

THE HARVARD TEAM AND SUBSTITUTES.



1. Cabot. (Capt.) 2. Boal. 3. Swain. 4. Sawin. 5. Doucette. 6. Haughton. 7. Moulton. 8. Richardson. 9. Shaw. 10. Garrison.
11. Connor. 12. Bouvé. 13. Dibblee. 14. Wheeler.

YALE, 0—HARVARD, 0.

A Most Unusual Game on Soldiers' Field—And Clean Football.

Cambridge, November 15.—The meeting between Harvard and Yale on Soldiers' Field has taken place and the question of superiority is as unsettled as before. For the first time in the football history of the two universities the result has been a drawn battle. For the first time, a game between two of the big colleges has concluded without a point being scored by either side.

Saturday's contest was in many respects an unusual one. When the referee's whistle blew for the last time, both teams were eager to continue. As they filed off the field, the great audience sat in silence. Flags hung limp, and there was no cheering. For an appreciable interval those, who, a moment before, had been animated and vociferous, sat motionless as the unique outcome of the long contest struck them for the first time. Then they rose and left the scene of the encounter with seeming reluctance. It was as if, after two acts of a drama, the stage manager had appeared and withdrawn the company, announcing that the third act would be omitted.

But, however unsatisfactory the score when considered from a partisan standpoint, the game itself was one of exceptional interest. Both teams showed a steadiness which is rare when men are under so great a strain. I do not remember to have seen a contest, unless, perhaps the Harvard-Yale game in the Fall of '93, when the contestants showed such steadiness at critical moments. To anticipate a little, if Yale had succeeded in carrying the ball over when her opportunity came in the first half, as did Butterworth for Yale in that '93 game, the two contests would have been quite similar.

Although the outcome did not meet the sanguine hopes of the supporters of Captain Cabot's team, it reflects no discredit on the champions of the Crimson. The Harvard eleven of 1897 will fill a large place in her football history. It is the third time since the centennial year that her great rival has been held at bay.

The Yale team did not win, as Yale teams are expected to do, but every Yale man who saw the game was proud that he was a Yale man.

THE CHARACTER OF THE GAME.

The score speaks for the character of the game. Defensive play triumphed over offensive. There were no flukes and no errors that cost more than a temporary advantage. There were no fatal mistakes of judgement. Harvard was not out-generalled by Yale, as she has

been in some former contests. There were some blocked kicks, but none resulting in precipitate and exasperating disaster.

Harvard was known to be strong, and she was as strong as was expected. Yale was thought to be weak in defensive play, but showed that she had corrected her faults. What was expected to be a Harvard victory, owing to Yale's defective game, proved a magnificent and equal battle because the visitors proved capable of standing their ground.

Yale was supposed to be unusually strong in the attack, but Harvard's coaches believed their defense was equal to the strain. That proved to be the case. Harvard was expected to have a splendid interference, which would be too much for Yale's weak ends. But Yale's wonderful aggressiveness in defense broke through the Harvard interference.

The Yale ends, slightly weak at first, grew stronger as the play progressed. And so Harvard's efforts to score were checkmated.

YALE'S ONE CHANCE.

There was one time that Harvard's defense seemed to be giving way. In fact it was giving way. Yale carried the ball by plunges into the line down, down, down toward the Harvard goal. It was in the first half and Yale had the wind at her back.

But the Crimson line fought every inch of ground. Finally the opportunity came, and Harvard stopped the impending disaster. Thirteen yards from the goal there was a mistaken signal and a fumble in consequence. Thirteen is an unlucky number—for Yale. Swain fell on the ball and Yale's chance was gone. The Harvard line had fallen back for forty yards, but so slowly that the Yale battering ram got out of order before it reached the opponents' goal, and so the game was saved.

HARVARD'S OPPORTUNITY.

In the second half came Harvard's chance. With the wind in her favor she started the play in Yale's territory. A fumble by deSaulles and a short kick out of bounds by McBride contributed to shorten the distance from Yale's goal. Then tandem plunges at the center forced the Blue back. Five yards for Yale's off-side play made a touchdown seem imminent. Dibblee got around Hall for five yards. Harvard's best plays were proving efficient, and the goal line was only five yards away.

