

CANADIAN.

Montreal (Blue Bonnet's) Oct 27

DATES CLAIMED FOR 1878.

CANADIAN.

Ottawa.....May 24

AMERICAN.

Freeport, Ill..... May 30 to June 2  
Freeport, Ill..... June 4 to 7  
Clyde, N. Y..... July 3 to 5  
Clyde, O..... July 10 to 19  
Cleveland, O..... July 23 to 26  
Buffalo, N. Y..... July 30 to Aug 2  
Freeport, Ill..... Aug 1 to 4  
Rochester, N. Y..... Aug 6 to 9  
Freeport, Ill..... Aug 6 to 9  
Freeport, Ill..... Aug 13 to 16  
Springfield, Mass..... Aug 20 to 23  
Larkville, Ill..... Aug 20 to 23  
Mystic Park, Boston..... Sept 3 to 6

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TO OUR FRIENDS.

We have on our books a large amount of money due us for subscriptions. We have been particularly indulgent to our friends and patrons, and trust they will see the necessity of promptly remitting their indebtedness in this respect. As the issue and collection of drafts is a pecuniary loss to us of some moment, it is hoped that those who are indebted for subscription will remit without troubling us the trouble and expense of collecting drafts. We make this broad appeal with full confidence of a ready response.

Everything used about a printing office is cash, and to meet the weekly drain on our cash we are compelled to ask payment of outstanding obligations. Our expenses naturally increase as the winter approaches, and as most of our subscription accounts are far past due—our terms being in advance—

THE FAILURE AT FLEETWOOD.

CAUSE—NO POOL SELLING

It will not be forgotten by our readers that during the discussion on the Pool Bill in the Legislature at Albany, we stated if it was passed and carried into effect, it would be the means of destroying the racing interest of the State. Now there is absolute proof of the correctness of the position we assumed, and the only meetings of any consequence in the State that have been at all successful are those where the law has been braved and pool selling carried on in spite of the legal enactment against it. This goes a long way to show that the main question is not shall that system of betting have an existence; but shall the industry of breeding the best class of horses be crushed out by the operation of a foolish and fanatical law. The hypocritical scamps who forced its passage through the New York Legislature claimed if pool selling was banished from the race tracks, that contests of speed would then be patronized by that innumerable section who are pleased to be called the better class of society, and in this way the loss of revenue suffered by associations through the banishment of "the box" from their enclosures, would be more than compensated by the liberal addition that would be made to the receipts at the gate. That this plea was a false and fraudulent one, was apparent to all who had the least knowledge of the subject under discussion. It was again submitted that the breeders of fine horses were anxious for the ostracism of this popular system of speculation, a claim as hollow as the professions of purity made by the introducers of the bill. That the suppression of pool selling has proved injurious to the breeders of the trotting horse in the State requires no further evidence to substantiate than the result of the Breeders' Meeting at Fleetwood Park, N. Y., last week. The trotting there was entirely, we may say, under the auspices of this class of men. The weather was favorable, the entries numerous, and the contests exciting; but the attendance was anything but flattering; where thousands used to make the welkin ring with their shouts over a hot heat, hundreds looked indifferently on, and enthusiasm was conspicuous by its absence. There is only one cause for the result—and that is the suppression of pools. Had the Breeders' Meeting been an individual instance there might have been room to doubt the correctness of this conclusion. But in looking over the campaign in that State this summer no other reason can even be suggested. So far as the number of horses engaged was concerned it has been above the average. Then we are obliged to seek further for the cause of failure, and by comparison establish the position assumed. This can be best done by looking at different localities, and then judging by the results. Buffalo with its great prestige as the leading trotting centre of the world was a failure, Jerome Park, aided by the aristocratic patronage of New York City, was almost a fiasco, so far as attendance was concerned; and now the Breeders' Meeting at Fleetwood, under the most favorable auspices, has been anything

sports of the turf. It is frequently asked, Where are the highly moral thousands who were to lend the light of their countenance to the race track when the pool-box was banished? And echo sadly responds, Where are they? The result shows that there was no basis for the rose-colored prophecies of the Puritans that would flock to the track could they only be assured that delicate sensibilities would not be offended by the voice of the auctioneer, and it has been made clear that this element lacks sympathy with the sports of the turf. Such being the case, the only proper, the only American, course is for this element to cease to meddle, and for the law to allow incorporated associations to manage their business in their own way inside their enclosures. Unless blind bigotry and besotted stupidity rule the day, this will be the second thought of the Legislature of the Empire State.

A NEW SUGGESTION.

A writer in one of the leading sporting papers in New York city makes a suggestion to the American Jockey Club, in which he thinks a panacea is found for the limited attendance at their meetings this summer. His plan is to assimilate the management of the track to the English system, by throwing it open free to all, reserving, however, the club and public stands and certain specified enclosures for which a liberal admission fee would be demanded. He assumes, and may be not without reason, that if this idea is adopted that the populace will turn out *en masse* to witness the free racing—that in fact the race time at Jerome would be one grand holiday for the sport-loving people of New York—while at least one day would supply a something to the citizens of Gotham akin to what the Derby is for the city of London. The merit of this innovation would depend upon its financial success, and of this its introducer thinks there can be no doubt. From the very large multitude he says that would be brought to the Park on race days, there would be a sufficiency to fill the stands and reserved enclosures at a moderate tariff, while the major portion, of course, would be on the free list outside.

