

DEATH OF ADAMAS.

The death of the English race-horse Adamas, a son of Touchstone, dam Ada Mary is announced. His racing career was a remarkable one. Originally trained by John Scott, he was considered such a moderate animal, that he was got rid of in a selling race, and because the property of Mr. Ed. Ward Smith, then, as now, an attaché on the staff of Bull's Life. For some time after he passed into his new owner's hands, he was amiss, and one day when Mr. Smith was about to try a number of his horses, Adamas was, at first, not thought good enough to take part in the trial. However, it was determined that he should gallop a short distance with the others, and he pulled up the moment it was found he could not keep pace with his companions. The trial took place, and Adamas ran clean away from the lot. His owner was fearfully disappointed, and solemnly told a friend that his horses must be a very bad lot, as all of them had been beaten to the devil by a little selling plater he had bought from John Scott, and who was not up to the mark at the time. The little selling plater was tried over again, and he accomplished even more than he had done before. The same year, 1856, there was a day's race meeting at Beccles, and Mr. Mellish had a horse in every race but one. He was at Tattersalls on the Monday before the meeting, and picked up a screw for a few sovereigns, that he determined to send down with his other horses and run for the remaining race. This screw opened the day by winning, Adams won two or three races, and Huntingdon, an Old Tame Deer, the remainder; Mr. Mellish securing every prize during the two days. In 1857, when three years old, Adams was entered for the City and Suburban and the great Metropolitan. The public made him a great favorite for the former event, but he would not have run had it not been for Fordham. On the morning of the race the horse was indulged with a hearty meal of green meat. Fordham, however, being very anxious to have a mount, persuaded Mr. Smith to run him. "Well, it won't do him any harm," was the reply, "but you must not have either whip or spur." "Oh," said Fordham, "you had better let me have a whip here, this will do it (taking down a child's toy whip that was hanging on the wall). And so Adams went for his race, with his morning meal in him, and ridden by a jockey armed with a toy whip; he won in a canter. The Great Metropolitan was, at that time, run on the same day, an hour or so after the City and Suburban. The great Virago had already won the double event. It was denied to Adams, who was beaten by Poodle by a head. That Adams would have won in a canter, if he had had a clear course, then, cannot be a shadow of a doubt. After this it was arranged that he should run for the Leviathan Davis book for the Derby, and Mr. Smith was, we believe, not on something like \$2,000 to nothing. In the course of training, he met with all sorts of mishaps. Whether he won the Derby or not it is impossible to say. The very last words that Wells ever spoke to us were, "I won the Derby on Adamas sure enough, so I did on Pero Gomez, but I am sure about Adamas." At the stud he was a thorough failure. Perhaps it was because he had not chances enough given him. As he stood only 16.2, breeders would hardly look at him. Lecturer might have failed in a similar way if the late Baron Rothschild had not taken him up to correct the coarseness of his big King Tom mares. *London Sporting Times.*

STRANGE SCENE IN A CHURCH.

The New York correspondent of the Detroit Free Press writes: First, let me briefly relate what recently happened in an up town church through the affection of a young sporting man for game cocks. He had procured a very fine bird, and, tucking it comfortably under his arm, was walking proudly along to show it to a friend. The time was on Sunday morning, and the hour that was usually occupied by religious service. The young man, the son of a General who won high honors in the army of the Potomac, proceeded quietly on his way, with the cock securely under his arm; till he came to a church in which it happened that he was very well known. Services had commenced, the church was full and the door stood open. Somehow or other, just when the young man was about to enter the door the cock slipped from his arm. He made a grab for it, but missed. The cock got excited and executed a variety of movements to elude the young man; finally making a dash through the church door and up the middle aisle. The young man dashed in after it, bound to recover his prize. Chanticleer set up an unearthly noise and made for the place where the preacher was. The preacher stopped and the congregation lost all interest in what he had been saying. On toward the pulpit went the bird, now trotting, now flying and growing more and more vociferous in his observations as he proceeded. Close after him

THE CALIFORNIA FOUR-MILE-HEAT RACE.

