

Obituary.

DEATH OF A FAMOUS ENGLISH TURF-MAN

At the ripe age of seventy three, Colonel Towneley, of Towneley Hall, Burnley, Lancashire, was found on the morning of Nov. 4 dead in his dressing room. He had a sudden attack of apoplexy, and he was found recently well half an hour previous to his death. It must doubtless have expired during one of these attacks. He was the eldest son of Percival Edward Towneley, and succeeded in the estate of his only brother, John Towneley, and a sister, now Lady Camoyne. Colonel Towneley was the best turf for whom the Oaks was ever run. He was also a celebrated cattle breeder, and to this present he had of late years principally devoted himself. The following extract is from the obituary notice:

Colonel Towneley belongs to one of the noblest families in England. He was born in the North of England, though then the seat of his family was in Sparta. He was the first of the name to come to the south down the river of Adria the Great. Colonel Towneley was born in 1814, and derives his military rank from being Commandant of the Lancashire Militia. In 1836 he allied himself to the sister of the late Lord Selkirk, and by this connection considerably increased his influence in this country. Although supposed to be a beginner on the turf, Colonel Towneley is in reality an old stager, having had Westport and Algiers in training at John Scott's twenty years back. But after a short time his love of agriculture prevailed over his taste for the turf, and, disposing of a few horses he had kept, the herd-book was substituted for the stud-book, and the authorities asserted its supremacy over the racer. The Austrians are especially partial to his blood, as may be imagined when they sent over a commissioner to purchase his celebrated bull, Master Butterfly, in order to improve their stock, not thinking 1,200 guineas too much for him. Master Butterfly, however, unfortunately died within a few weeks of his arrival in the colony. In 1859 Colonel Towneley a turf fever broke out again, proving it had only slumbered, and he became confederate with Mr. Eastwood, a gentleman to whose care his extensive estates were consigned, and who in every branch of agriculture has attained almost as high a reputation as the Colonel. Proud Preston, Peg, Ho-perithusa, the beautiful winner of the Hunt Cup at Ascot, Butterfly, Buttercup, and Gladiolus were the first lot they started with, having the Oaks for their trainer, and James Snowden for their jockey, and with them they had not the slightest cause for complaint, as Butterfly and Buttercup won several two-year old stakes, and Gladiolus carried off the Great Northern, Nottingham, Liverpool Spring Cup, and Sothen Handicaps. In 1860 their luck still prospered, as with Butterfly the Oaks won them the Oaks under circumstances highly creditable to them; and they were only beaten by a head with her for the Ascot Cup with Rupee, and for the Northumberland Plate with First Lord. With Doo-foot, another half bred one, they won no less than eleven times out of seventeen, so that the training bill must have been not so large as a milk score. In this year, although still continuing his confederacy, Colonel Towneley commenced running in his own name, and we find him credited with East Stanley, a winner of five two-year-old stakes, Kettledrum, the conqueror of Dictator at York, and Yorkminster, one of the first animals that was prepared by the Turkish Bath. In the present year he has attained the highest honors on the turf, by winning the Derby with Kettledrum, a horse of whom all Yorkshire was mad, despite the feeling which the South entertained, and which John Davis has verified so neatly that he would pitch upon his shoulder coming down the hill. The catastrophe was happily averted by his partner, and he achieved his victory after the break down of Dundee, cleverly enough to warrant the belief of the Doncaster St. Leger, being merely a sanitary question. Callor Ou however, up-to this calculation by beating him cleverly. Encouraged by his success, Colonel Towneley has gone on purchasing the best blood in the kingdom, and Lord Stamford cannot choke him off a yearling when he fancier him—as witness the yearling of Mr. Buchanan's which, it will be recollected, he gave 1,500 guineas for the West Australian colt out of Ellerdale.

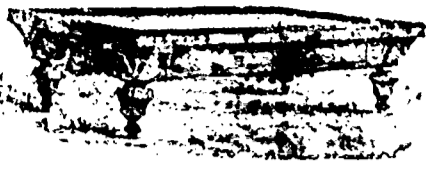
In private life Colonel Towneley was universally respected. The high priced yearling, alluded to was subsequently named Nugget, but he never made a mark on the race-course, and after Littleham Colonel Towneley owned no other yearling. He was bred in white with white body, black sleeves, white cap.

A LIVELY YEARLING.

On Wednesday, 8th Oct. on the training track of Col. Jas. Overton, Nashville, Tenn., in the presence of several prominent gentlemen of that city, who timed her, a yearling filly by Blackwood, Jr., out of Lucille, by Peck's J. L. trotted a mile to sulky in 3:05. She was given a half mile trial, which she did in 1:36, and after a rest of seventeen minutes was driven a full mile in 3:05, making the first half in 1:33, and the second in 1:32. Everything being considered, this was a remarkable performance. The track was judged by competent horsemen to be first class, five seconds slow, and is 1 1/2 miles long. The day was disagreeable and very unpleasant, several gentlemen who were present attending. The filly has

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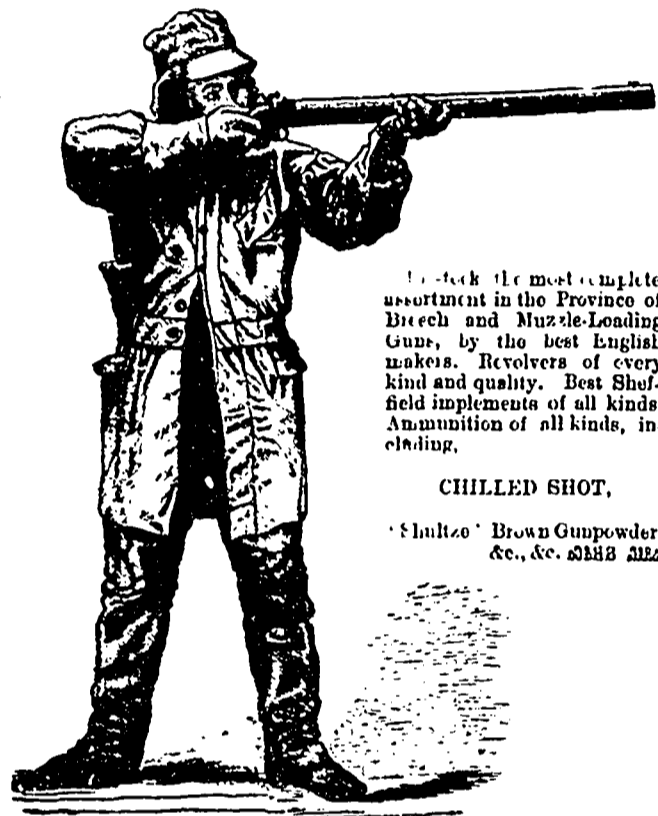
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