

Campbellford, Ont. Feb. 6 and 7
 Ottawa, Feb. 12 to 16
 Port Perry, Feb. 14 to 15
 Brighton, Feb. 19 to 20
 Leppa Park, Montreal, March —

ENTRIES CLOSED.

Ottawa Ice Races, Feb. 7
 Brighton, Feb. 18

AMERICAS.

RUNNING MEETINGS.

Nashville, Tenn., April 30 to May 4
 Baltimore, Md., May 21 to 24
 Louisville, Ky., May 21 to 27
 Cincinnati, Ohio, May 31 to June 5
 St. Louis, Mo., June 4 to 8
 Columbus, Ohio, June 12 to 15
 Baltimore, Md. (Fall), Oct. 23 to 26

TROTTING.

Coldwater, Mich., May 15 to 17
 Hillsdale, Mich., May 22 to 24
 Freeport, Ill., May 28 to 31
 Hudson, Mich., May 29 to 31
 Prophetstown, Ill., June 4 to 7
 Milwaukee, Wis., June 4 to 7
 Adrian, Mich., June 4 to 7
 Kalamazoo, Mich., June 11 to 17
 Grand Rapids, Mich., June 18 to 21
 Akron, Ohio, June 19 to 21
 Jackson, Mich., June 25 to 28
 Sedus, N. Y., June 26 to 28
 Batavia, N. Y., July 2 to 4
 Cincinnati, Ohio, July 2 to 5
 Detroit, Mich., July 2 to 5
 East Aurora, N. Y., July 3 to 4
 Clyde, N. Y., July 3 to 5
 Lyons, N. Y., July 3 to 5
 Warren, Ohio, July 3 to 5
 East Saginaw, Mich., July 9 to 12
 Columbus, Ohio, July 9 to 12
 Toledo, Ohio, July 16 to 19
 Cleveland, Ohio, July 23 to 26
 Buffalo, N. Y., July 30 to Aug. 2
 Freeport, Ill., July 30 to Aug. 2
 Rochester, N. Y., Aug. 6 to 9
 Prophetstown, Ill., Aug. 6 to 9
 Utica, N. Y., Aug. 13 to 16
 Springfield, Mass., Aug. 20 to 23
 Earlville, Ill., Aug. 20 to 28

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 may continue to send it until payment is made, and then collect the whole amount, whether the paper is taken from the office or not.

3. The Courts have decided, that refusing to take newspapers or periodicals from the Post Office, or removing and leaving them uncalled for, is *prima facie* evidence of intentional fraud.

Mr. Joseph Grand intends to have his second Mammoth Spring Horse Sale in April next. The City Council have granted him the use of the Crystal Palace grounds for the purposes of the sale.

Any person who has investigated the subject of records will no doubt have been struck with the fact that "time," under all and every circumstance, has worked prejudicially to horses in many instances, and at the same time operated against the better interests of the turf. Just now this question of records and bar is creating considerable correspondence in the American papers. Without committing ourselves to the principles contained in the statements, it may be as well to submit some of the arguments advanced for the suspension of records in certain cases. It is advanced that the National Association should embody in their Rules and Regulations a condition that the time record should be suspended in all races at Fairs held in the latter part of the year, where the purses do not exceed such a value as the National Association would in their wisdom see fit, and then only when the horses or colts are trotted by their breeders who shall be the owners at the time. It is submitted that at most of these places the purses are very small, scarcely ever exceeding \$25, and as the horses are trotted more for the amusement of the people and the opportunity of showing the stock than the purse, that it is not real policy to hamper them with a technical record. The money consideration is not sufficient to make an owner of a young and promising horse send him to the front; and outside speculation being absent, there is no inducement for him to obtain a winning record. It is also claimed that the enforcement of the time record in the cases illustrated, prevents a great many attractive young horses from being entered for competition. Whether these reasons will be sufficient to cause a change in the rules on this point is doubtful, but it is quite as well that the arguments submitted should have the benefit of a wide circulation.

