

other, and this in time led to trotting against time. The first public trot against time was by Boston Blue, which took place in 1818. A bet of \$1,000 was staked and lost that he could not, as reputed, trot a mile in three minutes. This was considered a great feat at the time, and some authorities date the beginning of trotting as a sport from this event. It became established in 1830 when the record was reduced to 2-32. Other authorities claim that trotting interests date back to the importation to Philadelphia in 1788 of the gray thoroughbred stallion Messenger, to which more fast trotters trace back than to any other one horse.

Ever since trotting began the record has been constantly reduced. In 1818, a mile in three minutes was considered a wonderful pace. Flora Temple trotted a mile in 2.19½, Dexter in 2.17½. Goldsmith Maid then brought the record down to 2.14, Rarus reduced it to 2.13½ in 1878, St Julien to 2.11½ in 1879, Maud S. to 2.8½ in 1885, Suuol to 2.8 in 1892, and Nancy Hanks to 2.4 in 1893.

Quoting from the editor of the "National Norman Horse Stud Book" — "The American trotter originated in a union of the English racer with the stout Normans of Canada—a physical combination of fleetness and bone, and a mental combination of spirit and self-control. The Canadian is the basis of the general horse in Canada, crossed with English blood. From this mixture many of the most celebrated trotters have sprung. Originally of Canadian descent they have found their way into New England and there won their laurels as American trotters. There is no doubt that Canadian blood, by frequent crossing entered largely into the primary composition of the American trotters, in many of which it is quite visible, especially in the leg bones and feet and in the element of "bull-headedness."

Each of the different families of trotters has originated from some noted horse and is known by his name. The female lines usually run back to fast road mares of unknown breeding, many of which were Canadian.

The Hambletonians derive their name from Ryedyk's Hambletonian, a bay horse foaled in 1849, and tracing back through both sire and dam to Imported Messenger.

The Bashaws trace back to a horse by this name. Bashaw's dam was Bell, by Webber's Tom Thumb a Canadian horse of unknown blood but a trotter of great speed and endurance.

The Mambrinos are descendants of Mambrino Chief, a horse foaled in 1844, also of Messenger blood.

The Stars trace to Stockholm's American Star, by Duroc, son of imported Diomed.

The Gold Dusts and Black Hawks are branches of the Morgan family.

St Lawrence, the founder of the family by that name, was a small bay Canadian, 15½ hands, foaled in 1841, brought to New-York in 1848, died in Michigan in 1858. His breeding is not known but he was a trotter and a sire of trotters. His peculiar gait is seen in his descendants, the hind quarters swing gently from side to side as the hind feet successively advance, giving an idea of irresistible power and momentum. (1)

Pacing Pilot, the sire of Pilot Jr. who was the grandsire of Maud S. and Jay Eye See was a Canadian. His breeding is not definitely known, but his ancestors came from France to Acadia and thence to Canada. He was foaled in 1826 in Canada, but first became famous in New-Orleans where he was bought from a peddler in 1832 for \$1,000. He died in 1855. He was a black horse, 15 hands high, with a thick short neck, very heavy mane and tail, close built body and sloping rump, long quarters and hocks low down. As his name indicates, this horse, as well as many other fast Canadians, was a pacer. In his "Notes on North America" written in 1850, Professor Johnson states that the pacing action was largely practised in Canada, French Canadians training their horses to it in order that they might be more pleasant to ride. Copper Bottom and Blue Bull were also Canadian pacers whose blood entered largely into some of the trotting families.

The Morgan family traces its origin to a horse known as Justin Morgan foaled in New-

(1) Hack-action is very rare in Canada. The use of hackney sires will amend this. ED 318