

NEARING THE HEAD.

A Little Bit Off the Top and We Are There.

Waterbury Is Playing Pretty Fast Polo These Days—Meriden Was No Match for Her Last Night—Tommy Holderness Played a Star Game—Some of the Maine League Players Are Drifting Back Home.

There was but a small crowd present to see the game last night, but it was a small crowd of waterbury. It would be called a big crowd if any of the other leagues. There were between 800 and 900 people there, but they saw a scientific game of polo, and they saw the home team send the Meridians back over the mountains in a defeated team. It was a pretty tight game in the first period and it looked as if the first goal would go to the local boys more than to the visitors, and perhaps the period ended just in the right time. There was good judging and good passing on both sides, but the defense work of the Waterbury team proved too much for the speedy rushers of the Meridians. Bill Hoffmann was kept unusually busy stopping the drive, and seemed to come to him from all points of the compass. Finally, after playing poorly three minutes, Russell took the ball to the cage and there was a smash that the Meridians could not see and the first goal was made for the home team. When the right began to play, it was not outside in themselves, and the trick for the visitors in a little over three minutes of play. At 10:15, the score was two to one. Russell was the only player who scored in the second period. He was in the right place at the right time, and he was the only player who scored in the second period. He was in the right place at the right time, and he was the only player who scored in the second period.

Table with 3 columns: Won by, Goal by, Time. Lists game results for Waterbury, Meriden, and other teams.

Table with 3 columns: Team, Goals, Points. Lists statistics for various teams.

How is that for polo? Hartford comes here tomorrow night.

The report comes by way of New Haven that this is the last season for Fox in the goal circle. He will retire from the game, so it is said.

The work of the Blues did not appear as strong as it might, for when they are first they can play Waterbury to a standstill. New Haven is a loss. Wouldn't that grade on your nerves?

Big Bill Hoffmann had fun with the little prezel Otto Schiffer, when the German lad tried to knock Bill's shin pads off. "Get away from here you little punk!" said Bill, as he pushed Otto about a rod out on the floor.

Pierce is endeavoring to arrange matters so he can get away from his Pawtucket position for the balance of the season. It is hard work playing polo at night after working and traveling over 100 miles before going on the floor.

There was something very wrong about that cage in the south end of the building last night. Five bulls were sent in there cleanly and cleanly, but not they popped as if there was no netting there to hold them in. Waterbury suffered four goals on that account.

Dikey Pierce is a pretty good-natured chap and he showed that fact last night when he was needfully knocked down a couple of times. He only smiled at big Jean, who stood over him. Now, if that was Woidke, he would be begging of the referee to call a foul.

There is no use in denying the fact, nor can we be blamed for repeating the assertion that Waterbury as at present constituted has the best team in this league, yes, or in any other league. Where can you beat the two Johnnies for rushers, and Jean for center and Tommy for halfback and "Moxystomewal Fox" in the circle?

Wasn't Tommy Holderness a jewel last night? He was a whole team in himself and he blocked and he passed and he drove when occasion demanded, and it was all done cleverly. When he drove that ball into the cage in the last period he was given such a cheer that the echoes are still coming back from Maine and Massachusetts.

Acting as a board of arbitration, Messrs. T. H. Murnane and J. C. Morse of Boston have awarded Hayes to East Weymouth. Salem, who alleged wanted him, was disgruntled by this

move, and Manager Carroll refused to send his team on the floor at Salem Monday night against Brockton.

The game is therefore counted by the Enterprise as forfeited to Brockton.—Brockton Enterprise.

Russell, the star National league rusher that Portland has secured, did not come to Bangor on Friday night from some cause or other, and that weakened the team somewhat, although young Whatmough and Gus Campbell played fine polo.—Bangor News.

Who engineered the deal whereby Messrs. Morse and Murnane gained control of the outfit of the National polo league?—Bangor News.

There was one enthusiast behind the game last night who had money to burn. It was the other fellow's money he burned, however. Before the game started he offered to bet \$5 that Russell would make the first goal.

The odds were so great against him that he was supposed to have lost a half dozen spoons, good spoons, too. When Russell did make that first goal there came a yell from the seat of the bettor that would make the wildest yells that ever rained the plumes down with a bang.

The National league is rightly named because among its stars all nationalities are well represented. First of all comes America, with Howard Pierce, his brother representative and Alvin Johnson, Bill Curran and Howie Whitting to back him up.

