

SPORTS OF THE AMATEUR ON FIELD AND WATER



“Who misses or who wins the prize,
Go lose or conquer as you can:
But if you fail or if you rise,
Be each, pray God, a gentleman!”



A REVIEW OF THE PENNSYLVANIA- CORNELL GAME

THE meeting of Pennsylvania and Cornell at Philadelphia on Thanksgiving Day was the finish of the season for the two teams, each of whom had gone through a most remarkable season. Never before had Pennsylvania been so humiliated at various times as during this season of 1899. All the hard luck that could come to any team seemed to visit hers. Her schedule was an extraordinary one, severe in every sense, and it began to look at one time as though there would be no men to carry it out. When it came to her Harvard game the situation looked indeed hopeless, although her team had braced up upon one or two occasions, especially in the Chicago game, and had shown some possibilities. The Cambridge team was too strong for them and won practically as they pleased by the score of 16 to 0. Then followed a further period of depression, but with improvement and greatly brightening prospects the Pennsylvania team looked forward to the game with Cornell as an opportunity to redeem their work of the season and show that they had not forgotten their old prestige on the gridiron. Cornell, their rivals, came to the game with not an entirely dissimilar condition of affairs in respect to the impressions with which they viewed this contest, but their season had been not quite so unsatisfactory and discouraging as had Pennsylvania's. True, Cornell had been defeated by Chicago, and by Lafayette; but since the Chicago defeat they had had able coaching and had beaten Princeton and swamped Columbia, so that they had some reason for confidence. When, therefore, the referee's whistle blew for play to begin on Franklin Field between these two elevens, while there were many who believed that Pennsylvania would win, there were certainly very few who expected such a one-sided contest or such an entire absence of

strength in offence and defence as that exhibited by Cornell. Before the first period of play was half over it was painfully evident that the issue had been decided, but it was by no means believed that the Ithacans would not at some time during the game put up enough of a fight to make Pennsylvania work somewhat on the defensive. During two halves of thirty-five minutes Cornell never once succeeded in making her five yards. That is almost an unheard-of record between two teams of such a class at the end of the season. For several years Cornell has given Pennsylvania a most exciting struggle, and has in the last two or three years made the game so close as to keep the entire audience on edge until the final call of time. This year Cornell's biggest gain when in possession of the ball was some three yards, and her total gains during the entire match would hardly have sufficed to run the ball much more than over the goal-line from the five-yard line. It is true that this was in part due to the fact that Pennsylvania played the running game almost entirely, starting for a touchdown even from within her own twenty-five-yard line. This attempt failed, but before they were brought to a stop they had progressed to Cornell's twenty-yard line. This fact fairly indicates the nature of the play. Pennsylvania played her best game of the year. Her team of veterans seemed at last to have pulled together, and there were hardly any occasions when they did not help each other to the full extent of possibility. Their best play and most effective was one in which the ball was passed not to the leader of the line of men who struck at the centre, but behind him to the man next the leader, who branched off in an unexpected direction. They put tremendous hitting power behind their runner, and pushed and dragged him along for yard after yard through the broken Cornell ranks. Cornell's line seemed to lack aggressiveness, and Pennsylvania gathered force continually as the play went on.

WEST POINT- ANNAPOLIS; INDICATIONS REGARDING FURTHER CONTESTS

Some of the opinions expressed on this game make particularly interesting reading. The Philadelphia "Press" publishes the following:

From Mr. Root, Secretary of War:

“The game was a very fine exhibition of football. It was particularly clever as football goes. I do not, as a rule, attend any football games, but I especially en-