The developments in relation to the recent four-mile-heat race in California are far from calculated to ensure respect for turf management on the Pacific Slope, at least as far as the Pacific Jockey Club is concerned. We give below an extract from the San Francisco Post, of Feb. 24, detailing the history of the Pacific Jockey Club and its previous "great races. To Eastern turfmen it appears a matter of great surprise that the intelligent and cultivated patrons of racing sports on the Pacific Slope should have tacitly permitted the characterless and irresponsible clique of gamblers, calling themselves the "Pacific Jockey Club," to assume the direction and virtual control of turf matters in the State of California. In connection with this subject, we also publish a condensed statement of Mr. Jos. C. Simpson, the Turf Editor of the California Spirit of the Times, and owner of the horse Huck Hocking, who, by the unjust and interested decision of the judges, was disgraced in the four-mile-heat race. We have referred, in our editorial columns, to the matter. The San Francisco Post says:

"The widespread dissatisfaction with the action of the Pacific Jockey Club in the late race for the \$80,000 purse, in racing out two horses to save a few thousand dollars to the so-called club, and the character of the individuals composing it, constitute a sufficient warrant for an expose of the workings of the Pacific Jockey Club. Until 1878 there had been no regular organization in this city for the advancement of sports of the turf, and when, therefore, in the spring of that year, it was announced that a Pacific jockey club had sprung into existence, and proposed offering in the fall a purse of \$25,000 for public competition, the event was hailed as the dawn of a new era in the history of the turf of the State. But that the organization was part and parcel of a grand scheme to swindle the people, and put money in the hands of a few individuals, is now generally believed.

"It was in the spring of 1878 that a turfman named James Ainsworth arrived in this city, in with George Treat, the owner of Thad Stevens, Bill Shear, and a few other turfmen who subsequently figured conspicuously as members of the Pacific Jockey Club. There had been no great race in the city since the time that Norfolk, 1865, defeated Lodi, and Ainsworth at once set to work to get up one. As a preliminary, thereto, the Pacific Jockeying Club, with Jim Sargent, Zeke Wilson, Willey Swain, the baker, and Bill Shear as members, was started. The next move was to secure some well-known and responsible citizen to act as a stool pigeon for the new organization, and Andrew J. Bryant, the present Mayor, was solicited to stand sponsor for the fledgeling club. Bryant was a successful business man, partial to the turf, well-known in the community as a man of standing, and he was easily induced to accept the position of President. Next in order came the announcement that a purse of \$25,000 had been hung up by the club for a four-mile and repeat race, open to all comers. The magnificence of the purse, the fact that simultaneously with the offering was heralded the announcement that several of the famous Eastern flyers would be brought out to compete for the purse, and that old Thad, then the prime favorite of the California turf, would be entered, and was expected to surpass his previous efforts, excited popular interest to fever heat. In the meantime, the guiding spirits of the Jockeying Club had not been idle. As soon as the programme was laid negotiations with the owners of Eastern flyers were opened, and a combination was effected. This embraced the owners of Joe Daniels, Hubbard, and Thad Stevens. An arrangement was entered into by which Stevens was to win the race, but the purse was to go to the owner of Joe Daniels in consideration of his relinquishing all claims upon the pools, which were to be manipulated in the interest of the clique. A new pool concern was formed with Alack Lewis, a racing sharp, as manager. The next move was to get up a "funny race," in which no money is put up, in order to still further increase the popular excitement. This came off on Oct. 18 at the Oakland track between Daniels and Thad Stevens, the latter winning the race and ostensible stake. It was in the second heat that the California horse made his famous time, 7.30, the best second four-mile heat on record. So far matters had gone exceedingly well with the clique, but a bombshell about this time was thrown into the camp which upset all the skillfully arranged plans.

"One fine day a despatch was received from Baltimore, announcing the entry of True Blue for the purse, and the following day his entrance money was telegraphed through Wells, Fargo & Co. To refuse to allow True Blue to enter for the purse, would have the effect of arousing the suspicion of the public, so there was no other recourse but to let the new applicant in. The entering of True Blue was well calculated to alarm the ring. The race over the Ocean House track it was conceded, lay between True Blue

the manager and chief manipulator, claimed that he was entitled to the surplus, as he had no share in the purse or pools. On the other hand, it was asserted that as Shear had been given the bars and refreshment stands, with the materials out of which the grand stand was constructed, thrown in, he was not entitled to the balance. This quarrel was finally adjusted by dividing the surplus, and turning a small balance, left after the division, over to the orphan asylums.

