



"Till ye what, Hinnissy," Mr. Dooley was saying, "fur a bit iv quiet fun an' moild excitement ye want to see a game iv baskit ball."

"What's thot?" said Mr. Hennessy, "Is ut a new bran' iv baskit party?"

"Naw, ye ignerant furriner, 'tis a game. When ye feel like ye'd wish to see somethin' wild, an' a dog fight is too tame an' a horse race not suffisiently unsartain, take yer family an' see baskit ball."

"Av it's onythin' like baskit parties," interrupted Hennessy, "I don't care fur thim, they're too much like a fixt raffle. Wanst I ——"

"Gwan," said Mr. Dooley, "ye're clear off ye're switch. This, I tell ye, is a game. Th' foinest game on the flure (they play ut on a flure, in a jimnazhum.) An' I tell ye, Hinnissy, 'tis hot. Better than foive good scraps goin' on to onct in th' same ring. There's foive on a side, ye see, an each iv them gits his man an' pastes him. An' if wan gits another's man, an gits caught, 'tis a foul, an' they all stop till 'tis settled or apoligized for. Thin they have some funny bizniss about throwin' a big ball in a little baskit. But that's merely incidintal.

"'Tis a great thing, Hinnissy. Th' bhoys all comes out in thick panties an' sthriped shirts. An' th' girls come onyway, so they git ther'. They walk frum Rahway if they can't ketch a feller wid car fare.

"The game itsilf is somewhat queer. I can niver get onto th' countin' iv ut. Iv coorse, the wan that lan's the most on the ribs without bein' caught is the best man. But trippin' counts too—I fergit how much. I think, though, that three clean falls puts yer man out iv the game. There's wan little man I saw put out two that way. But 'twas all he was good fer. His licks other-wise lacked weight.

"There was wan interlood in a game that was about as pritty as anythin' I iver seen Corbett do whin he was in his prime. Two bhoys, wan av thim stout with big hips an' a beautiful fightin' grin, an' wan lank with big shoulders an' a sleepy look, pastin' each other, proper an' accordin' to the rules. Thin th' ball come along, an' they both started fur it. Th' tall wan tried to thrip,