When sailed with a centreboard of about $\frac{1}{2}$ square feet area, as shown in Fig. 12, the performance of the boat in beating to windward is surprising, considering the flat bottom.

The board shown is a handy makeshift, which is only used while sailing. A pin at the forward end is passed through a small screw eye in the keel and the board held in position by strings passing over the sides and belayed around cleats on deck. When running under speed these strings will hum like an æolian harp. To unship the board let go one of them and the board will bob up alongside and can then be taken in at pleasure.

To build these canoes no drawings are required, all frames and measurements being taken direct from the stock, as shown in diagrams.

Anyone can build one, and no one need fear to navigate it. The canoe from which diagrams were taken is staunch and roomy; fast both under sail or paddle, and has more than once proven herself able in rough water, on a long cruise begun on October 4, 1889, of which some-

what more than two thousand miles were covered by January 15, 1890.

**Lawn Tennis in New England.**

**By James Dwight.**

EVERYBODY familiar with the history of lawn tennis in this country knows that its very beginnings are in New England, because it was at Nahant that the game was first played. If I dwell too much on the early matches and tournaments it is because I am the last of a former generation and my scrap book is the only record of many of the games.

The first set of lawn tennis in New England—indeed, I fancy, in the country—was played at Mr. William Appleton’s place at Nahant. In the summer of 1875 a set of pharistiké, or lawn tennis, was brought out from England, where the game was just coming into fashion. The rackets were spoon shaped and very light—about thirteen ounces—made by Malling, of Woolwich, and the balls were large, uncovered rubber balls, just such, in fact, as are sold for children. The court was not laid out in a rectangle as now, but was narrowest at the net and widest at the base line; the service line was twenty-six feet from the net. What a chance for service it must have given if anyone had known how to serve!

Mr. F. R. Sears, the elder brother of the champion, and I put up the net and tried the game. As we had no lines, and as we hit the ball in no particular direction, very naturally we could not return
OUTING FOR MAY.

it. So we voted the whole thing a fraud and put it away.

Perhaps a month later, finding nothing to do, we tried it again and this time in earnest. I remember even now that each won a game, and as it rained in the afternoon we played in rubber boots and coats rather than lose a day.

That is the first tennis that I know of that was played in New England, and for two years we played incessantly. At the end of our second summer, in August, 1876, we held our first tournament.

It was a handicap, with fifteen entries. Sears and I were at scratch, and the odds ran from 4 to 13, for we played by the racket scoring. We looked on the odds as enormous, but as a matter of fact the two scratch men won every game with ease. The final was the best of three games, the other matches having been a single game only. Sears won the first game, 15-12, and I the next two, 15-7, 15-13. It was my first real match, and I doubt if I ever worked harder. At the end of the game neither of us could go home.

The next year we had our second tournament, with eighteen entries, which I had the luck to win from scratch. It is of interest to note that Mr. R. D. Sears made his first appearance with a handicap of 11 in 15. In both these tournaments, every player played every other.

In 1878 our third tournament was held with fifteen entries. The tennis scoring was used for the first time, and in looking at the account I see that we showered bisques on the players in a way worthy of an English handicapper. Mr. Sears started at half forty and a bisque. Mr. Lawrence Curtis won first prize and Mr. Cunningham second.

At all of these tournaments balls much similar to the present ones were used. They were a little smaller and I fancy not quite so fast. We played only one match against strangers, and that was in '78 at Newport, against four Newport players, which we won by the odd match.

We had, I think, played two years at Nahant, when the Longwood Cricket Club laid out two very rough courts, and there Mr. Arthur Hunnewell and I played against Mr. Donal and someone else, of the Staten Island Cricket Club, winning easily by a score of four games—love.

That summer saw two international matches at Newport. Mr. Hunnewell beat Mr. Thornton (?) who had played court tennis for Oxford, and I beat Mr. Plumb, a Canadian, I think, who had just come back from one of the English universities. Mr. Sears and I then played double against Plumb and Harter and lost by three sets to two.

