

THE CHESS TOURNAMENT.

Harvard again Victorious—Marked Improvement in the Play.

Harvard won the fifth annual Intercollegiate Chess Tournament, which was held at the Columbia Grammar School, New York, beginning on Monday, Dec. 28, and ending on Saturday afternoon. Princeton, Columbia and Yale finished in the order named.

This tournament is considered by far the most successful ever held since the establishment of the Intercollegiate Cup five years ago, the standard of excellence among the players being much higher and the work in preparation much more careful and thorough.

The representatives of the four colleges were as follows: Harvard, E. E. Southard and A. W. Ryder; Princeton, E. B. Seymour and W. W. Young; Columbia, A. W. Parker and A. M. Price; and Yale, F. A. Lehlbach and W. W. Murdoch. Mr. Eugene Delmar acted as referee, and T. R. Stark of Columbia, was the director of play. Mr. Southard of Harvard made by far the best record of the tournament, winning in all six of his matches.

Although the score of the Yale team this year was not as high as it has been on previous occasions, yet the standard of the playing was undoubtedly superior to that of any other team, that has represented Yale. At the end of the first half of the tournament Yale was in second place, but in the last three days the playing of her representatives fell off considerably. At the beginning of the last day Yale, Princeton and Columbia were all tied for second place, with four games won and six lost. On that day Murdoch and Lehlbach, of Yale, met Ryder and Southard, of Harvard, the leading players in the tournament, and were both defeated. This placed Yale in fourth place.

One of the most interesting games played was that between Murdoch, Yale, and Southard, Harvard, on the first day of the tournament. Southard is without doubt the finest player in the tournament, and one of the best that has ever been seen in the intercollegiate tournaments. Murdoch opened with a Ruy Lopez and Southard adopted the Berlin defense, 3—Kt—B 3. The play was quite even until the early stage of the middle game, when Southard won a pawn by good play. After this Southard went in for exchanging tactics, but after forty-four moves the game had to be adjourned, and was adjudicated by the referee in favor of Southard.

The game between Young, Princeton, and Lehlbach, Yale, was said by Pillsbury, the great American expert, to be the most correctly played game of the tournament, and, although it was not brilliant, there were no mistakes made by either side.

The increasing interest in intercollegiate chess is shown by the fact that several colleges have applied for admission to the tournament, but it is thought that it will not be granted, as the tournament in the present state is as large as can be conveniently handled.

A COMPARISON OF THE CONTESTANTS.

A chess student, who was present at the tournament, has sent to the Weekly the following mention of the individual players and of Yale's chances for success next year:—

"In a general way Southard plays the most modern and advanced chess. Steady, progressive, strategic, cautious, and relentless, he is like an octopus, which is pretty sure of its prey, after one tentacle is fairly fastened. Let Southard once get a pawn to the good, and no peer in play stands much chance to beat him. I think I am almost safe in saying that he has not made a blunder, either costly, or of any serious moment. Ryder plays a much more open, imaginative, dashing game. He attacks with vigor and alertness, but if his attack fails, he is more apt to go to pieces. He is a

much better aggressive than defensive player.

Price is erratic, ingenious and shifty. He has played a good deal with masters, and knows a great deal of the technicality of the tricks of the trade. Parker was a player much more of the Southard type, but below him in grasp, and rather below the other players.

Seymour is rather composite of Southard and Ryder, and would be perhaps in the long run the second best man of the eight. Young has good imagination, and relies rather on himself than technical training. His chief weakness is his inexperience, but he is wideawake, and has good invention and attack, but is prone to making a good sortie, rather than a masterly display of generalship in an irresistible, methodical advance of his whole force.

Murdoch plays good, fair, steady chess. He is a good defensive player, and is more on the order of Southard, but not quite up to his calibre, nor has he the same comprehensive grasp, or brilliancy of invention.

