

Sporting.

NOTES.

We would lead off our notes of this week by, for a second time, impressing upon our friends the importance of their keeping The Advocate informed of all that is going on in their districts, especially as regards the horse. Again we would say: If you have mares in your locality let us know and always be sure to mention the sire of the winner at least. If you can, give the sires of all the placed horses. Also give the color, age and sex, and never overlook the time. If any of you buy a horse of any account let us know and furnish his breeding. If you have a good horse to sell let us know. If any high-class foals are dropped in your neighborhood let us know. In fact drop us a post card whenever anything happens of interest to you or your neighbors. If the secretary of your local riding or driving association does not keep us posted about your races do you stir him up and advise us.

In another column we publish the rules of the standard of registration. The paper containing them should be filed away. At a meeting of the association governing such things, last April, a change was made, of which the particulars are also given, that many people are under the impression was to come into force this year. That impression is erroneous, for it was especially provided that the amended rule should not take effect until the first of January, 1895, in order to give breeders and owners ample notice. Our advice to every man owning horses eligible to registration is never to delay in doing so, registration under the standard meaning enhanced value besides a guarantee of excellence.

The distillers and brewers of Canada are certainly doing their utmost to uphold the best recreation of the people. Mr. J. E. Seagram, of Waterloo, is to-day at once the largest owner of mares in Canada and the largest thoroughbred breeder in the country. He has probably more money invested on his stock farm in that direction than any other two men in the Dominion. Not only has he already made something like half a hundred entries in the principal stakes at Saratoga, but his name figures prominently at other big meetings in the United States, while he is the main supporter, so far as active racing goes, of the tracks at Toronto and Hamilton. The Bel Air Jockey Club, of Montreal, also invariably receives a fair representation from the Seagram stable. Added to this, he is a large importer of thoroughbreds, never allowing a few thousands to stand in his way when it is a question of improving and developing the horse. Last fall he received a consignment from England of the most noble brood mares that ever came to this country, besides a number of high-class yearlings, two-year-olds and three-year-olds.

MR. ROBERT DAVIES, the noted Toronto

brewer, is another staunch supporter of the turf. Unlike Mr. Seagram he does not confine himself to the thoroughbred—although he has a large and extremely valuable collection of that species, including the stallion Mikado, the most widely-known racehorse in the stud in Canada to-day, as well as about the best fashioned and furnished and greatest prizewinner, having taken first at innumerable places in his own country and at the wonderful Chicago fair—but has a very strong liking for the trotter. On two road Mr. Davies always drives the handsomest and swiftest while in his barns at Thorncliffe Manor, the name of his extensive establishment at Taylor's Mills, about four miles east of Toronto, and one of the most beautiful spots in all Canada, he has some of the choicest stock ever foaled. Here Mr. Davies also breeds the highest class of Clydesdales and other heavy draughts as well as aristocratic cattle, sheep, swine and poultry; in fact, it is doubtful if there is a more thoroughly and royally equipped gentleman's farm in all Canada than Thorncliffe.

The Messrs. Walker, of Walkerville, of Club and Imperial fame, do not race themselves, but whether it be at Windsor, Toronto or Hamilton, they are never backward in liberal gifts toward the trophies and money received for Walker cups are, in fact, becoming almost as well known as their trademarks and labels, which are celebrated the wide-world over—and that is no figure of speech. Many have been given, and under their terms, have been won. One of these was finally landed last season at the Woodbine by Mr. Seagram's King of Canadian-bred horses, Victorious. This was valued at \$500, and by its conditions had to be won twice by the same horse before becoming personal property. Messrs. Walker at once offered to provide another trophy to be competed for on the same terms, but they wanted to make its value \$1,000, if the Ontario Jockey Club would add a like amount to the race. The Club has had to pay some heavy damages lately on account of an accident to the stand at the Woodbine last spring, besides having during the past year greatly increased its investment in improvements at the track itself, and therefore, the executive did not feel justified in going \$700 better than before, the added money to the previous cup having been \$300 each of the three years it was raced for, the black horse, Sam Wood, having been the winner once. The committee, however, offered to double the club's addition, making the sum \$600. Messrs. Walker did not delay in accepting the proposition, and, with a generosity unexampled in Canada, declared their willingness to drop \$400 in gold into the cup, thus making the race worth in all \$2,000, half being in money. How many men or firms are there willing to thus donate \$1,400 to be competed for in any single public event? We pause for a reply.

