

## RACQUETS.

**R**ACQUETS and court-tennis have never before occupied so important a position as in the past two months. On January 9th, Boston, Mass., became the center of this interest, when a series of games was started on the courts of the Boston Athletic Association, which lasted the remainder of the week. The first game was four-handed racquets between Pettitt and Standing, and Q. A. Shaw, Jr., and Latham. The match, which was the best four games in seven, was won by Pettitt and G. Standing by four straight, 15-12, 15-6, 15-9, 15-10.

The day following a single's match was played between E. H. Miles and Standing; the professional won in three straight games, with scores of 15-9, 15-9, 15-10.

On the third day two very interesting matches were played, the first between E. H. Miles and Q. A. Shaw, Jr., which resulted in a win for the English champion. The big match of the day was between Standing and Latham. The English champion conceded to Standing three aces in fifteen points. Standing won his three games with scores of 15-6, 15-9, 15-3.

On January 13th the series of games closed with a match at court-tennis between L. M. Stockton and Pettitt on the one side, and E. H. Miles and Latham on the other. These four players put up a game the equal of which one rarely sees. The English pair, Mr. Miles and Latham, won the first set with a score of 7-5, but the three following sets went to the home players by scores of 6-0, 6-3 and 7-5.

The formal opening of the Tuxedo Racquet and Tennis Club took place on January 15th, when the first of a series of games was played. The courts had been much improved since the experimental games played in December.

The opening game was at court-tennis, and was between T. Suffern Tailer and Tompkins, the professional of the New York Racquet and Tennis Club. The conditions called for the best three out of five, but the match ended in a draw after four splendid sets.

On January 16th a match of the best out of five games was played between L. M. Stockton and Latham. Mr. Stockton received a handicap of half-thirty, but these odds were not enough to shut out the English expert, who won in three straight sets, 6-1, 6-2, 6-4.

The day following E. H. Miles played Pettitt a match, the conditions being the best out of five sets. The amateur received a handicap of "fifteen and a bisque." The first, third and fourth sets went to Pettitt, with scores of 6-1, 6-1, 6-4. Mr. Miles won the second with a score of 6-3.

On January 18th the feature of the play was a match calling for the best out of five sets between E. H. Miles and Latham. Mr. Miles received an allowance of half-thirty. The first set went to the professional, with a score of 7-5, but Mr. Miles won the next three sets in succession, with scores of 7-5, 7-5, 7-5.

The week's play was brought to a fitting close with the most important match of the series, in fact, one of the most important matches ever played, for it was practically the world's amateur championship at court-tennis. The only reason it could not be so titled was

that the French amateur champion was not present. The meeting was between the American and English amateur champions, L. M. Stockton and E. H. Miles. The Englishman won, after a splendidly-contested game, by three straight sets of 7-5, 6-3, 6-3.

The inter-city amateur racquet championship match was played on the court of the Philadelphia Racquet Club January 23d. New York was represented by Edward La Montague and Morton Paton, while the Quaker City's representatives were Hugh D. Scott and Edgar G. Scott. Six games were required to decide the winners. The New Yorkers captured the event, by winning the first, second, fifth and sixth games. The scores were: 17-16, 15-12, 14-18, 6-15, 15-12, 15-13.

The tournament for the amateur racquet championship of America opened on the court of the Boston Athletic Association on February 6th, and continued on the 7th and 8th, the finals being played on the 10th. The entries were: Quincy A. Shaw, Jr., of the B. A. A. (amateur champion); T. S. Gillespie, of the Montreal Racquet Club; Eustace H. Miles, of Tuxedo (English champion); F. F. Rolland (Canadian champion); Clarence Mackey, Payne Whitney, Austin Potter and W. S. Dinsmore, of New York.

The first game brought together Shaw and Gillespie. Shaw won three straight games from his opponent by scores of 15-7, 15-1, 15-6. In the next game Miles and Rolland were together and a good match resulted, in which Miles won his games by 15-8, 15-12 and 15-5.

In the second day's play Potter was drawn with Dinsmore. The former won his games straight by scores of 15-12, 15-11 and 15-12. Potter, who was in condition, played a good all-round game. Dinsmore was slightly handicapped by a night's railroad travel. The final game in the first round was to have been played between Mackey and Whitney. The game went to Whitney owing to the default of Mackey.

The second round brought together Shaw and Whitney and Miles and Potter.

The first match was a good contest, and resulted, after four games, in favor of Shaw. Whitney won the second game; the others went to Shaw. The scores were 15-4, 6-15, 15-6 and 17-15.

The Miles-Potter contest resulted in an easy win for the Englishman, with three straight games, as follows: 15-7, 15-1 and 15-6.

The final match brought together E. H. Miles, the English, and Q. A. Shaw, Jr., the American, champion.

The first game started well for Shaw, but Miles finished up with a rush, and went out an easy winner.

The second game was a hard one for both men. Each had nineteen turns at service, and the final result was in favor of Shaw. The third game was a win for the Englishman.

In contrast to many players, Miles invariably improves as he plays, and in the final game showed well his superior play over his opponent by winning game and championship. The scores were 15-4, 11-15, 15-5 and 15-3.

VIGILANT.