

## JOHN L. SULLIVAN TALKS.

### THE EX-CHAMPION PUGILIST'S OPINION OF CORBETT AND MITCHELL.

He Likes Corbett's Chances but Should Mitchell Win He Would Be Tempted to Challenge the Englishman—  
General Sporting News.

John Lawrence Sullivan, for over a decade the idol of the fistie world, is playing a week's engagement at the Gilliss opera house. A reporter for THE STAR who saw him in his dressing room last evening found the "big fellow" in a very sober mood. He said he had quit drinking over a week ago and did not expect to drink again for a year. His appearance seemed to bear out this statement and when during his rest from stage work, he drank heavily of iced sarsaparilla, it looked as if John is really in earnest about quitting the exhilarating "fizzy fiz" and the "Bass ale" that on his previous visits here were his closest companions. Of course under this condition of affairs John L. was not nearly so picturesque in his remarks as he would have been if in his cups, but he talked freely on his prospects and matters pugilistic.

"Corbett and Mitchell will fight at Roby," he said. "Dominick O'Malley told me he expected to have the fight. O'Malley has practically beaten the governor in court. I guess they will meet there sure. There is too big a kick being made by the gospel guys in Brooklyn. Harry McInerney, that's 'Bantam', who is on the inside of New Orleans fighting news, told me only a week or so ago that the fight couldn't be pulled off there, and you can gamble on that. Roby is the only place left. Corbett would be a sucker to go to London to fight Charley as it is dead sure he wouldn't get an even break.

"Corbett has the best of it in neightn and reach and he's shifty on his feet. He should win. Charley is a hard nut to crack. He's stronger than Jim and he has a chance. He will likely mix it up with Corbett and then we may get a line on Jim's gameness. The fight will be a long one. Both are wonderfully clever and shifty.

"Will I meet the winner? Well, that's hard to tell. I'm only a little past 35, but I've lived 135. It would be a big job for me to train down to good fighting shape. If Mitchell should win I might take another chance, but I doubt if Mitchell would give anybody another chance, but retire. It's doubtful if I could ever get in shape for another fight. With a year's training I guess I would make a good showing. I'm bothered with rheumatism in the left knee and my legs generally are not as strong as they should be. If ever I'm matched again, I'd put in a long course at either Hot Springs, Ark., or Glenwood Springs, Col.

"I've done a big business with the show this season, and down at Asbury Park, where Corbett trained, our show did \$68 more business than Jim's. Corbett ain't popular, somehow, and is too much of a ladies' man to stand right with the gang. He poses for the women and stands like a prize winner at a fair to have his form admired and his muscles felt. That kind of thing would make me sick and if they tried it on me I'd fly the coop."