, and yet I can assure you they are sound as a guinea, which argues fine constitutions, you see. But you can judge for yourselves, gentlemen."

A wild-looking cowboy led the first horse into the ring by a long rope attached to a halter. Mr. Easton called for a bid and somebody said $100. Several others bid higher. The auctioneer dilated upon the good points of the animal and lamented the lack of bids: all the time he kept his eyes fixed on the big man. The latter hitched uneasily in his chair and looked up. As if waiting for the opportunity the auctioneer leaned over the desk and said quickly:

"Now, that was a bid, wasn't it? You know it best you a good deal more for colts not a whit better than this one. You may be getting another Montana Regent, you know. This one is of the same stock, and I warrant you he is just as good as his sire was at his age. Just look at him now; isn't he a fine fellow? James (to the cowboy), turn him around so that Mr. — can see him. Not that way, man; look at the way I am pointing, and bring his head around to it. Now, that was a bid, wasn't it?"

The tone was so coaxing that everybody seemed to feel that it would be a real pity if the big man didn't admit that he had raised the bid, and everybody was looking at him and indicating his thoughts on the subject very plainly. So the big man added another $50 to the bid, and the horse was promptly knocked down to him. Some spirited competition resulted upon the production of a handsome brown filly, but the top notch seemed to have been reached when the auctioneer turned on the last bidder, and said:

"Thank you, sir. I am exceedingly grateful to you, I assure you." Then, turning to the preceding bidder, he added: "Now, sir, what do you say? Shall it be 400? A most excellent judge you are bidding against, sir; a most excellent judge. You will find you won't go astray on his judgment. Now, shall I have 400?"

The appeal could not be resisted and 400 it was. Then back again to the "judge:"

"Now, sir, will it be five?"

The "judge" sat stolidly silent and unresponsive, and there were tears in the auctioneer's voice as he added:

"Oh, bear me out, won't you? I said you were an excellent judge. Oh, don't go back on me when I said that."

But the "judge" would not have it, and the other fellow got it after all. The prices up to this time had not been large, although the auctioneer had worked hard; but general interest was manifested when a beautiful chestnut filly, a perfect fine, was brought in.

"Now, gentlemen, I beg of you," said Mr. Easton, "won't you kindly give all your attention to this lovely animal. I appeal to the experts, and I know there are many such here, to say whether they ever saw a prettier yearling. Now, if she isn't a regular racing nag, I never saw one. A finer mare never stood in a ring. Her owner tells me that he had an offer of $2,000 for her from a gentleman on the other side only a week ago. Now, gentlemen, I won't pay myself such a poor compliment as to tell you that I am not telling you an untruth, for I am not in the habit of telling stories. I don't have to do it to make my living."

The first bid was $500, and in spite of urging and pleading she brought only $1,300. As the sale continued, the auctioneer frequently stopped to ask: "Now, aren't there any judges here?" Again he would say: "Gentlemen, I implore you, don't miss these chances to win a great horse for a mere song. I won't say that this mare will make a racing nag, but she may; and if she don't, she will pay for herself in a very short time in breeding, you know. Now, take my advice, do. Once he offered the Roseberry filly $1,075 more than he had paid, and didn't change a muscle when his offer was quickly snapped up.

CAMPAIGNING IN TIVOLI.

The Experiences of a Democratic Orator in that Lively Place.

When Mr. Samuel Pickwick and his friends went to the Esfanswill elections they saw some interesting things. Mr. Pickwick did not live long enough to attend a political meeting in Tivoli on the Hudson. One Democratic orator, whose eloquence is well known throughout the State, did go to Tivoli in a recent campaign. It was one of the first speeches that he delivered in this State. The committee met him at the depot and escorted him to the hotel with a great deal of ceremony. His reputation had gone before him, and there was no hall in town large enough to hold the audience that had gathered. It was arranged, therefore, that he should speak in the open air from the roof of the hotel piazza. The parlors of the hotel looked out on this platform and they were reserved for the ladies. Politics was running high in Tivoli, and every small town near there had sent an enthusiastic delegation of solid men.

