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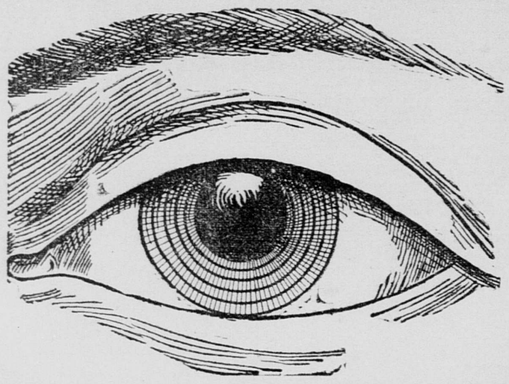

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THE FIELD OF SPORT.

Even Betting on the La Blanche-Mitchell Fight.

Hill Crest Club Tennis Tournament—Pigeon-Shooting at Oakland—Oarsmen Going to Victoria—Pugilism on the Wane.

Pugilism in San Francisco has had smooth sailing for two years, but now there comes "a death in the family," which may be the means of closing up club-doors and compelling the mourners to visit other and more congenial climes. The pugilists have had a good fat time of it in Frisco, many of them reveling now in laziness and partaking of the best of the land. The palmy days of fisticuffs are clouded and it is prophesied that the sun which for months illuminated the pugilistic horizon of California will soon set forever in the Golden West.

Athletic sports are rapidly gaining ground, and will, in the near future, absorb the public interest which pugilism held for such a length of time.

The bicyclists are having a gala time, now that the travel to the interior resorts is unobstructed.

The fanciers of the greyhound look forward with pleasure to the great interstate meeting, which will be held next fall at Merced.

The men who take pleasure in shooting and fishing find ample means of enjoying themselves either at trap shooting or angling for bay fishes.

ATHLETICS.

Schifferstein Will Attempt to Lower a Record in July.

The warm weather of the past few days was much enjoyed by the amateur athletes training at the Olympic Club grounds for the 4th of July handicap. It is thought by the officers of the P. C. A. A. A. that the entries will not be great, as quite a number of the athletes who contested at the championship games are at present enjoying country life and will not be in condition to do credit to themselves or the clubs they represent on their return from camp.

Bob Gibson, who is associate editor of the Asterian, writes that an athletic club has been organized at Astoria and that the members are gradually becoming fascinated with athletic pastimes.

H. M. Johnson says that Peter Jackson is as poor a starter of foot-races as he has ever seen in his life. "Jackson," remarked the famous sprinter, "may be a dandy with his flippers within a ring, but as a starter of foot-races he is not in it with the ordinary amateur." Peetie, get yer gun; get yer gun.

At the last professional handicap there were some runners who did not try to win their heats. In the final dashes one or two men certainly did run stiffly and the handicapper will see that they are not given better marks at the next meeting. Bill Kendricks might, however, be given a higher mark, as he is too old to finish strong.

There are two English sprinters in New York who, according to the latest advices, are figuring upon a trip to California. These men may be able to disguise their running, but if they enter to fool the officers of the foot-running association they had better have their tongues scraped and whiskers clipped.

QUITE SELF-EXPLANATORY.

The following challenge from one of the "profesh" is self-explanatory:

Sporting Editor Call: I am ready to run any American sprinter, barring H. M. Johnson, fifty or seventy-five yards for from $1 to $500 a side, or will run Johnson seventy-five yards for the latter sum provided he allows me one yard handicap. ED. REY, alias TIERS.

An athlete writes:

Last summer I competed in a foot-race against two athletes, whom I afterward learned were professionals, but who had entered the race under assumed names. I entered under my right name. The prize contested for was a trophy valued at $10, but at the end of the race the winner said he would prefer $7 in cash and allow the second man $3 instead of the committee's purchasing the advertised $10 trophy. This the committee agreed to, and accordingly handed the first and second men the sums named. Now as I was in the race a number of my friends claim that I am a professional. Is not this wrong? I did not know who they were, and entered the race in good faith and with the expectancy of winning the prize, but not money. By advising me what to do under the circumstances you will greatly oblige a NON-PROFESSIONAL.

