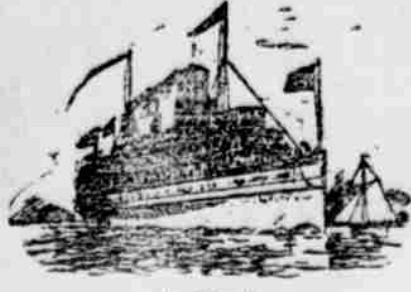


NOTES FROM GOTHAM.

SPORT, GOSSIP AND POLITICS IN A SIZZLING ATMOSPHERE.

Welcome to the Giants-Summer Sports and Recreation-The New Sound Steamers-Police and Politics-New Combinations-Opinions of Yachting Experts.

Special New York Letter. The sporting element of this town is just now in a hilarious condition of happiness. The New York club returned from its western trip with a credit of fourteen victories in eighteen games, and every local crank is now convinced that the championship pennant will float from the Polo Grounds before winter. Capt. Ward has a strong team, and it is making money

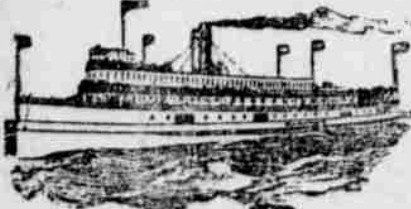


as well as gaining glory. But it is about time the title of "Giants" was dropped. Once the New York team was composed of physically big men, and the name seemed to fit them. The present team is not composed of big men, Pitcher Russe being about the heaviest of the lot. But the name of "Giants" will probably continue to stick to them, particularly if they play winning ball.

The decline of horse racing near this city is said to have helped other sports, particularly baseball and bicycling. While the racing resorts are dull, the more domestic resorts are very well patronized. The extreme heat has made the eastern resorts very popular this summer. I know of no grander sight than to stand on the Battery of an evening and watch the giant Sound steamers go out, radiant with flags and streamers, and loaded with happy excursionists fleeing from the sweltering temperature of town. The various Sound lines of steamers are now all provided with magnificent steel or iron vessels. An interesting contest is going on between them as to which shall have the biggest and fastest vessels. The Fall River line is to the front now with the new Priscilla, the largest vessel of her kind ever built. With her 484 feet of length, and towering sides, she is not to be surpassed in stately impressiveness by the biggest of the ocean steamers. The Fall River people build side-wheelers, the Priscilla being of this type. The new screw steamers of the New Haven line are, however, a great success. The Priscilla rounded the Battery in the wake of the New Hampshire one night this week, and I had a good opportunity to contrast the two types. It seems inevitable that the side-wheelers will eventually disappear from use. It only remains for some enterprising man to build a modern triple screw steamer to carry off the coveted Sound championship from the present steamers, magnificent as they are.

The resignation of Police Commissioner McClave, and the nomination of Gen. Michael Kerwin as his successor, by Mayor Gilroy, is the local political sensation. The nomination, in the opinion of local political prophets, carries with it a deal between the "regular" Republicans and the Tammany Democrats. The Board of Police Commissioners of four members now has two Republicans members, Gen. Kerwin and Mr. Murray, thus carrying out the idea of a bipartisan board, as proposed by the bill which Gov. Flower vetoed last winter. There is no uncertainty about the political position of the two members of the Board. Mr. Murray is the census enumerator whom President Harrison appointed to take the census of this city, and who, according to good Democratic authority, tried to cut down the population and Congressional and State representations of the city. Gen. Kerwin was one time a Democrat, but he strove to defeat Mr. Cleveland in 1884, by turning over the Irish vote of the city to Mr. Blaine, and he has been a consistent Republican since.

The situation, as it stands, indicates a three-cornered political fight this fall. It is evident that Mr. Platt will have nothing to do with the so-called reformers, but will insist upon a "straight" ticket to oppose Tammany. This action on the part of the Republicans, if it takes place as indicated, will force the reformers to show their strength. They cannot well avoid a contest, and they should be in a position to make it a lively one. New York city politics seems to interest the whole country, and it will certainly be interesting this fall. It would take a good prophet to forecast the outcome. There can be no doubt as to



the strength of the independent movement at the present time. Its sentiment is uncompromising, and it aims at nothing less than the destruction of both the Tammany and Platt machines. It would willingly use either of the old parties to effect its aims, but is not likely to compromise with either. The oldest and shrewdest politicians admit that the situation is full of uncertainty, and would not be greatly surprised at the success of the independent ticket. It is surmised, however, that the Herald is doing no good to the independents by advocating Dr. Parkhurst for mayor. It is a little curious that even reformers are disposed to trust experienced politicians for their leaders rather than their own ilk.

