

OUTDOOR SPORTS.

..... YACHTING.—The Banshee and Jane essayed a race on Saturday; but the affair from beginning to end only proved a case of drifting over the tide. There was a prospect at early morning of the wind being favourable; but towards 2 o'clock the breeze had fallen considerably, and shortly after the start it fell away to a calm. The boats came to the post in good order, and it being arranged that the mainsails should be set, this was done, and about 1.30 p.m. they started, with the wind light from about north-north-west. The Jane had the weather position, and at once started on the port tack, sending aloft at the same time a well-cut topsail. The Banshee, seemed out of trim, for she did not make any appearance at starting, and for several tacks the Jane led. The interest in the race would have been well kept up had the wind continued; but as it became calm or nearly so the two boats wandered down the river in company, and it was well on towards sundown before the buoy was rounded. The Jane, which is the property of Mr. T. Sinclair, was built by Mr. McDonald, and has distinguished herself by her sailing qualities when competing with other yachts of about equal power. The Banshee is a new vessel, built for Mr. H. D. O'Halloran by Mr. McKinlay, from a model by Mr. Taylor. She is larger than the Jane, and in many respects looks the more powerful boat, but her merits have not yet been thoroughly tested. When off Red Buoy Creek the Lisk, who was sailing the Banshee, succeeded in weathering his competitor, and notwithstanding the efforts of Heritage gradually increased this distance until reaching Schnapper Point, when she was fully half a mile ahead. About this time the wind veered to the westward and fell light, and this enabled the Jane to pick up her lost ground so far that the two boats rounded the buoy in Light's Passage in company at 4.27. Both then made preparations for the run up; the Banshee setting a spanniker and large gaff-topsail, whilst the Jane hoisted a squaresail and ringtail. They kept close company for a short distance, when it fell a dead calm, and they drifted with the tide until after 6 o'clock. Then a northeast breeze arose, and enabled them to run up the Port. The Banshee had a slight lead for some distance; but when near the North Arm Heritage passed her, and succeeded in reaching the goal at 7.40 about a hundred yards in advance of the Banshee. We understand, however, that a protest has been entered by Lisk, on the ground that the crew of the Jane were paddling; but the assertion is positively denied by Heritage. Report alleges that the course will be sailed over again when there is a good breeze, for it is a tame affair, not suitable for spirited youngsters, to drift round a course instead of with a "wet sheet and flowing sea." The Nautilus, a smart second class boat recently imported from Melbourne by Captain McLean, of the Coorong, has been fitting out during the week, and will soon be in the water for a trial trip, and the spirit of yachting becomes developed. On Saturday our nautical "special" was invited to a private view of the Undine, another second-classer, which is being turned out by an amateur builder, whose handicraft is however equal to that of any professional. If her present mould be earned out she will be a novelty, if not a "teaser" to some boats already afloat