

ATHLETICS.

FOOTBALL.

GORDON V. GRAFTON.

THESE teams met last Saturday in the opening match of the third round, the match resulting in a win for Grafton by 9 points to 3. For the winners, Madigan was in great form, playing in his very best style, while Elliott also showed splendid form, getting 2 tries. The other backs played well, with the exception of Stichbury, who was not up to his usual form. Of the forwards Smith and White were the best with McKenzie not far behind. Of the Gordon backs Herrold and D. Meldrum divided the honours, the latter player showing that a mistake has been made playing him full-back instead of centre three-quarter. Moore, the new full back, played well, considering it was his first game with the team. Jervis as usual got few shows, but what he had to do he did well. Rees did not play up to the form he displayed the previous Saturday. Otway, at centre half, which is a new departure for this team, played very well. Of the forwards Dacre, one of the second fifteen, was the best, dribbling in nice style. Cantley also played well while the other forwards were not far behind. Gordon had very hard luck, getting three tries disallowed, while Grafton got a score which should not have been allowed, Parker knocking the ball on at least ten yards; Madigan kicked a goal from this try. But for an unfortunate accident to L. Meldrum, which necessitated his retiring from the field, the game would have been a very exciting one, but his retiring caused one of the forwards to be taken out of the forward division to play three-quarter, consequently leaving Gordon forwards, who were much lighter, one man short.

WANDERERS (THAMES) V. PONSONBY.

Ponsonby won after a fast game by 9 points to 1. Cole, Tanfield, and Conway scored for Ponsonby, while Oakley got the try for the visitors. Besides those named Caulton and Masfield for Ponsonby, and Watene, McGregor and Moore for the Wanderers played well.

NATIVE ROSE V. PONSONBY II.

The latter team, who are leading for the Junior Cup were beaten for the second time this season by the Native Rose. The Native Rose had the best of the game and ultimately won the match by 7 points to nil. Tries were scored by Brady (2), and Hales (1), two of which were converted into goals by Carr. McConnell, Rhodes and Taylor played well for Ponsonby.

ATHLETICS V. ORIENT.

The former team won by 3 points to nil. Tries were obtained by Roberts, Plummer and Lester, but none were converted.

GORDON II. V. GRAFTON II.

Gordon won this match by 6 points to nil. Barnes (2), Rees and McConnell secured tries, and Gledhill kicked a goal from a penalty kick.

"Loo" Meldrum has now almost recovered from the accident he met with last Saturday, and will play for Gordon against Ponsonby next Saturday.

Frank Clayton, late Treasurer to the Union, was referee in a Cup match in Dunedin soon after his arrival there, and had occasion to order Keogh off the field for rough play.

To-day Ponsonby and Grafton meet in the third round of the Cup matches. Both clubs will do their best to win, as on the result depends who shall have possession of the Cup for the year. I fancy Grafton.

"Buff" Caradus, the Ponsonby half-back, will not play for his club to-day. He has gone to Wellington as a delegate representing his trade. This, together with the likelihood of "Snowy" Hefferman being unable to get back in time, will considerably weaken the Ponsonby team.

The Pelican Club of London is trying to match George Dixon, who defeated Nunc Wallace, with Cal McCarthy, for the bantam-weight championship of the world. The club has offered a \$5000 purse.—*Morning Call.*

A glove fight for £25 a-side took place at Lismore on Tuesday night between James Madigan, a visitor from London, and John Smith, of Sydney. Madigan was favourite at the start, but he was evidently not in good condition, and after getting punished for four rounds, he gave in.—*Town and Country.*

Hanlan has challenged Gaudaur to row a match for the sculling championship of America.

Great interest is taken in the forthcoming contest between F. P. Slavin the Australian boxer and McAuliffe, to take place on September 22nd. Ten pounds is already offered for a seat. £1000 even has been offered on Slavin.—*Australasian.*

McAuliffe and Kelly have agreed to fight in the rooms of the Ormonde Club next autumn, for a purse of \$2000, \$500 to be forfeited to McAuliffe if there is any foul play on the part of Slavin. Lord Lonsdale is the stakeholder. McAuliffe receives \$500 expenses.—*Morning Call.*

Jem Carney, who is safely out of Chief Crowley's jurisdiction, and therefore quite bold, has issued the following challenge:—"I will fight any man in the world for \$2500 up, a Queensbury rule fight, and let my \$500 now up be covered; or I will allow any man in the world four pounds and fight prize-ring rules, and will allow any man in Australia or America \$500 for expenses. I am 33 years of age last November, but I still think I can lick any man in creation at 134 pounds, and shall not be convinced otherwise until I meet my master, whom I have not seen. Anyway, I will leave my deposit of \$500 up, and by covering it any man in the world can have a match for \$2500 a side and the title of light-weight champion of the world, which highly eared honor I intend to uphold so long as I possess the strength and skill." Possibly Jack McAuliffe is the man that Carney is hunting for.—*Morning Call.*

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