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A STRIKING FEATURE.

(London Field, July 11.)

There has been one peculiar characteristic of the Yale oarsmen which has struck all who have observed them, or have conversed with them; this feature has been their modesty, tempered with laudable ambition. Instead of arriving with the notion that they were going to teach the Old World how to row, they seem to have started with the hypothesis that they had come to see what rowing was on this side of the Atlantic, and that they had made up their minds to make this venture a sort of "preliminary examination," from which they intended to take and compare notes, and, after doing their best for the occasion, to digest their experiences for some future, and doubtless more effective attempt. We have seldom seen a club more observant of discrepancies in styles, as compared with their own, or more free from blindness as to their own peculiarities. Our experience is that all rowing clubs have much to learn from each other, and that contact of club with club opens the eyes of each, and facilitates mutual improvements in style.

OPINIONS OF CRITICS.

Sif Charles Dilke, who is recognized in England as an authority on rowing is quoted recently in the University Magazine as expressing the following opinion of Yale's performance:—

Yale have already shown and said that they intend to imitate our longer style, and there can be no doubt that they will do so, and that the next time they come to Henley it will take the best crew that England can produce, with the most perfect training to beat them. That it is not impossible for a perfect crew to paddle short, and to row long is shown by New. Mr. Whitworth, their stroke, never rowed out the finish at a paddle, but rowed the stroke fully through when the paddle was extended into a strong row. Yale were similarly able to convert their shorter stroke at times into a long powerful row; but they could not do this, and yet manage a quick stroke; and it was at this point that they failed, and in order to row a quick enough stroke for the Henley course they were forced to row the shorter American style. They will, undoubtedly, work at the combination of the quick stroke with length and will attend to their recovery from the long swing back; and our crews will have in future to train better than they do in the present day if great crews of old oarsmen, or what are sometimes called crews of names, are to stand a chance with them the next time they come to Henley.

Mr. R. C. Lehman, who has won a reputation as Leander's famous coach, wrote to Harper's Weekly two weeks ago in answer to comments made in their columns on the Henley race. The following is extracted:—

THE STROKE.

The more I have rowed and the more I have coached the stronger has my conviction become that it is only by the long sweeping stroke, firmly marked at the beginning, and held through without wavering till the hands reach the chest, that you can create and maintain pace in a racing craft. This kind of stroke you cannot get unless you swing the body well down, at the same time reaching far out with the arms, so as to strike your beginning fair and square, and immediately at the full extent of body-swing and arm-reach behind the riggle. The arms being kept straight, the body swings back as though released from a spring, all the weight telling directly on the blade in the water. As the body swings, the legs drive, until with a final shove that flattens down the knees the last ounce of leg-power is applied to blades, and simultaneously the shoulders go back, the elbows pass the sides, and the outside hand forces the oar handle right home to the chest. If this last part is done firm and hard, and with all limbs and muscles working together, the boat seems to get an extra impulse to carry her along between strokes, and the hands leave the chest smartly, almost of their own accord, bringing the body on to the recovery with an elastic spring. The essentials, the pace-creating essentials, are always the beginning and finish as I have described them. * * * The fact is, Leander, to put it in a different way, had the longer stride, and having it, were able to hold Yale to half-way with an economy of labor which proved so much to their advantage that thereafter they were able to shoot away from Yale almost as if the latter were standing still, and to win in the end, without being rowed all out, in 7:14.

In size, weight, and obvious muscular power Yale were superior to Leander, and to every other crew in Henley; their condition was admittedly good; why, then, should they have been beaten, except by a crew rowing a better stroke?

CONCERNING THE OARS.

In regard to the oars used by Yale, Mr. Lehmann says:—

I do not believe any man, however muscular and powerful he may be, can do himself justice or propel the boat properly with a blade broader than 6 inches, though the disadvantage would be less

felt by a crew which purposely rows a very short stroke, as Yale did. But if Yale want to try rowing in our style, and with our length of swing and react, they must give up their excessive breadth of blade. Mr. Trevor-Jones's opinion that Yale would have beaten Leander had the crew used the 6-inch blades does not impress me as valuable; for, before the race, Mr. Trevor-Jones predicted a Leander defeat, without reference to blades.

