A VICTORIOUS RELIANCE.

The Giants From Butte Are Defeated in a Great Game of Football.

THE SCORE STOOD 10 TO 4.

Splendid Sport Witnessed by Thousands at Central Park Yesterday Afternoon.

The Reliance football team won from the Butte team by a score of ten to four in Central Park yesterday.

It was such a contest as football enthusiasts see but once in a decade. The two heaviest and most powerful teams that have ever been seen in the West fought in slime and mud for nearly two hours and a half, and so hard and fiercely that four men were assisted from the field unable to continue the struggle. Time after time big men, great 200-pound fellows, lay on the muddy ground completely prostrated from the severity of their exertions and the tremendous force of their compact with the human wall they encountered. But with all their fierceness and rushing and terrible smashes the splendid game was unmarred by any exhibition of slugging.

Within twelve minutes of the first kick-off Reliance had scored a touchdown. Wyckoff had punted well down into Butte territory. Butte had carried the ball back across the white lines by irresistible line-bucking until they reached the middle of the field and had regained by massive force what Wyckoff had obtained on the first punt. There Butte could gain no more, and Reliance took the ball back with equally brilliant plunges and short runs, over the goal line, without once losing the pigskin.

All the rest of the first half the two teams fought back and forth across the middle line until Reliance punted down to the Butte 15-yard line, and Butte, working with the energy of despair, rushed fiercely up the field tearing through and hammering Reliance until they had entered Reliance territory. Then time was up for the first half and Reliance had 6 points and Butte had not scored.

Early in the first half Captain Brooks reluctantly limped from the field and took up his position on the sidelines in the midst of a striking looking group of brawny Butte substitutes, attired in red and white sweaters and similarly striped toboggan caps.

The second half was even more brilliant than the first had been. Butte early crowded the Reliance very close down on their own goal, but Wyckoff freed his team from a dangerous predicament with a beautifully executed kick, just as the men were almost upon him. The fighting after that was long and fierce in Butte's territory, but foot by foot Reliance advanced until within the five-yard line, and there Butte made a beautiful stand and held like a stone wall. A kick soon relieved the imminent danger to the goal; but their security was short lived. Oliver picked the ball up on a fluke near the 20-yard line, and cleared everything between him and the tall posts.

He missed the try at goal, but Reliance still had 10 points to nothing.

How hard and how valiantly Butte played in the short time that remained! Again and again their great sprinter nearly got clear of the crowd by his dashes. And then when it looked as though Reliance would surely score again that wonderful run came. A man in a black jersey flashed up the field with the speed of a racehorse, almost from one goal to the other.

Butte had scored at the very end when every one was momentarily expecting the call of time. It was a magnificent exhibition of human speed. A run of 90 yards with eleven men falling further and further behind in a futile effort to catch the man with the ball under his arm.

A little while longer and the game was ended, although the Butte men tried repeatedly to send their remarkable runner on a second spurt that would have tied the score.

The Reliance backs were playing close up to the line, when the unexpected happened. Butte had just stopped Reliance up for the third time and got the ball on the 20-yard line. Reliance did not fear a kick, for Butte had not been very successful in kicking. It was a line-smashing drive that Reliance looked for. Big Hartzell had hurled through them too often to be forgotten in the crisis. The ball was snapped back, whisked to Gillis, who, starting as though he were fired from a cannon, cleaned Lanyon's end and sped up the field, skirting close to the human fence that bent and curved forward over the side lines.

With one roaring burst of non-partisan admiration the crowd went wild—wilder than it had been at any one of the brilliant performances of the home team, with which the great majority of the hundreds of spectators had shown their sympathies.

The game merited all the praise that the spectators with one accord heaped upon the great exhibition. Men rushed along the side lines telling each other that it was the best match they had ever seen; and the only regret is that the unfavorable weather prevented its being seen by more people, for it was one of those exhibitions that spectators go about after and tell their friends, "You ought to have seen it."

Wyckoff's skillful punts on several occasions liberated Reliance from a very ticklish position. And every one of them were executed when the Butte men were all but upon him.

For Butte, next to Gillis' great run, Hartzell's unfailing plunges into the line were a revelation to Californians.

Big Bert Oliver's excellent interference for the backs made him the most noticeable guard on the field. But the mighty Michigan tower, the pink-haired Hooper, was always in evidence, shoving and hurling himself against the equally powerful Smith, captain of the Olympics.

