

FOR THE LAND WE LIVE IN.

Mon Choual Castor.

I'm poor man, but I buy las' May,
Wan horse on city passengaire,
An' h'auction man w'at sole heem say
She's h'out of full breed messengaire.

Good trotteur stock, h'also galluppe,
But work long time on Cregg street car;
Of course she's pooty well break h'up,
So come cheap; forty wan dollarre.

Dat horse 'ave color many kine,
But mos'ly beaver wit' some red,
Dat's Sorrel forefoot, white behine
An' wan black star on front hees head.

First chance I sent heem St. Cesaire,
W're tink he's have much better sight,
May be de grass an' cointree h'air
Ver' soon was feet heem up h'all right,

I leff him 'lone till fall come 'long,
Dat trotteur can't h'eat grass no more,
An' w'en I go dere, fine heem strong
Like noting I never see before.

I heetch heem h'up on light sulkee,
L'enfant! dat horse she's cover groun
Dont take long time de crowd for see
Mon choual was leek h'all trotteur roun'

Come down de race course like Oiseau,
Tail over datch board nice you please
Cant tell for sure de quick she go,
Spose some w'ere on two tree forties,

I treat my fren' wit' whisky blanc.
We drink Castor hees bonne santé,
From L'Achigad to St. Hermas,
He's be's horse sure on whole Comté.

'Bout week on fronte of dis Lallime,
Man drive dat horse call Clevelan' Bay,
Send challenge, so I'm match wit' heem,
For one mile heat on straight away.

Dat's twenty dollars on wan side,
De lawyers' draw de paper h'out,
But if dem trotteur come in tied,
Well all dat money's go on spout.

Next ting my backer man Labrie,
Take h'off hees catch book vingt-cinq cents
An' toss Lallime bes' two on tree
For see who's go on h'inside fence.

Baptiste I tole you pooty smart,
He's gain dat toss wit' Jockee trick,
I dont care me, w'en Castor start,
Ver' soon I tink she's make heem sick.

Big crowd of course was dere for see,
Dem trotteur on de grande match race,
Some people come from St. Remi
An' some from plaintee oder place.

W'en h'all is ready, flag was fall,
An' way dose trotteur pass on fence,
Lak noting you never see at all
It make me tink of Saint Lawrence.*

Castor hees tail was stan so straight,
Could place chapeau on h'en of top,
An' w'en he's struck two forty gait'
Don't seem he's never go for stop.

Well dat's h'all right for first half mile,
W'en Clevelan' Bay commence for break,
Dat make me feel ver' much like smile
I'm sure Castor he's take de cake.

But Lallime pull been 'ard on line,
An' stop Clevelan' before go far,
It's h'all no good, he can't catch mine,
I'm go more quick like h'express car.

I'm feel h'all right for my monee,
For sure, mon choual he's took first place,
W'en 'bout arpent from home, sapree!
Some thing's happen I'm loss de race.

Wan bad boy he's come h'out on track,
I cannot see dat bad boy's han'
He's hold something behin' hees back
It was small bell I h'anderstan'.

Can say for dat my horse go well,
An' never show no sign of sweat,
Until dat boy hees ring hees bell,
Misere! I think I hear heem yet.

Wal joost so soon mon choual Castor
Was hear dat bell so kling, klang, kling,
He's tink of course of railway charrs
An' sponse mus' be conducteur ring.

First ting I know my trotteur's drop,
Dat tail was stan' so straight before,
H'after can't say, may be he stop,
For me I don't know something more,

An' w'en I'm come alife again,
I fine dat horse call Clevelan' Bay,
Was get first place and so she's gain
Dat wan mile heat on straight away.

An' now were'ever I am go,
Bad boy he's sure for holler'n yell,
Dis done! Dis done! Paul Archambault,
W'at's matter wit' your Chestnutte Bell?

Make plaintee trub dem bad garcons,
Very h'often ring some bell h'also,
Was mad could plunge on St. Laurent,
Wat to do heemself Castor don't know.

Las' time I pass Pacific track,
For drive avec mon frere Alfred,
Hinginne she's ring, Castor he's back,
Mon Dieu! it's funny I'm not come dead.

Toujours comme ça! an' make me sick,
But horse dat work long on les charrs,
Can't brooke dem h'off on fancy trick,
So now I'm want for sale Castor.

Montreal, March 1891.

W. H. DRUMMOND.

* St. Lawrence was a famous trotter owned by the late Walter Frendergast of Cote des Neiges, twenty years ago.

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