

The Chicago Sunday Tribune

MARCH 29, 1896—FIFTY-TWO PAGES.

How Strong Man Trains.

Modern Samson and His Feats.

JUGGLING with 200-pound weights and lifting a couple of tons of scrap iron are easy tasks for Louis Cyr and form his regular daily exercise. Imagine a man who is over six feet in girth and weighs 360 pounds, with a biceps twenty-one and one-half inches around. Then give that man a few toys in the shape of one, two, and three hundred pound dumbbells and let him play with them, and you have a fair idea of Louis Cyr in training.

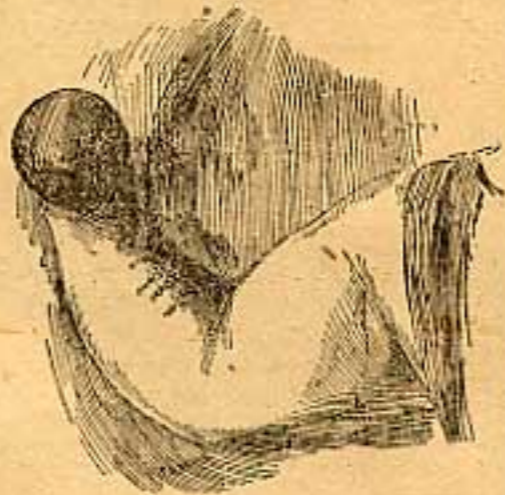
For some time Mr. Cyr has enjoyed an extensive reputation as the strongest man in the world, and has been looking for a chance to prove his claim to the title. But the admirers of August W. Johnson, also, think their man is a little more muscular than any other human being, and are willing to back their opinion. In consequence a match at heavy weight lifting has been recently arranged between the two men for \$1,000 a side, and will take place in Central Music Hall on the evening of March 31. It is for this contest Mr. Cyr is now in training.

At No. 11406 Curtis avenue, in Kensington, stands the rectory of the St. Louis Church. Father Bourassa, the priest who lives there, is a fellow-countryman and staunch admirer of Mr. Cyr, and it is at his house the strong man is staying while he prepares for the coming match. A large schoolroom with a stage in it at the rear of the church is the training headquarters, and it is there Mr. Cyr performs daily, by way of preparation, the almost superhuman feats of lifting which have made him famous.

After just seven hours' sleep on a hard bed Mr. Cyr rises early in the morning and has a hearty breakfast of unusual dimensions. Both the limited sleep and the breakfast, as well as the other meals of the day, are designed to keep the 360-pound giant from

pounds in that manner, however, although his left arm was not quite up to the work. It is an amusing and interesting sight to see this giant go to work to handle one of these huge weights which was as much as the men present cared to raise an inch off the floor with both hands.

First he tightens his belt to just the right hole. Then he rubs a little resin on his hands to prevent the grip slipping. Next he



21 1/2 INCHES AROUND THE BICEPS.

places the bell on the floor in front of him in just the right position and then gathers himself together. When he has taken several long breaths he suddenly puts on a fighting expression, grits his teeth, and seizes the bell most viciously, putting it up with a well-timed effort. Then he breathes hard and takes a rest while the next feat is being got ready.

No. 2 (Cyr) brought out the first short lifts. They were with the hands, together and separately. With both together, Mr. Cyr lifted his brother and a huge iron-bound

"fleshing up," as he expresses it. To this end nothing but meats, eggs, and cheese are eaten, with cold water for a beverage. Sixty pounds is the trifling amount Mr. Cyr is taking off his normal weight in preparation for the night of March 31. To do this he has to avoid starchy and fattening foods of all kinds, and the diet appears to agree with him.

To Work After Breakfast.

After breakfast a comfortable rest is indulged in until about 10 o'clock. Then the giant and his brother and trainer, Peter Cyr, don their exercising clothes and repair to the training-room in the rear of the church and work until noon. Then comes the rub down, followed by twenty-five minutes' walking up and down the room indoors to prevent cramps from the strained muscles. Then dinner.

