

NELSON IS KING OF LIGHTWEIGHTS

Winner in the Gamest Struggle Ever Seen in a Prize Ring.

BRITT OUT IN EIGHTEENTH

Californian Lands Many Blows on the Dane, but the Latter Has the Punch When the Champion Tires.

the face was the point of attack all through the fight, their visages were swollen and puffed up after seven rounds of fighting.

Unable to Reach Dane's Body.

Britt was unable to land his punishing body punches on Nelson. He connected with the Dane's middle structure lots of times, but the majority of the blows were blocked and did no damage, and Britt was forced to pay attention to the Dane's head, a part of his anatomy that seemed as hard as steel. He would drop his head down and bore into the Californian, and not over twice during the time of fighting was Britt able to make him step back. It was this ability to receive this rain of uppercut, swings and jabs on his jaw and head that won for Nelson. From going to go on he was ever on top of Britt. He was as relentless as a tide, receding at times, only to sweep back again with a force that was to wreck the hopes of the boy who met his first defeat in his ring career.

Rightly named, he is—Battling. All he knows is to fight, and the man who has croaked about the courage of the Danes must withdraw his statements, for this American-born Dane is the personification of gameness itself. His battle with Britt is an improvement over all the rest of his fist encounters. He never will be the shifty boxer that Britt is, but, on the other hand, Britt never has been nor will be the fighter that Nelson is.

Knocked Out in the Eighteenth.

Those who were close enough to see actually what happened in the eighteenth round will never forget it. Both came to, rather with a rush, as they did in all of the previous rounds. Britt began jabbing with his left and swinging his right to Nelson's head and heart. In all the round Nelson kept Britt crowded in his own corner and it was here that the end came.

Nelson, with his head down, suddenly cut loose. He waited until Jimmy was tiring and shot a left to the pit of the stomach and as Jimmy bent over, he shot an smashing right that caught Britt flush on the point of the chin. Britt half turned around from the terrific force of the blow and as he was striking to the canvas Nelson brought his left deep down from his hip.

Britt's mouth was open. The blood was spurting out in a stream and when Nelson

Agony of the Vanquished.

It was not necessary for Eddie Graney to count him out. It was all too plainly evident that he was done for. His fighting courage made him struggle and half

"SQUARE FIGHT," SAYS NELSON.

The fight turned out just as I expected it would. I knew that I got a square deal and no favors were shown I would win. Referee Graney was perfectly just in his decisions, as my manager was sure he would be. It was a blow in the pit of the stomach, followed by a left hook to the jaw, that gave Britt his quipus. He did not have me in distress at any stage of the game, even if some of my friends thought that I was going once or twice. On the other hand, I knew early in the fight that I would conquer Britt, and that it was merely a matter of rounds before I would put him out. But I must give my adversary the credit of having fought very squarely.

drag himself into the center of the ring, where he toppled over and flattened out. When his seconds picked him up his face bore a frightful agonized expression and he was gasping and struggling for breath.

While this was going on, Graney was busy pushing Nelson back. The Dane seemed unable to realize that he had knocked Britt out and it was not until they began carrying the defeated man away that he turned to his corner. At this point the crowd surged into the ring and for a time it looked as if there would be a free-for-all fight. All this made it good for the moving-picture man.

Manager Billy Nolan kept his word about not allowing Jim Jeffries to referee. He refused to allow Nelson to come inside the enclosure. Announcer Billy Jordan informed the crowd that Nelson would not fight if Jeffries refereed and he stated that the Brits would stand for nobody but the ex-champion.

At last Eddie Graney was selected and Jordan, in announcing this fact, said that the Brits, in spite of their personal grievances against Graney, were willing for him to officiate. This announcement was greeted with cheers and about five minutes later Nelson and his bottle and towel-wielders came into the ring. Nelson and Nolan were greeted with hoots and jeers and even when he finally won by knocking Britt out, there was no cheering for the Dane.