That there is some merit in this suggestion will, we think, be admitted; but that its results will be so entirely flattering there is room to doubt. Of one thing there can hardly be a question—the attendance would be increased, and the *eclat* of racing would be greater in the presence of a crowd, than in running to empty benches. This style is not entirely novel in Canada, it was carried out on the old Carleton course, and the attendance was uniformly good. A change was made in the style, but whether owing to that or not, the multitude did not put in an appearance afterwards. The difficulty of getting a large attendance to our Canadian races is a fact that sorely bothers managers. They hang up liberal premiums, have numerous entries, good management, pleasant weather, and all the *et ceteras* that go to make up an attractive programme, and still the financial results are unsatisfactory. If the English system should be a solution of this difficulty as well in Canada as at Jerome, its advent will be hailed with pleasure, but we have serious doubts of the boldness of our managers in undertaking such an innovation.

country horse Phantom. 45 was the mystic number that captured the trick.

There is a trotting horse driver in Madison Ohio, named D. B. Kavanaugh, who this year has made an enviable record of success. He has been engaged in twenty-eight races of which he has won twenty-two, and has got second place in two others. This is a record of which any man should be proud.

A day's steeplechasing will take place at Blue Bonnet's, Montreal, to-morrow. It will be under the management of Mr. W. Carson.

Mr. T. C. Patteson shipped from his farm at Eastwood, on Monday, twelve magnificent horses for the English market. They are said to be the finest lot of horses collectively that have been sent out of the country, having been selected with the greatest care for the better class of purchasers in the old country.

At the last River Canard races, the Amherstburg mare Sunlight took first money in the Green Race, and J. C. Maloney's mare Aggie took second money in the open race.

At the Ottawa Hunt Club Races on Saturday last, Bay Jack fell and threw his rider, Sammy Jackson, barking his shin badly. The Citizen of that city says:—"Sammy is a colored boy, and would have sooner had his head bruised than his shins, at least he said so when picked up."

Some fine horses were purchased at London on Saturday for the English market.

Attention is directed to the auction sale of Robes at Grand's. Read the advertisement for full particulars.

A match has been made at Ottawa for a steeplechase between Count Kilrush and Bay Jack.

Mr Frank Smith, of Petrolia, has purchased a fine lot of horses in that section, which he intends to ship to the old Country.

We have received from the Turf, Field and Farm Publishing Co., New York, a pamphlet containing a valuable compilation of the winning race horses for 1877, with the distances run, the amounts won, and the time and place. It is an acceptable little work, and is very opportune. Price, 10 cents.

GOLDSMITH MAID.

Every item of interest in regard to the peerless Queen of the Turf is eagerly read. For the past few years every now and then rumors have been circulated of her retirement from the race course, where she has been such an ornament, and the determination to place her on the breeding farm of her owner, Mr. H. N. Smith, at Trenton, N. J. It is said "long-looked-for will come at last," and so it appears to be with the little queen. Lately it has been noticed that the tendons in one of her front legs have been giving away, and this disability has gradually crept on, until a couple of weeks ago at Columbus, Ohio, when she had an engagement to trot against time, when it was deemed precedent not to start her, and she was shipped for home. The thousands of people in the States and Canada, who have witnessed the remarkable performances of Goldsmith Maid, will mingle

A CURIOUS CONTINGENCY.

Anomalies exist in almost every department of literature, art, and science. They are seen in our text books of education and law; and are not absent from medicine and divinity. While thus so generally diffused, it is not surprising they should be found inseparable from some of our racing practices. There is a question now being discussed—Can a horse better his standing in a race after being sent to the stable or ruled out for not winning a heat in five, as provided by the rule. The circumstances which induced the query are quite simple and are probably worthy of recital to give a clear understanding of the subject. At a trotting race a month or so ago in Ohio, we believe, there were four horses started who, for convenience sake, we will designate as A., B., C. and D. A. won the first heat; made a dead heat with B. for the second; and won the third. B., besides the dead heat with A., won the fourth and fifth heats, which necessitated C. and D. being sent to the stable as "ruled out" horses. So far everything is quite smooth. But in the sixth heat, which was required to finish the race, the contingency occurred which has provoked the argument. On the finish of the fifth heat B. was certainly better in the race than either C. or D., having two heats and a dead heat in his favor, and the betting rules provide that a horse that is distanced or drawn at the conclusion of a heat is beaten by the one that starts afterwards. Under this betting rule, wagers made on B. against C., or B. against D., would be payable to the backer of B., when he started on the sixth. And now note where the difficulty occurs. In the contest for the sixth heat A. distances B., consequently the latter is out of the race altogether, and C. and D., who have been sent to the stable, retain their rank in the race. Therefore, on the conclusion of the race they were better than B., while he would rank better up to the start of the last heat. The anomaly is as perfect as possible. Of course this contingency is not likely to be of frequent occurrence, but the fact of it once having arisen shows the possibility of such an event at any time. The difference between the rules governing the race and the rules controlling the wagers on the individual horses is clearly shown by the circumstances of the race, and there appears to be but little doubt that a horse can better his standing in a race after being sent to the stable. If this is correct, as it appears to be, it is certainly one of those curiosities of legal technicality which are not alone to be found in racing law. It is only by such practical examples that doubtful subjects become fully ventilated, and precedents formed for future guidance. The trotting turf has now arrived at that dignity in the States, that these precedents are extremely valuable, and some of the master minds in the country are engaged at times in arriving at equitable and proper solutions of questions which are brought forth as the present one has been—a curious contingency in actual practice.

A very interesting game of quoits was played at Listowel, on Friday last, between Mr. Walter Reid, of Dumfries, and Chas. Walkinshaw, of Listowel. The match was won by Mr Reid, after some fine play.