



The Gentleman's Journal

TORONTO, FRIDAY, JANUARY 17, 1879.

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 January 1, 1879, 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 POLITE NEGATIVE.

DATES CLAIMED FOR 1879.

CANADIAN.

Hamilton..... July 1 to 8
Dundas..... May 24

ICE RACES.

Port Perry.....Jan. 22 to 23
Campbellford.....Feb. 5 to 6
Ottawa.....Feb.

ENTRIES CLOSE.

Port Perry.....Jan. 20

AMERICAN.

TROTTING.

Milwaukee, Wis..... June 2 to 6
Chicago, Ill..... July 15 to 19
Cleveland, O..... July 22 to 25
Buffalo, N. Y..... Aug. 5 to 8
Rochester, N. Y..... Aug. 5 to 8
Cleveland, O..... Sept. 9 to 12

RUNNING.

Savannah, Ga..... Jan. 21 to 25
Charleston, S. C..... Feb. 5 to 8

NEWSPAPER DECISIONS.

1. Any person or persons who takes a paper regularly from a Post Office whether directed in his name or another's, or whether he has subscribed or not, is responsible for payment.

2. If a person orders his paper discontinued he must pay all arrears, or the publisher

ATHLETIC CHAMPIONSHIP.

There seems to be considerable doubt as to the manner in which the championship title in some of our athletic games should be decided. In many of them it appears to be quite proper that the claim to the honor should be gained or maintained by a single contest, but that this test of merit does not come up to the requirements of a standard will be readily admitted in many cases. Fortune is so very fickle in the distribution of her favors, that superiority in any class will not always win. It may be well that it is so. Reduce athletics or any description of sport to a mathematical certainty and then a great deal of the interest would be destroyed, if indeed it did not prove to be the death of the particular game or sport. It is to a great extent the uncertainty of athletic contests that gives them their attractiveness and insures them the support without which they would soon pass to that bourne which has become proverbial in our list of quotations.

In such games or sports where a series of competitions over the whole year or season would be impossible or unnecessary, it is quite well that a single contest should decide the test of superiority. In these cases it is a competition of individual excellence; but when a number of players are necessarily engaged on the respective sides it will be almost self-evident that a series of competitions will be necessary to arrive at the true status of the Clubs. If there were only two contestants in the field a tourney of two out of three, or three out of five games would present an index to the more worthy. But when there are more a series of games between the several representatives is the only true method of obtaining an equitable verdict. The base ball championship of the United States and Canada are decided in this manner, and the experience of this method of arbitrament is such as not to lead to any desire for a change. In Canada the Lacrosse championship has been held and lost by the result of a single game, which is at any time liable to give rise to considerable dissatisfaction. A club may, by this rule, be successful in defeating all comers up to the final game of the season, when the fortune of luck may be decidedly adverse to them, and they are compelled to lower their colors to an inferior organization. Their successes of the year go for naught, and the accident of chance in an individual instance dispossesses them of the throne which is theirs in fact. This is monstrously unfair. A series of all round games should be adopted and then the summing up of the results of the season's work would place the crown where properly belongs.

A BILLIARD QUERY.

A question was lately proposed in one of our American contemporaries which gave rise to some discussion. It was, can a player lose a match and yet make the best average? As a mathematical query it could have been readily answered in the affirmative. It would be quite possible in a short game or a limited number of points that such an event would occur. Let it be assumed that two men are playing a game of one hundred points; the one having the lead runs the game out in two innings, hence his average would be fifty; the other has only one inning and makes a run of ninety nine, not an unusual number among even moderately good players. The defeated man would have credited himself with an average of 99, whereas the winner's average reaches about

Spirit of the Times will be seen to be in consonance with ours:—

"SUBSCRIBER, Toronto.—B bets that the Mayor of Hamilton will not be elected by fifty majority. A bets that he will. There are three candidates in the field, and, supposing the election is decided as follows, who wins the bet, A or B; Brown, 1,850; Jones, 1,798; Robinson, 1,760. Answer.—B wins."

GENERAL AQUATICS.