The next year, 1879-80, the Beacon Park A. A. was started, and all the tennis near Boston was played there. Mr. Scars won his first tournament there in the spring, his chief opponent being Mr. Edward Gray. There I met Mr. Ran- kine, of the Staten Island Cricket Club, and beat him, 6-1, 6-1.

In September, 1880, the Staten Island Club, held the first large tournament, and Mr. Sears and I went on to play double. We lost easily to Wood and Maning, of Staten Island, after winning against Hellmuth and Gamble, of Canada. We were forced to play with balls much under the regulation size and weight, and the fact is of interest, as it proved one of the important factors in starting the national association, which was formed the next winter.

In October, 1880, I think, Messrs. C. M. Clark and P. Taylor, of the Young America Cricket Club; came to our tournament at Beacon Park and beat Gray and myself, after a hard fight, two sets to one. It was the first time we had seen such play at the net and it was too much for us. This brings us up to the time of the formation of the national association, which was formed the next winter.
TOURNEYING AT NAHANT.
who have never even heard of them. The most important club in New England is the Longwood Cricket Club. It started very early as a small cricket club and the tennis part was of no consequence. At the collapse of the Beacon Park Association all the tennis players joined the Longwood Club, and new courts were laid out from time to time, until now there is room for some twenty courts. In May, 1882, the first tournament of any consequence was held and was won by Winslow beating Smith, of Providence, in the final. Gray and I won the doubles after playing all five sets with Smith and Nightingale, of Providence.

The same team pressed Sears and me very hard the same summer in the championship at Newport. Mr. Smith was the first player to put a reverse twist on his overhand service, and it used to be very fatal. It was from him that Mr. Sears and I got the idea. In October of the same year Mr. Sears gave 15 to all the other entries and lost in the final to Mr. J. S. Clark. The doubles fell to Sears and me. Of late years the club has given handicaps only, but there is always much interest in any good match.

In August, 1882, the Lenox Club gave its first tournament, a fixture which was and still is very popular. It was won by Mr. Sears, who beat Mr. Gray in the final after one of the best matches I ever saw. In the doubles Sears and I played against every pair in succession and won every match. The Lenox tournament has never, I think, been an open one.

The Hitormissit Club of Jamaica Plain had a short life about this time (1882). It gave a tournament at which Sears and I were each to give 15 to the others, but he did not play and I won.

In the spring of 1883 the Country Club opened, and a prize was offered to Mr. Sears and me. It was the first time that we had met in public. For the year before, at Nahant, we had kept an account of games and even strokes. The score was: Sears—Sets, 23; games, 201; strokes, 1,350. Dwight—Sets, 23; games, 216; strokes, 1,364—about as even as need be. The score at the Country Club May 24, 1883, was 2-6, 6-2, 5-6, 6-1, 6-3, in my favor. In October, 1884, we met there again, and I won: 7-5, 6-2, 1-6, 6-2. The ground was unfortunately in bad condition, and troubled Mr. Sears more than it did me. The club also gave an invitation tournament in 1883. I am sorry to say that I have no record of it, as I was abroad.

I ought before this to have spoken more fully of the Providence Club, of Providence, R. I. It was the first club to have a tennis building. As early as 1881 it had a covered court built for the game. It contained a single court, and also a rather narrow double one, some mistake having been made in the building. The four principal playing members were Messrs. Nightingale, Smith, Congdon and Gammell.

The Newport Lawn Tennis Club was simply a collection of players who lived at Newport and joined the national association in order to be able to enter the championship. It was hardly a club in the ordinary sense of the word.

After the Longwood the Springfield Tennis Club is one of the most flourishing. It has a large membership and a very pleasant ground and club house. William Pettitt, brother of the tennis champion, is ground keeper.

After that come the tennis clubs of the two great universities, Harvard and Yale, both containing a great many members and having raised many good players. At Harvard belonged R. D. Sears, J. S. Clark, P. S. Sears, Quincy Shaw, Howard A. Taylor, etc.; at Yale, Thorne, Knapp, Huntington, Beach, etc.

There are many other clubs, but I know too little about them to say anything of interest.

As I look back I can see that the general average of play has increased immensely, and I hope to see it increase still more.