

Another great error which the trainer of the racehorse commits, is in having him shod. If he will once try the experiment of running without shoes, he would even after train them barefooted; for, next to blanketing horses, shoeing is the worst evil. More bad effects can be enumerated from the shoeing of the horse than any trainer would believe, unless it was brought before him in such a form as to challenge conviction. The little yearling has to be pulled into the blacksmith shop at his tender age, and what is a blacksmith shop to a colt, whose sense of smell is the strongest of the five senses? There is the leather apron of the blacksmith, which smells as strong to the colt as a buffalo robe, the night and scent of which scares all horses. Then there is a tub of carbonized water, in which the blacksmith cools his tools and hot iron. Then there is the blowing of the bellows, forcing the flame and smoke to rise, scouted with the sulphur of the bituminous coal. There is also the deafening sound of the hammer, beating red-hot iron upon the anvil, which throws out fiery sparks all through the shop, some alighting on the colt, or so near him as to startle him almost into frenzy. If the door be not shut, he flies the shop, frightened almost to death, dragging his groom, who is generally a little boy, with him; but if the door is shut, he runs back against the furnace, or against the horn of the anvil, or in the tub of water, or in a pile of iron bars and old horse shoes, kicking, rearing, and pitching, or, in his desperate fight, jumps out of one of the windows, and perhaps cripples himself for life. Such is the sad result which oftentimes occurs from taking young colts into a blacksmith shop under full blast. This is no fancy sketch or fiction, but a sad reality, which I have witnessed two or three times myself. Now we will say a colt may be taken into a blacksmith shop to be shod, who is not so frightened as the one described above, owing, perhaps, to his organization not being so nervous and delicate, and the blacksmith may be able to approach him so as to lift up his foot. This is generally the duty of the cub or apprentice boy, who, when he attempts to bring the colt's foot up between his legs, does it so roughly, by trying to get his leather apron under the leg, that the colt becomes frightened and jumps; instead of the cub letting the foot go at the moment, so as to show the colt he was not to be hurt, he hangs on like a bulldog, and so they jump and tumble and pull, and a terrible tussle ensues between him and the affrighted colt, which at last is ended by the colt throwing his antagonist, and jumping over him, perhaps kicking him as he passes. The cub returns the blow with a hammer, or anything he can get hold of, which may break a leg, knock an eye out, or break a jaw; but it is all the same to the young blacksmith, whose blood is up and will have revenge; and but for the sober sense of the boss blacksmith, the young villain would beat the colt to death. Now the young colt is trembling in the corner, completely demoralized, and will not allow anyone to approach him; but by degrees they get near enough to him to get a twitch upon his nose, and the cub is given possession of it, and it is then he takes his sweet revenge, by twisting the upper lip nearly off. Now the blacksmith, who is a man of experience and patience (for next to skill the greatest quality a blacksmith can possess is patience), approaches the colt in a quiet way, raises his leg, pats his foot with his hand, lets it down, strokes the leg two or three times, and pats the colt upon the shoulder, along the neck and body. At last he is enabled to raise his foot and dress it off into proper shape with a rasp, and there he should stop, for that instrument would keep his feet in better shape than shoeing would do, if they were renewed every twenty days. But the colt has been sent to be shod, and the blacksmith must put them on. By the time he has shod one foot the colt falls down upon him, in consequence of a sense of suffocation, caused by the twitch being twisted too tight, and when it is taken off the blood follows. The cub is anxious to put the twitch upon the colt again, but the blacksmith, being a man of good sense, tells him that he can shoe the colt without a twitch, and that if he had gently approached the colt in the first place, all this trouble would have been avoided. By this quiet, patient method, he succeeds in shoeing the colt all round. But how few such blacksmiths do you find? I know one, and only one, whose name I will give honorable mention of before I complete this article, for the benefit of owners and trainers.

I have drawn the above picture of a colt on his first visit to a blacksmith shop, and if he

has to pare off fully a quarter of an inch of the outer crust before he can get sufficient base to reset the shoe. Without the shoe the foot grows much stronger, and forms a close seam between the under and the upper crust, and seems to unite solidly, preventing rot or spongy substance from forming, as does under the shoe. The question has been asked, "What is the object of shoeing?" The only answer is: "To prevent the horny substance of the hoof from breaking."

