

Aquatic.

ELLIOTT DEFEATS NICHOLSON.

On Monday, March 4, the match between William Elliott and William Nicholson, for £100 a side, which was entered upon to decide which was the better man, in order that he might challenge John Higgins, the champion, as decided over the course from the High-level Scotswood Suspension Bridge on the Tyne—3 miles 713 yards. The Sporting Life gives the following account: "A capital start was made. Nicholson was quick in striking the water, and the result was that he, in the first two or three strokes, drew a little ahead, but unfortunately he steered a little wide, and got into rough water, and the result was that he could not maintain his position. In the meantime, Elliott steered thoroughly to his work, and having the advantage of the best water, quickly rowed up level, and by the end of the first 200 yards had secured a lead of half a length. Both men got into rough water, and it required all their power to make headway against wind and water, and it was here that Elliott's great strength, combined with rowing a straight course, proved itself to advantage. Elliott gradually drew his boat away, and off the Skinner Burn was leading by fully one length; while Nicholson, keeping out in mid-stream, was almost stopped by the water over his boat and himself. In the run up to the Redheugh Bridge, Elliott drew away fast, and passed under the bridge a mile from the start with a lead of between four and five lengths, the time being 4m. 20s. With great difficulty Nicholson succeeded in drawing his boat under the bridge, and every moment it looked as though his boat would be swamped. After clearing the bridge both boats were equally exposed to the full force of the wind, which blew with greater strength than when the men started. Nicholson made several game efforts to draw upon his opponent, but without effect, and, in fact, he fell farther into the rear. Off Cooper's Ferry's stairs Elliott was leading by eight lengths, and at the end of the first mile he had increased his lead to about a dozen lengths. In order to get the benefit of the shelter from the shore, both men went across to the south side of the river, and the positions of the boats were the same all the way up. No further description of the race is needed, as it was really only a game chase on the part of Nicholson. Both men struggled well under the adverse circumstances, and ultimately Elliott won by about 500 yards, the time being 53 min. John Bleakinsop of the Northern Rowing Club was referee. It is long since such a race was witnessed on the Tyne, and the manner in which Elliott rowed is a proof of the wonderful power he possesses. The odds in betting before the start were 6 to 4 on him. Next morning the winner challenged Higgins to row for the championship and £200 a side, on either the Thames or Tyne, and, if convenient, on the Monday preceding the Derby Day. Prior to the match of Monday being rowed, Henry Thomas of Hammursmith expressed his desire to row Elliott in nine weeks' time, for £100 a side, and Thomas made a deposit of £25 to bind the match. Elliott's backers at once expressed their readiness to agree to a match, and on the 5th Elliott stated that notwithstanding his challenge to Higgins, he is prepared to row Thomas in nine weeks' time and has posted £25. A challenge was also issued on Monday by Thos. Blackman of Dulwich to row whoever was the winner of Monday's race for £100 or £200 a side, from Putney to Mortlake on the Thames, two months from the date of signing articles. It is understood that Elliott is willing to row Blackman on the Tyne, for £200 a side, two months after signing articles."

SCIENCE vs. LUCK.

A SKETCH BY MARK TWAIN.

At that time in Kentucky (said the Hon. Mr. E.), the law was strict against what are termed games of chance. About a dozen of the boys were detected playing 'seven up,' or 'old sledge,' for money, and the jury found a true bill against them. Jim Sturgis was retained to defend them when the case came up, of course. The more he studied over the matter and looked into the evidence, the plainer it was that he must lose a case at last—there was no getting over that painful fact. Those boys had certainly been betting money on a 'game of chance.' Even public sympathy was roused on behalf of Sturgis. People said it was a pity to see him mar his successful career with a big, prominent case like this, which must go against him. But after several restless nights, an inspired idea flashed upon Sturgis, and he sprang out of bed delighted. He thought he saw his way through.

and six inveterate old 'seven-up' professors were chosen to represent the 'science' side of the issue.

They retired to the jury room. In about two hours Deacon Peters sent into court to borrow \$3 from a friend. (Sensation.) In about two hours more Dominie Miggles sent into court to borrow a stake from a friend. (Sensation.) During the next three or four hours the other Dominie and the other deacons sent into court for small loans. And still the packed audience waited, for it was a prodigious occasion in Bull's Corners, and one in which every father of a family was necessarily interested. The rest of the story can be briefly told. About daylight the jury came in, and Deacon Job, the foreman, read the following

VERDICT.