The interest of the occasion was divided between the speaker of the evening and a uniformed company of young men. The street was packed in front of the hotel and the speaker began his address after an eloquent introduction by the Chairman of the committee. The crowd was just getting interested in the speaker's remarks when a drum corps marched down the street leading the uniformed company. It was a sight that stirred the souls of the young women in the hotel parlors and the speaker rested while the drum corps and the young men marched up and down between him and his audience. Then the speaker began again. The uniformed company broke ranks and each young man became a centre of attraction, to the annoyance of the speaker. The speaker struggled bravely, however, and reached the most eloquent part of his address. It was a description of a great charge, and every sentence told in working up to the climax. Two Tivoli dogs seized the opportunity to settle old scores, just in front of the hotel, and the speaker stopped. The dogs were separated and kicked off in opposite directions, and the speaker took up his charge again. The little band of brave soldiers had nearly reached the enemy, when a high, cracked, anxious voice called out from the hotel parlor window back of him:

"George, was one of them our dog?"

It took several minutes to convince the old lady that her dog was safe. The speaker left his band of soldiers charging at the enemy and wound up his speech in a hurry. He was tired and he went to bed. Half an hour later a special committee of three invaded his room and invited him to come down to the bar and meet the members of the drum corps. As the speaker appeared in response to this invitation, the flies and drums broke loose and filled the little room with noise. Then everybody had a drink, and a man took the speaker off one side and whispered:

"Do you see that old white-haired man playing the base drum?"

The speaker did.

"Well," said the man, "he is now 75 years old and deaf as a post. He has been playing that drum for the last fifty years with our local drum corps."

There was another drink all around, during which the old drummer stopped playing, and then another man called the speaker one side and said:

"Say, that old drummer is an interesting character. He is 85 years old, and has been playing with our local drum corps for the last sixty years. He is a little deaf, but a great artist on the base drum."

Some one stopped the old drummer and threw the corps off the track of the "Girl I Left Behind Me" by a pandemonium with a glass. Everybody had the same, and one of the spectators called the speaker aside and said:

"There is no more interesting character in Tivoli than that old deaf drummer. I know positively that he is 95 years old, and the town records show that he has been playing with our local drum corps for the past seventy years. Nothing like that in New York, eh?"

Then the speaker broke away and retired to his room again. He was just dreaming of the climax of his celebrated charge when he heard afar on the field the jubilant music of the drum corps that heralded victory. The music grew louder, and the heavy tramp of the troops could be heard. It was more thrilling than anything the dreamer had ever pictured. There was a crash and an explosion, and the speaker found himself sitting up in bed very much awake. His door had been broken open. There were two men in the room with lanterns, and lined up at the foot of his bed was the drum corps playing violently. The old drummer's eyes were swimming, but his right arm swung with the regularity of seventy-five years' practice. Behind him his proud associates played unsteadily, for theirs had been "the same" all the evening. The speaker held the bedclothes up to his ears and the musicians stopped with an I'm-going-to-vote-against-you expression in their faces. They were hurt. The speaker got into a dressing gown and suggested a little more of "the same." The drummer's expression changed and the procession marched to the little room below. It was daylight when the speaker got to bed again, but he left the members of the drum corps happy. The old drummer afterward said that he had been "absolutely poisoned."

"If the committee attempts to send me to Tivoli again," said the speaker at the Windsor Hotel in Catskill the other evening, "I'll—I'll—I'll go on a strike, sure."

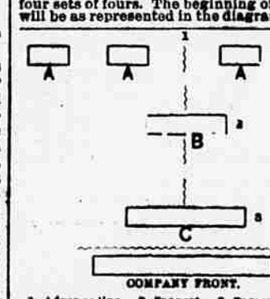
FIGHTING IN OUR NEXT WAR.

Some Facts About the New Drill Regulations of the United States Army.

The new drill regulations of the United States Army will be issued in all probability about the first of next January. Their adoption is as great a change, so far as the army is concerned, as the new ironclads are to our navy, and they are quite as important to the country at large. It is nearly a score of years now since the present Upton tactics were adopted, and during that time every other nation of importance in the world has repeatedly changed its tactics to meet the requirements of modern arms. Slow as we have been, however, it is probable that our tactical Board has furnished us with the best system of fighting for all-around use that was ever devised. While the battle formation of the French and German armies has been adopted, as it most properly should have been, we are still to retain the old Upton system somewhat modified and simplified, and, what is of absolute necessity for manœuvring in our own country, we are to retain the unit of four. In this way the Board has enabled us to fight on the line of battle precisely as the European armies do, while in solid bodies our armies will be handled with far more ease than any others. Moreover, in defending our own soil, should it ever become necessary, we will have a tremendous advantage by reason of the retention of the unit of four, inasmuch as the European armies as a rule march either two abreast or sixteen abreast, and while the former would make an army ridiculously unwieldy the latter would be useless, owing to the narrowness of our American roads.