At a recent meeting of the Hanlan Club it was decided that the members be assessed the sum of \$250 each for the purpose of sending the champion to England, and finding him with the necessary funds while there. It is not anticipated that all the members of 1878 will fall in line and make the last call good; in which event, we have understood, that the assessment will be raised to \$500 each. There can be no disposition to find fault with this method of raising the sinews of war, but there are many who will regret that those who had the management of the race at Lachine and were responsible for all the dissatisfaction, deception and fraud in that affair will control Hanlan's affairs while he is in the old country. He will hardly be considered the representative of Canada, while his hands are tied by business arrangements managed by a few to their own interests.

Hanlan will leave Toronto for England about the 27th inst., and will go via New York. He will sail on the Inman steamer City of Montreal, which departs on the 30th. He will be accompanied by his trainer, Mr. James Heasley, and they will take with them the Elliott boat in which Hanlan rowed at Lachine, as well as one which is now building by the same maker at Greenpoint, N. Y. Hanlan expects to arrive in ample time to witness the race between Higgins and Elliott, which takes place on Feb. 17.

Wallace Ross is looking around for a match in England, and the last advice is that he has about found the man he was seeking. Hosmer has returned to Boston, with no high opinion of the old country. Brayley, who rowed in the final heat with Hanlan at Philadelphia in 1876, has taken up his residence in Boston, Mass. The backers of Warren Smith, the Halifax sculler, think him the coming man, and are making provision for the campaign of 1879. Evan Morris is hard at work, keeping in practice on a hydraulic rowing machine. Fred. Plaisted has gone into the variety show and pedestrian business, and promises he will do better next year than he has ever done before. Riley is quiet at Saratoga, with an eye to the championship as soon as Hanlan gets away; while Frenchy Johnston spends his idle time in trap shooting. Courtney is resting on his oars, waiting for a reversal of the popular verdict before he again becomes a principal in a race.

The Globe has not condescended to identify any of the gentlemen to whom it applied the epithets of "short-card crooks" and "crooked gamblers" in its article of about a month ago. It there described these gentlemen as being very sore at the result of the first race between Hanlan and Ross. It submitted they had backed Hanlan in the main stake and then nudged out their money on Ross—only to find they had made a mistake. For this they appear to have lost the good opinion of our contemporary, and the insidious attack to which we have referred, was made on them. While lacking the moral courage to come out manfully and fight in the open field, it cowardly attempts assassination from behind the hedge. So that there can be no mistake in this matter we will identify a gentleman who answers the Globe's description

Sporting Gossip.

Mr. Pat. Davey, the popular Canadian driver, who has been in Michigan for some time past, has returned to Toronto, and will probably spend the winter here taking in the ice meetings.

A Western paper remarks in its financial analysis that money is so plentiful that young men are wearing pantaloons with checks on them. And when money is scarcer, probably there will be drafts through them.

On Saturday last, at Lachine, P. Q., Mr. James P. Dawes died, in the 61st year of his age. Mr. Dawes was known as one of the most prominent horsemen and stock-breeders in the Province. His funeral on Tuesday was an attestation of the respect in which he was held by his neighbors.

The Southern States are beginning to pay more attention to the breeding of trotters.

In England during the past year 555 thoroughbred yearlings were sold at an average of \$1,000 per head.

Mr. Richard Lowell, a son of Mr. Frank Lowell, of Galt, has commenced business on his own account as a horse dealer, at 118 East Short Street, Lexington, Ky.

Dunton's Spirit of the Turf, published in Chicago, says:—"Look out for a ringer; record 2:28½, supposed to be in the East somewhere. It is the horse Harry Mitchell, formerly Ed. White, said to be owned by Capt. Wm. A. Owen, of Detroit, Mich.; is a yellow bay gelding, 15½ hands, about 18 or 14 years old, white strip in face, some white on ankles, rat tail, large ears, carried wide apart, ragged hips, carries his head a little to the right. He goes to the half mile free enough, but finishes the mile best with a brad in the toe of the driver's boot." It is not likely this horse will trouble any of our Canadian meetings as a "ringer," as he is too well known here. The field of his operations will probably be in Vermont and "down East."

The first quotations on the Derby we have noticed are as follows: 650 to 100 agst Peter (taken and offered); 900 to 100 agst Falmouth (offered, 10 to 1 wanted); 1,000 to 80 agst Cadogan (taken); 1,000 to 70 agst Rayon d'Or (offered.)

