



# The Gentleman's Journal

TORONTO, FRIDAY, AUGUST 16, 1878

P. COLLINS. PROPRIETOR  
OFFICE—No 90 KING ST. WEST.

All Communications intended for the "Sporting Times" should be addressed P. COLLINS, Sporting Times Office—and not to any of our employees. This will avoid any delay.

Managers, Agents, Doorkeepers, &c., of Amusements, and Managers and Secretaries of Racing Associations, Shooting Clubs, Athletic, Base Ball and Cricket Clubs, &c., &c.

Are respectfully informed, that all Correspondents of the *Sporting Times* are supplied with a card of a RED color, with the name of the city or town and correspondent, signed by the proprietors of this paper, with a punch stamp of a horse's head upon the right upper corner, and dated July, 1878, each card running for three months. No person is authorized to use any other credential on our behalf. Managers will save themselves from imposition by demanding an exhibition of said card, and refusing to accept any excuse whatever for its non-production. The card is not transferable, and if it be presented by any person other than the one whose name it bears, managers and others will retain it and mail it to this office.

Persons applying for the position of Correspondent are respectfully requested to consider **SILENCE A NEGATIVE.**

## DATES CLAIMED FOR 1878.

### CANADIAN.

Lucan	Sept. 6
Brampton	Aug 28 to 29
Woodbine (match)	Sept. 6
Lepine Park, Montreal	Oct 8 to 10
Fergus	Sept 10 to 11
Stallion Race	Oct. —

### ENTRIES CLOSE.

Ogdensburg, N. Y.	Aug 31
Fergus	Sept 6

### AMERICAN.

#### RUNNING MEETINGS.

Saratoga	Aug 13 to 25
Beacon Park, Boston	Aug 28 to 30
Jerome Park	Oct. 5 to 12
Baltimore, Md. (Fall)	Oct 28 to 26

#### TROTTING

Mendota, Ill.	Aug 13 to 16
Utica, N. Y.	Aug 18 to 16
Springfield, Mass.	Aug 20 to 28
Earlville, Ill.	Aug 20 to 28
Newark, N. J.	Aug 21 to 28
Milwaukee, Wis.	Aug 27 to 30
Boston Mystic Park	Sept. 8 to 6
Ogdensburg	Sept. 10 to 12
Hartford, Conn.	Sept. 10 to 13
Ogdensburg, N. Y.	Sept. 10 to 12
Cleveland	Sept 10 to 18
Toledo, Ohio	Sept 16 to 21
Dayton, Ohio	Sept 23 to 27
Columbus, Ohio	Sept 24 to 27
Rochester, N. Y.	Oct 1 to 3
Cincinnati, Ohio	Oct 1 to 4
Zanesville, Ohio	Oct 8 to 11

## NEWSPAPER DECISIONS.

1. Any person or persons who takes a paper regularly from a Post Office, whether

"record" opinions are strongly at variance, as extracts from the leading sporting papers given in another column will show. There can be no doubt of his having trotted that fast, but the technicalities of the ruling of the turf may be against the claim as a record.

The bay pacing gelding Sleepy George knocked a second from old father Time's dial at Rochester last week. In the first heat he paced a mile in 2:15, the fastest mile ever paced in harness. The best previously recorded performance was by Sweetzer at Cleveland, Ohio, October 3, 1877, when 2:16 was inscribed. Under saddle Billy Boyce's time at Buffalo, about ten years ago, is still the premier figure for the lateral movers, 2:14 in a third heat; while the old mare Pochahontas has the best waggon record over twenty-three years ago, 2:17.

Coming to Canada we find that last Monday Ed. Hanlan, the champion oarsman, at Barrie, Ont., rubbed out Wallace Ross' fast figures, 28:80, at four miles, single scull race, and now 28:12 is the signum of honor in this department at the four-mile distance with a turn. It is difficult to tell how much our boy in blue with the cardinal red could have reduced even these astonishing figures, as it was evident to every one who saw the race, that beyond now and then, he never made a spurt. In fact he went over the course in the most confident and apparently leisure manner, never thinking of making a fastest record. The exigencies of the race forced him to it as it was, he had to beat the tall son of St. John, but this he accomplished in the handiest manner possible. If he had been driven all the way through, the record would have been an astonishing one. There can be no doubt that Hanlan is a phenomenon, and if he ever meets a man that can force him at any distance the time backers will look aghast. In the meantime amend your fast time-tables in the pacing and rowing departments.

## DEATH OF VICKSBURG.

This well known stallion and race-horse died at his proprietor's stable, Woodstock, Ont., on Monday last. We have not been advised of the cause of his death, but Dr. Irvine, V.S., made a *post-mortem* examination of the horse on Monday evening, and will probably furnish us with the particulars for next week. Vicksburg was a fine large chestnut, fully 16 hands, and a racehorse all over. He was foaled in 1872, and imported into Canada by Mr. John Forbes, of Woodstock, in May, 1875. He made his first appearance on the Canadian Turf at the spring meeting of the Woodstock Association in that year, and in '75 and '76 was well-known throughout Canada and the States. He was probably, take him altogether, the best racehorse ever imported into this country. His breeding was very good, being by Vandal, out of Blondin by Commodore, a son of Boston. In 1877 and 1878 he was devoted to the stud, an infirmity of the eyes making his retirement from the turf necessary. His death will be a severe loss to Mr. Forbes and the breeders of Oxford Co. It will take him some time to replace "Vic" with as good a horse.