In a recent conversation with a member of the Board for the revision of the United States tactics, the writer got a very good idea of the most important changes that have been made in the "drill regulations," as they are to be called, for the three branches of the service. Decidedly the most important change in the infantry tactics is the entire abolishment of the present skirmish system and the substitution for it of a uniform system of fighting on the line of battle. The regulations are devised for a company whose maximum strength is to be 125 men in double rank. Companies in the German army consist of 250 men, and in the French about the same. The number of officers is the same, and therefore it would seem that the Germans and French have the advantage of us in the economy of officers. This cannot be obviated, however, in a country where there are so few trained officers as there are in ours, and it was necessary to limit the strength of the companies so that one officer could handle a company if he were deprived of the aid of experienced lieutenants. Each company is to be divided into two platoons, and each platoon into two sections, the sections to be of equal size and to consist of as many sets of fours as the strength of the company will permit. The only innovation here is, of course, in the sections, and the reason for it will be seen by a glance at the formation for battle.

The formation for battle is to be in three lines. The first, called the "advance" line, is to consist of one-fourth the fighting strength of the command; the second, called the "support," is likewise to consist of one-fourth the fighting strength; and the third, which is called the "reserve," is to consist of the remaining half of the command. The fighting line of the command is to be the actual length of the command in single rank, or double the length in double rank. This extent of line is assumed at once by the advance line, the men being deployed at intervals in squads of eight (one set of fours double rank) instead of individually at intervals of five yards, as by the old system. As the fight progresses the support comes up on the line and deploys in squads in the same manner, and, finally, when necessary, the reserve comes up and makes the fighting line a continuous body of men in single rank. To illustrate, take a command consisting of a single company of sixteen sets of fours. Each section will then consist of four sets of fours. The beginning of the action will be as represented in the diagram:



COMPANY FRONT.

1. Advance line. 2. Support. 3. Reserve. [The distances between the different lines are greatly reduced.]
A, A, A, A.—Sets of fours (squads).
B.—One section.
C.—One platoon.

This method of fighting in squads is the one referred to as adapted from the French and German systems, and the object is to keep the men under better control than was possible under the old system. Individual firing is done away with, and each squad fires practically in volleys under command of the squad leader, who, if not a non-commissioned officer, will be No. 1 of the front rank of each set of fours, when he is knocked over No. 2 of the front rank taking his place, and so on under the new system it is almost impossible to stop the skirmish line from firing after it has once begun, and utterly impossible to prevent the men from wasting ammunition. All this is obviated in the new system, as there will always be some responsible head to each squad as long as the squad exists. The Germans and French fight in squads of sixteen instead of eight, as we are to fight, but, without boasting, it is more than probable, owing to the immense superiority of our army (not excluding the militia in the matter of rifle practice) to the armies of Europe, that eight of our men will prove quite as destructive as sixteen of the foreigners. We are far ahead of them in this respect, and probably superior to any army that was ever organized.

For the manœuvring of bodies of men in masses the Upton tactics for infantry have been simplified; this is especially true of the square and column formations, which, as they stand, are almost mystifying to company and division commanders. Now the commands of the battalion commander are so altered that they suggest to the division commander the proper command for his division. Hereafter, following the French system, the men in ranks will be permitted to look (turn the head) toward the marching flank as often as necessary while marching a wheel, and in ranks an actual space will separate each man from the files on his right and left, so the old touch of elbows having been abandoned.

The manual of arms has been greatly changed. The "reverse arms," "rest on arms," and "support arms" have been abolished. A new movement has been added to bring the gun at one command, from a "right shoulder" to an "order arms." A new method of carrying the piece has been introduced. It is called "slope arms." The piece is carried on the shoulder at a natural angle, supported by the right hand much as a baseball player would carry a bat on his shoulder. It is particularly intended for the march, and its use is practically limited to the column of fours or single rank formations. Troops will do escort duty at military funerals at a "right shoulder" hereafter, instead of the time-honored "reverse arms," and during reviews and the like will stand at an "order arms" instead of a "carry. Commands are to be dressed at an "order arms," and for this purpose the men raise the butt of the gun a few inches from the ground while dressing. These are the more important changes in the infantry tactics.

