THE GREAT PRIZE FIGHT

—BETWEEN—

Tom Hyer and Yankee Sullivan,

For $10,000 in Kent County, Md.

Won By Hyer In Seventeen Minutes and Eighteen Seconds

From N. Y. Police Gazette of Feb. 10, 1849.

THE great prize fight, which has been the standard topic of conversation for the last six months in fighting circles, and which, to confess the truth, has occupied a large share of the attention of refined society during the same period of time, came off, according to agreement, on Wednesday, the 7th inst., at Rock Point, mouth of Still Pond Creek, in Kent county, on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, about 40 miles from Baltimore.

The location originally intended for the arena, was Pool's Island, in the upper part of Chesapeake bay, which had been selected by Sullivan three weeks before as the most eligible spot for the intended meeting, as he had heard that its jurisdiction was disputed, or divided by the State of Maryland and the Government of tho United States. Moreover, it was thirty miles away, with but two buildings, except the lighthouse stationed on it, and therefore could not produce much local interference with the proceedings of the invading hordes who would pour upon it on the indicated day, as if from the mouth of the everlasting pit.

But while Pool's Island lay perfectly quiet, showing no signs of disgust or opposition, obstacles were breeding in Baltimore, and by-and-by that virtuous city, which usually has a man a week killed in its streets, or two or three riots in the same period of time, became so indignant at the idea of making a hundred thousand dollars or so, by having a match of fisticuffs within electric distance of its borders, that it organized voluntary patrols to frown down the outrage, and stuffed a broken winded steamboat with crowds of infantry armed to the teeth, to rake the Chesapeake up and down, and in default of capturing the combatants, to sing Watts' hymns in honor of Gov. Thomas, the night through.

These preparations on the part of the authorities of the State of Maryland, and of the city of Baltimore, to stop the fight, commenced on Tuesday morning, and both the steamboats which had been chartered by the several crowds, were paralyzed by the authorities with writs against their captains, and one of them, the Boston, was chartered by the State for the pursuit. While things were in this condition, Hyer, apprehending, and correctly as it proved, that warrants would be despatched after him and his trainers, slipped away from his training ground and went to Carroll's Island, a little island next to Pool's. Sullivan had anticipated him in this prudent course, having arrived at Carroll's Island on Monday afternoon and crossed to Pool's before Hyer's arrival. Hyer shortly after crossed to Pool's Island also, and put up at the house attached to the light-house, while Sullivan had secured the only other place for human accommodation some distance off.

Leaving the principal parties thus bestowed we will now return to Baltimore to see how matters progress with those who have charge of the grand preliminaries of the affair, and with those likewise who were endeavoring to get a thimbleful of reputation out of the excitement by trying to stop it.

Late in the afternoon of Thursday, the backers, judges, referee, bottle-holders, &c., of both parties, in Baltimore, finding that there was to be no steamboating on the following morning, hired two oyster smacks, and embarked to the number of one hundred, each side, and at 10 o'clock put out upon the Chesapeake, on a bright cold night, but so temptestuous with the wind that the captains of the pungees had some ugly doubts themselves as to the safety of the surface of the bay.

The name of the boat containing Sullivan's party was the "Whig," and as she swung from the dock, the Boston was 'firing up' to carry her military cargo to the same place to intercept them. However, the smacks sailed away unmolested. At the same hour, High Constable Gifford, of Baltimore, left with 13 men across the land to the nearest point opposite the designated scene of combat. At a quarter before 12 the Boston got off on her errand. We have now three expeditions all directed to one spot, two of which were in pursuit, and the third dodging the chase.

THE DESCENT OF THE POLICE.

The pungees arrived at the island first; the 'Whig' reaching the shore at 1.30 P. M. Joe Beard, of Baltimore, and Country McCleester were then sent on shore to see if Sullivan was on the island receiving directions if he were asleep not to wake him, but to let him have his natural rest until 5 o'clock. They were then to wake him and tell him the steamboat was coming and hurry him on board. Following these directions, Joe, finding Sullivan asleep, sat down by the fire as a sentry and went to sleep nimself. Hyer's boat had now arrived when a similar course was pursued in relation to him, the two boats meanwhile swinging to their anchors and waiting for the daylight and the embarkment of their men.

In the meantime Capt. Gifford and his thirteen men arrived upon the western beach of the bay at 3 o'clock and seizing a boat in the name of the State, they unmoored and set out in the biting atmosphere for the island. As they approached it they perceived the steamer Boston entering on the scene. They passed under her bows and hailed her, but such was the howling of the wind and the coldness of the night that they were unheard. Gifford then debarked and with his force proceeded to Hyer's house.

HYER'S ESCAPE.

The friends of Hyer were not keeping a bright look-out; but one of them nevertheless, heard the tramp of the police and ran upstairs in time to give Tom notice, whereupon he jumped up instantly and putting Thompson, his trainer, in his bed, ran down stairs and crept under the cot of a negress on the ground floor.