There are a few lines about the Maine league from the Brockton Enterprise: Billy Lydon, center and manager of the Gardner, Me. team, was at East Weymouth Monday trying to get Harry and Schmidt. He said he had \$7500 with him to buy the services of Schmidt and he had no luck at East Weymouth, but in Boston he picked up Ed Cusick, goal, and Jimmy Murney. He must have saved the \$7500 for Cusick had to pay his own fare to Gardner, and another man advanced money for his fare to Boston.

NEW POLO SCHEDULE. Thursday, December 27—New Haven at Hartford. Friday, December 28—Hartford at Waterbury, Meriden at New Haven. Saturday, December 29—Waterbury at Hartford. Sunday, December 31—Hartford at Meriden.

Monday, January 1—Afternoon, New Haven at Meriden, Hartford at Waterbury, evening, Meriden at New Haven, Waterbury at Hartford. Wednesday, January 3—New Haven at Waterbury. Thursday, January 4—Waterbury at Meriden, Hartford at New Haven. Friday, January 5—Meriden at Hartford.

IT SAVED HIS LEG. F. A. Danforth, of Lathrop, Ga., suffered intensely for six months with a frightful running sore on his leg, but writes that Eickler's Anker-Salve wholly cured it in 10 days. Eickler's Anker-Salve, Burns, Boggs, Pain or Piles It's the best salve in the world. Cure guaranteed. Only 25c. Sold by G. L. Dexter & Co., Druggist.

WRESTLING NOTES. Martin Julian, who has not been prominent in the sporting world since the split with Fitzsimmons, has an eye on the wrestling game and says he will support a fellow named Tuhah Hassan, who is said to be seven feet tall, and to weigh 242 pounds, and who will attempt to throw James Eickler in the same ring. This ought to work W. A. Brady up to fever heat, so much so that he will hunt up a wrestler who will be in the press notes, eight feet tall and weigh 500 pounds and who will agree to support half a dozen men into a pulp with one hand.

Paul Pons, the "Terrible Frenchman," an Ernest Roeber will meet to decide the wrestling championship of the world at Madison Square Garden on February 6. The match was at first scheduled to take place on Tuesday, but the wrestlers decided that they could not get into proper condition for their contest until after the event. He posted a forfeit of \$500 yesterday as a guarantee of good faith. James C. Kennedy was announced last week as having charge of the match, but as he will be busy with the duties of the newly organized fight-promoting club of San Francisco he retired in favor of James Conroy.

FRANK CHILDS, the western colored heavyweight, will not do any boxing for some time to come as he broke his right hand during the recent all with Pete Everett at Denver. Childs was much to meet "Kid" McCoy, another colored heavyweight, but the accident has compelled him to cancel this affair.

Charles Harvey is of the opinion that Martin Flaherty is entitled to some recognition at the hands of the featherweights and is prepared to match Flaherty against Ben Jordan of England. Harvey says that if Terry McGovern refuses to go abroad and tackle the Englishman, Flaherty will go to England and take McGovern's place.

George Siddons, who had quite a reputation years ago as a clever featherweight, met Joe McFesters, a western fighter, in private near Cleveland the other night. They fought eight rounds for a purse of \$25. McFesters did well in the first round, but in the second he grew careless and was knocked out with a right swing to the jaw.

A well known Boston sport has offered to furnish a building and equip it with all the latest exercise paraphernalia for George Dixon. He would like to see the former featherweight champion with a school for physical culture. If Dixon accepts the place will be located in Boston. Dixon would make an excellent boxing instructor, as he is still extremely clever.

There is some talk of arranging a battle between Kid Lavigne and Terry McGovern, to be decided at Louisville. Lavigne has been training in the city since he was sent to the former lightweight champion in great trim. Lavigne fights in the same aggressive manner as Terry does and the sports think that a battle between the two would be interesting.

Otto Grub, who declares that he is the champion middleweight of Australia, has arrived in this country. The other night Grub was fought against Jimmie McConnell of San Francisco. McConnell is one of the best known middleweights on the Pacific coast, and when last year met Jimmy Hamblin and mysterious Billy Smith, Grub proved to be an exceptionally good fighter for the amateur McConnell out in four rounds. Grub is ready to box any 154-pounder.

Major John Fitzsimmons last night said that he had given his word that he would issue the permit for the fight and that he proposed to do so. W. M. Robert, president of the board of directors of the Massachusetts Athletic Union, said that he was not quite sure about the fight taking place here in February, and that he could not understand why William A. Brady had been understood as indicating in New York, President Robert says, that he would issue the permit for the fight and that he proposed to do so.