"We, the jury in the case of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, vs. John Wheeler et al, have carefully considered the points of the case, and tested the merits of the several theories advanced, and do hereby unanimously decide that the game commonly known as 'old sledge,' or 'seven-up,' is eminently a game of science, and not of chance. In demonstration whereof, it is hereby and herein stated, iterated, reiterated, set forth, and made manifest, that during the entire night the 'chance' men never won a game, or turned a jack, although both feats were common and frequent to the opposition; and furthermore, in support of this, our verdict, we call attention to the significant fact that the 'chance' men are all busted, and the 'science' men have got all the money. It is the deliberate opinion of this jury that the 'chance' theory concerning 'seven-up' is a pernicious doctrine, and calculated to inflict untold suffering and pecuniary loss upon any community that takes stock in it."

That is the way that 'seven-up' came to be set apart and particularized in the statute books of Kentucky as being a game not of chance, but of science, and therefore not punishable under the law. Said Mr. K.—'That verdict is on record and holds good to this day.'

THE ENGLISH HORSE MARKET.

(Mail's English Letter.)

"So far as the English market is concerned, I can safely say that a saddle horse which, for his looks and substance, would command the exceptionally high price of \$300 in Toronto, will sell here for double the money, while the average horse, that might be sold at Grand's for \$150, will not sell here for half as much again. And the same rule holds good in cattle. They must be well-bred, and well-fed, if the owner would make money and sell to advantage. It costs as much to bring a cheap animal to England as a dear one, and the mistake many importers have made is that they have played for small instead of high stakes. I have seen over a hundred sound horses sold by auction this winter in England at a price which I should be very sorry to take in Toronto for the same animal. And I have seen fancy articles in horse flesh bring all figures from \$2,000 to \$500. Speed has seldom had much to do with the price. Manners, unquestionable legs, and a good but end are the fewest words in which I can sum up the requisite qualifications. Blemishes, amounting to "pied all round," or surbs under both hocks, are of no account comparatively. Wind and spavin are fatal, and feet are tried on paving stones that would wring a surker out of a groom with a bunion. Probably the lack of good horses in Canada is due, too, to the stupid policy of starving young stock just at the time they want most nutriment—their first winter. If the money is in the house, the stuff in the barn, or the credit at the shop, the thing to do is to feed when the frame is being set. A stunted youngster may, later on, grow out to the size nature intended him for; but the contrary is the rule. I know a 4-year old Canadian brought here in '76, which is to-day a hand and a half higher than when he came over, though the veterinary anatomists may, perhaps, tell you it is impossible. That animal, by route from a good road mare, I know had been shamefully neglected all its life in Ontario. The fact is that here where food is dear, horses get lots of it, and paradoxically, with us, where it is cheap, they get too little of it. The oats, also, which an English hunter gets are nearly double the size and weight of the ordinary Canadian grain; and the amount of attention one gets is seldom bestowed on any air that I can call to mind in Canada. Hence our animals compare badly on arrival after a voyage and a lot of money has to be spent on them before they will do more than pay cost and charges. The animal wanted by the crack dealers for hunting in the shires can be got better in Kentucky than Canada, though I am not disposed to think our climate any drawback, with ordinary care, to the development of quite as good a horse. We have not, however, the generations with

Pedestrianism.

THE SHROVETIDE HANDICAP.

The Shrovetide handicap, 221 yards, promoted by J. Darley & Co., who offered prizes of £80, £12 10s, £6 and £2 10s, was run at Hyde Park, Sheffield, Eng., March 4, 5. There were seventy-five entries—a rather poor showing there—of whom forty-two accepted. Among the entries were four Australians, one American, and one Canadian, and all accepted "bar" Midwinter (the colonial cricketer), and John T. Crossley, the American. Various and rapid were the changes in the front ranks in the early stages of the betting. Eventually, Steve of Australia was made a hot pot, advancing rapidly to as low as 3 to 1. Some of the English cricketers, on their last Australian trip, unearthed him there, and in Selby they had a good "trial horse" to test his merits. Anyhow, he was deemed good enough, though he received little favor at the handicapper's hands, as he was pitted level with such publicly tested men as Jenny and Richards, and having an advantage of but 9m. over such flyers as Moore, H Shaw, Parsons, and Bradford. Nearly twelve thousand paying spectators were present upon each day. Unfortunately, the sport was poor, six of the first eight heats ending in walkover. Stone (80½yds. start) was beaten in his trial heat by a yard and a half by B Shaw (81½), and C C McIver of Montreal, Canada (81), was second to J Wilson (81½), the latter running within himself until near the tape, when he spurred, and won by three-quarters of a yard, Melver just beating Spriggs (82) on post. The betting before the final heat was: 7 to 4 on Hatchens, 2 to 1 against B. Shaw, 10 to 1 against Wallace, 12 to 1 against Waring. Result: H Hatchens (81), first; G Wallace (75½), second; R Waring (81½), third; B Shaw (81½), fourth.