Lehlbach is evidently unused to playing with superior players, and failed somewhat in appreciating the severity of the task that was set to him. He has, however, the fundamental qualities of an extremely good player, with all the qualities which are necessary for success. Should he continue to study the game, and come down next year with Murdoch, and the Harvard men should have a green team, which at present seems likely, the chances are very fair for their success, especially if the college gathers itself together, and gives the men good backing, moral and financial, so that they can secure a good coach for a longer time. The play this year has been the best Yale has sent down."

THE SUMMARY.

The following table shows the number of games won and lost by each player:

Players	Columbia	Harvard	Princeton	Total won
Parker	0	0	1	1
Price	1	0	0	1
Ryder	0	1	1	2
Southard	1	1	1	3
Lehlbach	1	0	0	1
Murdoch	0	1	0	1
Seymour	1	1/2	0	1 1/2
Young	1	0	1	2
Total lost	5	2 1/2	2	4 1/2

Following are the total points scored by each university in the five annual tournaments:

Year	Columbia	Harvard	Yale	Princeton
1893	9	7 1/2	5	2 1/2
1894	8 1/2	7	5	3 1/2
1895	3	9	6	6
1896	8	8 1/2	3 1/2	4
1897	4 1/2	10	4	5 1/2
Total loss	33	42	23 1/2	21 1/2

President Dwight's Return.

President Dwight conducted the morning service, at the opening of the winter term on Tuesday morning, January 5th, for the first time during the Academic year. In a short address the President extended his best wishes to every member of the University for a prosperous New Year, and congratulated the Freshman class, which he had never before addressed, on their connection with Yale University.

The custom of the Seniors bowing to the President, as he leaves the Chapel by the center aisle, was observed by the members of '97 for the first time.

President Dwight has been traveling through Europe for the past six months making an extensive trip through England and the continent, accompanied by his family. The trip has been very beneficial to him and he is in much better health than when he went away.

Winthrop E. Dwight, '93, who accompanied his father, will remain at Oxford several months, engaged in study.

AN ENGLISHMAN'S VIEW.

Mr. Lehmann's Impressions of an American Football Match.

Mr. R. C. Lehmann, the new Harvard coach, in a letter to the London Daily News, on November 30, gave an interesting account of the Harvard-Pennsylvania football match, which was the first game of the American sport that he had ever witnessed. He commented at some length upon the remarkable enthusiasm shown by the supporters of the rival teams. He said in part:

"I ought to have been a disinterested spectator, but the enthusiasm of my neighbors gained me. My guide, philosopher and friend, a Harvard undergraduate, was shouting and cheering with the best of them. I was impressed and amused by his eagerness, till, after a magnificent piece of play by the Harvard team, I realized with a sudden astonishment that I, too, was on my feet, waving my hat furiously and yelling encouragements to Harvard with all the power of my lungs. Indeed, it was quite impossible to remain placid, surrounded as I was by these flaming volcanoes. At a football match between Oxford and Cambridge we shout a little, we cheer sedately, but our best efforts are to these American demonstrations as the surface of the Thames is to the tossing expanse of the Atlantic in a winter storm."

In regard to the American development of the game Mr. Lehmann said:

"Since the Rugby football came to America in 1874 it has undergone a constant process of development and elaboration, until at the present day it differs almost as much from the English Rugby game as that game does from Association football. American football, indeed, is not so much a game in our rough and ready sense of the word, as the development of a series of intricate tactical evolutions carefully devised to bring your own forces into the most favorable position and to embarrass your foe. It is not enough for a captain to be strong and fleet and courageous. His mind must be as nimble as his legs, and he must seize a situation with the eye of a general trained according to the most rigorous methods of a staff college. Every team works out its own scheme of play, and its own formations, and practices them in secret under the instruction of the coaches before any important match.

