

Cleveland, O.	May 29 to June 1
Springfield, Mass.	July 24 to 27
Buffalo, N. Y.	July 24 to 27
Freeport, Ill.	July 31 to Aug. 3
Rochester, N. Y.	2d week in Aug.
Prophetstown, Ill.	2d " "
Trickelwa, Ill.	2d " "
Utica, N. Y.	3d " "
Earlville, Ill.	4th " "

Correspondents and others will remember the change of our office, No. 90 King-St. West, Toronto, is our present address.

## TO SUBSCRIBERS.

We acknowledge the kindness of subscribers who have, so far, accepted our subscription drafts; and would state that in many cases no instructions have been received as to which of our premium pictures they would like to have forwarded. By simply dropping us a post card with the request to send the

## WINTER RACING.

It can be said that the turf season of 1876 is virtually over, and the racers soon will be, if not already, consigned to the tender mercies of the stable boy or the straw yard until the grass grows green in 1877. A retrospect of the sport in Canada for the season would not be any too inviting reading if the skeleton was laid bare, and, in charity, it may be expedient to let bygones be bygones, although the right to review the action of this or that association cannot be questioned at any time. While the mantle may be drawn through policy, if the interest of the turf in the future demands lessons from the past, it would be folly to withhold the valuable knowledge which experience has taught.

Ice or snow racing in some portions of the country is one of the most attractive amusements of our inclement season. In some sections there are very few difficulties in the way of success, the most essential element to the sport, a good track, being at all times available. Of late years many winter gatherings have taken place on the regular Driving Parks, and where this has been found practicable has been attended with the best results. Comforts can be secured in such a place which are denied on the open ice; and the opportunities for the managers of winter gatherings to reimburse themselves are greater when they are held on regular tracks. With the variable weather which is experienced in the more southern portions of the country, it is, during some seasons, almost impossible to select a date upon which a meeting could be guaranteed over a snow track on a regular course. The temperature is so variable that the chances of sleighing for a couple of weeks ahead can hardly be depended on. On the other hand, when our lakes, bays and rivers are once bound in the grip of Jack Frost, any suitable date can be selected with an almost absolute certainty of at least a passable track. As a rule it may be said ice meetings are not much of a financial success to their promoters, and if it was not that the inherent love of the sport over-balanced any considerations of a pecuniary nature, their number would be very few indeed. Lots of horsemen hold their charac-

ter as aloof from these gatherings considering the risks they are bound to assume as found within its walls. It is proposed to use the Music Hall for the billiard room, and by this day week it is expected it will be ready for occupation. For the present four tables will be in use; but under such management it is quite easy to assume that that number will in a short time not come up to the requirements. This is a noble move, and does credit to the managers of one of our most popular institutions, and must result in great benefit to the young men of our city. The Directors are but following the example of Rev. Dr. McCosh, of the Presbyterian College at Princeton, N.J., and they have the noble words of Prof. Swing, of Chicago, who in speaking on the subject of the game of billiards, closed with an eloquent appeal on behalf of the game with the peroration: "Common sense will be victorious, and the homes of the future will be full of both billiards and bibles, of cheerfulness and piety beautifully mingled."

## NEW INDUSTRY.

We have had our attention directed to some new articles introduced and manufactured by the firm of Messrs R. G. Tisdale & Son, of Brantford, Ont. They consist of several kinds of Iron Stable Fittings, and commend themselves for the purposes for which they were devised at sight. The assortment comprises Feed Boxes, Hay Racks, Open and Box Stall Guards, Gutters and Covers, Heavy and Light Cess Pools, Stall Posts, Ventilators, Wall Straps, Cap Rails, Tie-ring Plates, Blanket Brackets, Wash Harness Brackets, Saddle Brackets, and the whole of the minutiae required in architecture of this class. No recommendation of ours is necessary to show the value of these Iron Fittings; they are in universal use in England and the Continent, and are being rapidly adopted in this country. A preference is due to the home made article, and more especially so when the cost discriminates so much in its favor. Large stocks are kept on hand, so that delays are at all times avoided, and orders are filled with a promptness that is characteristic of this firm. On the score of economy alone we expect to see the Iron Fittings come into general use; while the sanitary advantages they possess, coupled with their durability, will commend them to the owners of valuable stock. The firm have lately issued an illustrated catalogue of the different articles of this class they manufacture, which gives a fair idea of their appearance. The Messrs. Tisdale are extensively engaged in iron business, and one of the firm being a practical horseman is well calculated to know what will satisfy the demand for this class of goods. Gentlemen building or refitting their stables should place themselves in communication with Messrs. T. & Son, Brantford, or with their agent Mr. Harry Piper in this city.