The local yachting sentiment has been stimulated to a little enthusiasm by the Vigilant's late victories in England. It can be fairly said that local yachtsmen have never doubted the Vigilant's superiority to the Britannia. The conditions under which the early races in Great Britain took place were

very peculiar, and amounted to a complete handicap for the American yacht. The Scotch yachting courses are all land-locked, and the weather seems to have been of an unusual character, much resembling our summer weather. The Vigilant, while fast in either light or heavy winds, is not quick in stays, and the Scotch courses, with their queer angles and many turns, were much against her. Besides, the Britannia has the best skipper and smartest crew in Great Britain, while the Vigilant and her managers were novices in Scotch waters. It is no wonder that the American yacht failed to win on land-locked courses, with many turns and varying currents and shifts of wind, while her managers and crew were perfectly green. But our local experts all agree that she has shown herself the fastest yacht. She has kept right on the British yacht's heels under the most unfavorable circumstances, and has run away from her whenever a true wind has blown.

There is no little surprise and amusement here over the revelation of the difficulties of yachting in British waters. The idea has been sedulously presented by our foreign visitors that British courses were open and fair, and freely swept by reefing gales. Doubtless this may be true of some of the races that Vigilant will yet enter. Her experience so far shows that British yachtsmen have much to learn in selecting fair and open courses. It is now the rule in this country to sail all important matches on triangular courses in the open ocean. Such courses are perfectly fair, and the rule of requiring all races to be finished within six hours prevents the occurrence of "flukes." Scarcely one of the drifting matches in which the Vigilant was defeated in Scotland would have been allowed in this country. It is evident that the Vigilant's visit to



England is destined to teach our consins many new points in yachting. It is interesting to note that the British critics all conceded the Vigilant's superiority in a true wind, even before she beat the Britannia. The only point of doubt they seem to entertain is as to her ability in a gale. It is to be hoped she will have an opportunity to meet the Britannia in the roughest weather the channel can afford. Then they will learn that our yachts are as staunch and able as they are fast.

MILTON S. MAYHEW. At the Geneva (N. Y.) Experiment Station experiments were made in spraying an old pear orchard with a dilute Bordeaux mixture (one pound of copper sulphate in eleven gallons of water). The trees were sprayed May 2, May 10 and May 31. Paris green was added, and spraying done June 12 and 28. Other trees were left unsprayed for comparison. The results show an average receipt, per tree, from the Seckel variety, sprayed six times, of \$5.48 per tree, while unsprayed trees by their side gave only sixty-eight cents per tree. White Doreene, sprayed five times, gave \$6.55 per tree, while the same variety, unsprayed, gave only forty-five cents per tree. The cost of the material and labor was 94 cents per tree each time, or 474 cents for five treatments. Experiments made in New South Wales in keeping fruit in cold storage, with a constant influx of air, at a temperature of about forty-two degrees above zero, showed that apples kept well four months and kept ten days after removal. Pears, plums, peaches, grapes, tomatoes and mangoes kept for two months, all coming out in good condition.

Paste This in Your Hat. "Neither the torch of the incendiary nor the weapon of the insurrectionist nor the inflamed tongue of him who lures to fire and sword is the instrument to bring about reforms. To the mind of the American people, to the calm, dispassionate, sympathetic judgment of a race that is not afraid to face deep changes and responsibilities there has, as yet, been no appeal. Men who appear as the champions of great changes must first submit them to discussion—discussion that reaches not simply the parties interested, but the wider circles of society, and must be patient as well as preserving until the public intelligence has been reached and a public judgment made up. An appeal to force before that hour is a crime not only against the Government of existing laws, but against the cause itself, for what man of intelligence supposes that any settlement will abide which is induced under the light of the torch or the shadow of an overpowering threat?"—Judge Grosscup's charge to the Chicago Grand Jury.

To Keep Cracked Ice. Cracked ice is often a necessity in a sick room. A convenient way to keep it is in a flannel bag. Make a bag of rather flannel and cut a small hole in the hem at the top. Hang this bag of rather thin flannel and cut a small hole in the bottom. Have a long tape run in the hem at the top. Hang this bag in a large pitcher, fastening it at the top with the tape. Fill the bag with cracked ice and cover the pitcher with several thicknesses of flannel.