It is certainly hard lines, but under the construction of the Amateur Athletic Minor law on the subject, you are a disqualified amateur. You will have no trouble to be reinstated, however, if you will lay your case before the P. C. A. A. A. or by sending a full statement to Secretary James E. Sullivan of the A. A. U., New York City, with a petition for reinstatement.

SCHIFF WILL HAVE A TRY.

Schifferstein, the Olympic Club's crack sprinter and jumper, will enter for the running broad jump only at the 4th of July games. He will try on this occasion for the world's record, and if he does not break down in practice he will certainly cover the distance required. At the championship games, Schifferstein cleared 22 feet 3 inches after having competed in several races, essaying the long jump.

Cassidy and Moffit are training every day. They will meet again in the 220-yard hurdle-race, which will be a most exciting event, as the athletes are very evenly matched at this game. Cassidy hopes to be able to lower the record.

If Foster and Whelan continue to train the Olympic Club will have two first-class hurdle-jumpers next season. Hurdle-racing is very pretty when the athletes understand how to clear the bars.

Cooley is anxious to meet Hill of the University Club in a two-mile handicap race. He is confident of his ability to defeat Hill any part of the road from one to five miles.

The Olympic Club has lost one of its best men by the permanent retirement of John Purcell from athletic sports. The celebrated athlete has done more in the way of athletics for the championship for the Olympic Club, an organization which will certainly appreciate Purcell's services by some recognition now that he has bid farewell to the cinder-path.

Captain Jordan of the Olympic Club and a party of friends have gone on an outing to Bolinas Bay, where they hope to enjoy some good sea fishing.

THE RING.

Has Pugilism Seen Its Palmiest Days in Frisco?

The unfortunate occurrence which happened last week, resulting in the death of a young man who thought himself a pugilist, has cast a gloom over the clubs, and may, possibly, put a stop to all pugilistic sports. The members of the fistic organizations are, nevertheless, very anxious to see the contest between Young Mitchell and La Blanche, which will take place at the California Club on the 27th of this month. The men are signed to fight at 154 pounds, and, until a few days ago, the friends of Young Mitchell were very uneasy concerning La Blanche's whereabouts.

The Marine was not fooling his time away, however, and while in Denver he took off several pounds of loose flesh. He is now within ten pounds of his fighting weight, which he says will not at all weaken his constitution by taking it off gradually. Quite a number of small wagers have been made on the result at even money, since La Blanche's return from the East.

SULLIVAN ON THE ANXIOUS SEAT.

John L. Sullivan is very anxiously awaiting the day of his trial in Mississippi. He has declared his intention of becoming an actor to thwart the ends of justice, which he fears will come down a bit heavy on his massive shoulders. Jackson is also anxious to learn of Sullivan's trial, and in case the latter be meted out a severe sentence, Jackson has concluded to visit his friends in Australia.

Prize-fighting in San Francisco has had uninterrupted sway for the past two years, and today the pugilists have become as independent and saucy as wharf rats in the grain season. The Bulletin of last evening, commenting on the invasion of this city by prize-fighters from all parts of the globe and the possibility of a prize-fighting generation springing from the present colony of scientific hitters, remarks:

"What sort of a community would that be which has been educated by John L. Sullivan into his tastes and into the likeness of his moral character? It is not very difficult to imagine the class or race of people who would spring from the champion's teachings. America could not be 'downed' by a foreign nation if 'manual arms' were employed to win the battles of the future. America may need, however, to lead on the Sullivans to victory a few generals of culture."

VERY MUCH PERPLEXED.

Charley Gleason and Jerry Hurley are very much perplexed over the present state of affairs pugilistic. They have been signed by the Golden Gate Club to fight on the 25th of this month, and rumor says that the police will not allow the match to go on. Chief Crowley has already stated that he will use all means in his power to stop pugilism in this city, as the degrading pastime has gone too far, and up to the present it has had not the least semblance of cessation.

The Occidental Club will give an exhibition on the 30th of this month and the pugilists who are now in training for the fight are not very sanguine of going through the mill without having to meet with some opposition from the police. Whatever the situation may be the termination of the next exhibition in this city will settle one way or the other the future of the boxing clubs of this city.