Now, I can show the growth of a much better hoof, and a far superior frog, on a horse shod, four weeks after the shoes are removed, and it matters not what may be the condition of the feet, whether brittle or tough, small or large, flat or horned-shaped, in four or six weeks with proper attention, by using only a rasp and a knife to cut off shaky or rotten pieces of frog. By this means better feet can be produced than those of horses who are continually shod, and they shall go through all their exercises of training and running in the races, over the same ground and the same tracks that horses do who are shod and plated. I shall not portray the great advantage and the good effects to the feet of horses who are not shod, and the injuries resulting to the horse who is continually kept shod. The danger that the colt or horse is subjected to when being first shod, I have just described above; if he is not lamed or injured in body and ruined in temper, the owner may congratulate himself, for his horse has made a lucky escape. Now, the next danger to the shod horse is in his becoming lame, most likely from being pricked. There are two kinds of pricking; the most common, however, is that when the nail is driven into the sensitive part of the hoof; but the more dangerous kind of pricking is where the nail has been driven so near the sensitive part of the hoof that, when the clinching iron is put under the nail, and the blacksmith with his hammer strikes the nail on the head before they are driven solidly down in the groove of shoe, the nail, meeting a resistance at each end, will bend in the middle, pressing against the sensitive part of the hoof, which sets up an inflammation, and, if matter forms, and it finds no outlet, tetanus or lockjaw supervenes, and death follows. Or, perhaps, the nails being drawn too tightly, when clinched, may draw the outer crust too close upon the sensitive part of the hoof, and thus produce acute pain and lameness, and cramp follows, until the shoe is removed. This same painful sensation is often brought about by driving in too many nails, and too far back, toward the heel, causing the latter to contract upon itself, and producing an injury to the frog and navicular cords, which may produce permanent lameness.

Again, shoeing is injurious by the heel coming in contact with and striking the inner surface of the fetlock, which is usually called interfering. This rasping out is quite severe at times, and causes the horse to hop on one foot for several paces, holding the lacerated foot up, as if suffering severe pain, but which horses unshod never do, that is, they never interfere. Horses shod frequently grab the fore shoe with the hind foot, and throw themselves, and receiving dangerous injuries, sometimes resulting in death. It is but a few days since that the racehorse Novelty, belonging to Col. McGibben, of Kentucky, was turned out in a lot, and, whilst playing, caught the heel of the shoe on the fore foot with the hind foot, which threw her and broke her neck; whereas if she had not been shod, death would not have ensued from that cause. Now the advocate of shoeing will contend that the shoes should have been pulled off before she was turned out, which might have been well in this instance, but how obviates the dangers of a like occurrence, when galloping and exercising the horse that is shod? The only certain way would be to use the horse without shoes. In galloping a horse with shoes upon him, he frequently cuts his heels on the inner surface, which is frequently called "swift cutting." It almost always occurs when a horse is tired and going round a turn with the wrong foot foremost. The great cause of lameness, and almost all injuries to the forelegs, even to that of breaking down in the tendons, is the constant knocks which the legs receive when galloping, from one or both feet loaded with a pound of extra weight upon each foot, the iron shoe increasing its length a quarter of an inch, and the velocity with which the fore leg is carried, can only be calculated by the speed of the horse. Nothing can be propelled more rapidly or strike harder, where muscles and cords are the motive power, than the fore leg when shod; and shoes upon the fore feet cut the hind legs, just above the

Antra in. With the exception of Hyder Ali, he is the only Leamington studion in Canada, to our knowledge. Such a fine horse should easily find a purchaser while the demand appears to be so great in this country for breeding to thoroughbreds. Zador has coursing through his veins on his sire's side the blue blood of Lexington, B. Eaton and Sir Archy, and on his dam's side claims connection with the aristocratic families of R-venu, imported Trust e. Amra cau Eclipse, &c., &c. They will be sold at most rate figures, and intending purchasers should make early application.

REVELLER.

On Tuesday next, Messrs. Grand & Son will offer for sale by auction, here, imp. Reveller, by Prince Minister, dam by King Tom. He stands 16-2, a good brown, and is in the health and condition. The estate in which Reveller is held may be judged from his exceedingly large books in past seasons. The terms of purchase are favorable, and no doubt will attract buyers.