Britt Would Fight Again.

Britt has declared that he will fight Nelson again, but if they ever do meet again the Dane will win even more handsomely than he did today. On account of the wrangle over the referee the receipts of the fight were cut down about \$20,000. As it was, they fought before a house which paid \$48,311. Nelson's share for winning amounts to \$18,412.50 and Britt's share is \$12,243.75.

Nolan will get 25 per cent of Nelson's winning, which will amount to over \$4000. Both fighters agreed to give Eddie Graney \$500 apiece.

Jimmy Gardner, Eddie Hanlon, Willie Fitzgerald, Herrera and several others were on hand to challenge the winner. Britt naturally has the first call on Nelson's services, but it is doubtful whether Nelson will listen to him, and in all probability Nelson's next opponent will be Jimmy Gardner.

Nelson Was Under Weight.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Sept. 9.—Battling Nelson weighed in promptly at 130 pounds today at Harry Corbett's, as provided for in the articles of agreement. His weight was 123 1/2 pounds, just a half pound under the stipulated figure. Britt was seven minutes late, but the forfeit which might have been claimed was waived by Nelson. Britt tipped the scales at exactly 133 pounds.

After the two boxers weighed in at Corbett's, they got into automobiles with their respective managers and trainers and started for Colma. A chill wind carried a heavy fog in from the Pacific, and when the men reached Colma they appeared thoroughly chilled.

WON BY THE FIGHTER

Cool Boxer Used All the Craft at His Command.

SCIENCE AT A DISCOUNT

Victor at Colma Did Not Seem to Feel Punishment, and Kept After His Man as Relentlessly as Fate.

MEASUREMENTS OF THE MEN.	
James Britt.	Battling Nelson.
5 ft. 6 in.	5 ft. 7 in.
133 pounds.	132 pounds
65 1/2 inches.	65 1/2 inches
15 inches.	15 inches
33 1/4 inches.	33 1/4 inches
28 inches.	28 inches
12 inches.	12 inches
12 inches.	12 inches
12 inches.	12 inches
13 inches.	13 inches
7 inches.	7 inches

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 9.—In a fight that will long stand in a class of its own in the history of ring contests, Battling Nelson, the sturdy little Dane from Illinois, knocked out James Edward Britt, of San Francisco, at Colma this afternoon. The end came in the 18th round, and was a clean-cut, fairly won victory. This is a simple statement of the result of the fight until Referee Graney finished the count of ten. Nelson forced the fight.

JIMMY BRITT'S RECORD.

Born October 3, 1878, at San Francisco, Cal.
 February 18, 1902, won from Toby Irwin at San Francisco in 15 rounds.
 February 28, 1902, knocked out Tim Hagarty at San Francisco in eight rounds.
 May 23, 1902, knocked out Kid Laine at San Francisco in eight rounds.
 November 24, 1902, knocked out Frank Erbe at San Francisco in seven rounds.
 March 9, 1903, lost on foul to Jack O'Keefe at Portland in six rounds.
 April 28, 1903, won from Willie Fitzgerald at San Francisco in 20 rounds.
 June 13, 1903, fought a 20-round draw with Jack O'Keefe at Butte.
 November 10, 1903, won from Charlie Siger at San Francisco in 20 rounds.
 November 20, 1903, won from Martin Canale at San Francisco in 20 rounds.
 March 23, 1904, won from Young Corbett at San Francisco in 20 rounds.
 October 31, 1904, lost on foul to Joe Gans at San Francisco in five rounds.
 December 21, 1904, won from Battling Nelson at San Francisco in 20 rounds.
 May 3, 1905, won from Jaber White at San Francisco in 20 rounds.
 July 21, 1905, won from Kid Sullivan at San Francisco in 20 rounds.
 September 10, 1905, lost to Battling Nelson at San Francisco in 18 rounds.

