

THE LITTLE YACHTS.

SECOND SATURDAY REGATTA AT CENTRAL PARK—THREE GOOD RACES—AN EXCITING CONTEST FOR A MINIATURE STEAM-BOAT.

The second Saturday regatta of the season at Central Park took place yesterday afternoon in the presence of at least 5,000 persons, and the excitement which has marked these events from the time they were first introduced at the little lake at Seventy-second street was much more intense than on any former occasion. The wind was north-west, and very light and unsteady, which caused much difficulty on the part of the little boats, as it left them becalmed much of the time and unable to make headway. There were three races sailed, the first being for all boats of twenty-four inches and under, the second for all boats over twenty-four inches, and the third a sweepstakes, open to all. There were about one hundred boats on the lake of all sizes and models, sloops and schooners. One great source of annoyance to the boys yesterday was the reckless manner in which three or four men, two of whom have got boats large enough to bear down and sink any of those entered for the regatta, persisted in sailing their large crafts across the bows of the racing boats, and interfering with the sport heretofore enjoyed by the boys exclusively. There were twenty-seven boats entered, as follows:

Name.	Length Inches.	Owner.
Oscola.....	30.....	M. L. Gillis.
Arrow.....	16.....	E. Benjamin.
Union.....	20.....	J. Hull.
Clipper.....	23.....	G. Hart.
Frolic.....	24.....	G. Wood.
Alert.....	20.....	Charles Lothrop.
Yosemite.....	32.....	George Keyes.
Mohaws.....	32.....	George Salter.
Mattie.....	30.....	J. Martin.
Phantom.....	44.....	George Cormack.
Edward.....	20.....	W. Ferguson.
Justin.....	26.....	A. Beebe.
Lottie Leo.....	36.....	L. Bingham.
Una.....	24.....	R. Fredericks.
Young America.....	20.....	A. Davidson.
Lena.....	24.....	M. and J. Porff.
Water Lily.....	30.....	Thomas Bristow.
Sea King.....	23.....	A. De Vourneay.
Aerial.....	32.....	J. S. Steele.
Falcon.....	36.....	C. A. Smith.
Bessie.....	26.....	C. Trowbridge.
Waverly.....	22.....	W. Fleming.
Irene.....	45.....	M. Wilson.
Fiert.....	36.....	A. Wilson.
Terror.....	24.....	John Dodge.
Mary.....	36.....	James Salmon.
Lulu.....	36.....

Nine boats started in the first race, that being the number included in the above list of twenty-four inches and under, the names of which were as follows: Union, Clipper, Frolic, Alert, Edward, Young America, Una, Sea King, and Waverly. D. M. Coffin and Mr. Wilson were appointed judges. The boats were started off at the word, and sailed as well as the crowded condition of the lake and moderate wind would allow, but the usual number of collisions occurred, so that not more than three or four of them reached the windward point of the lake. The first prize was a small steam-engine, which was won by the Clipper; and the second prize, a set of fittings, was won by the Sea King.

The second race, for the large boats, had eighteen starters, including all over twenty-four inches, as given in the list of entries. They all got away in very good order, but the Phantom, which is a new boat, got foul of one of the smaller schooners, and was thus thrown so far out of her course as to put her out of the race at the start, and a similar mishap to the Lulu also came near defeating her before half the course had been sailed over. The Lottie Leo fared a little better for the first three quarters of the race, when she also became entangled with a strange sloop, and was held in limbo until after the race had been won. Meantime the Lulu had got free from obstruction and gave chase to the Water Lily, which was making straight for the stakes, between which she gilded quite easily, the Lulu close behind her. These two boats won the prizes, the first being a twenty-four-inch steam-boat and the second a set of fittings.

The third and last race, a sweepstakes, open to

the whole fleet, had twenty-seven starters, all the boats entered competing for the prizes, the first of which was a thirty-inch steam-boat, and the second a set of fittings. This was by far the most interesting and exciting contest of the series. There was a swarm of yachts at the start, all in a bunch, stretching from one side of the lake to the other, and presenting a very pretty spectacle. In a minute, however, some of the most seaworthy of the contestants began to draw ahead, the Phantom leading the whole fleet, and reaching the home stakes before any one of her competitors was two-thirds of the way over. Then came the most interesting part of the programme, that of getting the boat between the stakes. Five or six times her pilots attempted to manoeuvre her through the magic space, but each time she went a little wrong, the last time coming so close to the mark that her bowsprit rubbed against the windward side of the outer stake. Just then the Falcon came along, and Master Smith, on his second attempt, brought her betwixt the stakes, amid the wildest excitement on the part of the thousands of spectators, the Bessie winning the second prize.

Mr. Fitch, the gentleman who offers the prizes which the boys sail for, has secured a place for them to keep their boats in, on the corner of Fifth avenue and Seventy-sixth street, which will obviate the necessity of their carrying them back and forth for every regatta. The next regatta takes place on Oct. 2.

YACHTING AT PROSPECT PARK.

As the miniature yachting races at Prospect Park yesterday were all friendly contests, there being no prize to be competed for, the interest in them was somewhat diminished and the attendance small. The principal races were sailed simply to test the sailing qualities of the various yachts. The wind was strong, but puffy. In the first race the entries were J. Y. Cuyler, Unknown, Tadie, and Henrietta. The yachts started from Shelter Cove and assumed their positions in the order mentioned, and maintained them until the finish, the Cuyler leading the Tadie by a few lengths. In the second race the Henrietta withdrew, her place being supplied by the Hercules, a self-steering yacht. The Cuyler and Unknown easily took the lead at the start. The Hercules for awhile disputed the position of the Tadie, but was unable to gain second position, and accordingly the four yachts finished in the following order: Cuyler, Unknown, Hercules, Tadie. The last race greatly eclipsed its predecessors in interest, and proved a really exciting contest. The number of competitors was increased by the entrance of the Albatross. The Tadie gained the lead at the start, but was soon distanced by the Cuyler. The latter, while proceeding to assume its accustomed lead, was suddenly overtaken and passed by the Albatross. An unexpected puff of wind then struck both yachts, causing them to come in collision, leaving a seemingly easy victory for the Tadie. But before the latter could profit by the collision it was overtaken by the Unknown, which kept its lead until the finish, when it was followed respectively by the Tadie, the Cuyler, the Albatross, and the Hercules. Several other races were subsequently sailed, but none of them equalled in interest those reported above. Next Saturday the competition for the champion pennant will be resumed.