The Difference. Edgess—I saw Spooner and his bride on the train the other day. Edgess—Were they in the parlor car? Edgess—No; they were on the way home from their honeymoon.—World.

THE ENGLISH BABY PRINCE. His Pretty Ancestral Cradle and Dainty Layette.

The English papers have recently been full of accounts of the new royal baby. The cradle in which the little Duke of Kent is spending his first "summer vacation" has held the infant forms of many of his royal grand uncles and aunts. The cradle swings from a graceful frame of rich old mahogany inlaid with gold. Draperies of handsome brocade of a delicate pearl tint are attached and used to shut off intrusive draughts. The sheets for this downy nest are of fine Irish linen, lace trimmed, the blankets are softest embroidered Pyrenean wool, and the coverlid matches the pearl brocade. The crown and three feathers which surmount the framework are further typical of



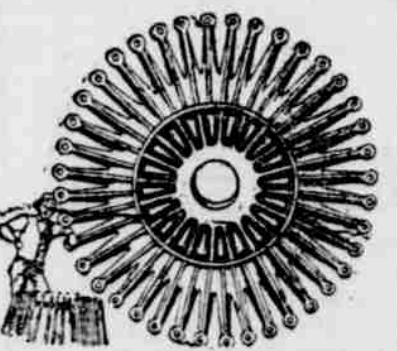
the royal state of the small occupant, being the insignia of the heir to the throne since the time of the Black Prince.

The Smithfield Ham. "The average citizen is fond of a piece of sweet ham, but it is an absolute waste to set before an uneducated palate a slice of a genuine old Smithfield that has been two years in curing," said Col. Thomas Longley, of Virginia, to a Washington reporter a few days ago. "The fame of the Smithfield ham has been spread to the uttermost parts of the land, and I never yet knew a man who was cognizant of the merits of both that didn't prefer the product of old Virginia to the choicest that ever came from Westphalia. I can't describe the process of the former's treatment in detail, but I know it is enveloped in ashes a good while and subsequently buried in another earth, where it stays for many moons."

"Some high-flying epicures aver that a Smithfield should be liberally drenched with champagne while in process of cooking, but I don't think wine is at all necessary. My mode is to parboil it till the skin comes off easily, then put it in the baking pan and baste judiciously with vinegar and sugar. Then it comes out a dish fit for the Olympian gods. Of course all the hams that bear the name do not come from the little town of Smithfield, for that small hamlet couldn't supply one-hundredth part of the demand."

"A member of the universal Smith family, old Capt. Isaac, for whom the town was named, and who was, if I mistake not, a contemporary of Gen. Washington, invented the process of curing that part of the hog in question, and to-day his imitators are scattered all over Virginia and Maryland."

Mammoth Electrical Machinery. The accompanying illustration represents one of a pair of armature stars, or carriers which are said to be the largest in the world. A pair of these have recently been made by the Wells & French Company, of Philadelphia, for the Siemens & Halske Electric Company, which will install them at Toronto, Ont., for street railway service. The machines when completed will weigh about sixty tons each, and have a nominal capacity of 1,200 kilowatts or 1,600 electrical horse power each, under 500 volts pressure.



and will be over-compound for 12 per cent. drop in the lines. They are to be directly connected to a pair of horizontal cross compound condensing engines, making eighty revolutions per minute. The armature stars are thirteen feet in diameter, and weigh over ten tons each. The brush carriers will be about fourteen feet six inches in diameter, and are being made by the same concern. The castings came from a warp, crack finished, or blow-hole, and are now being finished for the turbine. Considering the form and size and the difficulty in making these castings, the company is to be congratulated.—Western Electrician.

Why He Fell Off the Porch. The dainty bit of a summer girl in a bewitching fluff of gown was twittering sweetly to the rural youth, and he was so tickled he couldn't sit still. She had been in the country two days and had met him that morning. "Is it always so warm as this in the country?" she inquired. "You don't think this is warm, do you?" he responded. "Indeed, I do; I think it is positively hot."

"Likely it is, but it is fine weather for corn." She looked at him doubtfully and blushed. "But I have no corns," she said, and he fell off the porch in a paroxysm.—Detroit Free Press.

Sandy Hook's New Light. The power of the new electric search light—2,000,000 candles—on Sandy Hook was tested recently, when it was found that writing could be easily read by it in New York, 20 miles from the light.—Power.

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