A DOMESTICATED TEAL.

Mr. James H. Comall, of Mount Pleasant, St. John, has in his possession a blue-winged teal, which was caught while quite young on the Grand Lake meadows, St. John's River. Mr. C. has had this interesting little pet in his possession nearly six months, during which time it has become quite domesticated. Having had full liberty of his work-room, it appears to be quite contented. Through the day it remains very quiet, but in the evening amuses itself by flying around the room, on one occasion settling on the stovepipe, which proved a little too warm for his feet, which were sore for several days afterward. It has had several opportunities of escaping. Upon one occasion it walked out into the yard, looked all around as though surveying the situation, and then allowed itself to be driven back into its old quarters. On another occasion, on a stormy night, the work-room door blew open, allowing the bird full opportunity to escape if it had felt so inclined. Mr. C. upon coming into his work-room the first thing in the morning, and finding the door open, did not think it worth while to look for the duck, feeling quite confident that his little pet had escaped; but after working for about two hours, to his great surprise the teal walked out of his box as usual and took his morning stroll around the room, and then laid by the stove, for it appears to be very fond of the heat. It feeds on Indian meal and water, and is also very fond of canary seed, which it picks up willingly from the floor joints & spurt. It has apparently no fear for any one, it and an old spaniel being on quite friendly terms. They will feed together and lie down together; the teal without the least fear, and the dog without the least ill-feeling toward it.

LICE EXTERMINATOR.

Years ago I discovered that aloes, in fine powder, is a specific for the destruction of lice on all animals, and as it is harmless (aloes contains no poisonous properties, its intense bitterness is what kills) it can be freely applied, and as it is to be used in a dry state, its application is as safe in cold as in warm weather, consequently is free from all objections to other remedies. My regard for the comfort of animals and the interests of their owners, induces me to publish this for the benefit of all concerned, and as this is the season when these parasites are usually most numerous and annoying, an opportunity is afforded for testing its unparalleled merits. Directions—Fill a large common pepper box with the powder and sprinkle into the hair on the neck, back, sides and rump of the creature infested, and rub it thoroughly through the hair and on the skin with the ends of the fingers; leave it undisturbed for a week, then card or curry thoroughly and apply as before, and so

NEWSPAPER BUSINESS.

We suppose many people think that the newspaper men are persistent dulls. Let a farmer place himself in a similar business position and see if he would not do the same. Suppose he raised 1,000 bushels of wheat, and his neighbor should come and buy a bushel, and the price was a small matter of only \$2 or less, and says, "I will hand you the amount in a few days." As the farmer does not want to be small about the matter, he says "all right," and the man leaves with the wheat. Another comes in the same way, until the 1,000 bushels of wheat are trusted out to one thousand different persons, and not one of the purchasers concerns himself about it, for it is a small amount that he owes the farmer, and of course that would not help him any. He does not realize that the farmer has frittered away all his large crop of wheat, and that its value is due him in a thousand little dribbles, and that he is seriously embarrassed in his business because his debtors treat it as a small matter. But if all would pay him promptly, which they could do as well as not, it would be a very large amount to the farmer, and enable him to carry on his business without difficulty. The above comparison is too true of the difficulties that the newspaper man has to contend with.

PUZZLED POETS.

Cottle, in his "Life of Coleridge" relates the following amusing incident—"I led the horse to the stable, when a fresh perplexity arose. I removed the harness with difficulty; but after many strenuous attempts, I could not remove the collar. In despair, I called for assistance, when all soon drew near. Mr. Woodsworth brought his ingenuity into exercise, but after several unsuccessful efforts, he relinquished the achievement as a thing altogether impracticable. Mr. Coleridge now tried his hand, but showed no more genius, skill than his predecessor; for, after twisting the poor horse's neck almost to strangulation and the great danger of his eyes, he gave up the useless task, pronouncing that the horse's head must have grown since the collar was put on, for he said it was a downright impossibility for such a huge or frontal to pass through so narrow a collar. Just at this instant a servant girl came near, and, understanding the cause of our consternation, 'La,' said she, 'you don't go about the work in the right way. You should do like this,' when, turning the collar upside down, she slipped it off in a moment, to our great humiliation and wonderment, each satisfied afresh that there were heights of knowledge in this world to which we had not yet attained."

IMPORTANT TO CATTLE DEALERS.