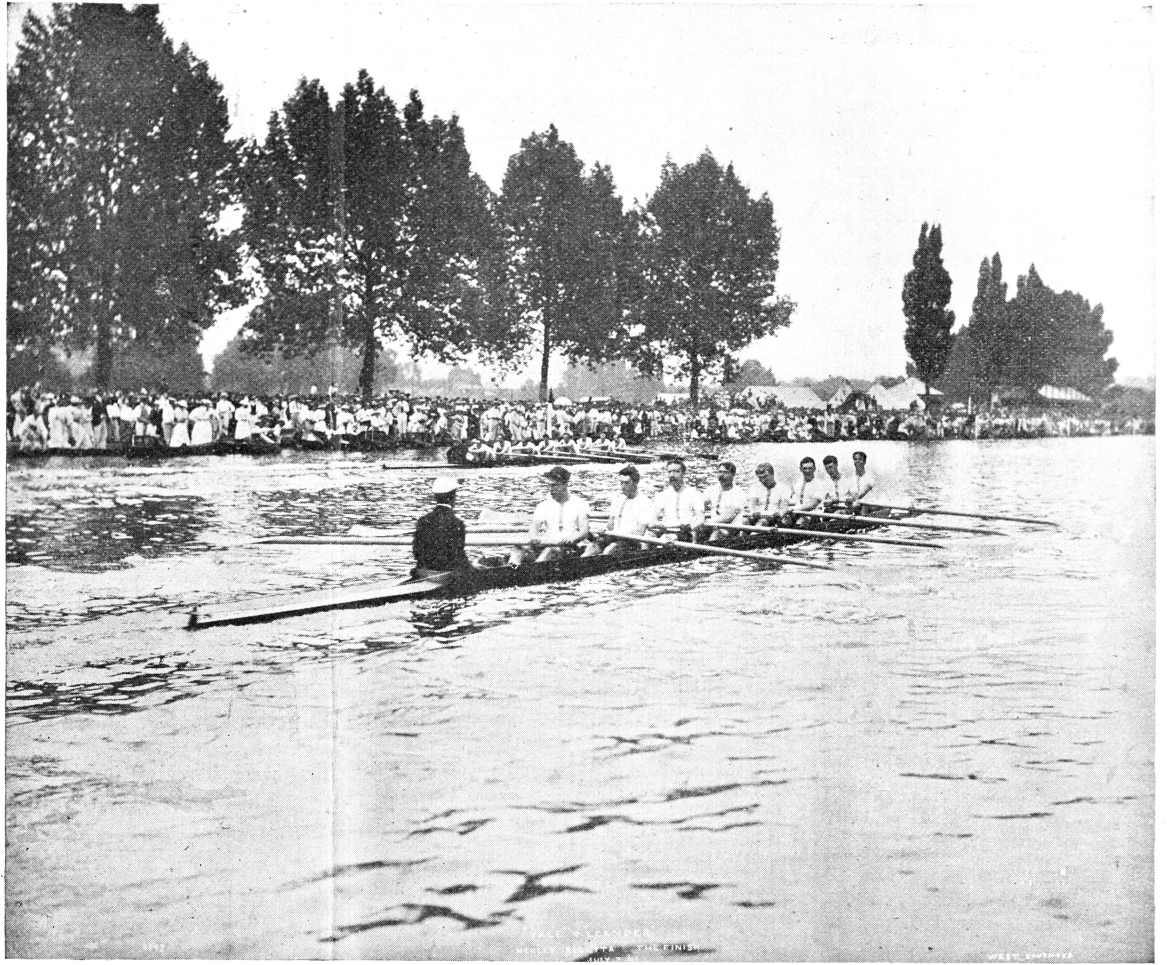
THE OUTLOOK FOR NEXT SEASON.

Regarding the performance of the University eight as encouraging and successful many now hold the opinion that Yale should visit Henley again next spring, when with the help of the experience and rowing instruction gained last July they would have a fine chance to win. Almost everybody who feels an interest in American rowing and especially in Yale rowing, cherishes the hope that at some future time a Yale crew may win the grand challenge cup, and if this is ever to be, when would circumstances be more favorable than next summer? And why is such a plan not all the more opportune at a time when a race with Harvard seems out of the question? But here it must be said that prospects of a race with Harvard are not altogether dead in some minds, and the expense of another Henley trip and the possibility of not having such a strong crew next season are the considerations which might oppose a repetition of last summer's expedition.