From dinner to supper Mr. Cyr amuses himself as best he may. He does not sleep, nor do any considerable degree of exercising, but spends a part of the time outdoors. After supper comes another spell of exercising lasting until well along into the night. Then a rub down and bed.

This rigorous course of training is rapidly reducing the strong man's weight. When



THE SINGLE HAND LIFT—1,000 POUNDS.

training was begun nearly a week ago he weighed 360 pounds. Since then nearly thirty pounds have been taken off and by the date of the contest he expects to weigh not over 300 pounds. These weights would give the idea that Mr. Cyr is fat and that his muscles are soft. In spite of his enormous bulk every muscle is as hard as a plank and the feel of his arm or leg is like the feel of the shoulder of a horse. These are some of the dimensions of the man:

Height, 5 feet 10 1/2 inches; weight, 360 pounds; age, 32 years; biceps, 21 1/2 inches; neck, 22 1/2 inches; chest, normal, 58 1/2 inches; chest, expanded, 62 1/2 inches; thigh, 34 inches; calf, 29 1/2 inches; waist, 53 inches; forearm, 18 1/2 inches.

The greatest interest in the training process centers in the two spells of exercising each day. Regarding these Mr. Cyr has his own notions of method and means, and follows them closely, his brother, who is a strong man and a lifter of no mean pretensions himself, getting the apparatus ready and assisting generally.

How a Strong Man Trains.

This is the method of procedure: He goes through the tests in the exact order in which they will be made at the contest. These feats of strength are twelve in number, six prepared by each man. They will alternate on the night of the match, both men doing one of Mr. Johnson's and then one of Mr. Cyr's feats, and so on. This method Mr. Cyr follows in training.

The first test on the day his exercise was witnessed was marked No. 1 (Johnson) and read as follows:

Lifting heaviest bar bell with two hands from floor above head at arm's length.

This test Mr. Cyr is practicing for assiduously. He has a huge iron bell about five feet long made so that additional weights can be put in the heads of it. This weighs about 200 pounds unloaded, but with the weights added runs up to about 250 pounds. The scheme followed is to add about ten pounds each day until the day of the match. When Mr. Cyr used it last week it had reached the 230-pound mark. He seized it with both hands and raised it with a swing to his chest, then getting a new grip pushed it up at arm's length over his head with comparative ease, finally letting it drop with a thud which jarred the building and threatened to break through the floor.

Toys with Ninety-Pound Dumbbells.

Next followed test No. 1 (Cyr). It consisted in holding out from the shoulder the heaviest short bell, both hands separately. Mr. Cyr did not have a bell of just the full weight which he could muscle out, so used a ninety-pound bell, handling it easily with either arm.

No. 2 (Johnson) consisted in lifting the heaviest short bell at arm's length above the head, using a jerk from the shoulder. This is not a specialty of the Kensington man, as he uses a slow push, and he was rather new at it. He succeeded in putting up 245

platform loaded with bells and iron, the whole reaching 1,000 pounds. With one hand the huge pile of iron bells shown in the illustration was easily raised clear of the floor. Their aggregate weight was 1,000 pounds.

Question of Grip.

The third test proposed involved the lifting of a heavy bell from the floor to above the head with one swing. This, Mr. Cyr says, is largely a question of grip. He performed the feat with a bell weighing 170 pounds.

No. 4, as agreed on by both men, consists in raising a dumbbell in each hand at the same time from the floor to above the head. The weights used were 135 and 110 pounds, and they went up finely. Then came an unusual test proposed by Mr. Johnson. It embodied lifting a dumbbell with the left arm from the ground above the head, and while holding the arm extended to pick up from the ground and hold to arm's length above the head a dumbbell with the right hand also. Mr. Cyr did this feat with 135 pounds in the left hand and 110 in the right.

The test with which Mr. Cyr offsets this specialty of his opponent is also a double arm performance. It lies in putting up with the right arm a bell, and at the same time holding out with the left a bell. This Mr. Cyr is sure will prove a winning game for him. He took a 135-pound bell in one hand a ninety-pound bell in the other, and performed the feat twice, just to show it was easy.

