

DECLINING SPORTS.

CAMPAU VICTORIOUS.
He Downs His Opponents in the Detroit Driving Park Association.

DETROIT, February 6.—The office of the Detroit Driving Club presented an annual dinner last night, but as none but stockholders were admitted to the meeting, the proceedings, which were conducted in a quiet and knot of spectators who stood outside and gazed in through the big windows, were solely of the pantomime order. It was the great fight over the presidency of the club that has been brewing for weeks, so it seemed skin gins and adjourned to the office of the club to have it out.

After the committee on credentials had made its report, F. A. Baker inaugurated the fun with a motion to strike out section E of the by-laws, which it is claimed was inserted by the members of the association. Mr. Baker was the aggressor in this attack on Mr. Campau's presidency, asserting that the latter has usurped all powers of the association and continually annoyed the other stockholders. He has taken the entire management of the club's affairs on himself and never consulted the directors. A vote was taken to accept the motion of F. A. Baker.

"No, he didn't," continued Mr. Baker, and he proceeded to set forth in 1887, when Mr. Campau was president, that the club had made a profit of \$16,000, while last year, with the entire management in his hands, the club showed a profit of \$10,000. Mr. Campau also asserted that last year D. J. Campan had taken the entire management of the club's affairs on himself and never consulted the directors. A vote was taken to accept the motion of F. A. Baker.

RACE AT WHEELING.

A three-day pedestrian contest has been arranged for the 10th, 11th and 12th inst., and it is to be hoped that Allen will turn out a good one.

MYERS AND MCALFEE FIGHT ON THE 15TH INST.

BILLY DACY easily defeated Jack Costello in a race to a finish on Long Island Tuesday night.

BILLY MYERS, who is to fight Frank Hurdle, had a great benefit at Streator, Ill., on Tuesday night.

ROCHE'S HORSE, a black gelding 4 years old, by Stratford, dam by imported Knight of St. George, has been sold for \$1,300 by Tom Mcowell to J. C. Twyman, both of Lexington.

PRESIDENT SODEN, of the Washington club, says he takes no stock in the Washington story about Ward. He expects to get Ward, and if he does, he will be glad to have him, and the members of the President.

Finally the voting for a board of directors commenced, and the result was a great victory for D. J. Campan.

It is to be hoped that the decline of sport has already injured business, and will continue to do so.

FROM A SPORTING POINT OF VIEW THESE STATEMENTS ARE WORTHY OF A LITTLE COMMENT, BECAUSE WHETHER WE ARE INCLINED TO BELIEVE IT OR NOT THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE INFLUENCED IN MATTERS OF SPORT.

IT IS, DOUTLESS, A FACT THAT SPORT IN ALMOST ALL OF ITS BRANCHES HAS DECLINED IN PITTSBURG DURING RECENT YEARS. BASEBALL, GOLF, SHOOTING AND PROBABLY CYCLING ARE EXCEPTIONS. BUT THERE WAS A TIME WHEN THE CITY WAS NOT.

CAUSES OF THE DECLINE ARE AN INTERESTING STUDY BECAUSE THEY ARE NOT CONFIRMED BY WORDS OF THE EXPERTS. THEY ARE, HOWEVER, IF I CONSIDER, AND PROBE A LITTLE beneath the surface, TAKE, FOR INSTANCE, FOOT RACING. IF TRICKERY HAS KNOCKED IT ALMOST INTO LOCAL OBLIVION, WHAT HAS BEEN THE CAUSE OF THE DECLINE OF AMATEUR RUNNING? CERTAINLY NOT CAUSE WHICH IS FAULT IN THE RACERS THEMSELVES, BUT TO A CERTAIN DEGREE, THAT ANOTHER RACE HAS DECLINED; INDEED, AMATEUR ATHLETICS GENERALLY SEEM TO BE LESS POPULAR HERE NOW THAN THEY HAVE EVER BEEN SINCE THE DAYS OF THE GOLD RUSH, WHICH CAUSED THE DECLINE OF PROFESSIONAL SPRINKLING, AND THE SAME MAY BE SAID OF ROWING, BUT THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THE DECLINE OF SPORT HAS BEEN INFLUENCED, AND THE CAUSE SEEMS TO BE THE LACK OF INTEREST IN THE SPORT. FURTHER, THIS LACK OF INTEREST HAS BEEN GREATLY BEING AGGRAVATED BY THE UNPOPULARITY OF THE KINDRED PROFESSIONAL BRANCHES OF SPORT.

IT IS NOT SINCE THERE WERE ANY AMOUNT OF PROFESSIONAL ROWERS IN THE CITY, BUT THEY SEEM TO BE NO LONGER ROWERS.

SPORTING PEOPLE TO BLAME.

THE SAME MAY BE SAID OF VARIOUS OTHER BRANCHES, AND THE FACTS SUGGEST THAT THE CAUSES OF THE DECLINE OF THESE BRANCHES, EXCEPTING POOLING, ARE BLAME THEMSELVES FOR THE DOWNFALL. BOXING HAS NOT DECLINED OF ITSELF, HOWEVER, BECAUSE AT TWO HOURS' NOTICE THE LARGEST BUILDING IN THE CITY CAN BE FILLED WITH AN ENTHUSIASTIC CROWD, IF A GOOD HONEST FIGHTER WAS ANNOUNCED. THE LAW, THEREFORE, IS, THAT THE BOXING AND POOLING ARE THE ONLY BRANCHES WHICH INVOKED IN THE MANNER IN WHICH IT WAS DONE.

BILLY FISHER IS IN HIS 6TH YEAR, AND WAS A PROFESSIONAL BOXER. HE LOOKS DOWN.

HE WAS THEN TRANSFERRED TO THE STADT AT BROWNSVILLE, WHERE CAPTAIN BROWN HAS KEPT HIM FOR SEVEN YEARS. HE HAS BEEN WITH CAPTAIN BROWN SINCE HE WAS A BOY. HE IS A FIGHTER, AND IS GOING TO SPEND THE EVENING, HE REFUSED TO SAY WHAT HE PAID FOR THE HORSE, BUT INTIMATED THAT \$4,000 WAS NOT HIGH A GUESS.

KILRAIN TO SMITH.

Jake Writes a Plain Letter About the Englishman's Challenge.

NEW YORK, February 6.—In regard to the challenge of Jim Smith, the champion of the world, which was recently sent from London, England, the following reply was received at the *Police Gazette* office from Baltimore yesterday:In regard to Jim Smith's challenge, I am in a quandary how to reply, because he does not stipulate by what rules he will fight, or whether he will be allowed to bring his manager along. I might possibly injure my hands. But, hands and no hands, I will fight Jim Smith if he puts his money up with the *Police Gazette* or *Sporting Life*. I am not afraid of him. I am a better boxer than Charlie Mitchell about Smith's challenge, and when I receive it I shall know just what to do. If I receive it again, I will not stand by, or should it end in a draw, I will go to England and arrange a match with Smith. 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