The Butte players came clambering on to the field at a quarter past 2 o'clock like a company of prize giants. People looked and wondered at their size as they massed themselves near the south goal and held a council of war. And five minutes later the Reliance men vaulted over the low fence and began running about the field, kicking and passing the ball. Their entrance was greeted with applause that showed it came from nearly every man present.

A few moments later McMillan jumped into the field and ran toward his new team. It was the first time the local enthusiasts had seen the old Reliance captain in his Butte suit, and they gave him a hearty welcome.

When the game started a big man from Butte called out repeatedly, "$100 on Butte," but no one took him up. The Butte manager was there with all his insignia and medals and emblems and trophies and flags attached to his person. People wondered who he was, but he went steadily on writing his two-minute bulletins and sending them to the telegraph instrument, for Butte and two other Montana towns were taking a half holiday to receive those bulletins. It was not enough that two special correspondents should be present. Butte must have a special wire, and she had it, with all the munificent style that has characterized her reckless backing of a sport into which the people of Montana have plunged heart and soul.

Following are the elevens as they faced each other:

Reliance.	Position.	Butte.
Racine, 160	L. end R.	Bohn, 165
Sexton, 175	L. tackle R.	Monroe, 189; Laswell, 170
Oliver, 190	L. guard R.	Perham, 190
Burnett, 191	Center	C. Hooper, 193; Weiss, 195
Smith, 191	R. guard L.	J. Hooper, 195
Downing, 178; McHugh, 180	R. tackle L.	Slater, 189
Lanyon, 165	R. end L.	King, 158
Harrelson, 140	Quarter	Capt. Brooks, 150; Richards, 164
Wyckoff, 145	L. half R.	Laswell, 170; Gillis, 156
Harry, 168	R. half L.	McMillan, 178
Capt. Frick, 143	Full	Hartzell, 190

Officials: Referee—George Bygert, University of Michigan '93 and ex-captain of the 'Varsity.

Umpire—H. W. Ransome, University of California '97 and Reliance A. C.

Linesmen—W. E. Traverse, Harvard '89 and Chicago A. C.; Tommy Code, Stanford '96 and Olympic A. C.

Touchdowns—Reliance 2, by Wyckoff and Oliver; Butte 1, by Gillis.

Goals—Reliance 1, by Oliver.

Score—Reliance 10, Butte 4.

Halves—Twenty minutes. Time of game, 2 hours 31 minutes. Attendance, 3000.

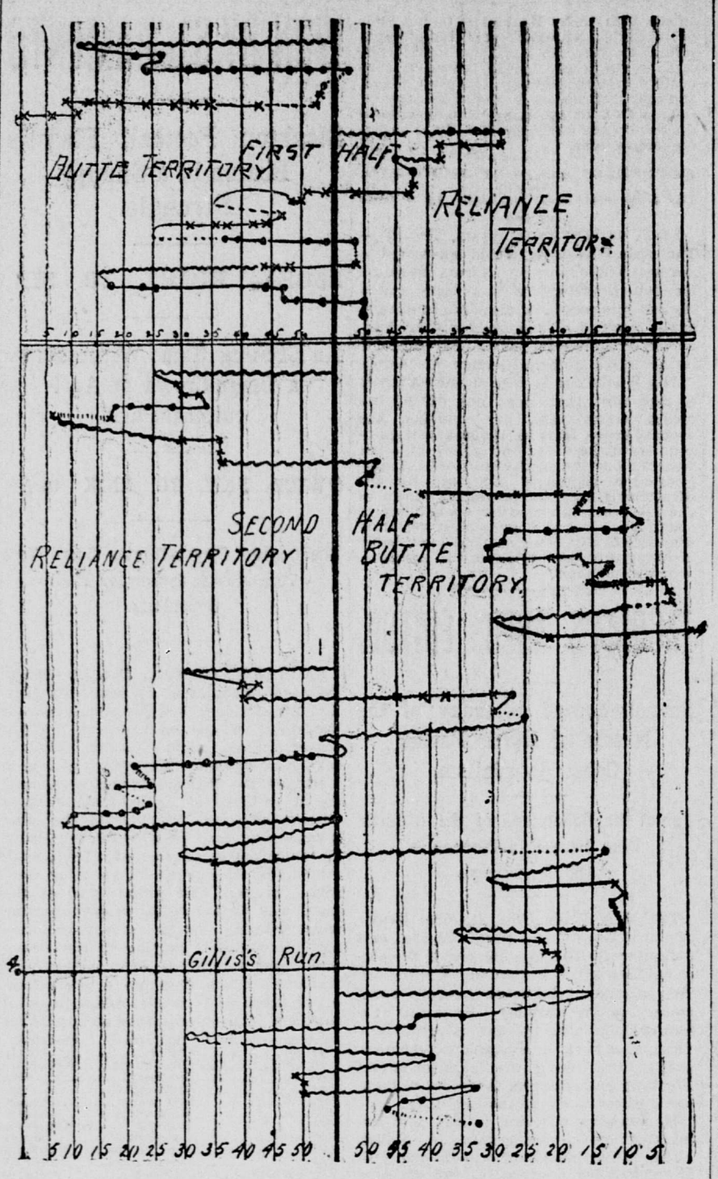

CHART OF THE PLAY.