The California Club Directors will meet tomorrow night, when they will probably match Ellingsworth and Fitzsimmons.

Pat Killen has written to Johnny Banks of New York with a view to matching him against the Black Pearl at St. Paul.

Peter Jackson has bought a pacer with a quarter-mile record of thirty-seven seconds.

THE WHEEL.

A New Club-House for the Bay City Wheelmen—The Annual Meet.

Chief Consul Thompson and President Meeker of the Bay City Wheelmen have returned from a tour through Lake, Napa, Sonoma and Mendocino counties. They visited all the places which Captain Manning and party passed through and several other points of interest, riding about 250 miles. Mr. Thompson is enthusiastic about the trip. He says the roads were excellent and the scenery beautiful. He is looking as brown as a berry from exposure to the sun.

Next Sunday the San Francisco Club, under the lead of Captain Manning, will go on a run to Walnut Creek. This little jaunt is a favorite one with wheelmen, and the runs to that point are usually well attended.

The San Franciscos are installed in their new club-house on O'Farrell street. Some time during the week they will have a sort of informal house-warming. The particular night has not yet been decided on.

David S. Binkle, a Los Angeles man, is in the city. He will represent the lower part of the State on the path on the 4th of July at San Jose, and is likely to do so with credit. About the only formidable opponent he will have in the short-distance races will be Charley Wheaton, unless Elwell should conclude to start. He has a very good record on the track, having won eighteen out of nineteen events which he contested, and then only being defeated by Wing.

It looks very much as though the Bay Citys are to have a club-house of their own, even if they have to build it themselves. They have looked everywhere for a suitable building in which to establish new headquarters, and have not been able to find the place they want. The members are determined that the club shall move from its present building.

Last Monday night a meeting was held to consider the advisability of buying a lot and erecting a structure on it suitable to the needs of the club. A great deal of enthusiasm manifested itself among the boys, and after committees were appointed to investigate the affair very thoroughly, the meeting was adjourned until to-morrow night, when the committees will report.

It has been calculated that the club will need to raise about $5000. This, with its 100 odd members, should be an easy task. Several sites are already in view, including lots on Grove and Laguna streets, either of which will answer very nicely.

The board of officers of the division has appointed a committee, composed of C. C. Moore of Stockton, F. K. Cook of San Francisco, H. C. E. Smith of Los Angeles, Dr. Van Norden of Alameda and A. C. McKenny of San Jose, to nominate officers for the coming year. The method of election this season will be modeled after the Australian system and each member of the committee will send to the Secretary of the division the name of the man whom he favors for each office.

Besides this, any ten wheelmen, members of the league, can indorse a man and also send his name to the Secretary. All these names will be placed on the tickets to be sent to every league member, so that each person voting can look over the list and scratch off all but the ones for whom he desires to cast a ballot.

Chief Consul Thompson has announced himself as a candidate for re-election. In the face of his record as a hustler during the past year, it is doubtful whether any aspiring wheelman will care to try conclusions with him. It is possible, however, that the southern part of the State may deem itself entitled to name the chief officer this year and may unite in support of some one man. Sheldon will also be a candidate for re-election as Secretary-Treasurer.

The San Jose track is completed and by the 4th of July will be in fine condition for the races. Its shape is very well adapted to racing. It is now available to all who care to race on it before the meet. San Jose riders take advantage of the great opportunity it presents to them and are rapidly getting into shape.

R. A. Smythe was in San Jose a short time ago and says that the young men of that town are crazy on bicycling. All their spare time is devoted to it, and the streets are constantly full of wheelmen.

Wing, the Los Angeles flier, will not race this year. He has been obliged to go East for his health, strange as it may appear. Allen, one of the fastest men in the State in the dashes, has been compelled to retire from the path on account of poor health.

The great Eastern Century run took place yesterday. The course was from Newark, N. J., to Philadelphia. About 200 riders were expected to take part.

Wheaton is training at Alameda. If he is fit on the Fourth he should have little difficulty in winning the short distance races.

