

see Henry C. Smith, then for sale. Mr. Entricken at that time saw the gray colt, and was so impressed with his appearance that he passed Henry C. Smith by and returned to Canada. Within a month he returned to Deerfield, accompanied by Dan McEwen, and the colt, still only halter-broken, was sold to Mr. Entricken, the showing of the colt's dam, which could show a 2:30 trotting gait, and was known to have roaded fourteen miles in 57 minutes, having a lot to do with the sale. At this same visit Mr. McEwen drove Henry C. Smith, then 2:16. In 1907, when the colt, Silver Joe, was but five years old, he was taken along with McEwen's string, part of the time in the Grand Circuit, and letters from Mr. Entricken to me informed me of the colt's wonderful speed trial miles, at Rochester, N. Y., in 2:05½, and quarters better than a two-minute gait. It is now turf history, the wonderful coup that McEwen carried to a successful issue last winter on the ice track, when he captured the \$1,000 slow class at Ottawa, Canada, and a few days later the \$1,000 free-for-all pace at the same place, beating a big field of horses in the second race, among them being so good a pacer as Nervolo 2:04½. In the stake race he not only romped away with the offered money, but took into camp all the money that the speculators from the States, especially the Syracuse (N. Y.) betting crowd, had with them. The Canadian papers at the time stated that it took a Government mail pouch to hold all the money that the bookies had turned over to Messrs. Entricken, McEwen & Co. To the cover of Gambolier, on Belle Boyd, a gray filly was foaled, and is at present owned near Blissfield, Mich., which had all kinds of speed, but getting into bad hands, developed pulling traits that made her hard to control. As she is now only five years old, it seems she should, in some patient, intelligent trainer's hands, develop into a very fast trotter. She is the counterpart of The Eel in appearance. My mare, Belle Bidwell, is now in foal to Green Tell 2:20 (this season), by Axtell, and to just show that this stock is of some value, I have refused an offer of \$600 for the foal, the money to be paid as soon as the foal is dropped and is alive and able to stand. Anyone that has ever seen The Eel pace will vouch for his smoothness of gait, and there is not one expert horseman in the world but knows for a dead certainty that a wobbly-gaited horse could never have raced to a 2:02½ record.

Mr. A. I. Hickman, Court Lodge, Egerton, Kent, England, exporter of pedigree stock, writes: Amongst my recent shipments of stock are two young and weighty Shire stallions, to E. G. Mitchell, of Waterford, Erie County, Pa., U. S. A. This is the third lot that Mr. Mitchell has had from me this year. I have also just shipped thirteen Shetland pony mares and one stallion to Mr. L. C. Price, of Penmoken, Lexington, Ky., U. S. A. This is the fifth consignment Mr. Price has had from me. The satisfaction which must have been given to ensure these repeat orders, speaks well for the good judgment and business principles of Mr. Hickman, whose advertisement appears regularly in "The Farmer's Advocate."

DEATH OF JOHN THORNTON

Shorthorn breeders the world over who knew him, will agree that a grand good man has gone over the border line of this life in the person of Mr. John Thornton, of London, England, the well-known British livestock auctioneer, whose death occurred on November 28th. For over 40 years Mr. Thornton's name was inseparably connected with Shorthorn interests and lore. Succeeding Mr. Strafford as the leading stock salesman of the land, he officiated at the great dispersion sale of the Torr herd at Aylesby, in 1875, when 85 head sold for an average of \$2,860, and at the draft sale from the herd of Lord Dunmore, in the same year,

where 39 head averaged \$3,829, and the bull, Duke of Connaught (33604), sold for 4,500 guineas (\$26,904). Mr. Thornton was also present at a joint sale of Shorthorns from the herd of Hon. M. H. Cochrane, in Toronto, Canada, in June, 1875, when the cow, Airdrie Duchess 5th, was sold for \$18,000, and the bull, Duke of Hillhurst, for \$8,300. Mr. Thornton, on this occasion, gave a demonstration of the English system of selling by means of the sand-glass, the animal being declared sold to the last bidder before the last of the sand had passed to the lower bulb. The experiment, however, was not a success with a Canadian company unaccustomed to that method of selling.

Three years ago, at a banquet held in London, Mr. Thornton was presented with his portrait in oils. It was an international gathering, one of the best speeches being delivered by a Russian noble. The chairman was Sir Nigel Kingscote, and 1908 has seen both chairman and guest of that memorable evening cross the inevitable bourne. Farewell both! They belonged to a splendid type of English gentlemen, were loyal, true, honest, and brave. In many ways we shall not see their like again. Beautiful and pleasant in their lives, in death they have not been long divided.

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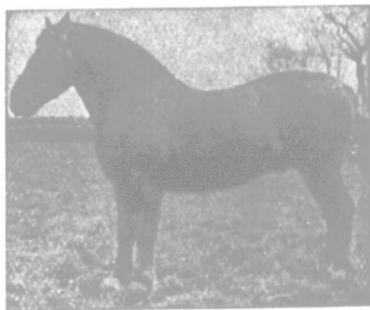
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