On the question of thoroughbred blood in the trotter, many breeders make the

abundant claim that thoroughbred mares bred to trotters never thereafter, when stint to thoroughbred stallions, though winners, in fact, are tainted and virtually ruined. Notwithstanding this claim, a number of America's greatest mares have produced runners of renown after being bred to trotters. Sprightly, dam of Volturno and Elias Lawrence, after having three foals by Dorsey's Gold-dust, produced those famous horses; Bourbon Belle, by imp. Bonnie Scotland, was bred to Mambrino Patchen, and afterward gave birth to the mighty Hanover, whom Mr. Seagram's stallion Marauder once beat; Dame Wanie was bred to the trotters Snuggler General Benton and Electioneer, and afterwards produced that good performer Diavolo; the Priam mare that three Bob Johnson was previously bred to the trotters Locomotive and Lantern; Sally Morgan, by Revenue, dam of Soudan, Longway and Enterprise, was bred to Second Sentinel; Fanny Lewis, by imp. Buckden, was bred to trotters several times ere she produced Slumber, Scatte and Rico. Doubtless many other cases could be quoted, but these will do for the present.

The new Jockey Club, that is to bear the same relation towards the thoroughbred racing associations in the States of New York and New Jersey that the English Jockey Club does toward the Associations of Great Britain, has been formed after much palaver and duly incorporated. It will be limited to fifty members, and will be controlled by a board of seven stewards. The fifty so far named as members comprise all that are best and most honorable in United States racing. If the announced objects of the club are thoroughly carried out, the most thorough kind of turf reform must result, a reform that will make even suspicion of a job extremely rare.

Many people are under the impression that the pacer is a half-trained and ugly branch of the trotter, but an excellent authority declares that "most trotting horse trainers like to see a colt start off in a pace. They regard it as an indication of speed. A converted pacer is usually a pure-gaited trotter. Nelson's gait is as near perfect as it is possible to get. There is no objection to any gentleman that has the time and the money, trying to produce trotters without pacers. He may succeed, but I don't see any very practicable method which he can pursue. He may convert his pacers, as was no doubt frequently done at Palo Alto, for I have it from Marvin's own lips that a considerable number of the Electioneers wanted to pace."

ARLON is expected to accomplish wonderful things next year. 2:04 is thought to be well within his reach. It is astonishing how confident people become as the seconds fly off, and yet there is a milestone on the route at which all must stop. For ourselves, we think Nancy Hanks' record will prove to be the hitching-post for some little time yet.

"ANNIE WILKES, by 2:20 Wilkes, raised a colt last year and reduced her record from 2:34 to 2:24. She is now heavy in foal again, and after weaning the foal she will again be put in training, and if all goes well will again reduce her record very materially." So says the *Western Horseman*. Now, we have no decided objection to anybody taking liberties with the sawhorse, but we think it is about time the attention of the local inspector for the S.P.C.A. was called to the actions of the owner of Annie Wilkes.

W. J., CALGARY, N.W.T.—Entries for the Queen's Plate close on March 1st with Mr. Lyndhurst Ogden, secretary of the Ontario Jockey Club, Toronto. Horses bred in Ontario only are eligible for the Plate, but there will be a score of races run at the meeting in May for which your horse could star if you think him good enough. By all means come down; you will enjoy yourself. Meantime send to Mr. Ogden for a book program, containing conditions of all the races, with the dates set for the closing of entries.

ACCORDING to all accounts, there is to be an invasion of England by water this year. Thomas Sullivan, a New Zealand sealer, who once aspired to the laurels held by James Stanbury, the Australian champion, has settled in England, and having beaten everything in sight there, is long for a race against J. G. Gaudaur, of Orillia. Jake is willing, but wants Sullivan to make it worth his while to cross the briny, or else to come to America himself to row. Sullivan, who is not too flush, alleges that he cannot afford to make any allowance for expenses. Neither can he afford to come out here. Latterly there came to the front in the Old Land one C. R. or "Wag" Harding. A fortnight ago he met George Bubar, formerly the English champion, in a best-and-best boat-race for £100 a side, and beat him. Harding has no idea that he can defeat Sullivan, so declines to make a match with him. Sullivan has proposed that he and Harding double up, with a view of offering Gaudaur two races—a single and a double. Jake, being anxious to get "on" somehow, has invited Hanlan to join him. The ex-champion has consented, and proposes to take his nephew, Edward Durman, aged 21, who left the amateur ranks under very shady circumstances a couple of years ago, but is undoubtedly a cracking good sculler, with him across the seas. As J. J. Ryan of the Toronto Rowing Club, amateur champion of America, is also going over to row at Henley, it will be understood what we mean by speaking of "Canadian invasion by water." While Gaudaur rows Sullivan, Durman will row Harding. Then the New Zealander and the Englishman will row double against Gaudaur and Hanlan. The races will be for stakes ranging from \$1,000 to \$2,500 a side each, and the course will in every instance be the full championship one, either on the Thames or Tyne.

MARVELLOUS stories are told of the progress of bicycling and when the season (Continued on page 20).