## A CORRECTION.

Mr. John W. Whitbeck, of St. Catharines, writes us that our correspondent committed a serious error in his report of the races at Port Robinson, in giving the summary of a race between his horse Jim White and Du-

this year was nominated in the Peyton Handicap at Baltimore and in the Fordham Handicap at Jerome Park. He is a half brother of the noted Wanderer by Lexington, and of Uncas, by Lexington. Mr. Esmonde's new importation will be acceptable in the capital, and it is to be hoped John Patrick will have his anticipations realized in the horse.

## Sporting Gossip.

The speedy thoroughbred gelding Rancous is advertised for sale in to-day's paper. He is one of the best bred horses in Canada, as his pedigree will show, is fast on the flat, and takes timber like a bird. He will be disposed of cheap.

It is said that a few of the more aristocratic horses are troubled with hay fever; while a great many of the democratic ones are not troubled with the cat fever.

Mr. W. J. Dennison of Perth shipped eighteen fine-looking horses for Manitoba on Wednesday of last week.

An Indianapolis man gave his poor, starved horse two miserable nubbins of corn and five or six blades of hay, remarking as he did so, "Thar, now, eat till you bust."

Buffalo claims Aug. 5, 6, 7 and 8, 1879, for their fourteenth annual meeting.

Mr. W. J. Middleton, the well-known horseman, proprietor of the Gordon Horse, Orangeville, was last week severely kicked by a horse in the abdomen and knees, but fortunately without fatal results.

It is in contemplation to give a two days' meet at Woodstock this fall.

Mr. Wm. Dempster, of Ingersoll, has sold his Kentucky mare Madam Hayden and her foal by Stockwood to Mr. James Jackson of Harrietsville. The consideration was not made public.

There were races at Thorold on Friday last. Oddfellow won the 3:00 race, Bob Ridley the local trot, and Fannie the half mile running race. The secretary has not furnished us with the summaries.

To show how little dependence can be placed on telegraph reports of races it is only necessary to say that the Associated Press despatch of the 2:34 race at Rochester gave St. Patrick the sixth place, when in fact the horse did not start at all.

Mr. H. M. Anderson, of Guelph, the owner of the Blackwood trotting stallion St. Joe, had some of his ribs broken the other day at Paisley. The accident occurred while hitching up a restive horse which started off suddenly, running a wheel against Mr. H.'s side with the result above stated.

An inquisitive individual, in passing near a race-course on a field day, stopped and asked a spectator, "Why this great concourse?" "It isn't a con-course," he replied, "but a race-course."

A new disease among horses in the vicinity of London, Ont., is announced. It attacks the knee joints, from which the inflammation ascends to the body in a couple of days, and in some instances proves fatal.

Mr. Geo. McKay, of Wingham, has recently returned from Scotland, bringing with him a fine Clydesdale stallion.

The gray trotting gelding Charles Henson, owned at Rochester, N. Y., is said to be troubled with his old complaint in the feet, and will have to be again let up. This is the horse for whom a 2:20 gait is said to be only an exercising jog.

The heavy players at Saratoga are gener-

ton, the stallion matched to trot for \$1,600 at Woodbine, on Sept. 6, against Mr. Bingham's chestnut stallion Valentine as follows: "Hamilton is a seven-year-old stallion, by Brown's Bay Middleton, and can trot in the thirties." Mr. A. Porteous (Big Aleck) is handling Hamilton at Hamilton.

It is proposed to give a meeting at Lepine Park, Montreal, this fall, at which \$2,500 in premiums will be offered. The dates selected are Oct. 8 to 10.

Mr. Peter Curran is handling Mr. Bingham's chestnut horse Valentine, for his match trot at Woodbine, on the 6th prox. Valentine lately won a 3:00 time race, trotting the first heat in 2:58.

Waterloo will possibly give two days' racing in September. If the managers can see their way clear the programme will be out shortly.