Then Yale rose in her might, swept back the Harvard line, and smashed the splendid interference as if it were glass.

Harvard's best was not good enough. That weak, wavering line, which has

caused dismay at New Haven in previous games, was, for once, irresistible. Yale refused to be scored on. It was one of those stirring spectacles which makes football the greatest of amateur games.

FROM THE SPECTATOR'S STANDPOINT.

It is hard to suggest how the game could have been improved upon from the standpoint of the spectator, except by taking a reef in the wind. The arrangements were above criticism. The audience reached the field and took possession of the huge grandstands without confusion or delay. Every ticket entitled the holder to a seat and it seemed as if every seat was taken. There were no accidents and the faculty with which the crowd was handled surpassed the enviable record of the Springfield games.

The referee started the play promptly and the game finished in just two hours, breaking the record in this respect. The halves seemed unusually short, owing to the few halts in the play. There were no serious accidents. Captain Cabot called in four substitutes, but, except in the case of Warren, it was because he thought fresh men would be more efficient. Yale finished the game with eleven men. This, of itself, speaks for the fine condition of the New Haven players. More than this, they played with increasing spirit to the end and were at their best when the last half concluded.

Although no score was credited to either side, it cannot be said that the game was without results. The laurel wreath was not the only or the highest stake. The struggle was to demonstrate that the intense rivalry is compatible with chivalrous conduct, and that the spirit of friendliness which prompted a renewal of athletic relations between the universities is genuine. Twenty-five thousand witnesses will testify to the splendid spirit shown in the heat of Saturday's battle. During an interval of delay to re-adjust a bandage or measure the distance gained, it was not infrequent to see opposing players conversing together, although, but a moment before, they had been charging each other with all the fury of Don Quixote. Mr. Dashiell said after the game that it was the fairest and cleanest exhibition of football he had ever seen. The infrequency of penalties shows how careful were the players to observe the rules. Harvard twice lost the ball for holding, and Yale suffered once for interfering with Haughton when receiving a punt, and once for delaying the snap back. With these few exceptions there was no occasion for primitive measures. The good feeling which prevailed during the game characterized the whole trip. Manager Twitchell said to me: "We have received handsome treatment. Everything has been done for the com-

fort of our players and we have met only courtesy and friendly feeling."

A KICKING GAME.

Owing to the high wind, the game was naturally a kicking contest. During the first half, considering the wind, Haughton's punting compared favorably with McBride's. The Yale man seemed unsteady and three of his punts were partially blocked. In the second half, Haughton fell off in his work. He got the ball away quickly, but there was little force behind his kicks. If there was a wind the ball was carried down the field; if there was a lull in the wind, it dropped for a small gain. McBride, with his long, low twisters, sent the ball back well and Yale was enabled, by a kicking game, to carry the ball up the field in the teeth of the wind. McBride's punts were blocked on several occasions and Yale's close following of the ball alone prevented serious results. This was partly because he consumes unnecessary time in getting the ball away. Haughton was much the quicker. Yale had prepared a fair protection for the punts, but Harvard showed clever foresight in massing her men to break through on Yale's left which was McBride's kicking side. In the second half McBride took his position further back of the line and so got the ball away better. Harvard seems to have at last learned the lesson of the costly results of blocked kicks. Her protection of the punter was good, and he punted high so that it was hard to reach the ball. Hazen was close to him on several occasions but the ball got clear every time. After the lesson of Saturday, Yale will be able to perfect her kicking game where it showed weakness, and McBride's splendid abilities should play an important part in the Princeton game.

YALE'S STRENGTH AND WEAKNESS.

In the first half of the game, Yale did not seem to realize her possibilities. Perhaps it was the stronger play of Harvard, but if the game was played over again I think she would show greater self reliance. In the second half the first ten minutes, the men seemed to play as if they knew that they could not be beaten.

The strongest feature of the play, aside from the punting, was the breaking through of the forwards on the defense. It was this which destroyed the efficiency of Harvard's formations and prevented the long gains which must inevitably have resulted if the Harvard line could have protected the formations till it got under way. The work of the ends and tackles in stopping these plays, and the fast footing of the ends in getting down the field on punts, were unexpected features, made possible only by hours of patient