THE GREAT FINAL

Limerick loses the lead and narrowly escapes defeat.

The Jubilee Final was titivating a great one. Despite wet and wild weather the standard of hurling never dropped from a high scale, and every instant of that enthralling hour held the attention and interest of the great crowd. The sun and clouds gathered together to form a natural spectacle which we anticipated a draw, and outside immediate puritans, none regretted the result.

BY SEAN-FHEAR

A Tail to the Hurling Gallop.

In the eventful year of 1903, when Killkenny defeated Limerick by the narrow margin of four points, Limerick has galloped on to victory step by step. Occasionally their defeat seemed probable, but they survived it all, and with wonderful confidence, zest, and spirit got over the necessary scores as the hour-glass emptied.

Not so on Sunday: they were fighting upwards for some time after the beginning; and as the final moments sped on they were imperiously fighting a Semi-guard Action.

Stanage, Connacht, Munster, and Leinster, winners of last year's National League and many other competitions, had that day the honor of placing against each other at the four minutes of that historic hour.

Forde the Hero.

Forde, the De buttin goalkeeper, was the hero of the game. He reproduced both form, and captured every ball from every angle and range. Whilst the Limerick men were extreme on the lines, the De buttin goalkeeper went as near as possible. Forde made them look much worse than they really were. He seemed like a big man "keeping goal" from a crowd of schoolboys "shooting in." Forde was the most talked-of man in Ireland on Sunday last. Not even equal performances gave more notice or admiration. And he deserved it all, because in the great history of hurling De buttin Forde wrote a chapter and a more impressive headline than he has yet appeared.

Scanlan Below Form.

Scanlan above all things is required in the contests of this standing, his hand in excelsis with distressful results: we have developed a super- structure much more common than a community of film-stars given to hysteria. Therefore when one sets out to give a careful view should he be taken at least expressing an honest, if not altogether correct, impression. When I saw a fact that Scanlan in the form, I do not mean to say he performed badly. He did not; but he was not the Scanlan of old. The man to which ordinarily one would feel sure he would have disposed of quite easily. Up to the present it was a matter of some discussion as to whether Forde or Scanlan was the superior corinthian. Sunday's day is the day that former seemed to be dragged ahead on the scale of achievement. It is fortunate that the re-staging of the match will give us another opportunity of comparison. Scanlan has another chance to overtake the Army man.

Dublin's Chosen.

As a matter of fact, Dublin suffered a heavy handicap in fielding shot of McMahon. His substitute, Teahan, was playing only when he had performed to retire. This strain was ominous in a challenging team, and must undoubtedly have played up to the Dublin side. All the Dublin men were trying hard. Some of them were grey-haired, by more men, and that there is no disgrace. But the Metropolitans, whether beaten at certain points or not, were trying hard, and had a chance at every opportunity with pluck and dash and cut.

Limerick More Forceful.

Limerick were the more forceful side. They had more of the play in both halftimes. They were more vigorous, more often in possession, more overtaking, less but hemorrhaging, less incisive, less dangerous.

Halt-backs Good.

The majority of the halt-backs on both sides were good. M. Cross and P. O'Connell were a good pair; O'Sullivan and Egan; W. Cross, and Jimmy Walsh and Cammel were the best of the challengers. The De buttin men left their respective left sides. Neither Howard on the one hand, nor Roche on the other, was quite up to their names; they were not quite up to their names. Paddy O'Connell, although Roche was by no means as good as Howard.

Paddy Clancy—Superman.

It is true that Treacy could reproduce the mastery which he displayed over P. Byrne at Portlaghmore on successive occasions. Clancy's play is at present incomparable. He has never been stopped, and his own superiority. At times his place striking lacks accuracy, but for all-round hurling and vigorous manhood, he has his equal just as present. Nevertheless, Treacy played a tough, tenacious, burning game when he got the ball. He had got more of the ground passes, he would have done better.

Centralfield?

Opinions differ as regards centralfield superiority. I incline to the view that the Limerick pair were the more considerable. And that Clarke's centralfield line was more regularly maintained. For brief periods Daniels and Wade were playing astonishingly well. Local hurling's rally the latter showed up very well. Still the Kynes stuck down a lot of balls and accounted for much of the Limerick pressure on the Dublin defence. Daniels did well and evened his own score, which currently showed him up considerably. It was from Wade's work that the last equalizing goal of O'Neill's came.

The Dublin Backs Sound.

Murphy was the most conspicuous man in the Dublin defence. Flannery was more conspicuous than not with McMahon, and the result was neither veteran alone to any great advantage. Play in this region was scrappy and turgid, and fell into the Dublin left defence and was not particularly visible.

Limerick Line Unbalanced.

The last line of Limerick's defence was unbalanced. Thought Kennedy the most consistent and safest man of the time, with Creggan a good second. Both these wings back sniffed out their opponents for most of the time, and that is, after all, the acid test. McCarthy was not by any means in his usual stride. He seemed unsettled and ill at ease. Conversely

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GALTAFIGHT, DRIPEYS

and COLLONOE TWEDS

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at STEPHEN'S GREEN, at 1 p.m.

AND

PROCESSION TO CROKE PARK

On Sunday Next, 9th Sept.

(SEE PUBLISHED DETAILS)

Programme at Croke Park will include—

2.15 p.m. SEMI-FINAL CAMOGUIDEHEALTH ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONSHIP:

CONCAIIS v. CONCARACH

3.15 p.m. INTER-PROVINCIAL SCHOOLS BURLING:

béalfeimsce v. CONCARACH

4.30 p.m. FINAL LEINSTER CAMOGUIDEHEALTH CHAMPIONSHIP:

an tór fhrógáidh

Massed Pipe Band and Parade Competition

Ceard but isteach...