[*The gridiron field is represented by the diagram on which are indicated the five-yard lines and the movements of the ball backward and forward according to which team was in possession. The first play is at the top. Wavy lines show where the ball is kicked; straight lines where it is carried; dotted lines where it goes on a fumble; short parallel lines where the opponents break through and force the runner back or down him behind the line; dash lines where the ball is moved by a decision of an official. The crosses mark the Reliance downs and the dots show where Butte was in possession of the ball.*]

OPINIONS OF THE CAPTAINS

Mud and Decisions Against Butte. Team Work and Handling of Kicks Told With Reliance.

It was a combination of several teams that beat us. Reliance has collected a tremendously strong eleven. There is no doubt that Butte could have beaten the original Reliance team. They admit that; but this union of Olympic and Reliance is what beat us.

I do not wish to register any kicks, but Mr. Ransome's two decisions when he took the ball away from us when we were close to and moving steadily toward the goal were very discouraging. Either time I think we would have scored. Those decisions were wrong. The linesmen and the referee say so.

Our fumbles on the wet ground really cost us the game, for our men are not used to a muddy field.

It was my intention to play Gillis in the first half, but both McMillan and Hooper thought it would be better to use our weight in a bucking instead of an end running game.

I think that the Butte line was as good as the Reliance. We took the ball from them on downs and they got it from us on our fumbles.

FRANCIS BROOKS,
Captain of Butte.

It is, in my opinion, the best game ever played on this coast. It was an excellent exhibition of football and a pretty even and hard-fought contest.

Reliance won by superior team work. Our handling of kicks was much cleaner and surer than theirs, and that materially strengthened our play. We made up for lack of line weight by excellent backing up of men on line bucking. The formations on such plays were closer and more compact than I have ever seen them.

FRED FRICK,
Captain of Reliance.

NO STORE in the City presents such an abundance of pretty moderate-priced articles for nice Christmas presents as Sanborn & Vail's. Open evenings, and visitors welcome whether wishing to purchase or not.

OLIVER MAKING HIS SPLENDID RUN TO A TOUCHDOWN.

[*Sketched at the game yesterday by a "Call" artist.*]

A SAILOR IN DISGRACE.

Lieutenant Werlick of the Philadelphia Is to Be Court-Martialed.

CHARGED WITH DRUNKENNESS.

He Went on Duty in an Intoxicated Condition and Was Placed Under Arrest.

A court-martial to inquire into the conduct of Lieutenant P. J. Werlich of the United States ship Philadelphia will be held at Mare Island to-morrow. The court will be composed of Captain H. C. Cochrane of the United States Marine Corps, judge advocate; members of the court, Captain T. F. Kane of the Monterey, Lieutenant-Commander E. W. Watson of the Ranger, Lieutenant T. S. Phelps of the Philadelphia, Lieutenant J. B. Milton of the Monterey, Lieutenant C. Fox of the Philadelphia, Lieutenant W. E. Wilner of the Philadelphia, Lieutenant F. E. Green of the Ranger, Lieutenant W. R. Rooney of the Monterey and one other officer of the Monterey.

The Philadelphia arrived from Puget Sound ports at an early hour yesterday morning. It did not take the news of the lieutenant's disgrace long to spread, and soon half of the water front was aware of the fact. The sailors sided with their officer and hoped he would be exonerated by the board. The breach of discipline was a flagrant one, however, and the other officers said that Admiral Beardsley was thoroughly indignant over the matter. At Port Townsend, Tacoma, Seattle and Olympia Werlich was reprimanded, but it did not do him any good apparently, as his final fall came later on.

It appears that while the Philadelphia was at Seattle Lieutenant Werlich was given a ten days' leave of absence. He had a jolly time ashore, and the night before he was to report for duty his friends gave him a dinner. The lieutenant looked upon the wine when it was red and he fell. He drank heavily all night and in the morning tried to brace up on cocktails. The experiment was a disastrous one, as it made him worse than ever. When he reached the warship he was in no condition to go on duty, but he made the attempt and in consequence was arrested and charged with being "drunk while on duty."