## A FORWARD STEP.

Notwithstanding the disabilities under which Billiard-room keepers labor in several parts of the country, notably at Guelph and Dundas, the advancing tidal wave of popular opinion is washing away the barriers with which fanaticism has hedged in this noble king of games. The advancing ideas of the present generation clearly see the folly of endeavoring to stop the tide in its flood; and instead of seeking to expatriate the ivory balls and green cloth, or hedge them in by circumstances which consign them to the care of the lower strata, devote them as aids

to the "Billiard States" on the Presidential election. Since then many of the more prominent American journals have taken the question up, and submitted it to a discussion in which all the salient points, pro and con, have been brought out. Many of them speak of the hardship some investors will suffer from the money being locked up, and in a charitable sort of way submit the bets should be governed by the rules authorized by the National Association regulating investments on trotting contests. If this was adopted the bets would, in all probability, be draws, as the decision in the race has not been arrived at within the time which is provided by the National Association Rules. Five days only are allowed, exclusive of Sunday, which through practice is not counted as a portion of the time, though the rule itself would not admit of such a construction. The general feeling, however, is that the money will be retained until a final decision is positively arrived at. Indeed some of the most prominent pool sellers, such as Morrissey and Johnson Bros., declare themselves to this effect. Morrissey, in answer to the inquiries of a New York Herald reporter, said he will pay no bets until the fact of the election of either Mr. Tilden or Mr. Hayes is settled beyond the peradventure of a doubt. Johnson Bros. say they do not intend to pay any bets until the Electoral College shall decide who is elected; and if the decision should be that Hayes is elected they will ask Tilden to fill out a paper saying the end has been reached, and vice versa if the choice should be any other way. It is altogether probable that the action of these leading rooms will govern the conduct of all the pool-sellers throughout the Union on the question. In the meantime investors can console themselves the best way possible, and while wishing this cruel war was over, keep their courage up by trusting to a proper disposition of the funds when Tilden (or Hayes) comes marching home.

The New York Graphic, which appears to be greatly excited about pool-selling, has some startling suggestions regarding the disposition of the money now in the hands of the pool-sellers. By a law of the State of New York it would appear the commissioners of charities have power to apply to the courts to have a receiver appointed to take possession of money which has been bet or risked in such speculations, and appropriate it for the benefit of the poor. It goes on to argue the policy of such a *coup d'etat*, and concludes by stating that the sum of \$2,500,000 divided among secular charities would be a blessing to tens of thousands. It appears, however, to lose sight of the fact that thieving by the authorities (even under this guise) is about as bad as by anybody else.

## THE TORONTO HUNT CLUB.

The meet which was held on Saturday afternoon at the Deer Park, Yonge street, brought out the usual number of horsemen, only a few well-known faces being missed.

Before the start everyone anticipated a fine afternoon's sport, as the weather, although having the appearance of rain, was suitable for the purpose, and as there was a good run over the same course last season; but nearly all were disappointed.

## Sporting Gossip.

An Ottawa man who claimed he never saw the horse that could throw him, mounted a frisky rosiante the other day in one of the streets of Lower Town, and in exactly five minutes by the watch went head foremost through a large show window. He says this principle of evolution is hard to understand.

Mr. Defries, the owner of the speedy little gelding Islander, which was entered in the half mile heat race at Newmarket on Saturday, says he engaged Blaylock, the jockey, to ride the horse in that race. Upon arriving at the track the youthful Harry was conspicuous by his absence, and did not put in an appearance at all, having deliberately disappointed Mr. D. Comment is unnecessary.

It is proposed to give a winter meeting at Ottawa, over Mutchmor Park, at which \$2,000 in premiums will be hung up. A meeting of gentlemen favorable to the project was held at the Albion Hotel on Saturday evening.

By order of the Prospect Driving Park Association of Montpelier, Vermont, Mr. D. Nicholson, and bay mare Alice, of Sherbrooke, P. Q., have been suspended for non-payment of entrance money.

At a meeting of the Toronto Butchers' Association held at the Mansion House on Monday evening, Mr. Britton the well-known drover, said, he considered that no class of men contributed as much to the wealth of the Dominion in proportion to their numbers, as the breeders of thoroughbred stock.