The artillery tactics have been developed rather than changed to any great extent, the main changes being those that have been necessitated in battery distances, radii for wheelings, &c., owing to the increased length of the piece now that the artillery is being supplied with the new breech-loading rifle. The development has gone into the line of actual fighting tactics rather than drill, and is a book of instruction on the posting of each separate gun in an advantageous position, the seeking of shelter, measuring of ranges, and the like. Hereafter, instead of the rumble and roar that characterized the light artillery when going into battery, the object will be to get the pieces into action as quietly as possible. Fixed distances between the pieces are abandoned, and each gun will get the most advantageous position that it can find. Of course, the manual of the piece has been greatly altered to conform to the requirements of the breech loader. Otherwise the artillery tactics will remain much as they are.

The cavalry tactics have been changed very little, too. The main thing that has been done with them is the development of the idea of the present system of making the men as efficient dismounted as mounted. Neither the sabre nor revolver has been abandoned, as a great many students of cavalry tactics may have supposed, and the cavalry mess will look quite as much like a walking or riding arsenal as heretofore. From this it is evident that the Board does not believe that the cavalry charge is a thing of the past.

Finally, the new tactics are the result of years of earnest work by men qualified by years of experience and study for the work to a far greater extent than any other tactical Board we have ever had. The tactics have been approved by the best Generals in our army and have been open to the invited criticism of all other officers. With modern weapons, with our wonderful skill in marksmanship, and with our new tactics, we may rest assured that our armies can hold their own with any armies that exist.

A SEASON AT THE WICKETS.

SOME INTERESTING FIGURES SHOWING THE CALIBRE OF OUR LEADING CLUBS.

The Record of the Metropolitan District League is a Good One, but a Change in the Sections is Called for—The Best Batters and Bowlers—Cobb's Brilliant Feat.

The second season of the Metropolitan District Cricket League is over, and if the first year was a success, the one just closed has been more so. The League originally started with six clubs, but those that remained out at first saw the advantage of the organization later, and by all the principal clubs joining the body it became at once truly representative of cricket in New York. That the championship games were more interesting than the contests of former years cannot be denied, but that the sections as at present constituted will have to be changed is the opinion of many. There is little benefit to the game, the clubs contesting, or the players themselves when clubs of the calibre of the Staten Island and Harlem meet, and the opinion prevails that one section should be formed of all the strong clubs and the other of the weaker. After each section of the League had concluded the schedule and the Manhattan and Brooklyn clubs had played off their tie, both concluding with 900 per cent., this is how they stood:

FIRST SECTION.

	Played.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.	Per Ct.
Staten Island	10	6	2	2	.750
New Jersey A. C.	10	6	3	1	.666
Paterson	10	5	4	1	.555
Kings County	10	5	5	0	.500
Fort Hamilton	10	3	7	0	.300
Harlem	10	3	7	0	.300

SECOND SECTION.

	Played.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.	Per Ct.
Manhattan	11	10	1	0	.909
Brooklyn	11	9	2	0	.818
Cosmopolitan	10	6	4	0	.600
Berkeley	10	5	6	1	.333
Bedford	10	1	8	1	.111
New York	10	1	9	0	.100

The Manhattan and Staten Island clubs each having the lead of its section, played off for the championship of New York, the result being that the League trophy for 1891 went to the Staten Island Club.

The batting of S. H. Barton and the bowling of J. L. Pool were mainly instrumental in the success of the Staten Island Club. S. H. Barton batted constantly throughout the series, and there are many who believe he displayed the best form of any cricketer in New York this year. N. S. Walker, Jr., also did good work, and he was one of the few players who scored the century during the season. C. J. Annand and C. S. Metcalfe were also successful. To Metcalfe, as much as to any one man, does the club owe its winning the championship, his patient innings against the New Jersey Athletic Club saving the day. The following are the principal batting averages of those who took part in at least six innings:

	Innings.	Times not out.	Most in an inning.	Runs.	Av'ge.
S. H. Barton	10	0	101	287	28.70
N. S. Walker, Jr.	9	0	103	152	25.33
J. L. Annand	10	2	38	151	18.87
C. S. Metcalfe	6	1	40	80	16.00
S. Ogilby	8	1	56	110	15.71
E. Mangleroir	7	0	22	61	8.71
J. L. Pool	6	1	16*	35	7.00

*Not out.