No. 6, as proposed by both men, is considered the real test of strength. It allows a man to lift as much as he can in any way he wants to, and on it will be principally decided the excellence of the contestants.

Lifts Nearly Two Tons.

Mr. Cyr makes this test with a huge platform standing on two saw-horses and loaded with scrap iron, which he raises with his back. His feet rest on the floor and his hands on a short, stocky stool, as shown in the cut. He has to crouch down to get under the platform, but once in position he straightens arms and legs and humps his back, and the platform raises, whatever the weight on it.

In giving exhibitions Mr. Cyr usually selects eighteen to twenty of the heaviest men in the audience to stand on his platform, and then raises platform and all. But in ordinary practice the men are replaced with old castings, standards of lathes, and portions of trip-hammers. When about 3,500 pounds had been piled on the structure Mr. Cyr took his position under it and raised it with ease. Then some dumbbells were added until 3,680 pounds were reached. This he also raised without an extreme effort. In May of 1895, in Boston, Mr. Cyr raised 4,300 pounds in this manner, setting a figure which has never been reached since.

After the weight-lifting was finished a broomstick was placed across the backs of two chairs, and Mr. Cyr jumped over it from a stand, to show that he was active in spite of his huge bulk. A measurement showed the stick to be thirty-five inches from the floor. A little lively work with ten-pound bells finished the morning's training.

Comes of a Family of Giants.

Louis Cyr, or Louis St. Cyr, as he was formerly known, was born in St. Johns, Quebec, in 1863, of pure French extraction. His maternal grandfather lived in Paris and weighed 322 pounds. His mother weighed 268 pounds. It was from her Mr. Cyr got his size and strength, as his father only weighed 224 pounds. His daughter, little Melina Cyr, possesses a portion of the family strength, and although but 8 years old can raise 120-pound weights with ease, while his brother, Peter Cyr, claims the middle-weight championship and threatens to challenge Johnson if the latter is defeated.

When young Louis St. Cyr was 17 years old he left school and entered the Montreal police force. On account of his great size and strength he was given one of the worst beats in the city, and soon proved himself a terror to the toughs of his neighborhood. For this reason a number of shady characters determined to "do him up," and one dark night six of them, armed with sticks and bolts, attacked him. Young Cyr seized one man and dashed him to the ground senseless. Next he nipped two others around the waist and squeezed them so hard they howled for mercy. The other three ran away. Then he started to carry the two captives to the station, one under either arm, but remembering the senseless man, he transferred his two prisoners to his right arm and threw the wounded man over his left shoulder, walking in that manner toward the lockup. On the way he dropped the injured man at the hospital and finally landed his prisoners in jail. But young Cyr was hurt so badly himself he had to go back to the hospital and take a week or two to recuperate.



LIFTS 3,680 POUNDS IN PRACTICE.

THE CHICAGO TIMES-HERALD, TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 1896.

STRONG MEN SELECT A REFEREE.

Mortimer Scanlan Chosen to Act in Cyr-Johnson Match.

At a meeting last night of the judges in the Cyr-Johnson heavy weight lifting contest Mortimer Scanlan was selected to act as referee in to-night's match at Central Music Hall. The judges are Tom Barrett, Frank Hoxie and Joseph Rouleau for Louis Cyr, and Charles Hallstrom, R. M. Phillips and A. Boesenellers for August W. Johnson. Scanlan is an old-time baseball player and ex-west town assessor. The match is for \$1,000 a side and the gate receipts, Gabriel Franchere acting as stakeholder. The management is in the hands of Theodore Proulx.

Under the terms of the agreement each man has selected six feats and each is to compete in them. That is, Johnson will do one of his feats and Cyr will follow. Then Cyr will do one of his, Johnson following. The man who lifts the greater number of pounds in the aggregate is to be declared the winner. The match will begin at 8:30 o'clock and will probably last three hours.

THINK THERE WILL BE NO RAID.