Why does not the Road-racing Association hold a meeting? Or has it lapsed into "innocuous desuetude?" It is reported that the bicycle dealers of the city are anxious to give a trophy for a race over the San Leandro triangle, one of the finest natural courses in the country. On foot of several hundred wheelmen in this city and near-by towns, there should be at least two score willing to start, if the value of the trophy made it worth while.

COURSING.

That Great Meet of Eastern and Western Dogs at Merced.

The patrons of the grand sport of coursing who have taken an interest in the proposed meeting which will be held on the famous plains of Merced next fall, are now sanguine of the success of the undertaking. The second meeting held by the gentlemen who have taken the responsibility on their own shoulders of bringing this matter to a successful issue, were disgusted and sadly disappointed at the meager attendance of coursing men, who remained away because they anticipated a call for subscriptions.

It does not speak well for those who are supposed to be strong supporters of the sport and many owning greyhounds to absent themselves from a meeting of this kind because of a fear of being mulcted for a few dollars. If the coursing men of this city do not show a more liberal desire to support their favorite pastime what can they expect of those who are really disinterested in the game?

OF INTEREST TO ALL.

A meeting of this character, which will bring together the grandest kennels of running dogs in America, should interest every man in this city and adjoining counties who has any interest in the sport.

The meetings, which have been called by those who are endeavoring to make California the center for American coursing, should be largely attended, and, moreover, the rule should be enforced to censure the owners of dogs which may be entered for the contests who absent themselves from such meetings. It is about time that the "I don't care" element that attends coursing-meetings which do not conflict, so to speak, with their purse, is cast aside as so much rubbish, harmful only to the coursing interest of the State and its popularity.

Coursing is one of the grandest of outdoor sports when conducted properly, and there is no place in America where grander sport can be had than Merced in the fall of the year. The weather is simply beautiful, and the hares—well, sufficient to say that they fill up and grow fat as they sprint from their pursuers over miles of table-land country bedecked with the native prairie flowers.

ASSISTANCE IS DESIRED.

The sportsmen of the Eastern States are beginning to take an interest in this interstate meeting, which is looked forward to as being the Waterloo of America, and it is hoped that the coursing men of San Francisco and adjoining counties will lend their assistance in making this coming event a feature of the history of American sport.

Mr. Shay, proprietor of the Newark Coursing Park, received intelligence on Friday from Barwing, a Merced trapper, that he would forward four crates of hares to his park to-morrow. Shay states that the meeting, which was to have taken place to-day was postponed until next Sunday, so as to give his patrons enough game for a good day's sport.

Mr. J. R. Dickson, Secretary of the Interstate Coursing Association, has announced that the next meeting will be held on Wednesday evening, the 25th inst., at Eintracht Hall. The officers are: President, Dominick Shannon; Vice-President, Henry Wormington; Treasurer, J. C. Nealon; Secretary, J. R. Dickson. The following committees have been appointed to collect subscriptions for the American Waterloo stake, which will be run for at Merced, viz.: San Francisco—William P. Stout, John Grace, James Bringas, Matthew Noonan, John Hamilt. Redwood City—P. Foley and J. Hind. Petaluma—D. J. Healy and Patrick Carroli. Oakland—P. Gallagher and P. Miller. Newark—John Dugan. San Jose—William McCormick, A. Treat, P. Cooney. Santa Clara—Dr. Wadams, Mr. Curtiss, Mr. Portal. Rockland—Edward O'Connell. Sacramento—M. Hanrahan, Thomas Waite and Patrick Kenny. Bloomfield—P. Carroll. Los Angeles—Walter Moore and Thomas Rice. San Quentin—W. D. Berry.

Mr. Carroll of the Occidental Club has lost his celebrated bitch Mischief, one of the grandest stock of dogs in this state.

LAWN TENNIS.

Tournament of the Hill Crest Club at Highland Park.

Nearly all the people in Highland Park, East Oakland, interested in lawn tennis gathered yesterday at the grounds of the Hill Crest Club to witness the annual tournament. A better location for a tennis court could not have been selected, and it is situated, as its name implies, on the crest of a hill overlooking a good part of the surrounding country and the bay beyond.