"The contest for the \$25,000 purse of 1874 was conducted on precisely similar principles as the previous one. The same combination that 'fixed up' the job in that contest that brought out Katie Pease, Daniels and old Thad were in poor condition, but the California horse still the favorite with the great, but gullible, public, who regarded the old stayer as well nigh invincible, and backed him heavily in the pools. The race was virtually a walk over for Katie Pease, and the proceeds went into the pockets of the Pacific Jockeying Club. Stimulated by the success of two prior races, the club next determined to offer a purse of \$50,000. The race was advertised to come off on Thanksgiving Day. In the meantime discussion had arisen in the Jockeying Club. After a good deal of buckering, Shear was sent out of the country for the ostensible purpose of buying an English horse for the club. Shear was the secretary and manager, and John Martin, after he had left, was substituted in his place. Charles Hosmer, who some time before had been admitted to the circle, was also ejected, and Phil McGovern elected in his stead. Eastern owners who had been lured by the flash announcements of the \$80,000 purse, were thoroughly disgusted upon learning that the race had been originated by a pseudo turf club in the interest of a gigantic speculation, based on anticipated gate receipts, and, after the rain had necessitated a postponement, their willingness to have the race come off without any expense to themselves, even descending to asking the newspapers to accept their advertisements with payment, contingent upon favorable weather and asking those who had entered their horses to take the gate receipts in commutation of the purse offered, are matters of two recent occurrence to need rehearsal. The disgraceful proceedings at the track on Tuesday last were not worse than those which followed in the disposition of the purse. It is well known that none of the owners of the horses entered for the last race put up their entrance money, the club being satisfied with their IOUs. After the race a meeting of the club and owners of the winners was held, and it is asserted that the club offered the winners the notes of the owners of the losers in lieu of the cash. The despicable meanness of such an act may be fully appreciated from the fact that the losers had been swindled outrageously by the action of the distance judges. That the winners accepted the notes is not likely, but the offering was on a par with all the acts of the club."

LACROSSE IN ENGLAND.

The London correspondent of the Globe says:—Sportsmen of all sorts and conditions in this country hail with delight the prospect of the coming lacrosse matches, especially University and Public Schools, and Civil Service men, who will be glad to take up and "acclimatize" the interesting and manly national game of Canada, when they have had due opportunities of seeing it played on their native soil. There is no reason to doubt that the team of whites and Indians, when they arrive in Ireland in May, will receive a very hearty Irish welcome, which will be repeated in Scotland and England when they put in an appearance. The sporting press here, in noticing their promised visit, takes the opportunity of assuring them of a very cordial reception. The only English game at all like Lacrosse is the antiquated hockey, which really is not much of a game. Lacrosse, if naturalized here, will, I think, be made an autumn and winter game, as cricket occupies the prime of place in our summer months, but this remains to be seen.

WATERING HORSES.

A full drink of water, immediately after being fed, should never be allowed to horses. When water is drunk by them the bulk of it goes directly to the large intestines, and little of it is retained in the stomach. In passing through the stomach, however, the water carries considerable quantities of the contents to where it lodges in the intestines. If, then, the food of the stomach is washed out before it is digested, no nourishment is derived from the food.

In Edinburgh some old horses were fed with split peas and then given water immediately before being killed. It was found that the water had carried the peas from fifty to sixty feet into the intestines where no digestion took place at all. Mr. Cassie is quite correct in the views set forth regarding the injurious effects of quantities of water swallowed immediately after eating. A small

KENTUCKY AND NORTHERN COLTS.

The Boston (Mass.) Herald of March 1 devotes a column in consideration of the comparative chances of colts reared on blue-grass pastures and those of colder regions, in the coming contests at the Inaugural Breeders' Centennial Meeting, announced by Kellogg & Conley. It assumes that "the best representatives of all the sections will be sent into the races," and that "the struggle for supremacy will be terrific." In view of a disposition shown to purchase on time for these races, it urges buyers to seek them in New England pastures, and claims that the chances of the colts bred there are more than equal to those of the blue-grass country of Kentucky. Says the Herald: "The breed has much to do with it, far more than the supposed advantage of blue-grass pastures. When the meeting is over, it will be found that a full share of the money will be carried off by colts more accustomed to snow drifts than blue-grass in December. Better buy the get of Jodrey a Patchen, Daniel Lambert, Happy Medium, Messenger Duroc, Fearnought, Thomas Jefferson, and other early maturing home strains, than to wander for them."

