

[Continued from first page.]

boat has also been altered, and altogether the Yale crew are admitted now to be doing quite as good work as any of their rivals. I do not think they will win, but am positive they will provide us with one of the most exciting races ever witnessed at Henley.

The Sketch speaks through a correspondent on July 1:

"In the brief time they have been over here the Yale crew have already made themselves popular with rowing people. \* \* \* So far as I have seen, the Yale crew are gentlemen and sportsmen—men who will take victory at Henley with modesty or suffer defeat without ill-will."

In an article on the "Yale Crew at Henley" in the Golden Penny for July 4, occurs the following:

"Having accomplished the greatest ambition of American college men in track and field sports in England, Yale is now to attempt the same for boating. An eminent authority on American sport has declared that if the Stars and Stripes are run up after the last race of the Henley regatta, Yale will have accomplished a work that in its friendly results between the United States and England will reach far beyond the realm of boating in establishing a respect for Americans and a firm and lasting friendship between the two nations; for it is a notable fact that the firmest ties that bind the peoples of the two countries to-day are the outgrowth of sports."

HOW THE DEFEAT WAS TAKEN.

Much disappointment for the time being was felt among the Yale contingent at the defeat of their crew, but this feeling was not too strong to prevent them giving the winners their just congratulations and hearty cheers. They admitted candidly that their crew was beaten by a better eight and the crew and coach expressed themselves more than satisfied with the thoroughly sportsmanlike treatment which they had received. The Englishmen for their part, according to the London Chronicle, "had scarcely the heart to cheer their own crew so keenly did the Americans evidently feel the disappointment of their hopes."

The race is described by this same paper as follows:—

Yale started at a faster stroke but Leander got the lead at once, rowing one stroke a minute less than their opponents. Then Yale shook themselves together. The boys were fresh; they were amazingly strong; a slight lead at the beginning never dazed them in the least, and they pulled that papier-mache boat ahead before the end of the Regatta Island had been reached. A storm of cheering burst on the two crews as they opened out into the straight course that ended in the judge's box. Yale was two men ahead, Leander set their teeth and swung out farther, and the distance lessened. Slowly, very slowly, the boats crept together again, and at the quarter mile they were again dead level.

For the next 400 yards it was a true struggle of the giants fit for the gods to see. Nothing seemed to tire those American arms. The Yale bodies rushed forward perfectly together. The broad Yale blades clashed in together and ripped through with a sound of tearing paper, and still the nose of Yale's boat kept a few inches to the front. But the terrific pace was beginning to tell on the whole American crew, and their stroke had slowed down to a machine-like thirty-eight, which became even jerkier than before. At the half-mile Yale seemed suddenly to stop; four, who had been pulling like a Titan, missed his stroke, and Leander rushed up like a flash, six feet, twelve feet, a quarter of a length, the pink oars gained, while the dark blues were still hurried and unsteady. But Treadway backed up his stroke in gallant fashion, and Yale showed they were not done with yet.

Amid frantic exhortations from both sides of the river, which seemed alive with waving dark blue flags, the Americans made one more desperate effort to pick up the leaders. But the race was over. Leander's swing got longer and longer as the Yale boys shortened, and the remainder of the course produced not so much a fine struggle of one boat against another as an extraordinary effort of the plucky Yale crew to overcome the difficulties and errors of their style.

OPINIONS OF THE ENGLISH PRESS.

Among the comments upon the race published in the English press the following are especially interesting and significant:—

YALE CREW AN ATTRACTION.

(The Speaker, July 11.)

The peculiar interest of this year's meeting lay in the appearance of a crew from Yale. After all that has happened of late in athletic contests with America, after the reverses sustained there by our champions, and the unhappy history of Lord Dunraven's yacht, the news that an eight from Yale University would enter for the Grand Challenge Cup caused an excitement that Henley races do not

often rouse. The presence of the visitors was attested not only by the great blue flag with the big Y upon it which floated conspicuously in the landscape but also by the large number of Americans who had assembled, as they hoped, to witness their compatriots' victory. It fell to the Yale crew at the outset to have to meet the strongest eight upon the river, and the race for the cup, in the eyes of many spectators, was practically rowed in the heat between Yale University and the Leander club.

The result was what only those who had compared the English and American systems of rowing could have foreseen. The Yale crew were stronger and heavier than their rivals. They showed to the end, even when victory became impossible, a pluck and endurance which no English team could have surpassed. The muscular power which they displayed was amazing, and even when their muscles failed them their determination held out and carried them over the course. But they fell victims to a system whose mistakes they had probably never had an opportunity of discovering before. The fact is that the Americans rowed with their arms, and the Englishmen rowed with their backs and their legs, and the result only proves what in this country has been long established as a truism of rowing, that the man who uses only his arms must infallibly succumb in the long run to the man who works with his back and his legs as well.

The Yale men are trained only to row a short course of five hundred yards. For that course their system, difficult and wearing as it is, has been shown to be sufficient and effective. But if the strain be prolonged beyond that, if the race be extended from a short, sharp spurt to a longer struggle, such as the course at Henley, or even more formidable course from Putney to Mortlake, then no arms alone can be trained to stand it, and the crew which relies on its arms is bound to fail. The famous race on Tuesday is, in fact, a testimony to the admirable system of our rowing men, and we have little doubt that it will lead to some modifications in the system taught at Harvard and at Yale.

YALE'S VICTORY.

(The Western Press, July 10.)

The Yale crew were beaten on the first day, but their defeat occasioned no unseemly jubilation on this side of the Atlantic, whilst on the other it has engendered no rancour. As a matter of fact, the New York press has spoken of the event in the most generous terms—differing entirely from those employed last year when the Cornell fiasco occurred. But the latter arose from a complicated set of misunderstandings, the memory of which had better be committed to oblivion. The victory of Yale this year would have been popular. But it was impossible, and the Americans themselves frankly declare that they were beaten under the fairest possible conditions, and have proved their sincerity in many ways that could only be suggested by the truly gentlemanly instinct. And in thus manfully accepting defeat, the Yale men have gained another and even more important victory—a victory over the lurking suspicion that foreign competitors are treated with scant consideration at Henley. But the most perfectly good feeling prevails all round; and the really broad-minded supporters of Henley rejoice to think that the insular exclusiveness is a fad of the few, and that foreign oarsmen have won, and thoroughly deserve, the heartiest British sympathy for their courage and enterprise in defence of cosmopolitan oarsmanship.

[Continued on eighth page.]

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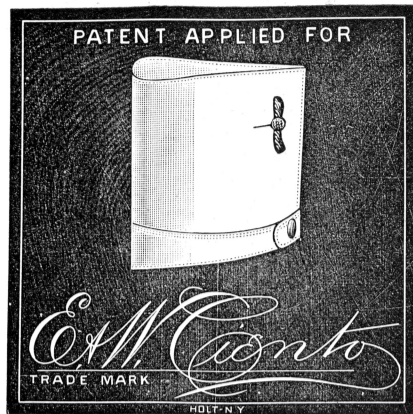
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