The grounds were in fair condition and the players in good trim. Much interest was evinced by the onlookers, and the fact that lady members were to contest for the club championship brought many of the fair ones out to assist with their cheers.

In the first round Middleton and Ireland came out with a score of 6-2, 6-3 in Ireland's favor. Middleton did some good serving and only lacked the power to correctly place his falls on the return. Two lone sets followed between Grant and Crane, in favor of the latter.

The ladies then came to the front, Miss Rosborough vs. Miss Ireland. Nearly all the games were won on the serve, yet many good returns were made. The games were closely contested, but Miss Ireland proved the better of the two, with a score of 6-5, 5-6, 6-4.

As has already been announced the championship matches for the Coast will be played at San Rafael on July 4th, on the new courts of the Hotel Rafael, which have been completed at a cost of $5000. The tournament will be under the auspices of the California Lawn Tennis Club, E. N. Bee being Secretary. The tournament will be in charge of A. H. Small, W. Mayo Newhall and Ward McAllister. The President, Mountford S. Wilson, will be present, and a great success is looked for. Quite a large number of people is expected from different parts of the State. Among the entries are the following well-known tennis cracks:

W. H. Taylor Jr., the present champion of the Coast, and who is likely to remain so; Ogden Hoffman, August Taylor, C. R. Yates, A. W. Harrison, C. P. Bubbard, William Collier, Thomas Magee Jr., Alexander Wilberforce, George H. Hellman, E. N. Bee, S. Hoffman, O. Shaver Howard, B. Marx, W. A. Magee, Valentine Gadessen, C. Forbes, H. H. Haight, T. C. Berry, Alexander Stewart, A. Marx.

About ten more were expected, including R. P. Carter of Los Angeles, who was defeated by W. H. Taylor some months ago, and Joseph Tobin, who has just graduated at the Georgetown College, Washington, D. C., and who was the partner of Walter McGavin in the doubles at the Hotel del Monte last season, when they beat Taylor and Yates so badly, when the latter disputed the score, umpiring and everything in general. The grounds, courts and appliances are beyond doubt the finest on the Coast.

AMONG THE OARSMEN.

The Ariels' New Amateur Crew—Columbians in Training.

The memento which will be sent to the parents of the late Henry Searle has been finished. The idea was suggested by the Australian Star, and Lord Carrington was among the subscribers. The design, which was carried out by Mr. T. F. Curtis, is strictly in accord with the young Australian's career. The motif is Australia—typified by an athletic figure, leaning in dejection upon a broken oar, and mourning her lost son. There is also a life-like picture of Searle and a group of vignettes in water color, showing: Dawn, on the Clarence River; morning, the Parramatta and the champion race; noon, the race on the Tuamey, and night, the long home on the Clarence where the remains were buried.

"Has my crew been out yet?" replied Captain Frank G. Drum to the query of a CALL man, while standing on the prow of the Columbia boat-house last Wednesday morning. "You bet they have, and you should just see the spurt the boys finished with after a hard row of four miles. If you want to see the crew row why just set your alarm for 5 o'clock in the morning, as we are almost sure to leave the boat-house before 6 o'clock. Oh, yes, the crew is doing first rate, and we expect by next Monday to definitely decide about our trip to Victoria to race with the Britishers."

Owing to the near approach of the Fourth of July affairs at the rowing clubs are assuming a more lively turn. Among the single scullers who are taking regular exercise are Charles Long, Edward Heenan, John Sullivan, Henry Peterson and James Cochrane, the latter a new aspirant for single-scull honors.

The following four have been selected by the Ariels to defend the amateur championship won by the club in 1889: G. W. Phelan, John Larkey, Henry Whittrop and Henry Tank. Larkey and Tank have taken the places made vacant by the resignation of Coffey and Hanaraban.

DOG AND GUN.

The Pacific and California Kennel Clubs at War.

The admission of the California Kennel Club into the American Kennel Club has brought the Pacific Kennel Club out of a long sleep, and now its members are "kicking" vigorously against the ruling of the Eastern organization, which they claim is absurd and preposterous. The Pacific Kennel Club has been in a state of lethargy for months, and its meetings have been seldom attended by more than enough to form a quorum. Its treasury, according to statements, has been for some time in a very shaky condition, which, in itself, would prove that the Pacific Kennel Club had a screw loose somewhere.