"greatest" was missing. The surrounding crowd, the known bitterness of the men toward each other, the uncertainty as to whether there would be a fight at all up to within a brief quarter of an hour before the fight actually began; the cleverness, swiftness and endurance displayed by the two boxers—



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SAM'L ROSENBLATT & CO.

these are what made the fight a great one.

It was the story of many another ring contest—the success of the strong, sturdy, enduring fighter against a clever, cool boxer. This in brief is a description of Nelson and Britt's ring characteristics, respectively. From the very first moment of the fight until Referee Graney finished the count of ten, Nelson forced the fight.

Brained and Tired, but Persistent.

Though battered by innumerable bruising blows upon the face and body, and at times very tired, Nelson never for one moment gave ground. He came back after every vicious attack by the clever Britt, always ready to exchange blows. For these rushing, forcing, persistent tactics of Nelson, Britt could find no effective counter.

The Californian tried every blow known to him—and he apparently knows all of them—to stop his tireless opponent. Every time he failed. It is true Britt punished Nelson severely, knocking him down once and staggering him several times, but never was he able to break him back and change the aspect of the fight.

Only once, in the third round, did it appear to those close enough to judge the tide of the battle, that Britt might win. In this round he reached the most vulnerable spot on Nelson's muscle-armored body—his stomach—with two terrific right-hand blows that carried punishing force behind them. Nelson faltered for a moment and doubled over. Quickly turning his attention to Nelson's face, Britt sent in a terrific right cross that dropped the Dane to his knees.

Then Britt's Friends Shouted.

There was a great shout from Britt's friends, but the elation was short-lived. Nelson got up before the timer could reach the count of two, and fought the only way he knows how to fight—always coming toward his man. At this critical time for Nelson, the going sounded for a rest, a most cheerful note to the Nelson supporters. The call of time for the second round, however, found the much-battered battler fresh and ready to resume.

Nelson was always the first to begin rounds, though not always the first to

land a blow. Time after time he would glide along after Britt, much after the style of Fitzsimmons, never closer on his feet, but always seeking to shorten the distance between his opponent and himself. This tireless persistency, most discouraging thing to the opposing fighter—and his marvelous disregard of physical punishment, won the fight for Nelson.

Gameness of the Vanquished.

Though the pride and credit of victory belongs to the winner, he is not entitled to nor did he receive all the praise. Britt, had he never achieved a ring victory,

WHAT REFEREE GRANAY SAYS.

It was the greatest lightweight fight of modern times. Nelson kept after Britt all the time. He was too strong and tough for Britt. I thought Nelson would win after the eighth round.

Britt is the gamest boy I ever saw in the ring. He took the greatest amount of punishment I ever saw a man take. Britt and I did not speak and had he won I would not have spoken to him. But when he lost I went over to his corner and said: "Jimmy, you and I will be friends."

Nelson is like Fitzsimmons. He is always boring in. I did not see what blows started Britt in the last round, but I think he went down from exhaustion.

must forever be remembered as one of the gamest men that ever faced a foe. After his most successful rally in the third round, Nelson was gradually weakened. Many of his friends, seated very close to the ringside, saw the change and ventured the prediction that Nelson would win.

Britt had done his best in the third. He had used all his strength, all his cleverness and all his blows; yet he failed to achieve a knockout. How appeared to realize, as he took his corner, after the fourth round, that he was unable to hurt his opponent. Nelson also seemed to reach this decision at the same time, and subsequently took Britt's blows with more confidence and without flinching.

Except in spots, the rounds were all pretty much alike. Nelson always forcing, Britt always giving ground; Britt trying to keep Nelson at the end of his snappy left hand, and the Dane using every means to get inside the circumference of the clever Californian's two good hands. Whenever Nelson broke down the defense or accepted the blows aimed at him, he would hammer away at the body, always coming out of a clinch with swinging attempts at the jaw.

Graney's Good Work as Referee.