103; Virgin, 103; Nance, 103; imp. Hazelton, 105; Rustup, 105; K. C., 105; Kindora, 105; Lank, 105; Oak Forest, 108.
Sixth Race—Six furlongs. Lucy Belle, 100 pounds; Campania, 100; Trixie, 100; Curious, 100; Halloween, 100; Bagnoe, 102; Blacksmith, 105; Bill Arr, 105; Helen Wren, 103; Labelle France, 103; Liberty Bell, 108; San Blas, 108.

LIVES BY HIS MUSCLE.

August W. Johnson Has More than Most Men.

August W. Johnson, whose portrait is printed with this article, is one of the best of the group of legitimate weight-lifters now in this country. He is a Scandinavian and but 23 years of age. His muscular development is solid and even, although it is not noticeable on the street.



AUGUST W. JOHNSON.

At present Johnson is training for a match with Louis Cyr, which will be contested at Central Music Hall March 31 for a wager of \$1,000 a side. As a dumbbell lifter, Johnson is hardly equaled by any one, but he has a task before him in duplicating or excelling some of the special lifts which Cyr has set for his accomplishment.

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THE DAILY INTER OCEAN, WEDNESDAY MORNING, APRIL 1, 1896.

CYR IS THE VICTOR

August W. Johnson Is Beaten at Central Music Hall.

QUIT IN FOURTH TEST

At That Point the Canadian Was 200 Pounds Ahead.

Show Was a Slow and Very Tedious One, with a Great Many Wrangles.

Louis Cyr of Canada is "champion strong man of the world." He won the title at Central Music Hall last evening from August W. Johnson. Johnson quit the match during the fourth test on the ground that he was being unfairly treated in the decisions of the referee. As a matter of fact if Mortimer Scanlan, ex-West Town assessor, who acted as referee of the match, appraised really values as honestly and conscientiously as he sat in judgment over the match of last night, he did not go far wrong. The position assumed by Johnson that he had been unfairly treated was booted at by his own friends.

At the time Johnson defaulted Cyr was just 200 pounds to the good over his adversary.

Two thousand very much chagrined and tired admirers of physical strength left Central Music Hall at 2 o'clock this morning after watching the contest. There are many good things about a contest of strength under rules, but the waits are not of them. Six tests were submitted by each man, and at midnight Cyr had only got as far as his third. Wrangles between the opposing strong men were frequent, in which excited men from the audience took part. Long waits intervened between the trials and tests and from the well-filled house there were many disgusted departures. The agreement had it that each man was to submit and accept six tests, and the man lifting the greatest number of pounds, based on the aggregate of all the tests, was to be the winner.

The result of the interrupted match by tests follows:

Tests—	Johnson.	Cyr.
First.....	200	217
Second.....	200	217
Third.....	200	217
Fourth.....	200	217
Fifth.....	200	217
Sixth.....	200	217
Seventh.....	200	217
Eighth.....	200	217
Ninth.....	200	217
Total.....	2,400	2,802

THE CHICAGO CHRONICLE, TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH 31, 1896.

LEADS IS MADE SENSELESS

TRIAL OF STRENGTH.
Louis Cyr and August Johnson will meet at Central Music hall tonight in their heavy-weight lifting match. Mortimer Scanlan has been selected as referee. The judges are Frank Hoxie, Tom Barrett and Joseph Rouleau for Cyr and Charles Hallstrom, R. M. Phillips and A. Boesenellers for Johnson. Each man is to perform twelve feats, the aggregate weight of each to decide the match, which is for \$1,000 a side and the gate receipts.

WINNER

THE CHICAGO RECORD, TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 1896.

STRONG MEN CONTEST TO-NIGHT.
August Johnson and Louis Cyr to Compete in an Exhibition of Muscles.

A great deal of interest has been shown in the contest that is to take place to-night between the strong men—Louis Cyr and August Johnson—at Central Music Hall. Ordinarily a mere exhibition of muscle does not have a great deal of attraction for the average person. This is shown in the circus, where the man with the prodigious arm, on which he rolls balls of great weight, is slighted by the majority of the spectators in favor of something else that is perhaps really much more simple. However, the remarkable degree to which some persons can develop muscular energy is always interesting, and as to-night's contest seems to be between two men of remarkable power it will attract no little attention.



