

# A CHANGE IS PROBABLE.

## Fighting Across the Line Not Likely to Continue as at Present.

### An Influx of Cheap Fighters Into Kansas City—The Sparring Ordinance Likely to Be Changed or Repealed—Yesterday's Races.

Since the passage of the ordinance by the Kansas City, Kas., council permitting glove contests in that city there has been a great number of "prize fighters" added to the population of the two cities. In the last week or so it has seemed that almost every train has brought in one or two of the "profess." Sparring exhibitions and fights across the state line have become of almost nightly occurrence. At every such show there have been as many "fighters" present as were in 'Prisco during the palmy days of the athletic clubs there—the fighters, however, are of a different class.

There is a question whether Kansas City, Kas., will be able to stand the effects of its recent ordinance much longer, unless the existing condition of affairs is changed. New Orleans has been able to give prize fights, and to conduct them in such a manner that the business men of the city seem to favor them. New Orleans, however, did not go into the business as Kansas City, Kas., has. In New Orleans the sport has been in charge of regularly organized athletic clubs, which went in the business as a business, and have succeeded in running a prize fight upon the same lines that any other amusement is run.

Since the passage of the sparring ordinance by the Kansas City, Kas., council several "athletic clubs" have sprung into existence, but they are not of the class of the New Orleans athletic clubs. Charges of split purses and "fake" fights are constantly made, and each of the several crowds which have interested themselves in matters pugilistic across the line seems to be more or less at war with the other.

Some of the knockouts which have been given have been good and strong, and some of the contests bloody enough for fights for bigger gains. The sport, however, has usually been of a poor class, the management of the events such, and the suspicion that has surrounded some of the "goes" such that it has rendered the sport of a character that hardly any community would care to foster.

If there should be organized a strong athletic club, with the proper class of men in it, across the line, which would give good contests for those who love the "manly sport," and see that they were conducted right, there might be fighting in Kansas City, Kas. Under the present regime, however, it is not likely that the sparring ordinance in its present form will be long in force.

There was a sparring exhibition at Turner hall, on Fifth street, last night which brought out but the smallest handful of people. The attraction of the evening was a go between the Daly brothers, of St. Louis, who were paid a certain amount for their performance. Several colored lads without the least science put on the gloves and slugged each other for a time, and then the Daly brothers did their turn. John Daly took the occasion to make a speech. He "roasted" the fighters who are in Kansas City and the management of the fights here, and said that a fighter who came here in earnest, willing to fight and with money to back himself, stood no chance.

He was somewhat prejudiced in his remarks, as he and his brother came here looking for a purse for the Sharp-Crosby fight, which they failed to find, but some of his statements seem to be founded on truth.

It is not probable that three or four contests a week will continue to be the order of things in Kansas City, Kas., but in the meantime the fighters who are here are doing more talking than a regiment of Charley Mitchells. An ordinance putting a heavy license on sparring exhibitions may be chosen as a remedy for weeding out the badly officered clubs and the cheap, poorly conducted fights.

FINE PRIZES OFFERED.