Lieutenant-Commander R. R. Ingersoll was very loth to talk about the unfortunate affair. He did admit, however, that a court-martial to try Werlich would convene at Mare Island on Monday. As to the merits of the case he would say nothing but hoped that Werlich might be exonerated. He denied emphatically a story to the effect that the lieutenant had had a woman aboard the cruiser at improper hours.

"Lieutenant Werlich had lady visitors on reception days, just the same as the other officers," said the commander, "but his conduct on those occasions was always that of an officer and a gentleman. There is only one charge against Werlich and that was his failing."

Lieutenant P. J. Werlich is about 36 years of age and graduated from the Annapolis Naval Academy in 1877. Several years ago he was married to Miss MacCeney of Washington, D. C., and when he was ordered to this coast his wife followed him. Mrs. Werlich has just undergone a severe surgical operation and the news of her husband's troubles will come as a severe shock to her. Werlich is not confined to his room, but he remains there from choice and will see no one. He is a very handsome man and an ideal-looking officer.

Gleam of Hope for the Cancer-Stricken.

Under this heading The Hospital prints the following note: The conviction is gaining ground that cancer is a parasitic, that is, a microbial disease, like tuberculosis. If this should prove to be so the cure of several large classes of cancer cases is within sight. The results of operations during the past fifteen years certainly point in this direction. Speaking at the British Medical Association's annual congress in July last, Jonathan Hutchinson made the assertion that cancer statistics would have to be rewritten, so large had been the proportion of cures within the last decade or two. But there are certain qualifications in this otherwise satisfactory progress. The most important of these are that the cancers which have been "cured" on so considerable a scale have been on or near the external surface of the body, and they have been diagnosed and operated upon at very early stages of their growth. Cancers of internal organs, which are seldom diagnosed very early and which cannot be reached by the surgeon's knife, still present the same hopeless features as before. On the point of early diagnosis and operation Dr. Roux of Lausanne has collected some important statistics. According to these, certain classes of cancer which offer reasonable hopes of cure if operated upon early, are lost in as many as 62 per cent of cases for the simple reason that they are brought to the operator a few months too late. In another class, still more favorable, 12 per cent seek operation when all hope is past, and as many as 50 per cent present themselves when it is too late to do anything but palliative operations. The moral for all persons is that in every case where the least suspicion of the presence of a new growth is entertained, medical advice should be sought without the loss of an hour; and the urgent warning to family practitioners is that as soon as they are convinced of the presence of a new growth they should take the operating surgeon into their councils without the delay of a day.

CLERKS WITHOUT PAY.

The Election Commissioners Preparing for the Primary Election.

President Denman Anxious for a Decision From the Supreme Court on His Status.

Officials and politicians alike are anxiously waiting for a decision from the Supreme Court on the Election Commissioners' muddle. The case involving this issue was finally submitted to the court on November 27, with the expectation that an early decision would be handed down.

The array of lawyers engaged in this case, comprising Delmas & Shortridge, who represent the Iroquois; Mahoney & McNab, the Non-Partisan party; ex-Judge Carpenter, the Union League, or Republican party, and Garret McEnerney, the old commission, had exhausted all the authorities in their endeavor to convince the court that each side had a winning fight.

In the meantime, the present Commissioners have held office, and are making arrangements for the carrying out of the new law which will govern and control the primary election in March.

The work so far has progressed rapidly, and is sufficiently advanced to cause no difficulty in the preparation of complying with the law for holding the primary at the time set forth.

This work, which has been performed by three clerks, has not as yet cost the City a dollar, simply because Auditor Broderick has refused to audit any demands passed by the present Commissioners.

"This condition of affairs," said Mr. Denman, chairman of the commission, "is a great hardship upon the clerks and others connected with the office, because they have to work for nothing.

"So far as the Commissioners are concerned it doesn't matter, as they can afford to give their time for nothing. But the case is different with the others, from the fact that if the Supreme Court should decide against us they will get no money. In order to protect ourselves, the Commissioners, acting on the advice of Mr. Creswell, the City and County Attorney, exacted a written agreement from the clerks that should the decision be adverse to us they would not hold us responsible for their pay.

"These several reasons, besides the other that it will be necessary, to carry the primary law into effect, to put three or four more clerks to work next month, with the uncertainty of getting pay not only for clerical help, but also for printing, stationery and other expenses, place the Commissioners in an embarrasing position, to say the least of it."