While thus surrounded Dutch Charley conveyed him his clothes and he commenced dressing with the utmost rapidity to take advantage of the first opportunity to escape. At this moment the officers were being led up stairs by the owner of the house, who knew nothing of the metamorphosis that had taken place. The owner of the house pointed to Thompson in the bed. Seeing that he was a huge man and taking him for Hyer, the officers soon desisted from their attempts to pull the cover from his face and leaving a small detachment in charge, set out with the rest for Sullivan's house. As soon as they had gone Hyer broke through the sash of the room below and commenced running towards the beach, but he was hailed by Winrow from a tree who joined him in the flight. Arriving at the beach they found two men with a boat belonging to the steam propellor "Columbia," from Philadelphia, which had just arrived off the island with about one hundred passengers to see the fight. They thus reached their schooner, and were safe.

SULLIVAN'S ESCAPE.

When the police arrived at Sullivan's house, after leaving Hyer's, Joe Beard was dozing by the fire, but not so sound as not to hear Gifford ask a question, and the man of the house reply that Sullivan was upstairs. He gave the alarm in time and Sullivan sprang out of the window but being confronted by two men, one of whom levelled a pistol at him, was glad to retire back. He then roused Tom O'Donnell, his second, from his sleep, and with that quickness of thought for which he always has been remarkable, threw a cloak over O'Donnell's shoulders, and clapping his hands exclaimed, "Run, Sullivan, run, as if hell had kicked you!" The officers, completely deceived at this, seized O'Donnell, while the real Simon Pure slipped away. Sullivan then ran to a tree and climbed it for a few mements in case they should return, but seeing they did not he slipped down and crawling low into the advancing dawn, made for the beach like his opponent. Meantime the officers were lugging O'Donnell along, while Gifford would renew his grip on his collar every minute like a man who doubted he was in a dream of fortune, and exclaim at intervals in a half soliloquy, "Ah, Sullivan, you're pretty smart, but you're not smart enough for us!" What he said when he discovered how Sulllvan had fooled him, we have not heard. At the beach Sullivan was met by Johnny McGrath, the ex-champion of the English light weights, who taking him on his shoulders, marched with him through the surf, and placed him in the propeller's boat, and rowed him to the boat.

THE EMBARKATION.

Soon after this the Cumberland moved towards Sullivan's pungee and put him aboard. The propeller then started up the bay, and the Boston, with the military, mistaking her motions, supposed the two men had been taken on board of her and were going off to fight. The latter, therefore, set out in chase, leaving the two pungees, which really contained the objects of their search, behind. Sullivan's boat then hailed Tom Hyer's, and Cotton, to guard against surprise in case they should leave the island and Hyer's party remain on the ground and win by being present merely, called out, "Show us Hyer and we'll show you Sullivan." Hyer and Sullivan were then brought up. As soon as they gazed upon each other, the eyes of the latter flashed like fire, and he shook his fist at his tall opponent with a passionate epithet. "Look here, my little man," said the captain of the "Whig," "if you allow yourself to get into such a passion on the start, you'll get whipped." "Will you follow us?" said Beckett, Sullivan's principal backer, to the opposing judge. "Yes." said Hyer, answering himself, "follow you anywhere." They then bore up the Chesapeake, finishing up the picture of the chase, the propeller being ahead, in the distance, the Boston next and the two pungees, which were taken for outsiders going to see the fight, coming last. After Sullivan's schooner had gotten 2 or 3 miles away, those who were on her were surprised to find that they were not followed by the other pungee, when dreading a ruse of Hyer's party again, they returned. But when they got back they found their suspicions were unjust and that Hyer's pungee was aground. Sullivan took the opportunity to send ashore for his fighting shoes, which he left behind in his flight.

Time kept running away, and still Hyer's boat stuck fast, and in the chagrin of delay the eager parties were more than once tempted to take advantage of the absence of their pursuers and the readiness of the ring, which stood 'all set' before their eyes, to settle the business of the day before they got back. Had they known how little time it was to take they might have done so with ease. Meantime, the Boston had discovered her error, and was returning fast. By good luck for the fighters, however, Hyer's schooner got afloat just as she came up and by bad luck for the hungry sogers the Boston got aground at the same time, and the two pungees, free at last, sailed off together, with their fingers to their bowsprits in derision at the ineffectual attempts of all Baltimore and Maryland to interfere with the boys of New York.

It was now settled that Hyer's boat should take the lead, and all hands

(*Concluded on Page Six.*)

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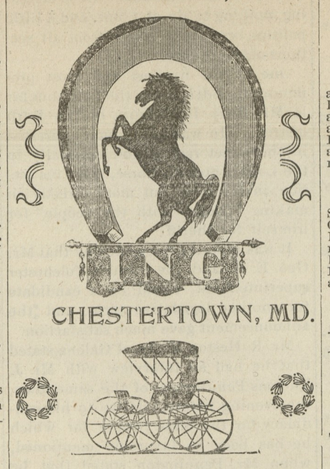

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6.54	LYNCH'S	11.51
7.01	HEPBRON	11.44
7.21	KENNEDYVILLE	11.24
7.38	BLACK'S	11.07
7.54	LAMBSON'S	10.51
8.08	MASSEYS	10.37
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