A somewhat interesting case was tried at the Division Court, Galt, Wednesday. Some time ago Mr. S. C. Lavett bought some hogs from Mr. Hugh MacDonald, and in paying for them deducted from the scale weight two pounds per hundred pounds, which buyers contend is the allowance to be deducted to protect them from loss on account of shrinkage in weight. MacDonald objected to this deduction and entered a suit to recover the price of the weight deducted. A number of dealers were supposed as witnesses by Mr. Lavett, and the case attracted a considerable amount of attention. When the case came before the Judge, that gentleman decided that the defendant was bound to pay plaintiff for the full amount of pork purchased for him and declined to allow witnesses to be called to prove what was the custom of the trade. Verdict accordingly for plaintiff.—Reporter.

A MONTH WITHOUT WATER.

A most remarkable case of tenacity of life has just been brought to light in this city. About thirty days ago Larkin & Sons, livery men, very mysteriously lost a horse which had been turned out on the street, and all efforts to find it were fruitless. It was advertised as strayed or stolen, but to no avail, and the owners had given up all hope of finding it until day before yesterday, when it was accidentally discovered in a carriage-house adjoining the stable, where it had been shut up for twenty-eight days without a drop of water and nothing to eat, except about 250 pounds of bran. The poor animal had eaten up the box containing the bran. It was alive when found, but terribly gaunt. The supposition is that the horse had accidentally entered the carriage house, when the door had blown shut and fastened with a spring lock. As no one had occasion to go there, it remained a

when need with the force that he has the power to apply to it. I have been told on trustworthy authority that a rhinoceros in one of those blind fits of fury to which they are so subject, attacked a large wagon, inserted his horn between the spokes of the wheel, and instantly overturned it, scattering the contents far and wide, and afterwards injuring the vehicle to such an extent as to render it useless. The lion is not tied to time in drinking. After it feels it come into water, but it would never care to interfere with the rhinoceros or the elephant. Where the buffalo exists in numbers it is the principal prey of the lion, but other animals are tailed and chiefly the zebra are its food. A strange circumstance connected with the lion is, that it is almost impossible to tell where he is when you hear his voice. When roaring loudly he places his head to the ground, gradually raising it as he diminishes the power of his voice. Although I cannot say that I recognize anything terrible in the lion's voice, many other people do and I have been in the company of persons who became completely demoralized with it last night. That this animal's voice makes the earth vibrate is a fact.

A FATAL STEEPLCHASE.

In the Selling Handicap Steeplechase on the second day of the Sandown Park Club at Sandown Park, England, the Hon. Reginald James Macartney Grosvenor Nugent received such an injury as to cause his death on the 28th ultimo. He was one of the best gentlemen riders in England, and was well known on the turf under the assumed name of Mr. St. James. He was the fourth son of Lord Grosvenor, was born in 1818, and after gaining his Captaincy in the Coldstream Guards, retired from the service in 1871, previous to which he was for about three months member of Parliament for the County of Longford. Singularly enough, he was riding Mr. H. K. Hobson's bay gelding Longford, by Artillery, out of Legacy, carrying 160 pounds, when he met with the fatal fall. The distance was two miles, with eight horses in the race, of which Mr. Vyner's Lockhart was the favorite, and the betting 6 to 1 against Longford. Bell's Life, in describing the race, says—"Auctioneers and Longford made a great run from the start. Somebody's Child and Clapper to the stand, where Longford was holding a clear lead. At the down-hill fence Arcadia fell, and Archer, who had resumed the command, he was followed by Somebody's Child, Longford and Lockhart to the water jump, where Longford came down a crusher. Mr. St. James was once picked up and carried to the club stand where a medical examination at once pronounced the injuries fatal. He lingered until the next afternoon, when he died without once regaining consciousness. Lord Grosvenor was on the Continent, but most of the members of the family were present."

EQUINE EQUITY.

Washington Higgins, well known in Rochester, N.Y., as a turfist, purchased a horse named "Mark" from Frank L. Skelton of Coldwater, Michigan, a year ago. A balance of the purchase price was secured by a chattel mortgage, and the mortgage bearing the horse might be detached as far as the law was concerned, went to the livery man to take advantage of two summer seasons in the instrument. On his arrival it was found a heavy man named Kasper had a lien on "Mark" for his board and lodging. This was compromised by Skelton paying \$160 to the livery man, and he took the horse. Now, it was feared the light stepping equine might be replaced, so the Michigan rider determined to get him out of the jurisdiction of the court. At 12 a.m. he and a companion stable from Coldwater, started for the ridge road. A Rochester attorney in a livery man's advance as a driver. After crossing the cent Peace bridge, the car was turned to State street and the Michigan party left the street. Nearly two hours were spent in waiting matters right when a start was made for the ridge. "Mark" is now in Canada, although his owner is at the Black II.—Rochester Democrat.

ONE SCENE MORE THAN ANTICIPATED.

Probably not many of those who saw the theatrical performance on Saturday evening understood Mr. Spackman's part in one of the acts to be the best.