A third alternative is a race with Cornell, which could undoubtedly be arranged and would give a Yale eight more cause for excitement than she has experienced in this country for many years. Cornell was champion of four mile racing crews, which were on the water last summer, and had a fast crew. The adoption of a new rival instead of a renewal of the fight with Harvard might find favor with some critics but in reality the leaning of most Yale men is towards annual struggles with Harvard in all branches of athletics.

Any discussion at this date of the rowing situation can be only very vague and unreliable. No forecast can be made as to the ultimate plan of the management and no decision may be made till later on in the year.

THE FINISH AT HENLEY.



Leander wins by a length and a half.

THE WRESTLING MATCHES.

Academic Freshmen and Scientific Juniors Win their Contests.

The annual wrestling matches between representatives of the Freshman and Sophomore classes, the remnant of the rush of former years, took place on Wednesday evening, September 23, at the Hopkins Grammar School lot. In response to announcements issued by F. T. Murphy, '97, as captain of the Football team, the undergraduates met by classes in front of Osborn Hall at 7:30 p. m. The procession was then formed. The Seniors coming first carrying lighted torches, and headed by a brass band marched in a roundabout way to the scene of action. Cheers for the incoming class of 1900 were given at several points on the route. A large ring was made on the Grammar School lot and then representatives of the two classes were called out for the three matches, light weight, middle weight and heavy weight.

The Freshmen won the contest defeating their opponents by excellent work in all three matches. The lightweight was won by Bartlett, 1900, who defeated Parkes, '99, the first and last rounds resulting in draws and the second being won by Bartlett in 1 minute 15 seconds. Simonds, 1900, won the middle weight match by defeating Atkins, '99, in two straight bouts in 2:25 and 1:50 respectively. In the heavy weight class Beck, '99, won the second round in 30 seconds, but was defeated in the other two by Jack, 1900, in the short times of 25 and 40 seconds.

F. R. Lehlbach, '97, acted as referee of the wrestling and S. K. Gerard, '97, as timekeeper.

The procession was formed again and returned to Osborn Hall where the crowd quickly dispersed. Two groups, however, of Freshmen and Sophomores, respectively, cherished desire for a "scrap" and formed on opposite sides of Chapel street. Then they moved up towards York street and began a rush which lasted only a few minutes and resulted in no real trouble. The combatants were persuaded to desist by some upper-classmen, who had followed the crowd.

THE "SHEFF." RUSH.

The annual Scientific School rush took place on Saturday evening, Sept. 26, on a lot at the corner of Whitney avenue and Canner street. It was rumored that on this occasion the "townies" had intended to mob the students on account of the insulting manner in which the latter had treated Mr. W. J. Bryan a few days previous. The students heard the rumor and both parties approached the scene of action ready for trouble if not actually desiring it. The police force had, however, anticipated trouble and sent a squad of policemen to preserve order and no friction resulted.

At half-past seven the Second Regiment band arrived at Sheffield Hall and the procession began, being led by a large number of Seniors in fancy costumes. The line of march was down Grove to Temple street and out Temple and Whitney avenue to the vacant lot where the wrestling took place. When a circle had been formed by the seniors the wrestling began.

The featherweight match was won by Gregory, '98 S., from Anderson, '99 S., in two rounds. The middleweight match between Hamlin, '98 S., and Belle, '99 S., after three rounds resulted in a tie. In the heavyweight match Slocovitch, '98 S., defeated Fowler, '99 S., in two rounds. The procession then reformed and returned by Whitney avenue to Chapel street, thence by College street to Sheffield Hall.

All-America Amateur Baseball Nine.

The following selection for an All-American amateur baseball nine for 1896 was made by Caspar Whitney in Harper's Weekly: Pitcher, Wilson, Princeton; catcher, Murphy, Yale; firstbase, Letton, Yale; secondbase, Rodman, Brown; thirdbase, Houghton, Harvard; shortstop, Ward, Princeton; left field, Greenway, Yale; center field, Bradley, Princeton; right field, Robinson, Brown. Substitutes: Catcher, Dunne, Brown; pitcher, Paine, Harvard; in-fielders, Fultz, Brown; out-fielders, Burgess, Harvard. It will be seen that Yale has three members of the team—Murphy as catcher, Letton at first, and Greenway in left field. Princeton also has three positions; Brown two, and two substitutes while Harvard one, and two substitutes.