The agreement of the two men to break at the command of the referee and the referee's interpretation of the rules, and their strict enforcement was much in Nelson's favor. Graney told them before the fight commenced that they must break at his command—that he did not propose to lay his hands on them during the fight. He carried out his intentions, and his work was probably the most successful bit of refereeing ever seen in this state.

In the fifth round, Britt held a momentary advantage, staggering Nelson with a series of blows and making a desperate effort to win by a knockout. This was the first round in which both threw aside all knowledge of boxing and slugged viciously, both hoping to end the fight with one blindly delivered, lucky blow. Both were bleeding at the close, but Nelson was the stronger.

It did not seem possible that a fight could be much fiercer than the fifth round, but the succeeding period of three minutes brought the vast crowd to its feet and kept it there throughout the round. They slugged each other ceaselessly.

Gets Britt in a Corner.

Both were bleeding and weary-limbed, but always game. In the last minute of the sixth, Nelson suddenly took the lead, and getting Britt in a corner, beat him about the body and face until he was wearing the ring vainly trying to protect himself. He took a terrific beating about the body, unable to block Nelson's blows.

In a flash, Britt took a brace, set himself in the ring, and met Nelson with two punishing swings to the face. Nelson halted and Britt leaped forward. He slugged and swung in one last despairing effort, but again the gong ended the round, like the previous critical one ended, at an opportune time for Nelson.

In the eighth, Nelson had Britt in grave trouble. He staggered him with a left and drove him to the ropes. Britt's seconds were in a frenzy, shouting all sorts of orders. Above all, was the voice of "Spider" Kelly, who shouted: "Cover up, Jimmy."

Jimmy obeyed, and probably saved himself from going down in this round. After the eighth, Britt appeared to tire fast. The ninth was slower and in Nelson's favor.

Britt Wears Himself Out.

The tenth and eleventh rounds were also Nelson's, who, by sheer endurance and everlasting determination to "keep at his man," wore Britt down. The twelfth was Britt's, who, rallying suddenly, battered his man for full two minutes. Nelson covered his jaw and took most of the blows on the nose, head or stomach. Britt wore himself out and slumped to the round three.

It became evident to Britt's second after

the twelfth that their man was being beaten. They sought to bolster his waning confidence between rounds, until light-hearted remarks of how Britt was beating Nelson to pieces.

"Why, he is slowing up in every round," said Kelly.

"Sure, he is," echoed Kreling, as they worked over their charge.

Britt, however, appeared to realize that he was beaten. In the thirteenth he took a beating. While Britt, his brother, seeing the way it was going, shouted: "Out, game him, Jimmy; outgame him. Don't let him outgame you." Jimmy's gameness was the striking feature of the round.

The fourteenth must be set down as the most sensational of a most remarkable fight. Nelson, seeing Britt was tiring fast, held before him the determination to end the battle. In five seconds he had Britt staggering about, his guard lowered and all but out. Time and again Nelson planted left-hand blows on Britt's face that drove him helplessly against the ropes.

Nelson Is Too Eager.

Over-eagerness on Nelson's part is all that prolonged the fight beyond this round. Seeing his brother stagger down, Willie Britt shouted above the roar of the crowd:

"Swing, Jimmie, swing."

Over and over again he repeated the word "Swing." I was stronger than he was. Setting himself to meet Nelson, Britt swung his right hand with all the remaining strength in his body. The blow landed, Nelson was not only stopped for the moment, but seemed to give ground. Britt saw his advantage and pressed it. With his feet set far apart to steady himself against the ropes, he met Nelson's blows with a steady, unflinching grip. Finally forcing the Dane to clinch.

The going sounded the end of the round while they were standing head to head, smashing at each other with both hands. Ten thousand men rose in their seats and cheered the boxers.

The desperate fighting in the fourteenth compelled both men to slow up in the next two succeeding rounds, and no decisive work was done by either in the fifteenth or sixteenth, though Nelson showed more strength whenever they came to a clinch. The seventeenth was Nelson's by a good margin.