The California Club has conducted its affairs in such a business-like manner that it now has a snug little sum of money in its treasury. The Pacifics have none, their treasury is depleted, which means there must be something rotten in Denmark. Why then the objection to the California Club being a member of the A. K. C? If the Pacific Kennel Club desires to succeed it must have an efficient Secretary who will attend to the club's affairs and be on hand when his services are required.

The Virginia City Chronicle is responsible for the following:

A setter dog belonging to a resident of Six-mile Canyon, was recently shot while accompanying its owner on a hunting expedition and died from the wound. The person referred to is also the possessor of a young mongrel cur that was the inseparable companion of the setter. The setter dog's corpse was buried on a hill in the rear of the owner's residence, the cur being present at the burial. Since then the mongrel daily carries the larger portion of the food given it to the burial place of its late canine companion, and, after dropping it on the grave, patiently waits there for hours, evidently anticipating that the dead setter will come to eat it. Thomas Cocking is the owner of the mongrel, and will verify the truth of the above statement.

The following illustrates humorously, says an English exchange—the Christian Advocate, we believe—where the money goes and why it goes that way:

A Sheffield workingman was walking out recently with a couple of dogs at his heels. One who knew him had a word of praise for his dogs, remarking that they must have cost a good deal of money. "Ay, they did," said the owner; "that one cost me 50 shillings, and so did the other; but they're reight uns, they are. You see I'm fond of a bit of ratting." "Well, you have a wife and children. Would it not have been better to have spent the money on pigs?" "On what?" said the dog man. "On pigs." "Pigs?" "Yes, pigs." "Aw, say!" as he called his dogs and walked off contemptuously, "a bonny fule I'd look going fettling with a couple of pigs!"

A writer on trap-shooting says in a New York exchange:

How to make it equal for all men at the trap seems to be the leading question among the shooters just now. To put a good shot back so far that the chances are against his killing a hard bird seems unfair, and yet if he shoots with a beginner it discourages a novice. You can never make a bad shot win over a good one.

Why not divide them in two or three classes or allow a new man who can only score 20 out of 25 two good birds for the same number of misses? What show would a fair shot have against Woolstonecroft, Budd, Stice and several others? He would, perhaps, enter into a sweep, but in a half-hearted way, fully realizing he had little or no chance against all cracks shooting on level terms. On the other hand, he would have greater confidence, and naturally derive more pleasure, if shooting with an equal.

Dove-shooting has been poor so far this year. Only a few fair bags have been made.

The Alameda County Sportsmen's Club held its fourth shoot of the season at the Oakland Trotting Park yesterday afternoon. Although the birds were old and strong, they flew from the trap badly on account of the warm weather. The scores were as follows:

Knowles, S. E.	1 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 0 1	10
Haskell, W. W.	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 0 1	11
Osborn, C. M.	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	12
Bell, R. E.	1 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 0 1	10
Smith, C. B.	1 1 0 1 0 0 1 1 1 1 1	9
Latner, Charles	0 0 1 0 1 0 0 1 1 1 1	7
Morrison, T.	1 0 1 1 1 0 0 1 1 1 1	8
Schroeder, C.	1 0 1 1 1 0 1 1 0 1 1	9
Boardman	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	12
Mayhew, W. E.	1 1 1 1 1 0 1 1 1 1 1	11
Cadman	1 1 0 1 1 1 0 1 1 0 *	9

Mr. Haskell not being present at the May shoot, he was allowed twelve birds, of which he killed eleven. The tie was then shot off between Osborn and Boardman for first prize, resulting as follows:

Osborn	1 1 1 1 0	4
Boardman	1 1 1 0 0	3

The next event was a pool shoot, $2 50 entrance, six birds, resulting as follows:

Randall	1 1 1 1 0	4
Smith	1 1 0 1 1	4
Schroeder	0 1 1 1 1	4
Pixley	1 1 1 1 1	5
Swett	1 1 1 0 1	4
Latner	1 0 1 1 1	4
Lake	0 1 0 1 1	3
Boardman	1 1 0 0 *	2
Moses	1 0 0 1 *	2

HAND-BALL.