In the bowling department J. L. Pool did by far the best work, and was assisted by N. S. Walker, Jr., and C. J. Annand. Several others handled the ball in the series, but the three following were the only men who obtained ten wickets or over:

	Balls.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.	Av'ge.
J. L. Pool	1[illegible]	35	176	30	5.87
N. S. Walker, Jr.	226	6	101	14	7.21
C. J. Annand	335	18	150	13	11.53

The New Jersey Athletic Club had a great battle with Staten Island for supremacy and had the Jerseymen not been defeated in their last game with the Paterson Club they would at least have had a tie lead of their section. J. Rose heads the batting list with 210 runs for eight innings, and his services as wicket keeper were also of great benefit to the club. E. J. Darvell, T. G. Clarke, Capt. White, C. G. Turner, and G. H. Ellis all got into the coveted figures, as will be seen by the following table:

	Innings.	Times not out.	Most in an inning.	Runs.	Av'ge.
J. Rose	8	0	61	210	26.25
E. J. Darvell	8	1	24	112	16.00
T. G. Clarke	8	0	73	118	14.75
T. L. White	6	0	38	69	11.50
C. G. Turner	9	1	22	85	10.62
G. H. Ellis	10	2	30	81	10.12
E. Snelgrove	10	1	20*	73	8.11

*Not out.

G. H. Ellis was very successful in bowling, and easily leads all the others. He accomplished some great work on his good days, taking five wickets for nine runs against Paterson, five wickets for eight runs against Harlem, while against the strong Staten Island team in the two games he obtained nine wickets for 51 runs. The following men obtained over ten wickets:

	Balls.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.	Av'ge.
G. H. Ellis	903	83	167	41	4.07
T. G. Clarke	205	9	83	12	6.91
J. L. Reid	330	16	143	18	7.94

The third club of the First Section, the Paterson Club, played a see-saw game throughout the season, defeating both Staten Island and the New Jersey Athletic clubs, while submitting to reverses at the hands of Harlem, Fort Hamilton, and Kings County. The individual batting averages of the club are not large, but the team work was of a fair average. The batting averages are:

	Innings.	Times not out.	Most in an inning.	Runs.	Av'ge.
F. Welde	8	1	59	98	14.00
M. Gordon	7	0	58	85	12.14
J. F. Smallwood	11	3	29	93	12.00
I. Sutton	8	2	28*	52	8.66
J. McDonald	9	2	17	56	8.00
W. Riley	7	2	10*	34	6.80
W. Clarkson	10	1	16	47	5.22

*Not out.

W. Clarkson did the best bowling, but was closely pressed by J. McDonald, whose record against Staten Island in the two matches was quite praiseworthy—eight wickets for fifty-four runs. The ten-wicket men were:

	Balls.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.	Av'ge.
W. Clarkson	624	24	226	31	7.29
S. Holmes	254	12	114	15	7.60
J. McDonald	557	21	201	27	8.19

The Kings County Club won and lost an equal number of games, but they had great satisfaction in defeating the Staten Island team, which was worth two of three victories over other clubs. E. Snelgrove and E. W. Congdon were the only men to obtain double-figure averages, and the batting was very weak all through the season. The leaders are:

	Innings.	Times not out.	Most in an inning.	Runs.	Av'ge.
E. Snelgrove	11	2	26	138	15.30
E. W. Congdon	10	1	26	100	11.11
H. Manley	8	1	16	57	8.14
W. J. Wood	9	0	19	54	6.00

The bowling averages show to greater advantage, and, although T. O'Reilly leads in figures, his brother, W. H. O'Reilly did the best work of the season. During the earlier portion of the year he was at his best, and his records in the successive matches against New Jersey, Fort Hamilton, Harlem, and Staten Island showed 23 wickets for 115 runs. The leaders' records are:

	Balls.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.	Av'ge.
T. J. O'Reilly	250	9	100	17	5.88
W. O'Reilly	481	17	178	29	6.13
W. J. Wood	662	36	188	26	7.23

The Fort Hamilton Club had to depend principally on J. E. Roberts and S. A. Noon, and these two men did all the batting of the year with an occasional score from one of the others. The club have had to fight many obstacles, and deserved great credit for their uphill battle. The batting averages are:

	Innings.	Times not out.	Most in an inning.	Runs.	Av'ge.
J. E. Roberts	9	0	25	137	15.22
S. A. Noon	11	1	36	147	14.70
G. Leonard	8	0	17	61	7.62
A. Wykes	10	2	9	48	5.37

R. Kirkwood and J. E. Roberts did all the bowling, the next best being G. Dale, with seven wickets for eighty-two runs. Their figures were:

	Balls.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.	Av'ge.
R. Kirkwood	536	17	227	36	6.30
J. E. Roberts	757	24	345	40	8.62

The young Harlem Club brings up the rear in the First Section, but they derived some satisfaction from twice defeating their rivals for the last place, the Fort Hamilton Club, and, perhaps, on this account, should be placed in front of the latter. The batting of the team was very weak, only D. O'Reilly obtaining a double-figure average, as will be seen by the following:

	Innings.	Times not out.	Most in an inning.	Runs.	Av'ge.
D. O'Reilly	7	1	29	64	10.66
C. Helms	8	1	23	53	8.83
F. L. Alberga	7	1	14	24	4.00
J. E. Redman	8	0	20	21	2.50
J. Taylor	6	2	19	33	5.50

D. A. Lindsay, Jr., did the best bowling, and at one time headed the League figures. With a reliable field at his back he would certainly have done better, and his record shows that a good, slow bowler would prove a success in New York. The bowling records are:

	Balls.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.	Av'ge.
D. A. Lindsay, Jr.	241	10	103	23	4.13
J. Fedlow	100	0	74	10	7.40
H. F. Turtle	407	8	304	14	21.71

The Manhattan Club had this year probably the strongest eleven that ever represented their colors, and their defeat in the final game for the championship was a surprise to many. The batting averages of the team are far ahead of any other club in the League, no less than eight of the eleven men being in double figures, while the three leaders in the League were all Manhattan men. M. R. Cobb, the captain of the club, won the Rainsford Cup, but R. O. Davies and C. W. Lowe made a great fight for the trophy. The batting records are:

	Innings.	Times not out.	Most in an inning.	Runs.	Av'ge.
M. R. Cobb	6	4	50*	272	40.40
R. O. Davies	6	1	83	183	36.60
C. W. Lowe	7	2	79	152	30.40
W. Brooks	6	1	55*	94	18.80
F. J. Prendergast	7	0	31	96	13.71
R. C. Blossom	7	0	52	100	14.40
A. Smedley	7	2	29*	59	11.80
R. L. Patteson	9	1	37	84	10.50
A. Wylie	8	0	19	51	6.37

*Not out.

In bowling M. R. Cobb again came out ahead, and by winning the Boyd Cup accomplished a feat which will probably never be done in New York again, that is, gaining both batting and bowling average two years in succession. R. O. Davies also did well, and A. Smedley on several occasions showed that with a more liberal captain he would have obtained a good record. Those who obtained ten wickets were:

	Balls.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.	Av'ge.
M. R. Cobb	656	28	159	49	3.06
R. O. Davies	333	11	129	22	5.86
A. Smedley	303	15	105	17	6.17

The Brooklyn Club made a wonderful and unexpected fight with the Manhattans for the lead of their section, and when the batting averages are observed their standing is all the more extraordinary. The record, however, may be traced to their fine work in the field, and in this they are not approached by any other club in the district. A few more of their members on the New York team against Lord Hawke's men would have made a material difference. Archie Brown, A. S. Durrant, and H. Helms did the best work with the willow, as the following figures show:

	Innings.	Times not out.	Most in an inning.	Runs.	Av'ge.
A. Brown	9	1	31	101	12.62
A. S. Durrant	11	1	23	102	10.20
H. Helms	9	0	38	84	9.33
J. C. Fairey	6	1	22*	41	8.20
W. A. Gray	10	1	18	62	6.88
W. T. Dyke	10	0	20	56	5.60

*Not out.