Champion Is All In.

The eighteenth proved the end for Britt. A detailed account of the round, which lasted about two minutes, shows little different from the others. Britt was tired but game and willing. Nelson was about, taking and giving body blows, always boring in. He cornered Britt and drove him against the ropes. Britt squirmed out and sent in a terrific left to the stomach that appeared to hurt Nelson.

Nelson covered up his body and Britt swung for his face. Quick as a flash Nelson sent in a short, sharp left-hand blow that took Britt squarely in the stomach. He gave way and staggered back, crouching in order to deceive Nelson and give himself time to recover. Nelson saw the damage his blow had inflicted, however, and pressed on. He forced Britt into his corner, and here, in a rally that lasted but a few moments, the end came.

Britt went down suddenly. Nelson says it was from a blow on the jaw. Britt has no clear idea after the fight what put him out, but in the opinion of those who were close by, it was the blow to the stomach which took all his remaining strength, and he fell from exhaustion.

Fatal Count of the Timer.

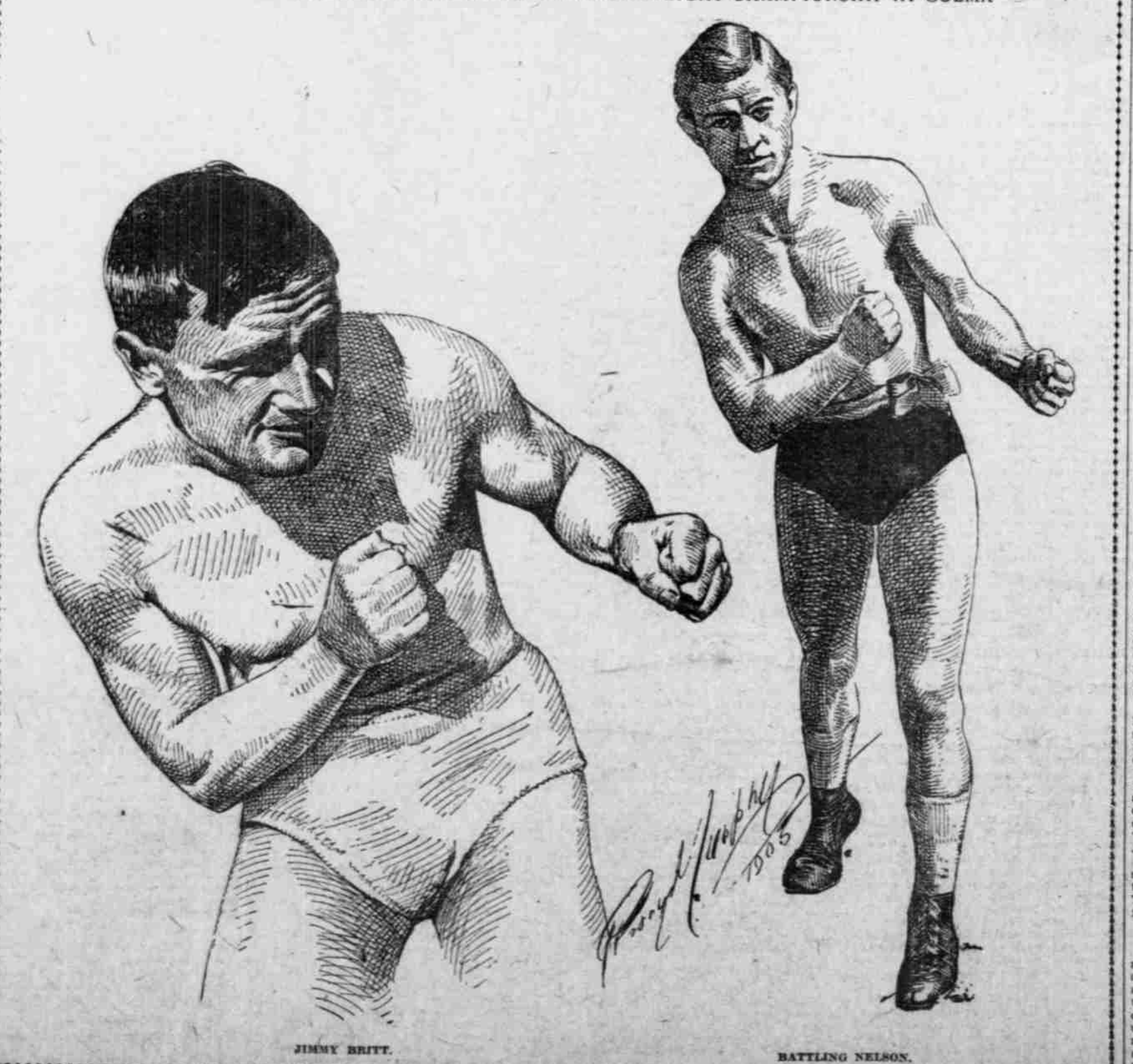
When Britt fell in his own corner, flat on his back, there was a momentary hush and the voice of the official timer was heard distinctly counting off the seconds. Britt managed to turn on his back and lay gasping, his bloody tongue protruding from his mouth. Five seconds had scarce been counted when there was a roar from the crowd, which saw that the little San Franciscan could not arise in time.