A Game Which Is Now Popular in This City.

Few people interested in athletic sports who have not practiced hand-ball realize from witnessing a game the health-giving benefits that the patrons of the sport derive from this grandest of all athletic exercises. Unlike foot-racing, rowing, foot-ball, tennis, lacrosse and many other pastimes, which all please some, the game of hand-ball puts all other sports of an athletic kind in the shade as a health-giving exercise. In hand-ball every muscle of the body is brought into play. The muscles of the limbs, as well as the arms, have their quota of exercise, and a better sport to cultivate the mind to a quickness of thought in forming conclusions cannot be imagined.

The game is gradually becoming popular, and it is hoped that the Olympic Club and other organizations of its kind will give zest to the game by offering some inducements to the members in the way of prizes to be contested for. The Olympic Club has a very handsome hand-ball court on its grounds, and in its gymnasium a temporary structure is erected to accommodate the members who cannot afford the time to visit the athletic grounds on week days.

In New York thousands of people witness the Sunday games held at the popular courts between the celebrated players. A New York exchange dated June 2d says:

Hand-ball has received a fresh impetus lately from Gothamites, and it is claimed that Brooklyn will be compelled to put her best foot foremost if she wishes to retain the supremacy. The result of the match between the New York pet, John Delaney, and John Malcolm of Brooklyn will, in a great measure, shape the New Yorker's course in the way of making future matches, and it is strongly hinted that, in the event of Delaney's winning, he will be pitted against higher game.

The Murray Hill court was crowded with enthusiasts yesterday. A number of exciting and well-played games took place, among the best being John Delaney and Maurice Sullivan against John Malcolm and F. Barrett. Five hard games were played, the result being in favor of Delaney and partner by the following score:

Delaney and Sullivan	15	15	15	12	15	—68
Malcolm and Barrett	10	15	13	15	11	—64

P. Quinn and J. Keeley defeated T. Cullen and Sam Kitchie best two in three games, and J. Rose and F. Lee took three straight from J. Dooly and C. Farrell. M. Rorty and Jim Tracy had a breezy tussle, but Rorty won.

Among the spectators was Ed Smith, the heavyweight pugilist of Denver, who will probably be matched against Daily, the Philadelphian.

This afternoon four games, which promise to be very interesting, will be held at the courts on Howard street.

THE RIFLE.

Preliminary Practice Shoot of the Third Regiment.

The Third Infantry Regiment, N. G. C., will hold its preliminary shoot for State decorations at Shell Mound Park to-day. In addition to the medals given by the State, Colonel T. F. Barry offers several prizes for individual competition. The company with the highest percentage will be presented with $50, while the member of the regiment making the highest score will be given $25. All the companies are manifesting a deep interest in the first-mentioned prize, and each one hopes to be the winner. Company C of Oakland, Captain Levy, and Company B of this city, Captain Kennedy, are trying hard to make the highest individual record, and as each company numbers among its members some fine military shots, a keen competition will be the result.

The close contest before the butts between Company C (Nationals) of the First Regiment, Captain Klein, and the Carson City Guard, both of which scores have been published, is still the subject of comment among marksmen, and both teams are congratulated on all sides for their excellent marksmanship. A return match is eagerly looked for, and as the companies are so evenly matched, it is hard to predict which would come out winner. Company C is now entitled to the championship of the Pacific Coast.

Otto Burmeister of the California Club won the first prize at the Gau Turn festival shooting last week. Burmeister made sixty-three rings out of a possible seventy-five and carried off a diploma and laurel wreath for his efforts.

The San Francisco Schuetzen Verein will hold its medal shoot at Shell Mound Park on Sunday next.

The Turners' shooting section will hold a medal shoot at Harbor View to-day.

The Germania Club will hold a bull's-eye shooting at Harbor View to-day.

Auent Death Certificates.