A match for \$1,000 a side vouches for the genuineness of the rivalry. The men are to go through with a series of feats, each of them having named a certain number. The one who makes the best general showing will be the winner. The contest will begin at 8 o'clock.



STRONG MEN FALL OUT.

TROUBLE OVER CHAMPIONSHIP

August W. Johnson Withdraws from the Contest at Central Music Hall and Louis Cyr Claims the Title of Best in the World.

Two modern Samsons contested last night in Central Music hall. They "brought down the house" also, as their ancient example did at Gaza, but in a figurative sense.

The Scandinavians went to shout for the prowess of August W. Johnson, the Chicago strong man, and the Englishmen and Frenchmen were there to honorize Louis Cyr, the French-Canadian.

For four hours these brawny men puffed and groaned over and under burdens of iron and lead, and the admiration of the crowd seemed to be about equally divided between the contestants for the championship of the world.

Johnson Withdraws.

At the end of that time Johnson threw up the contest, alleging that he had had the worst of the decisions. Mortimer Scanlan went away sorrowful, because he had labored to be scrupulously fair. All the Scandinavians groaned and hissed, the rest of the crowd cheered the Canadian and Cyr made a speech claiming the championship, praising Johnson's strength and declaring that he regarded the decisions as equally fair to both sides.

Johnson, tall and lithe, and Cyr, a perfect Hercules in muscular development, appeared at the same time, one dressed in pink tights and the other in blue. Both were introduced, bowed and retired to their corners while the terms of the match were read.

Lifted a Barbell.

Johnson challenged first, lifting a barbell weighing 301 pounds at arms' length over his head. His friends raised a tumult of applause. Cyr had his men load up a bar with 317 pounds of iron and shot. The umpires protested and Referee Scanlan gave the feat to Cyr. That made the crowd hiss and caterwaul. The claim was that Cyr's arms were not straight, but he showed that his biceps were so large that he could not conceal the curves.

Cyr's challenge was to hold out at arm's length the heaviest dumb-bell, and he negotiated seventy-nine pounds. Johnson labored hard and after several attempts managed to handle sixty and one-quarter pounds.

Puts Up 222 Pounds.

Johnson next put up 185 pounds from the shoulder with his right and 172 pounds with his left arm. Cyr met this with 215 1/2 and 192 1/2 pounds. He actually did put up 222 1/2 pounds, but the referee threw it out on a technicality.

Cyr's challenge to lift the greatest weight from the floor without harness netted him 850 1/2 pounds, but he failed to manage the 924-pound load. Johnson did the greater feat with apparent ease and was given great applause. In the one-hand lifting test Cyr raised 465 1/2 and Johnson 435 1/2 pounds. Johnson made three attempts to lift 1,016 pounds, but failed. In the one-hand test he started with 518 pounds, but he had to reduce to 433.

Cyr Falls in Arm's-Length Test.

Then Johnson swung up 168 1/2 pounds to arm's length over his head after many attempts to reach 172 pounds. Cyr tried the same weight, but, under adverse decisions, he had to scale down his weight to 132 pounds, which he swung up with ease.

Cyr's next feat was to raise 200 1/2 pounds. After four attempts Johnson made a record of 197 1/2 pounds.

Raising two dumb-bells at the same time, Cyr handled 254 1/2 pounds and Johnson 203 pounds. Cyr repeated his performance of this feat, but Johnson declined to go on with the contest, asserting that he had been worsted in the referee's decisions on protested feats.

Hissing, hooting and cat-calling were the features of the night on the part of the spectators, though the contestants acted with calmness at all times.

POSITIVELY LAST APPEARANCE

Johnson

STRONG MAN JOHNSON GIVES UP. Claims He Was Treated Unfairly in the Contest With Cyr.

Strong Man Johnson gave up last night when Louis Cyr was 200 pounds ahead in the aggregate of the several feats of strength. Cyr had just finished his fourth test when Announcer Padgett told the big crowd that remained in Central Music Hall despite the lateness of the hour, it being nearly 1 o'clock this morning, that Johnson thought he was being worsted in the decisions and therefore abandoned the contest. Just preceding Cyr had been required to repeat one of his feats and Johnson had been similarly treated.