Mr. Eugene G. Ayer, of Boston, has sold his trotter Charlie Mac, by Holabird's Ethan Allen (record 2:25), to Mr. Reynolds, of New York, for \$6,000. This horse is not unknown in Canada, having at one time taken part in the ice meeting at Ottawa.

The winter races at Napanea turned out to be a regular fizzle. After two days' trotting the 3:00 race was not concluded, and the owners with the consent of the managers determined to divide. Our report came duly to hand, but as the whole affair did not amount to anything, either as a performance or a record, we will not waste space on it.

The Germans don't stop at a large price when they want a horse. They have just given over \$80,000 for Chamant, who won the Two Thousand so easily in 1877 that it was thought it was impossible to beat him in the Derby. Like a great many other sure things, however, it didn't "come off."

A trot was to have taken place at Ottawa on Saturday last, between Miles' Flying Jack and Gordon's 20 mile mare. On account of the non-appearance of the latter, the race did not come off.

The Bay City, Mich., Observer has our thanks for the following:—"The CANADIAN GENTLEMAN'S JOURNAL, published at Toronto, is one of the best sporting papers in the country, giving the sporting intelligence of both the old world and the new in an attractive form. It is published by P. Collins, No.

ton correspondent of the Cincinnati Commercial say that the purchaser of Spindthrift was Mr. James Gordon Bennett, but the Turf says that he was bought for Mr. J. R. Keene.

Alfred Ballard, a negro, was converted to Methodism in Jackson, Tenn. He conceived that his mission was to reform gamblers, and he became insane on that subject. Dashing into a taro room, he shouted, "Death to all gamblers!" and shot the dealer dead.

They claim there were a couple of ringers entered in the 45 race at Napanea which did not come off. They were named as French Boy, said to have a record of 2:21; and Smuggler, with an alleged mark of 2:38. Our eastern and northern associations should look out for them.

Mr. Seth Bane, of Detroit, is about to issue a book, which will treat upon the use of toe-weights, and the best methods for handling mixed-gaited horses, as well as his manner of shoeing and weighting them. Mr. Bane is an old and experienced driver, and we know of no man in our circle of acquaintances who is more qualified to treat on these interesting subjects.

Nearly every farmer in Southern Michigan names his favorite horse Charlie Ross. If at length he won't expect to ever find him again.

The Ottawa Free Press says the two-year-old trotter Spindthrift has been purchased for \$15,000. As Spindthrift has a mile performance of less than 1:45 what a wonderful trotter he must be for his age, when it is considered that Rarus, the King of the Turf, has not yet reached 2:18. But the fact is Spindthrift is a runner, and the horse lore of the Free Press was at fault.

Mr. Ed. Hanlan, the oarsman, joined the ranks of the Masonic fraternity last week. It is said on this occasion the "goat" was specially fitted with a sliding seat, to have all things in harmony.

A track is being laid out on the ice on Little Lake, Peterborough. It is the intention to give a winter meeting shortly.

Speculum heads the list of English winning sires for 1878. Twenty-nine of his progeny won eighty-four races, of the aggregate value of £27,041. In Canada he has a representative in the six-year old stallion named after his sire, out of imported Castaway, owned by Col. Boulton, of Cobourg, Ont.

Gen. Harding paid \$7,875 for the imported stallion Great Tom, an account of which we gave a few weeks ago. This is said to be the highest price paid for any horse imported to this country for stud purposes since the war.

"Ere's a pretty go, Bill! See this 'ere book? It's called 'A Life of Petrarch,' the very oss as me and you's bin a-layin' of our money on so free! And blowed it I ain't bin an' give 'arf-a-crown for it!" "Well, what then?" "Why, it's all about a bloom-in' poet!"

A Western Trotting Association was formed at Toledo on the 9th. It embraces Cincinnati, Columbia, Louisville, Jackson, East Saginaw, and Toledo. Meetings for 1879 were arranged.

The trotting geldings Odd Fellow and Butcher Boy are wintering at Windsor; Mr. Peter Foster has the first and Mr. Joseph Winters the latter. It is thought Odd Fellow can show a :30 clip or better.

Mr. Richard Ten Broeck, according to a London chronicle, intends taking up his permanent residence in England.

Can you put your hand on your heart and say you have paid for this paper. If not, why not?

Salvini, the noted English trotter (?), known in this country as the gray racing