The following letter has been addressed to Coroner Eaton by Health Officer Doctor Keeney:

Allow me to inform you officially that this office requires all death certificates to give the cause of death, that proper statistics may be kept as a public record. All former Coroners, after investigations had been held and the cause ascertained, have always notified this office. Your office, however, fails to send such information after having been repeatedly asked to do so. When certified copies of deaths are given for insurance purposes, it seems out of place to have the cause of death unknown, especially when coming from the Coroner's office. You will oblige by complying with the request.

The Mercantile Bank.

Bank Commissioners Gerberding and Knight examined the condition of the Mercantile Bank of San Francisco on Friday, and reported as follows:

Resources—Loans and discounts, $66,317 07; cash balance, $68,122 97; due from bank and bankers, $19,976 76; furniture and fixtures, $3047 50; expenses and taxes, $1825 70; other assets, $213 53.

Liabilities—Capital paid in coin, $131,000; due depositors, $27,603 28; rents and exchange, 25 cents; total resources and liabilities, $158,603 53.

James M. Barrickman of San Francisco left Santa Ana recently for a hunting trip in the mountains. He got lost by missing a trail on Bear Creek, and wandered two days and nights without food in the deep canyons.

ITEMS FROM SEA AND SHORE.

A Death at Sea on Board the Ship S. P. Hitchcock.

Sailing of the Steamer City of Peking for China—A Captain Stricken Blind at Sea—The Steamer Oceanic Due.

The ship H. P. Hitchcock, Captain Carver, arrived yesterday after a passage of 133 days from New York with a cargo of general merchandise for Sutton & Beebee. The captain reports that he had a succession of southwest gales off the River Plate; had heavy westerly gales from Cape St. John to latitude 40° south; was nineteen days from 50° south in Atlantic to 50° south in Pacific. On March 1st in latitude 20° 26' east, longitude 29° 19' west, John Robinson, a seaman, a native of France, aged 33 years, died of liver complaint and was buried at sea.

The weather was hazy at Point Lobos yesterday. A calm prevailed up till noon, when a light breeze sprang up from the northwest, blowing at 3 o'clock in the afternoon sixteen miles an hour. The barometer read: At 8 o'clock in the morning, 29.99; noon, 29.95; 5 o'clock in the evening, 29.91.

The schooner Dashing Wave, Captain Gaffney, will sail to-day for Sand Point, Alaska, carrying supplies for Lynde & Hough's station there.

The United States steamer Iroquois sailed yesterday afternoon for Samoa.

SAILING OF THE PEKING.

The steamer City of Peking, Captain Cavarly, sailed yesterday afternoon for Japan and China, carrying a large list of freight and a small passenger list. Among the cabin passengers were Bishop Newman of the M. E. Church, Rev. Y. Honda, a Japanese missionary, and W. Macondray Jr. A large number of people interested in church work assembled at the dock to see the Bishop off. Among them were Revs. Harcourt, Crary, Masters, Fowler and Stewart.

The steamer was delayed nearly one hour by the late arrival of the mails. As she let go her lines she had all her flags flying, at the foremast was the "Blue Peter"; at the main, the house flag; at the mizzen, the burgee, and at the jigger the silk flag that was presented to Captain Cavarly on his last trip. The Peking will touch at Honolulu on her way to the Orient.

There were 57 Chinese passengers by the Peking registered on the wharf, besides one remanded man, 19 in transit for Honolulu and 13 who came up from Panama on the steamer San Juan. The 15 Chinese who tried to cross the border from Mexico into the United States and were captured, and who have been for some weeks in the Alameda County Jail, were expected to go, but owing to some redtapeism in irregularity Collector Phelps held them over until the next steamer.

The steamer Oceanic is due to-day from China. She has on board 30 cabin and 170 Chinese steerage passengers.

A COURSE FOR TRIAL TRIPS.

Captain Delahanty, U. S. N., commanding the Coast Survey steamer Hassler, will leave in a few days to mark out a course of forty nautical miles in length in the Santa Barbara Channel, to be used hereafter by the Government for the trial of steamships. One end of the course will be abreast the point of the low cliff forming the western side of the cove known as El Coro. On this low cliff a permanent signal will be erected, and behind it, on the terrace a half-mile back, will be placed a second signal.

This end of the forty-