The International Hotel at Niagra Falls, closed Saturday. Mr. Fulton reports a very successful season.

We understand Mr. A. Cuthbert, of Cobourg, has been engaged to build a ten-ton standing-keel yacht for Mr. J. S. Wallace. This and the steam launch previously contracted for will keep him busy all winter.

NORTH LINCOLN—This heavy draught stallion has been sold by Mr. Long, of Lansing, Ont., to be shipped to England. He will be sure to make his mark in that country.

Inspiration and Bill Bruce have returned from their victorious tour in the States, and have been placed in winter quarters; the former in the city and the speedy son of Enquirer at Woodstock.

The Montreal Horse Market has been very dull during the past week, very few sales being made. At Mr. Elwes' sale a few horses were sold at prices ranging from \$80 to \$160. On Tuesday a car load was shipped for Glasgow by Mr. Elwes per s.s. Manitoba.

The officers of the 87th Royal Fusiliers being about to leave Halifax for Bermuda, all their fine full-blooded English horses are being sold off at a tremendous sacrifice.

Goldsmith Maid will winter in California. Her 2:14 at Philadelphia a few days ago shows the little darling has not lost much of her speed. It is the intention to trot her next season.

"It's an ill wind," &c. Debtors in New York now excuse themselves with a fair degree of plausibility that all their money is

and second tier being crowded, while the orchestra chairs and balcony seats contained an army of Corinthians. The match was the result of a challenge from the Teuton to the Gaul as mentioned last week. Shortly after eight o'clock the curtain was rolled up, and Mr. Roger Lambo, the well-known amateur pedestrian and sculler, who had been selected as referee, advanced to the front and introduced the principals and their umpires. Mr. A. D. Stewart looked after Bauer, and Mr. Noble Ray after Heygster. The Frenchman was the first to make his bow, and was received with great shouts of welcome, which must have been very flattering; the German followed and had a good reception. Bauer's appearance was described last week, and does not require repeating; Heygster looked to be about 5 ft. 8 in. in height, about the same dimension around the abdomen, and would weigh probably 300 lbs, and was about as curious a specimen of an athlete, physically considered, as one would be likely to meet anywhere. Notwithstanding his tremendous avoirdupois and apparent want of condition, he was quite active on his feet, and displayed considerable knowledge of the science required in this style of wrestling. So long as he was able to stand up he made a good show with his more lithe opponent, but once off his feet and the game was up, the absence of elasticity would not permit him to rise or use the peculiar tactics in which Bauer is such an adept when he is on the floor. Three falls out of five constituted the match, and they tell comparatively easy to the Alsatian, Heygster at no time having a ghost of a chance of winning. The time of the several bouts was 8, 5, and 7 1/2 minutes respectively. During the progress of the match Bauer once or twice showed the tremendous strength he possesses in his neck. Being thrown or going down for *fixes*, he formed his body into an arch, resting on his heels and head, and the utmost efforts of his ponderous opponent, aided by his weight thrown on the Frenchman's chest and stomach, were unable to straighten the body or bring the shoulders to the carpet. As a match the display was much inferior to that of Miller and Bauer. Tremendous cheering greeted the victor, who has made a legion of friends in this city. Heygster was not forgotten, and was called out, when he bowed his thanks to the audience for the compliment. Notwithstanding the short time the exhibition lasted, everyone appeared well pleased with the display of science, skill and strength shown.

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ORGANIZED.—The Ottawa Athletic Club has been duly organized, Mr. J. Geo. Targoon is President; Mr. Fred. Wall, Sec. Treasurer; and Messrs. F. Macdonnell, J. Browne, and H. T. Lane, a general committee. They have a fine room well fitted up.

## SPECIAL NOTICE.

We direct attention to the advertisement of Mr. Wm. P. Marston. This establishment has been now in successful operation for over 25 years. Aside from the ordinary trade, it is here all the well-known 'Marston' Rifles are made. The rapid change taking place amongst our backwoodsmen from the Muzzle to the Breech Loading, induced Mr. M. to get up a Breech Loading Rifle to meet the requirements of his customers, and a few days ago the first batch of his Patent Rifles was proven at the Garrison targets with the most complete success. Mr. M. claims it, based upon his long experience, together with the opinion of all old hunters who have seen it—to be the best and strongest hunting Rifle yet made.

The pigeon shooting tournament mentioned in this column last week will be held at St. Marys, instead of Stratford.