In some quarters another change is proposed. This time it is in the matter of records in colt races. It is submitted that what is technical known as a record should not be attached to a trotting horse until he is at least five or six years old. Not that the youngsters would be absolutely without a record, but that bar would be only in the colt classes, and would not affect him when he started in an older class. Of course if a colt within the prescribed ages trotted in a race not specifically made for colts or fillies, and was successful in winning a heat or race, the time would be indelibly attached to him and would operate as a bar in starting in any slower class under all circumstances. It is held that the early development of the trotting horse should be encouraged, but as the turf law is at present, this inducement is denied. Upon arriving at the prescribed age as an adult, if the youngster had never trotted in anything but colt races, he would then start in as a green horse, and his chances would not be prejudiced by any of his previous performances. In the interests of the breeder this amendment is submitted as a right, and it is claimed would materially benefit the producing industry without to any appreciable extent operating injuriously to the maturer classes. Experiences suggest many changes in the rules governing trotting contests, and contingencies arise showing

the necessity with the object of having a match or series of matches played here. The Australians are known to be very fine players, and with a season in which two such teams as the English and Australian ones will take part the game in America is certain to receive an impetus which will be almost sure to land it as high in public favour as its most enthusiastic admirers could desire.

ERRONEOUS RECORDS.

The outside press, who only occasionally dabble in sporting matters, and then principally in events of local interest, are apt to get things considerably mixed when they step out of their proper sphere, and endeavor to enlighten the sport loving section of our citizens, on subjects with which the writers have only a superficial acquaintance, if indeed their knowledge can be said to extend even that far. The questions of records and fast time are rocks upon which they are almost sure to split. In the matter of a technical record, our usual newspaper man scarcely ever indulges; his opportunity to distinguish himself in this line would be a matter of too much study, and as a consequence he snatches at public rumor or unauthenticated performances and heralds them to the world as astonishing, and then compliments himself with the assurance that in sporting lore he is far ahead of the average citizen, and puts himself up for an authority on such matters. In this way a great deal of harm may be occasioned. A practical illustration of this was given us last week. A gentleman who had been reading one of the Ottawa papers learned from its columns that Maloney, of Fall River, Mass., and Duffy, of Ottawa, were ties for the longest hop, step and jump. He mentioned this in conversation, when another person present disputed the correctness of the statement. A wager was immediately made, and it was referred to the *Clipper* Almanac for decision. Upon consulting that authority it was found that Maloney had a record of 45 ft., the best in America; Duffy's name not being mentioned in the paragraph devoted to this particular sport at all. The loser, it can be readily imagined, spoke in no very complimentary terms of the paper from which he originally received his information, and acknowledged he had had a lesson, though an expensive one, that he would not readily forget. Too much care can not be exercised in obtaining reliable information on such matters, and any person who depends for his knowledge on the paragraphs floating around the public press, will have a slender reed to lean upon, when he appeals to proper authority for a decision.

Sporting Gossip.

Mr. Frank Pearson, the trainer, is wintering at Brockville. He has in his charge, a gray filly, Strathmere, 4 years, by imported Strathconon, dam Englemere, by Diaphontus, for the Queen's Plate, 1878, that he thinks is likely to carry off the imperial donation.

Ice races will take place at Brighton, on Feb. 19th and 20th. The entries will close

at 11 o'clock. If it does not snow, the races will be severely tried by the poor in the neighbourhood, to whom she was ever a generous benefactress.

Johnny Gillespy is giving St. Patrick light road work this winter. He will drive him the coming summer.

The only living sons of Glencoe are now in California, unless there be some hid from the ken of horsemen. Rifleman is in Tehama Co., and Creighton at Los Angeles. Creighton is one of the very last of the get, having been foaled in 1858.

Three horses will go from St. Catharines and vicinity to Ottawa Winter Races in charge of Mr. J. Bradburn. They were shipped on the 6th inst.

A letter from Woodstock says that Mr. John Forbes' horses are looking exceedingly well. The trotter Gray Eddie is as big and fat as a cart horse. His stallions Vick-burg, Combination, and Fearnought Chief, are very fine, and our correspondent says it would be pretty hard to beat three such stallions in one stable anywhere. He says Fearnought Chief can beat 2:40, and never has been trained a day.

Mr. J. P. Wiser, Prescott, and the Canadian turf suffered a severe loss in the death of the trotter Hiram Woodruff, which occurred on Saturday last.

The trotting horse Knapsack, owned by Mr. W. E. Richmond, Buffalo, N.Y., died very suddenly last week. He was valued at \$2,000.