STALLIONS IN "SPORTING TIMES."

HYDER ALI—This popular sire will make the season of 1877 at his owner's stable. As it is the intention to place him in training in the fall, his book is strictly limited to the number given in the advertisement. It is unnecessary to speak of the high breeding of this horse, it is known to and recognized by every horse man in Canada.

HELMBOLD will make Machine his headquarters during the present season. This great horse is one of the best of the numerous fine thoroughbreds we have in Canada. The careful breeder his size, pedigree, and great racing qualities will commend themselves. Space will not permit in an article like this to give a resume of his performance, suffice it to say, he occupied the highest position during his turf career, having the honor of beating, among others, the great Kentucky crack Longfellow, in a four mile race at Saratoga.

OYSTERMAN, JR., will make his first season in Canada in the neighborhood of Port Hope and Cobourg. From the number of Tom Kemble, Jack the Barber, Sir Tatton, Thunder, and other well-bred mares in that section we expect good results from this horse's services in that district. Oysterman, Jr., was one of the great-st horses of his day, and has probably more space than the average in the Tur Registers. Upon his importation here we gave a description of him, and think now as then he is one of the most valuable stock horses ever brought into the country.

OWEN CUTLER a son of Leamington will be the stable companion of Helmbold. Elsewhere we speak of his high breeding, and should think he would find favor in our breeders' opinions. The Leamington-Australian cross should mix happily with many of our mares. This is Cutler's first season in Canada, and we welcome him as a valuable addition to our list of thoroughbreds.

FROM KINGSTON.

KINGSTON, March 6th, 1877.

Although the ice is not yet out of the harbor, a race has been named for the 14th of April, between the yachts Zitella, owned by M. W. Strange, Jr., and the Prince Charlie, owned by Henry Cunningham.

Trotting races are to take place in Sydenham, on the 7th and 8th, particulars of which I will give you in my next. K.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT TO SPINDRIFT—This very fast and excellent race-horse, whilst contesting in a race at Gilmore's Garden, N. Y., Saturday evening, sustained a most severe injury to his right foreleg, an incurable fracture in all probability. It is to be regretted that so fine a bred horse and good performer should wind up his career in the den of a putable hand it was Spindrift's misfortune to fall into. If not disreputable, why enter him as eberrant gelding Revenge?

and into four moneys. The winners were seven entries, five of which start d. Mollie McCarty was a decided favorite, her victory in December winning her staunch friends, who backed their opinion heavily at 2 to 1 against the field. She proved faithful to the trust imposed in her, winning handsomely in two heats. Time, 7:43, 7:42. We give a condensed account of the heats, received by telegraph:

FIRST HEAT.—The horses were sent away to an even start. Bradley cutting out the work, led steadily until the home stretch of the third mile was well over, when the favorite was given her head, and shot to the front; Bazar, who had up to this time been trailing, was sent along, and quickly ran into third place, Bingham fourth; Lady Amanda, evidently sick of the pace, dropping hopelessly to the rear. There was no change of position to the finish, Mollie McCarty winning, Lady Amanda distanced. Time, 7:43.

SECOND HEAT.—At the word, Bradley once more took the lead, and showed the way through the first and second mile; the favorite a good second, Bazar third. Rounding the turn of the third mile, the favorite was given her head, and shot into the lead; Bazar, also doing good work, passed Bradley. These positions were unchanged to the close of the race, Bradley equally tired, as with Lady Amanda in the first heat, fell further and further behind, as did Bingham, both of them being badly distanced at the outcome. Time, 7:43. Mollie won first, third, and fourth moneys, Bazar second.

BAR DISTRICT COURSE, Feb. 22.—Purse \$5,000; for all ages, four-mile heats.

Winter's b f Mollie McCarty, 4 yrs, by Monday, dam Hennie Farrow, 101 lbs. 1 1
B F Timon's ch o Bazar, 4 yrs, by Jack Malone, dam by Australian, 104 lbs. 3 2
W P Barnes' gr h Bradley, 5 yrs, by Norfolk, dam Marguerite, 110 lbs. 2 dis
J N Crabb's ch h Billy Bingham, aged, by Dick Lindsey, dam unknown. 4 dis
J Cairn Simpson's b m Lady Amanda, aged, by imp Hurrah, dam Lady Lancaster, 111 lbs. dis
Time—7:43, 7:42.