Everyone but the partisans of the men conceded the fairness of Referee Mortimer Scanlan in making the men conform in each instance to the specifications of the feat. But the spectators, according as they were French or Swede, hooted, howled and hissed, or clapped their hands, cheered and shouted approvingly. The contest went a long way toward promoting a new racial war in Chicago.

Johnson was not in good shape and did not do himself justice. He complained of a cold, wrenched his shoulders and his hands were soon blistered and raw. Cyr's fingers split and bled from the heavy work. The stage of Central Music Hall from which Professor Swing used to preach looked like a junk shop, with several tons of pig lead, old chains, bars of iron, dumb-bells and the other apparatus pertaining to strong men.

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THE CHICAGO TIMES-HERALD WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 1896.

STRONG MAN JOHNSON GIVES UP.

Claims He Was Treated Unfairly in the Contest With Cyr.

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CYR IS THE STRONGEST OF MEN.

Easily Wins the World's Championship Contest with Johnson.

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Strong men and feats of heavy weight lifting entertained an audience of nearly 2,000 people last night in Central Music Hall. The occasion was a match for \$1,000 a side and the championship of the world between Louis Cyr and August W. Johnson, strong men. Cyr won, after a long-drawn-out struggle which lasted until after midnight and exhausted the patience of the audience.

According to the terms of the agreement between the two men each was to perform six feats of strength, which the other had the privilege of trying to duplicate or better, a count of the total number of pounds lifted to determine the championship. As each had a special method of doing his own tests, the amount of wrangling and appealing to the referee, with the long waits between tests, made the affair nearly interminable.

Cyr won all the way, and after four tests had been completed Johnson claimed he was not receiving fair play from the referee, Mart Scannon, and refused to go on with the match. At the time he gave up the contest Cyr was 200 pounds in the lead, and had proved his superiority in every event except the back lift, where Johnson gained considerably. Had the match continued it is probable Cyr would have finished 500 pounds in the lead.

BROOKLYN BOWLERS ARE BEATEN.

Keystones Win Two Out of Three Games from the Visitors.

THE CHICAGO CHRONICLE, WEDNESDAY MORNING, APRIL 1, 1896.

ATHLETICS.

STRONG MEN CONTEST.

There was a contest of strong men at Central Music hall last night. August Johnson, the sturdy Swede, was pitted against the Frenchman, Louis Cyr.

Johnson finally decided to give up the contest after Cyr's fourth proposition, claiming that he was not receiving fair treatment from the judges and referee. Cyr was then 200 pounds ahead of Johnson.

It was apparently a contest between nations, for the house was divided in its sympathies, and the applause was distributed accordingly. In fact, the audience was very much in evidence during the entire evening and words of encouragement for the contestants were mingled with execrations and suggestions to the referee. This much maligned man was Mortimer Scanlan, who gave his decision when Johnson's judges, Charles Hallstrom, R. Phillips and A. Boesenwiler, disagreed with the judges for Cyr—Thomas Barrett, Frank Hoxie and John Rowe. He was called upon for nearly every event, for the time the giant Cyr walked upon the stage to meet his opponent until the end was spent in one prolonged argument.

The contest began at 8 o'clock, and the programme consisted of six events. These were with but one exception feats of raising dumbbells. The exception was Cyr's feat of lifting pigs of iron placed upon a platform.

The first test was made by Johnson. This was the raising of a bar bell above the head with both hands, both arms being straight. Johnson used a bell weighing 361 pounds. At the first trial his hands slipped, but the second was more successful, and the heavy weight was slowly conquered. Cyr attempted a greater weight, 317½ pounds, and swung it up easily. Johnson's adherents in the gallery were loud in their claims of failure on Cyr's part to straighten his arms. Cyr demonstrated his inability to straighten his arms owing to the rolls of muscle, and the referee then agreed that the feat was accomplished.