## RARUS—THE KING OF THE TURF.

It was only last September that we presented a picture of the wonderful trotter Rarus, who had distinguished himself during the Circuit by winning, with apparent ease, every race in the 2:19 class, against several of the fastest flyers of the country, and who had come east from California with a reputation for unrivalled speed, owing to his having lapped out Goldsmith Maid in a heat of 2:14, when he was evidently not urged to the utmost. It was conceded, after this performance, that no trotter on the turf was able to successfully cope with him, and his career last season proved it. His record was reduced to 2:16, and that was because Lucille Goldust was speedy enough to force him out in that time. It was evident that he could have done better, but his driver saved him as much as possible, with a view, probably, to preventing his being barred in the free-for-all races. That object was not accomplished, as at nearly all the important meetings this season it has been deemed best to bar Rarus, while his strength as an attraction has been recognized in numerous special purses given for his benefit. And now we feel called upon to again present this King of trotters to the public, because his name is, this week, in the mouth of every lover of a good horse in America, on account of his marvellous performance at Buffalo, Aug. 8, where he trotted a full mile to harness in 2:13, eclipsing the 2:14 performance of Goldsmith Maid, which, for nearly four years, has stood at the head of the roster. All other records belonging to horseflesh are of minor importance compared with that of the trotter, in harness, at one mile, and when, after a series of years, a reduction of the time is made, as has fallen to the lot of Flora Temple, Dexter, Goldsmith Maid, and now to Rarus, successively, the performance of one which thrills the trotting world to its inmost centre. The name and fame of the animal which formerly held the proud pre-eminence at once dwindles into comparative insignificance, and never is the force of the saying, "*Le Roi est mort; vive le Roi!*" more strongly felt. Our readers are so familiar with the history of this hero of the hour, that we need only briefly indicate the salient points. He is a bay gelding, 16 hands, bred and owned by Mr. R. B. Conklin, of Greenport, L. I., and has been handled by John Splan since he came to his great speed. His sire was a horse called Conklin's Abdallah, bought by Mr. Conklin from a cart, and said to have been sired by Abdallah, but no satisfactory proof exists of this fact. Indeed, a man who owned him for a long time claimed that he was by Rysdyk's Hambletonian. Neither story is entitled to credit, although it is barely possible that either may be true, and of the two we should rather incline to ascribe his paternity to Hambletonian, because of his resemblance to that horse. The dam of Rarus was by Telegraph. He became prominent as a trotter in 1874, which season he closed with a record of 2:28. In 1875, he had a triumphant career, winning a large number of races, and lowering his record to 2:30, and in 1876 made almost a clean sweep of the

performance was, however, we live in the quite confident expectation that he will surpass it. It is our belief that he would have trotted at Buffalo in 2:12, at least, had he been given the rest to which he was entitled. He is not a horse who fails, ordinarily, on the last quarter, and if he strikes good tracks and favorable weather, we expect, before August ends, to chronicle for Rarus a faster mile than the one which we have described above.—*Spirit.*

2:13 1

It is no more to be doubted that Rarus can trot once in a while in less than 2:14 than it is to be doubted that Goldsmith Maid could have reduced her own best record. The speed has lain in both horses, and it also seemingly lies in Hopeful. Dozens of horses every season trot faster than their "record" shows; but it is a rare thing for a horse to be given, even temporarily, a faster record than that to which he is entitled. Last Saturday's exploit puzzles us. We can only account for it upon the hypothesis that the judges were animated by a zeal to give eclat to the Buffalo track, and thus head off Rochester, whose course is regarded as a trifle faster than theirs. Rarus was to have been allowed three heats in which to average 2:18 or better, with a special reward in case he should beat 2:14 in one of those three heats. He seems to have been allowed four heats, according to the best information at command. The judges may have had a special and defensible reason for conceding a heat that was extra in appearance only. Unless they had, this 2:13 by Rarus is not a record; and it is doubtful if any reason that the judges can give will suffice to make it a record. Perhaps the strongest they can advance is that, being supreme in their control of the track for the time being, what they pronounce good has necessarily to be good, being official. It is not at all probable, if there was in fact a fourth heat, that the driver of Rarus expected to earn a record in it, and least of all so damaging a record as 2:13. According to all accounts, the pool-buyers who laid against 2:14, and in whose behalf, it is alleged, the judges declined to interpose, on the ground that pools were not within their cognizance, failed to make the intent of their bets correctly understood in Buffalo. Naturally enough, those pool-buyers who laid upon Rarus' beating 2:14 thought that the horse should keep on trotting for their money until Sunday morning.—*N. Y. Clipper.*

## THE PERFORMANCE OF RARUS.

We have received requests for information and decision touching the capital performance at Buffalo, in which Rarus trotted a mile in harness in 2m 13s. Some of these ask whether the backers of time, who laid that he would not beat 2m 14s, have lost or won. Others desire to be informed whether, under all the circumstances he has made a valid record. We shall first deal with the first proposition. The conditions of this race against time were, that if the horse trotted three heats consecutively from the beginning so as to average 2m 18s in each heat, he should have a certain amount of money; and if he beat 2m 14s in either of "such heats," he should receive another and a separate sum of money. The programme says "additional" sum of money, but that could not have been the intent of the associations. They clearly meant that if the horse beat 2:14 in the first, second, or third heat, he should have the better than 2:14 money without reference to the general average. Now, upon that state of conditions the outside money was laid, and what is the result? Rarus was started twice and did not beat 2m 14s. He was started again, but as he broke on the turn the judges recalled him, and they have declared that this was no start, but only scoring. Very well! let us see what the rules declare, because it happens that judges have often been ignorant of the rules or have wilfully disregarded them, and their decisions have been overruled and set aside on appeal. Now, the rules say plainly and unequivocally "there shall be no recall after the starting word or signal has been given!" Now, all