The indictment against the Kentucky Association, of Lexington, for allowing pool selling on their grounds has fallen through on account of some flaw in the instrument.

The Ottawa Winter Meeting promises to be a success in every respect. Already a number of strange horses have arrived, and several American stables are expected today and to-morrow.

Mr. Thomas L. Coons, a noted breeder of trotters, died suddenly on Sunday, January 20th, at Clay Hill Stud Farm, near Bryan's Station, Kentucky, of congestion of the brain. Mr. Coons was the breeder of American Clay, by Strader's C. M. Clay, Jr., dam by imp. Tranby, and bred many good trotters and roadsters from C. M. Clay, Jr.'s get. Mr. Coons was buried on Tuesday last at the Lexington cemetery.

Mr. George Forbes, Woodstock, is giving York State, General Grant, and Bay Tom, gentle work, and they look as fine as silk. York State never looked or moved better than he is doing this winter.

Port Perry Ice Races will take place on Lake Scugog, Feb. 14 and 15.

It appears we were in error last week in saying that Mr. W. H. Barrett had assumed charge of the aquatic column in the New York World. His talents are devoted to another department of the paper.

Mr. H. G. Crickmore, of the New York World, has in preparation a Racing Calendar for 1877, in pamphlet form, stitched, containing the results of the year's racing, which, to meet the immediate demands of the public, will be issued about March 1. In April he will publish a more perfect, complete, and convenient edition of the work, containing all the matter of the pamphlet, and, in addition, the entries in all the fixed events of the country, and as much statistical information of the turf of the year as

next season. He had a remarkably easy way of going, and seemed to steal over the ground at an astonishing rate. Woodruff record was 2:25, at Providence, R.I.

SPEED.

MICHIGAN NOTES.

BY ARCHER.

Detroit sportsmen are slaughtering canvas-back ducks on the St. Clair Flats. That it violates the law makes little difference.

The dog-shooting mania is spreading, and East China now rivals St. Clair in that sport.

The foreman of Moore's lumber camp on the Tittabawassee River, poisoned the carcass of a dead horse one evening lately, and the next morning was rewarded by finding eight dead wolves in the neighborhood. He carried the scalps to Midland, and received the State bounty of sixty-four dollars for them.

On the 22nd of January the steamer Mary Mills ran from St. Clair to Detroit in four hours, finding no impediment to navigation on the Flats. Thus far boats could run as well nearly as in midsummer on the lakes, as the Straits of Mackinac are still open.

Mr. George Loud is running two camps at Roscommon for the Oscoda Salt and Lumber Company, and already has some three million feet of logs skidded. He expects to get in five millions, all told, snow or no snow, as he is independent of such small aids. By working nights with sprinklers, he has constructed a road of ice seven feet wide and two or three inches thick, on which the sleighs slide rapidly, and with eleven teams accomplishes a fair day's work.

Blue birds and robins put in an appearance at Port Huron on the 28th of January, but seeing their mistake, disappeared again.

Hare hunting is a favorite amusement in many localities. One sportsman bagged thirteen in one afternoon recently, near the Chicago and Lake Huron and Grand Trunk junction.

To Correspondents.

We would particularly request our correspondents and advertisers to send their favors as early in the week as possible—so that they will reach us by Wednesday morning. We are unable to use many items sent us in consequence of not receiving them in time for the issue intended.

(No notice taken of anonymous communications or queries. No answer by mail or telegraph.)

ELL.—Do not be in a hurry. It is only as a precautionary measure that we require the whole of the copy. We will publish it in chapters.

TROTTER, Belleville.—By the summary Maggie O'Brien was entitled to fourth money.

A SUBSCRIBER, City.—No name being attached to your query, in accordance with the usual rule it was consigned to our waste basket.

R., Toronto.—The figures 7,000,000,000 represent seven thousand millions; a billion is written in figures thus:—1,000,000,000,000, according to the English method of enumeration. Webster's Unabridged.

MILTON.—This is the first foal sired by any horse after obtaining a record better than 2:20. He was foaled at Middletown, Conn., Jan. 12, sired by Smuggler, dam by Fitch's Hambletonian, son of Rysdyk's Hambletonian. He is a bay, both hind feet white, extending just above the ankles, and white spot between nostrils.