There is much opposition to the fight here on the part of certain persons, and some of these in charge of the arrangements suggest that the fight should be held in New York. President Robert says, however, he is confident that the fight would be held in Cincinnati, and the following statement issued by him for publication will show: "It has been arranged that I will take the direction of a boxing club in Cincinnati. Such is not the case. I have an arrangement with the Convention Hall Co. of that city which I am to manage. The club is to be organized in the month of February, and the profits from the exhibition to go toward wiping out the Sanjour debt. The enterprise is to receive the recognition and moral support of most of the leading banks and business men in Cincinnati. There will be only two exhibitions on the evening selected, February 15, a twenty-round bout between James J. Jeffries and Gus Rutlin, and a professional bout between the two best two well known men to be selected. As I understand it, there will be no continuance of star boxing exhibitions in Cincinnati after February 15, and surely none in Convention Hall, as it will be taken down and removed after February 15."

NEW BOXING CLUB. James J. Kennedy, who so successfully managed the recent six day bicycle race, and who was at the head of the "Twenty-Cent" Athletic club, which contained the Fitzsimmons-Rutlin and Corbett-Arcoy fights at Madison Square Garden last summer, will be identified with the new club being organized in San Francisco to promote glove contests. The sport in San Francisco prospered at one time, but it was not conducted on sportsmanlike lines and the sporting public ceased to patronize the clubs. The men who are interested in this new club have selected James J. Kennedy because of the reputation he enjoys among the rank and file of sports as being businesslike. In and about a six month period when Kennedy was not notified that he was wanted in San Francisco to conduct the affairs of the new club he asked if he could bring his own property. When he received a reply in the affirmative by "Charley" White and then notified the club that he would come on to conduct affairs. Kennedy said yesterday that he selected White because of his reputation for honesty. "White" has been in the past been a heap of trouble in bouts that were decided in California, and all because of decisions rendered by the referee. The new club, in which some of the most prominent business men of San Francisco are interested, have secured the champion's pavilion and bouts between first class boxers only will be booked. He expects to arrange the first fight to take place in February.

FIGHTS AND FIGHTERS.

The Big Fight Will Go on Without Interruption.

The Mayor of Cincinnati Has Given His Word and Will Not Break It—Eastern Men Will Manage and Refuse in the New Western Club—George Siddons Wins a Fight in the West—Other Fight News of Interest.

Cincinnati, Dec. 27.—The city officials, as well as the officers and members of the Cincinnati Athletic club, say there is no truth in the reports about the fight between James J. Jeffries and Gus Rutlin, scheduled for February 15, in Cincinnati, being delayed on account of the fact that the arrangements are proceeding with the remodeling of the big Saengerfest hall and with their other plans. They have no intention of any changes whatever in the program.

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Public Education. WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Massachusetts, Nevada, California and New York, in the order named, shall lead the other states in the amount of money spent for public education. This state next gives to Nevada undue credit, for the sparsely settled condition of that state makes the public schools an expensive necessity, and Nevada should by right be eliminated from the list for purposes of comparison.

Co-operative Plan inaugurated. KINGSTON, N. Y., Dec. 27.—The Peckham Manufacturing company, manufacturers of motors, trucks and cars, has notified its 250 employees that hereafter they will participate in the company's profits, receiving the same divided on their wages as is paid on common stock. The co-operative plan originated with President Edgar Peckham.

Three Christmas Fatalities. BRYAN, O., Dec. 27.—Wayne Crowell, aged 24, and Charles Conner, aged 21, sawed the ax over their own throats to attend a Christmas dinner. In crossing the Wabash railroad tracks near that place they were struck by a passenger train and both instantly killed. When Mrs. S. Conner, mother of one of the young men, was notified of the accident, she shook above her death.

Not Indian Poncho. WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Indian Agent Myron of the Uintah and Ouray agency reports to the Indian bureau here that the search of western Colorado by the state officials for Indians hunting in the state has resulted in a failure to find one Indian.

JIMMY MICHAEL ILL.

The "Rabbit" Contracted a Cold in Race With Elkes.

Another of the bicycle riders who took part in the recent races at Madison Square Garden is ill. Jimmy Michael contracted a cold after his race with Henry Elkes last Saturday night and has been unable to leave his room at the Bartholdi hotel since. A report was circulated yesterday that the "Welsh Rabbit" was stricken with pneumonia, but this was denied by George Lane, Elkes' manager. Michael was doing well last evening and will be able to leave his room to-day. Smiar, who with Gougoltz, took part in the six-day race, was greatly improved yesterday. He was very ill with pneumonia on Saturday, but his physician says that he is now out of danger and will be able to leave his bed in a few days.