In support of this argument it says: "The fastest record for three year olds is 2:20, made by Lady Stout, who trotted a trial in 2:28 shortly after she was Kentucky bred and reared. But in the three-year-old stake at Hartford last fall was a colt called Happy Thought. He won in 2:40, having no occasion to go faster. His four-year-old stable companion, Piedmont, bought in Kentucky, won his stake in three heats. Time, 2:39½, 2:34½, 2:30½. But in three trials previous to the races Happy Thought, a youngster, beat Piedmont with ease, and it was confidentially affirmed could beat Lady Stout's record. Happy Thought was raised North, and never tasted Kentucky blue-grass. The best technical record for four year olds is Allie West's 2:29½, by a Kentucky colt. But last year Gov. Sprague trotted two public trials in 2:31 and a fraction. Gov. Sprague passed his first year in New England, his second in Kansas, and his third and fourth in Illinois, and has had plenty of snow to wallow in. Eleven years ago the Northern colt Bruno trotted as a four-year-old in 2:20. He was got by Hambletonian. Ten years time and three generations of noted descendants from Hambletonian have enabled the blue-grass country, where colt trotting is a specialty, to beat it a half second, while in the same time, in two generations, the cold regions have beaten it nine seconds. Now take the five year old class, and we find Lady Maud's 2:22½ and 2:22½, both in the same race (which she won), decidedly the best. Lady Maud was bred and passed her earlier years in Maine, and has never seen the South. The best Kentucky five-year-old is Allie West. His times 2:25 and 2:27, in the same race, which he lost."

Striking the balance, the advantage is perhaps slightly, and but very slightly, in favor of the Kentuckians on three year olds; but after turning that age, the case is no longer a complicated one. The North has and can maintain the lead, if the breeders hold to the right strains of blood.

THE NEW WEIGHTS OF THE KENTUCKY ASSOCIATION.

We failed, it seems, at the time, through some mischance, to publish the new scale of weights adopted by the Kentucky Association, held at the Phoenix Hotel, Lexington, Ky., January 15th, 1876; and as we have had several enquiries to know in what the new differs from the old scale, we give below the new rule:

"Weights.—The following weights shall be carried, viz: Two year-olds shall carry 75 lbs.; three-year-olds, 90 lbs.; and after 1st of September 95 lbs.; four-year-olds, 108 lbs.; five-year-olds and upwards, 115 lbs. In all races exclusively for three-year-olds the weight shall be 100 lbs.; and after 1st of September 105 lbs.; and in all races exclusively for two year-olds the weight shall be 90 lbs.; and after 1st of September 95 lbs., except in handicaps and in races where the weights are fixed absolutely in the articles, three pounds shall be allowed to mares and geldings."

Of course these weights are applicable to all purses, but not to stakes that had closed before the adoption of the new rule.

INSTRUCTIONS TO BILLIARD PLAYERS.

If you set out to play billiards with a feller, & you miss considerable kuss the cue at first, & keep changing, but don't ever get one to suit you exactly. If things continue to work bad, kuss the balls, wickar two small or two large. After this, if you slip up, sware the balls ain't round, & you'll bet on it. If still in the back ground, & the nether feller gamin' on you, kuss the table, wickar ain't level and you know it. The nether feller'll probably lart and say that's so, & keep on makin' points. Don't forget to give the cushions a kussin' coz they don't "give off" a bit. If you find you'r back, take it cool & say in a sang froidy, nonchalant manner, "It's no use for me to play today; I haint got no billiard eye on. I aint 'on it' today. I'll give you a 'hach' sum uther time, when I feel more like it. In this way you ken cam off with honor, & the nether chap is satisfied."

A WOMAN WHO COULD SWIM.

The Mendocino (Cal.) Democrat prints the following: "A young married woman, Mrs. Jessup, who lives at the Hildroth, crossing of the Eel river on the route between Ukiah

Horse Notes.