The Trigger.

A SHOOT AT WOODSTOCK.

On the 28th ult., Messrs. W. Manders and John Forbes shot for \$50, this being their second trial. It will be remembered Forbes was successful in their former essay, but this time he had the tables turned on him.

W. Manders.....0101011111011011001—12
J. Forbes.....1001000111100000110—8

POPPING AT PARIS.

The following is the score of the monthly shoot for the Paris Gun Club Medal, which took place lately: Terms, to shoot at 8 birds, 21 yards rise, ties to shoot off at 26. The three first tied at 26 yards; the distance was then increased to 31 yards. Mr. Featherstone was declared the winner on the third round, as follows: G. E. Featherstone, 14; G. E. Heming, 12; F. B. Farnsworth, 12; A. Catto, 6. The following is a list of the newly-elected officers of the above club for the ensuing year: W. C. Jones, President; G. E. Featherstone, Vice-President; G. E. Heming, Secretary and Treasurer. The Secretary's address is Box 240, Paris, Ont.

Messrs. McGlee and Yoe, of Bluevale, shot a large bear in the township of Culross last week.

A bullet fired recently by a hunter in Texas struck the surface of a lake at considerable distance, glanced upward, and wounded a girl who was walking on a hill beyond.

Mr. Asa Cooke returned to Hull, on 2nd inst., from up the Gatineau, and reports that there is a plentiful supply of wolves in the township of Wakefield. He says that he was followed for over two miles by five.

to be fifty dollars. First heat to take the whole money; the race to be sailed on Lake Ontario. The challenge is open to all yachts sailing on the inland lakes.

A rowing association is being formed at Halifax, N.S., whose aim will principally be to keep a first-class four-oared crew in training.

Who's THE BOSS.—A report comes from Boston that Landers will be matched to row any man in the country (bar Henlaw) a two or three-mile race for \$500. Planned in the field, and will be looking up all such customers this summer, and will accommodate Landers.

Athletic.

WRESTLING.

In the wrestling match at Utica, N.Y., on the 5th inst., between McLaughlin, of Detroit, and Bauer, of New York, McLaughlin won the collar and elbow fall, and Bauer the Graceo-Roman fall. A dispute arose as to the next contest, Bauer refusing to wear his shirt; whereupon the referee awarded the match to McLaughlin.

It is hinted that a wrestling match will come off between McLaughlin, of Detroit, and Washington Irvine Chamberlain, of Buffalo, N.Y., for \$2,000 and the championship of New York State.

English Turf.

LATEST DERBY BETTING.

Against	Champion
5 to 1	Champion
7 to 1	Pellegrino
7 to 1	Plunger
12 to 1	Rob Roy
16 to 1	Morier
15 to 1	Lady Golightly
25 to 1	Acton
25 to 1	Monk
25 to 1	Warren Hastings
33 to 1	Albert Edward
33 to 1	Bay Athol
33 to 1	Fieldfare
33 to 1	Thundarstone
40 to 1	Chevron
40 to 1	Sidonia
40 to 1	King Clovis
40 to 1	Rover
40 to 1	Silvio

MONTREAL HORSE MARKET.

A large quantity of horses were again disposed of last week. Very few of these were sold by auction, by far the greater number changing hands at the American House yard. Mr. McDowell sold two horses at \$75 and \$100 respectively. The demand for fine young Canadian horses is very good, and several dealers from the States, recognizing their qualities, are actively engaged in buying up the finest animals and shipping them across the border. The following were the consignments to the United States during the week:—A F Andrews, South Paris, 18 horses, valued at \$1,361.50; Thos Hicks, Highgate, 3 horses, valued at \$320; Peter Lapponsey, Montana, 3 horses, valued at \$1,000; E E Thompson, New Haven, 23 horses, value \$1,625; B B Moore, 1 horse, valued at \$600, to Meville; Modest Lazure, 3 horses, to Blair, value \$935; Joseph Helert, same place, 2 horses, value \$320; Stanislas Coupal, 1 horse, valued at \$450; M Lazure, 2 horses, represented at \$215; F W Pittenger, of Stoneburg, 18 horses, value \$945.

Spinal meningitis is epidemic among the Brooklyn City railroad horses, and thirteen have died.