GOLFER PENN'S POSITION. Alexander Finlay, who has recently won the Florida East Coast Golf club links in the winter season of recent years, has not been re-engaged, and it is said that the chances are that Harry Vardon will return from England next month to accept the position. George Lane, the professional, has been engaged to take charge of the Miami links, Arthur H. Penn will be in charge as professional at Palm Beach and David Hunter, the English professional, goes to St. Augustine.

WALLES AND WILHELM INVADED. London, Dec. 27.—The New York Yacht club, the Daily Express says, will invite Emperor William and the Prince of Wales to witness the cup races, and President McKinley will attend races proposed to be played on their visit to the city. Sir Thomas Lipton, who was interviewed on the subject, said he thought it within the range of possibility that the Prince of Wales would accept such an invitation.

POOR GOLFERS OVER HERE. London, Dec. 27.—Harry Vardon, who was a passenger from New York on the White Star steamer Malindi, in the course of an interview at Liverpool, expressed his belief that the American people had treated him most hospitably, but that the American golfers still had much to learn, as neither the players nor the clubs were up to the standard. He anticipated that he intended to return to the United States soon, but that he had not decided whether he would settle there.

BASEBALL NOTES. The leaders of the Protective Association of Professional Baseball Players are trying to find out, they say, whether the members of the organization want to indulge in warfare or not in the event of a further breakdown at the hands of the National league. Some players have replied to the circular letter sent out by President Zimmerman and Secretary Jennings that they will stick it out to the end if they are ordered to keep from playing for a year they will do so. Other players, however, appears, are not so anxious for trouble and believe that it is best to get as much salary as they can for next year. The talk of a salary limit in the National league of \$2500 has been the subject of much speculation among the players, also some little apprehension. Some of the "real anarchists" among the players want to declare war if one and sign contracts with the league. For the most part, however, they talk they would prefer to play for \$12,000 in the American league as a "matter of principle" than for \$2,000 in the National league. The arguments of the "real anarchists" to the other players is that if they want to help Ban Johnson beat the National league they must be ready to sacrifice their own pockets. "Be willing to shoulder some of the burden," say the "anarchists" to their companions, "and then when the profits come later, be ready to share them." Altogether the ball players are in a minority, out of which they will doubtless emerge victorious, beyond a shadow of a doubt. The players are banking on one thing—the "players' pockets." "Once empty," say the club owners, "the pockets of the players cause a longing to get back to the original position on the first and third of each month. The players know they are well paid and that's why they do not know what action to take in the face of a cold hand from the league."

It is understood that the Brooklyn baseball club's deal with Detroit, whereby Detroit hoped to get John Anderson, is off. Anderson has been playing with Worcester of the Eastern league, and Worcester needs him to cover first base. Detroit at first offered President C. H. Ebbett \$800 for Anderson, but later there was some talk in the negotiations. If Worcester probably would be accepted.

"Considering the length of time he has depended on speed," said Manager Hamilton of the Brooklyn recently, "the records of the Boston has improved wonderfully well. He came into the league in 1880 and has been working steadily ever since. He is not a big man, physically, yet he is one of the best pitchers in the profession. Speed has been his standby and control, too. He has stood the wear and tear in such a way as to excite admiration. It is said that he pitched his last a fellow who comes into the league with an iron arm and cannon ball speed soon feels the strain and takes up change of pace. Merrett of New York is a striking illustration of what I mean. But Nichols, strange to say, has never developed a slow ball, and by every other pitcher in the league. Nick has also depended solely on the overhead delivery, which is particularly hard on the shoulder muscles. Every ball he delivers to the batsman comes from above his shoulder. McHughy of the Brooklyn on the other hand, showed this year how to save himself with underhand delivery. The "iron arm" set an example for the other pitchers in the league who want to preserve their salary wares as long as possible, and it wouldn't surprise me at all to find nearly every box man using an underhand ball next season. Even Nichols may fall in line, too."

A NIGHT OF TERROR. widow of the brave General Burnham of Machias, Me. when the doctors said she could not live till morning," writes Mrs. S. L. Burnham, who attended her on that fearful night. "All thought she must soon die of pneumonia, but she begged for Dr. King's New Discovery, saying it had more than once saved her life, and had cured her of Consumption. After three small doses she slept easily all night, and its further use completely cured her." This marvelous medicine is guaranteed to cure all Throat, Chest and Lung Diseases. Only 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottles free at G. L. Dexter & Co's drug store.

AMERICA AT THE FRONT. Europe Recognizes the Fact That We Have Expanded. BERLIN, Dec. 27.—In its yearly financial statement, the Frankfurter Zeitung points out that one of the most important facts of the last 12 months has been the growing influence of the United States upon the economic situation of Europe.

