

The Eastern District Championship—
 Watsonians Win Double Honours—
 Edinburgh Harriers a Good Second.

Scotland's second cross-country championship for 1906 has been decided, and on Saturday afternoon the Eastern District premier event was satisfactorily decided. The weather was none too favourable, and the going was heavy. There was a full muster of officials, competitors, athletes, and the general public, but there was no gate, and in consequence the exchequer was not assisted in any way. The runners were comfortably housed in Ashley Terrace School. Secretary Taylor saw to every detail, with "General" Hume and President Batchin ably adding to the perfection of the arrangements. Those who travelled from the West to further assist were Messrs W. Struthers, president, Western District; A. Ross Scott, hon. secretary, N.C.C. Association; John McColloch, vice-president, N.C.C.U.; and Wm Roxburgh, hon. secretary, Western District. Among others present were Messrs D. S. Duncan, Tom Fraser, J. Bartleman, R. K. Kinnimont, president, S.A.A.A., &c.

Mr Hume got the men off to a splendid start, and from the first stride the going was of the fastest, although the underfoot condition was slippery and treacherous. Melville and Jack had a great contest for leading honours, and they entered the enclosure together, a neck-and-neck race in the last hundred yards sprint resulting in the former staying best, and winning by two yards, amid the heartiest excitement. For the third successive season, M'Lagan, E.N.H., ran into third place. Individual arrivals were in places as follows:—1, P. J. Melville, Watsonians C.C.C., individual champion; 2, T. Jack, Edinburgh Southern; 3, J. B. M'Lagan, Edinburgh Northern; 4, W. Gourlay, Watsonians; 5, D. Milne, Edinburgh Harriers; 6, W. M'Gregor, Falkirk Victoria; 7, A. E. Hughes, Edinburgh; 8, James Ireland, St. Andrews A.C.; 9, John Guild, Dundee Thistle; 10, A. Cairnie, Waverley; 11, Geo. Ireland, St. Andrews; 12, T. C. Allison, Watsonians; 13, D. Conlin, Falkirk Victoria; 14, Jas. Wallace, Dundee Thistle; 15, A. Thomson, Edinburgh Southern; 16, W. Lindsay, Edinburgh; 17, W. Rennie, Edinburgh Northern; 18, A. P. Baker, Watsonians; 19, T. L. Aitken, Watsonians; 20, G. A. Bwart, Edinburgh 'Varsity. First man's time, 52min 21sec.

Team placings:—1, Watsonians C.C.C.—P. J. Melville (1), W. Gourlay (4), T. C. Allison (12), A. P. Baker (18), T. L. Aitken (19) and J. P. Bolton (37)—91; 2, Edinburgh Harriers—D. Milne (5), A. E. Hughes (7), W. Lindsay (16), W. R. Burden (27), T. Robertson (32), and G. Chalmers (33)—129; 3, Edinburgh Southern—Thos. Jack (2), A. Thomson (15), Henry Fairley (24), James Cockburn (25), Alex Hogg (28), and Wm. Watson (31)—125; 4, Edinburgh Northern—J. B. M'Lagan (3), R. Rennie (17), W. Cleland (33), J. C. Brown (35), G. Inglis (36), and G. H. Poddie (41)—162; 5, Falkirk Victoria—W. M'Gregor (6), D. Conlin (13), W. Marshall (23), W. Dougall (40), P. Baird (46), and J. Glen (47)—174; 6, Dundee Thistle—John Guild (9), Jas. Wallace (14), Jas. S. Matthews (21), Wm. Milne (55), Wm. Taylor (58), and Geo. Crichton (71)—233; 7, St. Andrews A.A.—8, 11, 23, 59, 61, and 95—237; 8, Waverley—19, 39, 48, 56, 53, and 92—232; 9, Stirlingshire Central—29, 34, 49, 57, 64, and 83—215; 10, Edinburgh University H. and H.—20, 45, 56, 60, 64, and 90—334; 11, Gala—26, 54, 83, 63, 97, and 104—457.

The eleven teams furnished their twelve men each, and in all 116 ran past the judge—a good performance, when the trying nature of the course is considered.

The tea and presentation of prizes was afterwards held in the Crown Restaurant, Lothian Street, Edinburgh, under the chairmanship of Mr Tom A. Batchin. A pleasant interchange of sentiment ruled, and those from widely apart districts—Gala, St. Andrews, Dundee, Falkirk, Glasgow, and Stehensmuir—left by late trains for their respective homes.

Year.	Team.	Individual.
1899	Edinburgh Harriers	J. Brown, Kirkcaldy.
1900	Stirlingshire Central	J. Rankin, Watsonians.
1901	Waverley	A. Bellis, Dundee Thistle.
1902	Edinburgh	A. Kinnear, Edinburgh.
1903	Stirlingshire Central	G. M'Martin, S.C.H.
1904	Falkirk Victoria	J. A. Jamieson, Boniava.
1905	Edinburgh	T. Robertson, Edinburgh.
1906	Watsonians	P. J. Melville, Watsonians.

Now we look forward with lively anticipation to the Scottish National ten miles championship on Saturday, 3rd prox., and won't here be some hunting up of talent for that race.