

AN IRISH ATHLETE IN DONCASTER.

By "DONCASTRIAN."

TOMMY WHITE, G. and S. M., described as an "Ideal athlete," is winner of 45 gold and silver medals, and one of the best developed lads in England. He is a son from the Emerald Isle, as he was born in Keelogue, Co. Galway, January 2nd, 1882; height, 5 ft. 7 in. He can juggle with 56-lb. weights, and lift a 147 dumb-bell with one hand to arm's length above the head. His greatest lift is a 280 lbs. sack; he can get the 20 st. sack on his back off the level floor and carry it away. This is a world's record, as he only weighs 9 st. 12 lbs. stripped. He is a Ju-jutsu wrestler, and was the first to meet Yukio Tani at the Albert Hall, Sheffield, about five years ago. Although defeated by the Japanese champion in 3 min. 50 sec., Apollo consented to let Mr. White try conclusions with Raku Uyenishi the following night, which

resulted in a win for the latter after a very scientific bout of Ju-jutsu wrestling. On May 4th, 1906, Mr. White met another Jap in Taro Myaki, at the Empire Palace, Sheffield, and was defeated again by the arm-lock in 4 min. 13 sec. Tommy, when questioned later, said he was defeated fairly. The lock was a bone-breaker, and added, "I never had a thousand to one chance." It is well known that he can wrestle in four different styles, as he was a successful competitor in Arthur Saxon's belt wrestling

contest at the Palace Theatre, Attercliffe, about four years since. He has also won many prizes in the Græco-Roman style and catch-as-catch-can. It is five years since he proved a tough

opponent for Victor Ajax in the catch-as-catch-can style, lasting the Frenchman 8 min. 50 sec.

The best match of his life was in November, 1903, with Billy Curzon, of Manchester, for £10 a-side, at the Palace, Attercliffe. The Lancashire man chose the catch-as-catch-can style. They differed little in weight; the conditions were the best of three falls, but, owing to the large programme, Mr. Beaumont, the manager, had to limit the time to 15 min., as it occurred at the second performance, and he was obliged to drop the curtain at 11 p.m. Both lads were on the mat at 10.45 p.m., and made good use of their time, but neither gained a fall; the referee gave his decision in a draw. Mr Beaumont remarked that the audience had just witnessed one of the best wrestling matches that he himself had ever

seen, and hoped that they would see the match finished at the Palace. As he divided a £3 purse between the two lads, on leaving the hall that night they arranged to meet at Tinsley Park Wood at an early hour on Sunday morn where the match was decided in 1 hr. 20 min. in Tommy's favour. He is now matched against a promising youngster, who is enjoying Health and Strength in the Green Isle of Erin, and the contest will be decided the first time Tommy can visit Ireland.



Tommy White, of Doncaster.

He first came to England in 1897, and made his home in Sheffield, but recently removed to Frodingham, Lincolnshire, where he enjoys "Life on the railway." He is a total abstainer and non-smoker.