SALE OF THE DAM OF GRAYTON.—Mr. David Bonner bought last week for Mr. Robt. J. Miller, of the New York Ledger, of Dr. J. C. Miller, of Madison county, Ky., the celebrated trotter Grayton, by Fanny's Gray Eagle, dam by Maud's, by P. grandpian by Post Boy, for \$2,000. This mare is eighteen years old this spring, and is foal to Mambrino Patchen.

THE TROTTER SIRE BYRON.—Mr. George Linderberger, Louisville, Ky., has sent F. W. Powell, Richmond, Ky., the chestnut stallion Byron, fourteen years old, by Fanny's Gray George, dam by American Star, to make the coming season. Byron has a record of 2:00, and cannot fail to improve the trotting stock of Madison county, combining as he does the popular strains of Royal George and American Star.

Feakes, the jockey, has just returned from England. He rode some of Mr. and Mrs. horses in their work at Newmarket, and reports that they are all doing well. Feakes will ride for Mr. Belmont this season, but would have remained in England had he not been under engagement.

EAST SAGINAW, MICH.—At a meeting of the stockholders of the Trotting Association, held lately at East Saginaw, the following directors were elected: Messrs. John Wern, A. P. Brower, L. P. Mason, Thos. Hubbard, W. J. Bartow, H. Coleman and George C. Warner. In the directors meeting the following gentlemen were elected as its officers, to wit: John Welch, President; H. Coleman, Secretary; and A. P. Brower, Treasurer.

PREAKNESS.—It appears that Mr. M. H. Sanford's horse, Preakness, was not declared out of the International Newmarket. Having been cap by his owner. The condition of the race compel owners to look to the safety of the animals with the weight imposed. The ignorance of this rule, this was the case by Mr. Littlefield. Hence Preakness was stricken out. Apropos of Mr. Sanford's string, the impression prevails with the majority of English trainers at Newmarket that the American horses are a fleshy lot, run well, and that they cannot be brought down into running trim for a long time. They doubt if Preakness will be in condition for Ascot. Time will tell if it is to be supposed Mr. Littlefield knows what he is about.

The San Francisco Chronicle of March 3 says:—Mr. Little, the owner of the winning horse in the late four-mile and repeat race, has finally been paid by the Pacific Jockey Club; that is, he has made a compromise with them. Instead of the \$16,000 gold coin advertised as the first premium, after the delay of a week and many conferences, he consented to take \$6,000 coin and \$9,000 in the notes of other competitors in the race. Captain Moore and Mr. Little will remain in the city for a few days to await the result of negotiations in progress for a two-mile and repeat race between all the contestants in the late match. Mr. Little is perfectly willing to enter Foster in a two-mile race. If satisfactory arrangements can be made the race will come off two weeks from Saturday next over the Bay District Course, but not under the auspices of the Pacific Jockey Club.

CONVENTION OF AMATEURS.

The annual meeting of the National Amateur Base Ball players was held at Philadelphia, on the 8th of March. Mr. J. G. H. Myers, of New York, presided, and Mr. C. H. Blodgett, of New York, acted as Secretary. Thirteen clubs, from various parts of the country, were represented including a colored club of Washington, D. C. The report of the Secretary was read and showed that there were thirteen applications by clubs for admission during the year of which nine were elected. The Star club of Syracuse, N. Y., was ruled out of the convention, on the ground that it was a strictly amateur club; also the Broadok, Pennsylvania. After the disposal of business, the meeting adjourned.

PISCICULTURE.

Our friend, Major Hodgson, is not generally known, has the beautiful pond on well laid out property. "Maple Vale," stocked with valuable young salmon. The fry which were procured from Mr. Wilmet fish-breeding establishment, were put in the May, and there are now some eight thousand young salmon in the waters. The stream flows from the Ridges—the pond being a natural mountain head—and the passage to the lake being guarded with wire. Mr. Hodgson does not intend propagating young, but will keep his pond stocked as may be necessary, and expects, with care to grow some good-sized fish. For this purpose the natural formation of the pond is well adapted, which contain plenty of right kind of food, is well adapted for only private preserve of the kind.