"In the first months of the year," says the writer, "when German industries had not the remotest fear of reaction, it was the report from America regarding the iron market and the fear of flooding the market with cheap American iron that terrified our markets and actuated our business. This was the case even when there were no important changes in the business situation in the United States. The fact that our country's competition were discussed in their bearings upon our business situation, and that this became very important factors in the most important decisions of our men of business and the quotation of securities."

"Wall street quotations frequently became the standard for all other exchange quotations in the United States. The ranks of creditor nations studied a change in the times. Ever since the war will Spain the United States government has pursued unhesitatingly a policy of world conquest. It has been the aim of our policy to have a very weighty word in determining the new political constellation among the leading nations of the world. In undertaking the Nicaragua canal also proves that the military, and still more the diplomatic, participation of the United States in the chief troubles shall be fruit."

Lepros in the Philippines. WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—An appended report to General MacArthur's review of the civil affairs of the Philippines, says that in the large cities, and rather startling facts regarding the introduction and prevalence of leprosy in the islands. According to the estimates of the local health officers, says Major Guy L. Dyer, the number of cases there are no less than 30,000 leprosy in the archipelago, the majority portion of these being in the Visayas.

To Improve Boston Navy Yard. BOSTON, Dec. 27.—The contract for building the sea wall and extending the water front of the Charlestown navy yard has been awarded to Norcross Bros. of Boston. The job is a large one, and the work the government will pay about \$155,000. The work will be commenced immediately, and when it is finished the area of the navy yard will be increased by 20 acres.

High Prices for New York City Bonds. NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Comptroller Cole yesterday opened bids for \$5,555,000 40 year 3 1/2 per cent gold bonds of the city. The issue of \$12,000,000 for the improvement of the city has been the highest bid, and \$445,000 for high schools and sites. There were 12 bids, most of them for the full amount. Very little of the issue was offered. The winning bids, offered \$12,117,000 for the entire issue. That was the highest bid, and they will get the bonds. The price is the highest ever paid for New York city securities.

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England Hears Nothing Encouraging From the Cape.

British Press Hopeful, but It is Certain That Kitchener is Facing Great Difficulties—More Troops Needed.

LONDON, Dec. 27.—The paucity and obscurity of the dispatches from South Africa give rise to renewed anxiety. Apparently the disturbed area of Cape Colony extends farther south than it did last December, and Lord Kitchener does not appear to have had much success as yet in driving back the invaders.

The war office had received no news last evening of the reported capture of a community near Britstown. A Boer leader's dispatch has a mysterious reference to "an unfortunate mistake of the enemy for Brabant's Horse," which resulted in the rout of "Ciskei's" and enabled the Boers to take the commando positions, the British retreating from a difficult predicament.

General Clements' success against the Boers in the Magaliesberg region is also denied, the best dispatch reporting that "it was considered inadvisable to force the Boers from their positions." The British press continues in the main optimistic, but the condition of affairs in the Boer country is becoming more and more serious. Lord Kitchener is expected to be in the Cape in a few days.

The Daily Mail, which makes a strong appeal to the government to "face the facts and send Lord Kitchener more troops," says: "There is a real risk in being lulled to sleep by the optimistic messages." Lord Kitchener, according to a dispatch from Johannesburg, has issued a proclamation, dated Pretoria, Dec. 20, announcing that Boers who voluntarily returned to the British would be treated as British subjects, and that such time as was necessary would be allowed to them to return to their homes. It is said that the Boers are not so anxious for trouble and believe that it is best to get as much salary as they can for next year.

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The Daily Mail, which makes a strong appeal to the government to "face the facts and send Lord Kitchener more troops," says: "There is a real risk in being lulled to sleep by the optimistic messages." Lord Kitchener, according to a dispatch from Johannesburg, has issued a proclamation, dated Pretoria, Dec. 20, announcing that Boers who voluntarily returned to the British would be treated as British subjects, and that such time as was necessary would be allowed to them to return to their homes. It is said that the Boers are not so anxious for trouble and believe that it is best to get as much salary as they can for next year.

THE BOER INVASION. England Hears Nothing Encouraging From the Cape. British Press Hopeful, but It is Certain That Kitchener is Facing Great Difficulties—More Troops Needed.

LONDON, Dec. 27.—The paucity and obscurity of the dispatches from South Africa give rise to renewed anxiety. Apparently the disturbed area of Cape Colony extends farther south than it did last December, and Lord Kitchener does not appear to have had much success as yet in driving back the invaders.

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