Cyr then took the initiative and stretched a dumbbell, weighing 79 pounds. His opponent tried a lighter weight, 73½ pounds, but failed to imitate Cyr in two trials. He then used a 69½-pound bell, and did the trick.

The next feat was proposed by Johnson. This was to raise a bar bell with a jerk, first with the right and then with the left hand. He first tried a weight of 198 pounds, but, failing in this, it was gradually reduced to 188 pounds, which was raised successfully by the contestant. Cyr in turn raised 222½ pounds, but the act was questioned on the grounds that the weight was shoved. He finally satisfied the exacting referee by raising 215½ pounds. With the left hand Johnson, after three trials, raised 172½ pounds and Cyr responded with 192½ pounds.

The next feat was proposed by Cyr and consisted in raising a platform loaded with pigs of iron, the whole weighing 850½ pounds. He elevated this easily, but failed when the weight was increased. Johnson then es-

ayed the greater weight of 92½ pounds, and, to the delight of his friends, swung it from the floor. He also failed on an increased weight.

Cyr's next proposition was to raise a cluster of four dumb bells weighing 466 pounds. Johnson tried the same, but failed until the weights were lowered to 435½.

The results were:

	Cyr.	Johnson.
First event	317½	361
Second event	79	69½
Third event	215½	188
Fourth event	192½	172½
Fifth event	850½	92½
Sixth event	435½	466

The contest will probably be repeated at some future date, and other strong men may be asked to take a hand in it.

On Johnson's proposition of a swing with the bar bell from the floor he made 168½ to Cyr's 182 pounds.

On the next test of raising a bar with both hands Johnson lifted 197 pounds and Cyr an 190½.

Johnson's fourth proposition was to raise two dumbbells, one in each hand. In this test he raised 293 pounds. Cyr responded with 256½ pounds. Johnson then decided to quit the contest, leaving Cyr the champion.



A Championship Battle.

The presence in the city of Louis Cyr, the French-Canadian strong man, has renewed the interest in his contest at Chicago two weeks ago at which time he won from August W. Johnson the championship of the world. Four hours the brawny men puffed and groaned over and under burdens of iron and lead. At the end of that time Johnson withdrew, claiming that he had had the worst of the decisions. As a matter of fact the referee, Mortimer Scanlan, was scrupulously fair.

Johnson challenged first, letting a barbell weighing 301 pounds at arms' length over his head. His friends raised a tumult of applause. Cyr had his men load up a bar with 317 pounds of iron and shot. The umpires protested and Referee Scanlan gave the feat to Cyr. That made the crowd hiss and caterwaul. The claim was that Cyr's arms were not straight, but he showed that his biceps were so large that he could not conceal the curves.

Cyr's challenge was to hold out at arm's length the heaviest dumb-bell, and he negotiated seventy-nine pounds. Johnson labored hard and after several attempts managed to handle sixty and one-quarter pounds.

Johnson next put up 185 pounds from the shoulder with his right and 172 pounds with his left arm. Cyr met this with 215½ and 192½ pounds. He actually did put up 222½ pounds, but the referee threw it out on a technicality.

Cyr's challenge to lift the greatest weight from the floor without harness netted him 850½ pounds, but he failed to manage the 924 pound load. Johnson did the greater feat with apparent ease and was given great applause. In the one-hand lifting test Cyr raised 495½ and Johnson 433½ pounds. Johnson made three attempts to lift 1,016 pounds, but failed. In the one-hand test he started with 518 pounds, but he had to reduce to 435.

Then Johnson swung up 168½ pounds to arm's length over his head after many attempts to reach 172 pounds. Cyr tried the same weight, but, under adverse decisions, he had to scale down his weight to 152 pounds, which he swung up with ease.

Cyr's next feat was to raise 290½ pounds. After four attempts Johnson made a record of 197½ pounds.

Raising two dumb-bells at the same time, Cyr handled 254½ pounds and Johnson 203 pounds. Cyr repeated his performance of this feat, but Johnson declined to go on with the contest, asserting that he had been worsted in the referee's decisions on protested feats.

Johnson