In bowling Archie Brown gave M. R. Cobb a very close fight, and his thirty-three wickets for 127 runs was a very creditable performance. A. S. Durrant and George Tuttle also obtained good figures, the record of the latter against the New York Cricket Club, when he obtained five wickets for one run, being the best work of the season. The three men are well under six runs per wicket, as the following table shows:

	Balls.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.	Av'ge.
A. Brown	457	23	127	33	3.84
A. S. Durrant	600	36	178	35	5.08
G. Tuttle	477	29	128	23	5.56

The Cosmopolitans were a very good third in their section, and were defeated only by the Manhattans and Brooklyns. The first match with the former club, when they lost only by one run, was the closest of the season. The club's standing is due greatly to the play of their captain, H. E. Jackson, while F. W. Gillett, G. Myers, and H. L. Walker also assisted by good work on many occasions. The principal averages are:

	Innings.	Times not out.	Most in an inning.	Runs.	Av'ge.
H. E. Jackson	9	2	56	188	26.86
F. W. Gillett	9	1	27	101	12.62
J. Flannery	12	0	49	137	11.41
G. Myers	10	1	37*	81	9.00
H. L. Walker	12	0	22	100	8.33
J. Covey	8	0	24	50	6.25

*Not out.

H. E. Jackson again came to the front in the bowling department, and he could have had even a better average had he sacrificed the club for the individual. His record of six wickets for eighteen runs in the first Berkeley match was probably his best effort. He repeated this against the Manhattans. G. Myers also was responsible for the fall of some good wickets at a low cost, his five wickets for nine runs against Berkeley being the chief cause of his club's victory in the second game by the score 108 to 27. The figures are:

	Balls.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.	Av'ge.
H. E. Jackson	516	23	176	38	4.63
G. Myers	206	14	102	20	5.10
H. L. Walker	430	10	222	24	9.25

The record of the Berkeleys was disappointing. Their team was certainly worth more than three victories in the League schedule, but this number was all obtained out of ten matches. The Rev. D. J. Evans proved himself the best batsman in the club by good, sterling cricket, and George Weech also showed excellent form by his double-figure average. The bowling figures are incomplete, owing to the Secretary of the League not receiving the analysis of one match, but it is known that the Rev. J. Evans leads with 8.27 per wicket, with H. Maxfield 9.55, and C. S. Carnaghan 11.93 following. The batting averages are:

	Innings.	Times not out.	Most in an inning.	Runs.	Av'ge.
Rev. D. J. Evans	9	1	38	132	16.50
G. Weech	12	1	29	121	10.08
H. Young	9	0	37	63	9.00
E. Gould	11	1	26	51	5.10
S. W. Coulby	8	0	9	36	4.50

The Bedford Club just improved their position of last year by going up a notch by defeating the New York Club. They have two or three fair batsmen in the club, but are very weak in bowling and fielding. C. T. Toddings and W. O. Wilkinson both obtained double-figure averages, but the rest were nowhere. Their record is:

	Innings.	Times not out.	Most in an inning.	Runs.	Av'ge.
C. T. Toddings	8	2	48	65	10.83
W. O. Wilkinson	8	0	21	85	10.62
A. Clifford	6	1	9	36	7.20
F. D. Sewell	9	2	23*	43	6.14

*Not out.

W. Clarke did the best bowling of the twelve men who trundled during the season, three men obtaining ten wickets, as follows:

	Balls.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.	Av'ge.
W. Clarke	159	1	91	13	7.00
H. Cleverley	231	9	114	11	10.36
W. O. Wilkinson	336	15	128	12	10.66

The New Yorks complete the list of twelve clubs, and they have the unenviable record of having the smallest percentage of any club in the League. Internal dissensions completely disrupted the organization, and those who stuck to their colors had enabled the club to complete the schedule, playing men short in every match, certainly deserve some measure of credit. Both batting and bowling averages are lamentably weak. E. Walker leads those who have taken part in six innings, but he only made thirty-eight runs in eight innings. The following are those with the best batting records:

	Innings.	Times not out.	Most in an inning.	Runs.	Av'ge.
E. Walker	8	1	19	68	8.43
J. D. Rourke	6	0	18	31	5.16
J. H. Mitchell	10	2	22*	87	4.83
E.