

Poetry.

COLLEGE PROFESSORS AT THE RACES.

BY JOHN G. SARR.

Two College,—I won't give their names,  
(Call one of them Jacob, the other one,  
James).—  
Two College Professors, who ne'er in their lives  
Had wandered before from the care of their  
wives,  
One day in vacation, when lectures were through,  
And teachers and students had nothing to do,  
Took it into their noddles to go to the races,  
To look at the nags, and examine their paces,  
And find out the meaning of "bolting," "bait-  
ing,"  
And the (clearly preposterous) practice of "wait-  
ing,"  
And "laying long odds," and the other queer  
capers  
Which crum the reports which appear in the  
papers,  
And whether a "stake" is the same as a post?  
And how far a "heat" may resemble a roast?  
And whether a "hedge" in the language of  
sport,  
Is much like the plain agricultural sort?  
And if "making a book" is a thing which re-  
quires  
A practical printer?—and who are the buyers?  
Such matters as these—very proper to know—  
And no thought of betting induced them to go  
To the Annual Races, which then were in force  
(Horse-racing, in fact, as a matter of course,  
Apart from the pun) in a neighboring town;  
And so, as I said, the Professors went down.

The day was the finest that ever was known;  
The atmosphere just of that temperate tone  
Which pleases the Spirit or (man and) THE  
Times.  
But impossible, quite, to describe in my rhymes,  
The track had been put in capital plight  
By a smart dash of rain on the previous night,  
And all things "went off"—save some of the  
horses—  
As lively as crickets or Kansas divorcees!

Arrived at the ground, it is easy to guess  
Our worthy Professors' dismay and distress  
At all the queer things which expanded their  
eyes  
(Not to mention their ears!) to a wonderful  
size!  
How they stared at the men who were playing  
at poker,  
And scolded the chap with the "sly little  
joker";  
And the boy who had "something uncommonly  
nice,"  
Which he offered to sell at a very high price—  
A volume that didn't seem over-refined,  
And clearly was not of the Sunday-School kind.  
All this, and much more—but your patience  
will fail,  
Unless I desist, and go on with my tale:

Our worthy Professors no sooner had found  
Their ten-shilling seats in the circular ground  
And looked at the horses, when, presently,  
came  
A wish to know what was the favorite's name,  
And how stood the betting—quite plainly reveal-  
ing  
The old irrepressible horse-racey feeling  
Which is born in the bone, and is apt to come  
out  
When thoroughbred coursers are snorting  
about!

The Professors, in fact—I am grieved to re-  
port—  
At the very first match entered into the sport,  
And bet (with each other) their money away—  
Just fifty a-piece—on the brown and the bay;  
And shouted as loud as they ever could bel-  
low,  
"Hurrah for the filly," and "go it old fel-  
low";  
And, "Stick to your business!" and "Battle  
your pegs!"  
Like a jolly old brace of professional "Legs!"

The race being over, quoth Jacob, "I see  
My wager is forfeit; to that I agree.  
The fifty is yours, by the technical rules  
Observed, I am told, by these horse-racing  
fools;  
But then, as a Christian—I'm sorry to say it—  
My conscience, you know, won't allow me to  
pay it!"

"No matter"—quoth James—"I can hardly  
refuse  
To accord with your sound theological views;  
A tardy repentance is better than none:  
I must tell you, however, 'twas your horse that  
won!  
But of course, you won't think of demanding the  
pelf,

Licensed gambling houses have  
been allowed in Mexico. Those in the city  
of Mexico are divided into three classes. The  
first to pay \$1,500; the second \$1,000, and  
the third \$750, monthly licenses.

The future king of England is credited  
with the possession of a lucky hand at rou-  
lette. He wins almost always. This year  
at Monaco he gambled to the extent of  
\$1,121 winnings.

Adele Gantzow, a ballet dancer, the most  
famous pupil of Fanny Ellsler, died at Ber-  
lin on Sunday. A quick doctor in perform-  
ing a slight operation on her leg used an  
infected instrument. Death followed ampu-  
tation.

On his return from India, Brown was asked  
how he liked tiger-hunting. "Its very good  
sport as you hunt the tiger," he replied, "but  
it hard pressed, he sometimes takes it into  
his head to hunt you, and then it has its  
drawbacks."

A prize fight between McLaughlin, of  
Brooklyn, and Williams, of Jersey, for \$150,  
occurred near New York, on Friday week,  
lasting an hour and a quarter. McLaugh-  
lin was the winner. Both were badly  
punished. The police arrested the parties  
coming from the fight, but they were dis-  
charged.

A few days ago a farmer in West Missouri  
caught three young partridges, and, having  
a hen who had recently been disappointed in  
her family expectations, he presented her  
with the young captives. She eagerly  
adopted them, and they as eagerly received  
her parental protection. The little strangers  
are doing well, and getting quite tame.

The Charlottetown, P. E. I., Examiner,  
June 1st, says:—"Hon. James C. Pope sold  
to Messrs. Blake Bro., on Wednesday, one  
of the largest cattle ever bred on the Island,  
its weight being 2,325 pounds. It was resold  
by the Messrs. Blake to Mr. Dean, of St.  
John, who takes from this place one of these  
days, twenty-four head of cattle."

Mr. Massy Geddes, Agent of the Midland  
railway at Waubaushene, and Mr. I. C.  
Arnoldi, of the Georgian Bay Lumber Co.,  
caught twenty-one pickerel, weighing 113  
lbs., in one hour and fifteen minutes. This  
included the time it took to row from the  
boat-house to the fishing grounds, which is  
about a mile and a half. Not bad sport;  
beat it who can.

The Brighton Ensign says:—"On Tuesday  
morning, one of our fishermen, Mr. Brooks,  
found an immense sturgeon on a night line  
that he had set for trout. Considerable dif-  
ficulty was experienced in landing his fish-  
ship, but with the assistance of three men, a  
rope and gaff-hooks, he was finally brought  
into the boat. It weighed 124 pounds and  
measured 6 feet, 10 inches in length.

McKee Rankin, who recently played Mac-  
beth for the first time, made an original in-  
novation by representing the character in the  
last act of the play as an old man. This is  
in accord with Macbeth's description of him-  
self as "fallen into a sere and yellow leaf,"  
and necessitates the supposition of a lapse of  
many years between the death of Duncan  
and his own.

Colonel B., a notorious gambler, the other  
day met a friend who accosted him with,  
"How are you, colonel? How have you  
been of late?" "Oh! I have had a great  
misfortune," replied the colonel, "I have lost  
Mrs." "How did you lose her?" was the  
next question, "at euchre or poker?"

Mansfield (Mass.) jewellers are making  
jewelry of the curd which comes from the  
cheese factories. The curd is made very hot,  
coloring matter is introduced, and it is sub-  
jected to a heavy pressure, after which it ap-  
pears as "American coral," jet or celluloid,  
as the case may be. It is made into all  
styles of jewelry.

The Athol (Mass.) Transcript says: Up  
to the time of going to press we remain un-  
altered in our opinion that the method  
adopted by many farmers of sitting on the  
fence and swearing at the potato bug is, on  
the whole, worthless as an exterminating  
process. In fact, close observation convinces  
us that the plan, though in a measure com-  
forting to some farmers, has an exasperating  
effect on the bug, which is by nature rather  
pious in disposition, and stirs him up to in-

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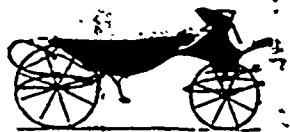
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