"Six, seven, eight, nine," called out Timer Hastings, while Referee Graney danced in front of Nelson to keep him away. Nelson, however, showed no disposition to take advantage of Britt's distressful condition, and awaited the end at the other side of the ring. "Out!" shouted the timer; Graney pointed at Nelson, and the roar from the crowd increased.

Then there was the usual rush of spectators to the round three.

(Continued on Page 2.)

VICTOR AND VANQUISHED IN THE BATTLE FOR LIGHTWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP AT COLMA



JIMMY BRITT.

BATTLING NELSON.

Too Groggy to Fight.

Sometimes in their frantic and determined effort to exchange lefts and rights they would slip apart and would stand with both feet firmly planted and wide apart, swinging ball-like with both hands. Then they would stagger together and rain blows upon each other. The going, fought them in this groggy condition, and fighting in this groggy condition, there was not a moment's rest through the entire 18 rounds. Several times both were exhausted that they were unable to deliver a blow. In several of the three mix-ups and after the boys had fought themselves out, they stood in the center of the ring, their heads locked together, feebly trying to punch each other.

This was a sample of the gameness of both boys and no matter what the aftermath of the fight will be, there never was a breath of fake breathed in connection with this fight. Seated around the ringside were men who have gone to the world's end in witness glove battles, and they declared that they had never witnessed a greater and gamer fight.

Cleverness both in boxing and hard-punching fighting marked the milling throughout. Both fighters took enough punishment to have rendered a dozen men unconscious, and that they were able to keep up the pace that was set right at the start shows that both were in the pink of condition, both willing to fight all the time and both out to win.

Britt Rains Blows at Start.

Nelson, as usual, was slow to begin. He seemed careless at the outset and allowed Britt to hit him at will in round after round. Britt would land blow after blow without receiving one in return. It was this that made so many of those present believe that the Californian would win, but those who have seen the Dane in action knew and expected this, and their only fear was that in his carelessness that he would let himself be hit by a punch in the right spot and put him out in time, a thing which Britt did, and then finish him. From the very beginning it was clear that Britt's blows lacked steam, but every time that Nelson landed there was seemingly a triphammer force behind them.

In the second round an uppercut caught Britt on the nose and opened an old wound. He bled a great deal from this, and in the clinches Nelson found this sore spot often. A couple of rounds later Britt made the blood flow from Nelson's nose, and both men made it a point to keep these marks a secret. Both also received night cuts over the eyes, and as

the face was the point of attack all through the fight, their visages were swollen and puffed up after seven rounds of fighting.

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