"I shall make no attempt to describe the match in detail. Let it suffice to say that I have never seen a finer game played with a manlier spirit. The quickness and the precision of the players were marvellous, and the excitement was sustained to the very end. In our Rugby game at home the ball is frequently kicked into touch at one side or the other. In this American game such a thing happened only once. With that one exception the ball was in the field of play all the time. It was a game of slow gains, with here and there a brilliant run, but the open play that distinguishes our own game is not to be seen. On the other hand, there are no scrimmages, but the ball after being "down" is put into play again from a very open formation. We have a strict off-side rule; here players, so long as they do not hold, may interfere with their opponents in front of the man who is running with the ball, and the science of interference is as carefully worked out as anything else in the game.

"Harvard was defeated, and victory remained with the athletes of Pennsylvania. And what of the brutality? All I can say is that I saw none. Football cannot be a gentle game. A milksop has no part in it in England or in America. But the game as I saw it, though violent and rough, was never brutal. Indeed, I cannot hope to see a finer exhibition of courage, strength, and manly endurance, without a trace of meanness, than that which was given by these two teams."

The Harvard and Pennsylvania cheers were also features of the performance which impressed Mr. Lehmann. His description is as follows:

"Now from the south side came the 'Hoo-rah, hoo-rah, hoo-rah, Penn-syl-va-ni-a' of the supporters of the home team. Then, not to be outdone, a Harvard man would rise on the north side his eyes flaming with enthusiasm, and call for 'three long Harvards and three times three,' whereupon the crowd of sympathizers, conducted by the waving arms of the first enthusiast, would roar out in a magnificently timed unison, their 'Har-ward, Har-ward, Har-ward Rah-rah-rah, Rah-rah-rah, Rah-rah-rah, Har-ward.' These 'rah-rah-rah's' make a marvellous sound when given with the full power of hundreds of strong young voices. It is as if some gigantic super-canine dog had set himself to out-bark all other dogs—and had succeeded in doing it. This happened, not once or twice, but hundreds and hundreds of times."

A Biblical Club Formed.

Through the efforts of Professor Sanders and other members of the Faculty the Biblical Club has been formed. The idea of the Club is to furnish an opportunity to its members for the study of all matters of biblical research which are not brought in the range of ordinary courses offered by the University.

The Biblical Club is really the outgrowth of the Semitic Club which was organized in 1887 under the direction of Professor Harper. The Semitic Club is still in existence and consists of twelve members, but as its work is strictly technical and, as such, can only be appreciated by instructors and graduate students. The idea was suggested of forming an organization to take up work from which a greater number of men could derive benefit and which should be controlled by undergraduates.

A definite form of study has been marked out and a printed programme announces the subjects of the papers which will be read by members of the club at each of the proposed eight meetings of the year. The general subject of the year's work will be, "Jewish-Christian Apocryphal and Pseudepigraphic Literature."

So far one meeting has been held with an attendance of sixty members, including men from the two upper classes of the College, graduate students and members of the Theological School. The following officers have been elected: President, W. H. Sallmon; Secretary, J. S. Rogers, '98; Executive Committee, the officers and Rev. F. G. Marble, P. G.; H. F. Rail, '97 T. S., and A. B. Keeler, '97. The members of the Faculty interested are: Prof. Sanders, Prof. Curtis, Prof. Porter, Prof. Bacon, Dr. Creelman and Mr. Dunning.

Gift to Law School Library.

Roger Foster, '78, who is special lecturer on Federal Jurisprudence in the Law School, has presented a collection of over one hundred volumes to the Law School library. The collection of American impeachment trials, comprising about forty volumes, and which is one of the most complete in existence, forms a portion of this gift. These volumes, with those already owned by the library, will make an almost complete collection. Mr. Foster made use of this collection in preparing the first volume of his "Commentaries on the Constitution of the United States," which was published last year, and which has had a wide sale throughout the United States. In addition to works on American impeachment trials, the gift includes a nearly complete set of English Chancery Reports, which will form the nucleus of a duplicate set of English Reports now being collected by the Law School.

Captain James S. Pettit, of the 1st Infantry, U. S. A., for four years previous to last June, professor of Military Science at Yale, has been awarded the prize—\$100 and a gold medal—annually offered by the United Service Magazine for the best essay on military topics. The contest is open to officers in the regular army and the National guard.