

THE CHAMPION AMATEUR OARSMEN. COURTNEY AND RILEY TO ROW ON GREENWOOD LAKE NEXT SATURDAY—THE RECORD OF THE TWO MEN AND THEIR RESPECTIVE STRENGTH.

A great deal of interest is felt by boating men throughout this country in the sculling race which is to take place on Greenwood Lake, on Saturday next, between Charles E. Courtney and James E. Riley. Both men are acknowledged to excel all the other amateur oarsmen in the United States, and it is thought by their friends that they would not lose in competition with the best professionals. As they have each announced an intention to give up the title of "amateur oarsman" at the conclusion of Saturday's race, opportunities for their comparison with professionals will doubtless occur before the close of the present boating season. Courtney and Riley are as well-matched as it is possible for oarsmen to be, despite the fact that the former has beaten the latter twice. These victories were scored against Riley in the first two races in which he took part. He publicly engaged in aquatic sports in the Summer of 1875, and immediately became a competitor for the amateur championship. In the great race of that season, at Saratoga, he beat 12 other adversaries, but was beaten by Courtney, who led him three lengths at the finish. A few days subsequently, at Troy, he was again defeated by Courtney, but, this time, by only a quarter of a length. Since that time he has rowed in 13 races, five of which he has lost; but he has never since been pitted against Courtney. In one of his successful races on the Saratoga course he made the fastest time on record, and, it is said, did not fully exert himself. Courtney began to row in races 10 years ago, and was successful from the first. He has rowed 72 races, and has never been defeated. He is 36 years old, is over six feet in height, and weighs, when in condition for racing, 166 pounds. Riley is 29 years old, six feet in height, and weighs 160 pounds.

The boats to be used in the approaching race are similar in build. They are of paper, 29 feet in length and 29 pounds in weight with their outriggers. The competitors are now at Greenwood Lake actively preparing for their trial. Riley arrived there on Friday last, and is staying at the Lakeside Hotel. Courtney arrived at the Windermere Hotel yesterday morning. Fred Plaisted, the well-known professional oarsman, is at the Lakeside House, and intends to challenge the winner at the conclusion of the race. As a very large number of persons desire to witness the race, the managers of the Montclair and Greenwood Lake Railway have made ample arrangements to enable them to do so. Three trains will carry passengers to the lake in time to see the contest, and the same number will bring them back to the Pennsylvania Railway depot in Jersey City.

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