An Honorary Member.

Tommy: "My father is a church member." Johnny: "So is mine." Tommy: "But my father says your papa ain't, 'cose he don't never come to church nor put nothin' in the collection box." Johnny (bravely): "Well, my papa is an honorary member, and honorary members don't chip in."

Poor Chap.

Bilson—Well, Tonson, how are your love affairs progressing?

Tonson—I am between two fires just at present.

Bilson—How so.

Tonson—I was fired last night, and I expect to be fired again to-night.—New York World.

A correspondent of an English church newspaper complains that "Trilby" makes a deliberate attempt to put the Anglican clergy in a contemptible light. He says that of the three clergymen introduced one is a drunken roue, the other two are fools.

NEW TO-DAY.

THE MERCURY ....Souvenir

Sunshine, Fruit and Flowers... NOW READY.

Contains 325 pages, 9x12 inches, and is ILLUSTRATED FROM 939 PHOTOGRAPHS. Hundreds of beautiful half-tone engravings, showing the aspect of the county from January to December.

The Fruit Industry Illustrated

And described—the most valuable treatise upon the Santa Clara County Fruit Industry that has ever been published, giving details of the business from nursery to market, with crops, prices and profits.

A Work of Art,

Suitable for the center-table, and a most appropriate Christmas present. There is scarcely a question that could be asked concerning Santa Clara County and its resources that is not fully answered.

The MERCURY Souvenir, will be sent, expressage prepaid, to any part of the United States at the following rates: Bound in Bristol board, 75 cents per copy; bound in leatherette, $1.25 per copy. Sent to any part of the United States, postage prepaid, at the following rates: Bound in Bristol board, 800 per copy; bound in leatherette, $1.35 per copy. The Souvenir is sold over the counter at the MERCURY office at the following prices: Bound in Bristol board, 50 cents per copy; bound in leatherette, $1.00 per copy.

Address CHAS. M. SHORTRIDGE,
San Jose, California.

NEW TO-DAY.

THE BEST CHRISTMAS GIFT!
A '96 MODEL
COLUMBIA BICYCLE, $100.
HARTFORD-:-BICYCLES
Also in Stock.
Store open evenings until after the holidays.
POPE MANUFACTURING CO.,
344 POST ST., S. F., CAL.

ROAST TURKEY
And BICYCLES!
PLUM PUDDING
And TOOL CHESTS!
MINCE PIES
And POCKET-KNIVES!
—SEASONED WITH—
Mechanical and Industrial Books, Tools, Skates, Scroll Saws and Novelties.
—THIS IS INDEED—
A CHRISTMAS for THE YOUNG.
BARGAINS
In High-grade Wheels of 1895.
YOST-FALCON and WARNER BICYCLES.
Agents Wanted.
GEORGE WEBB ALEXANDER,
401 Market St., S. F.
OPEN EVENINGS.

We Give Away
With all
Waverley BICYCLES
$20 when compared with the price of all other high grade wheels.
Catalogue tells all. Sent free.
INDIANA BICYCLE CO.
J. S. CONWELL, Manager,
18 and 20 McAllisterSt., S. F.

1896 RAMBLERS
HAVE ARRIVED.

1895 Models Will be Sold for
$85.00.
COME WHILE THEY LAST.
1896 Ramblers.....$100.00
1895 Ramblers..... 85.00
THOS. H. B. VARNEY,
1325 Market st., S. F.
427 S. Spring st., Los Angeles.

LI PO TAI JR.,
Chinese Tea and Herb Sanitorium,
No. 727 Washington St.,
San Francisco, Cal.
Cor. Brenham Place, above the plaza.
Office Hours: 9 to 12, 1 to 4 and 5 to 7. Sunday, 9 A. M. to 12 M.

Li Po Tai Jr., son of the famous Li Po Tai, has taken his father's business, and is, after eleven years' study in China, fully prepared to locate and treat all diseases.

THE LADIES' GRILL ROOM
—OF THE—
PALACE HOTEL.
A Delightful Place to Take Luncheon While on a Holiday Shopping Tour.

Baja California
Damiana Bitters
Is a powerful aphrodisiac and specific tonic for the sexual and urinary organs of both sexes, and a great remedy for diseases of the kidneys and bladder. A great Restorative, Invigorator and Nervine. Sells on its own Merits—no long-winded testimonials necessary.
NABER, ALFS & BRUNE, Agents,
323 Market St., S. F.—(Send for Circular.)