

...and more wheat. While I am out on this point, I would say to young men who are ambitious to become trainers of the trotting horse: "Don't commence it, expecting that you have an easy task before you. Cultivate your brain, and let your cheek alone; it will come up of itself. Get all the knowledge you can from experienced trainers, either verbally or written; acquaint yourself, as much as possible, with the anatomy and physiology of the horse; study pathology, that you may know when your horse is about the structure of the horse. You can't be idle or fool your time away at card playing, or any other foolish games, and never become well acquainted with your business. Make yourself acquainted with as many of the different sciences as you can carry, for knowledge is power, and power will cause speed when properly applied."

Toe and side weights possess great advantages over heavy shoes when used on horses that injure their hind legs by brushing them against a front oet. A horse that scalps the coronet produces the injury by striking the said part against the inferior, i.e., ground surface, at or near the toe of the front shoe, when, in the act of passing under it; horses that injure themselves in this way are generally those that are rimed close gaited. Some horses cut themselves on the inside of the hind fetlock joint, when trotting, a little in front, but near the point where a horse commonly injures himself when walking by interfering. A horse that interferes when walking produces the injury by striking the inside toe of the opposite foot against the part that is injured. But when a horse cuts the fetlock joint in trotting fast, the injury is produced by said joint coming in contact with the front foot, or shoe on the same. When the off hind fetlock joint is cut, the injury is produced by said joint coming in contact with that part of the off front foot, or shoe on the same, termed the outside quarter, and vice versa when the near hind joint is injured. Horses that brush their hind shins when trotting cause the injury to be produced in a similar manner to that injury which is produced on those that cut the fetlock joint. A horse that cuts the fetlock joint almost invariably produces the injury by causing the part injured to come in contact with the outside edge of the bottom of the front shoe, at or near that part of the shoe located on the outside quarter of the foot. While some horses may cut on that part of the shoe near the heel, others may cut further round the web toward the toe. A horse that rushes his shins produces the injury by brushing the same against the front shoe at the same point that he does when he cuts the fetlock joint; consequently the injury is produced in a similar manner. A horse may brush his shins without striking them against the shoes, by brushing them against the outside walls of the front feet, or nail clinches. But, in the majority of cases, the injury is produced by brushing them against the shoes.

From what I have above said concerning the scalping, cutting, and bruising of the hind limbs, it will be at once seen that the chief cause of these injuries lies in the front shoes. This conclusion is not an imaginary one with me, but has been arrived at by practical demonstration. This being the case, when we apply a heavy shoe to the front foot we must necessarily increase the cause of injury to the hind legs. A heavy shoe creates much more bulk and surface to the parts that produce the injury than a light shoe. Consequently, the lighter the shoe, the less cause there is for injury.

By the aid of toe-weights we are enabled to use very light shoes, and, at the same time, apply all the weight that may be required to balance and enable any horse that can trot speedily. This being the case, we can but conclude that when a horse must have weight applied to his feet to enable him to trot fast, we get the best results when the weight is applied in the form of toe and side weights.

The kind of shoe that I have derived the greatest benefits from, when used on horses that scalp, cut, or brush themselves in any of the above-named ways, is formed by having the ground surface made convex, and without being rimed. The nail heads are let into the web of the shoe by means of a counter sink, and any part of the head that may project, after the nail has been driven home, is carefully removed by means of a file. When this kind of shoe is properly applied, the ground surface of it prevents a smooth and rounded appearance, and does not injure any part that may come into contact with it to the same extent that a flat-rimmed shoe can. By creasing a shoe, a sharp

around, merely because that was the custom, price paid in his locality for common shoeing. A shoeing smith might make a living at shoeing farm horses at this price, and at the same time do passable work, but would be likely to starve at thus shoeing trotting horses, if he did his work as it should be done. When horse owners learn that it is their interest to be liberal with their shoeing smiths, pay them for the quality of work they do, and the amount of time they spend at it, and do not regulate the price by the number of shoes, we are likely to have a better class of horse-shoers. Owners of fast horses are generally liberal men, and usually spend much money in buying fine clothing for their horses. Much of this they would be better off without, in many cases, for it is frequently used by their trainers unnecessarily, and bad results are the consequence, while often it is only used for display. A hidden foundation does not add to the beauty of a fine building, yet it is the most important part of the building, and unless it is properly and securely formed, the building will soon become racked, and tumble down.

(To be continued.)

## BETTING ON ENGLISH RACE TRACKS.

THE INNER AND OUTER BETTING RINGS—THE FIELD BETTING—WELCHER'S—PECULIARITIES OF THE ENGLISH SYSTEM—THE POOL BILL IN NEW YORK STATE—EFFECTS OF ITS PASSAGE.

The passage of the Pool Bill, and its signature by the Governor, gives effect to it as a law on the 15th of last month. This law prevents pool selling of every description in the State of New York, and punishes any infraction of it with fine and imprisonment. Last year seven establishments sold pools in this city on all public events, of a nature interesting enough to provoke a wager from the thousands sportively inclined. Racing, trotting, boating, and elections furnished the staple upon which wagers were made. The presidential election was so prolific a source of profit to the pool-seller, and brought this mode of betting so notoriously into public notice, that it was probably the death-blow of pool-selling, and influenced our legislators, notwithstanding very influential opposition from gentlemen owning large racing establishments, to pass the act of prohibition. The bill has fallen with a heavy hand on all interested in pool selling, in many cases entailing heavy losses by reason of real estate transactions, entered into under the supposition that no legislation would take place on the subject. It is understood that New Jersey will become the home of the pool-seller for the next season, and plenty of telegraph wires afford facilities for learning all news of interest to both buyers and sellers of pools. It may be of interest to take a look at the way betting is done in England, in view of the fact, perhaps, that the English mode may come into use here, now that our American system has been legislated out of existence. Auction pool-selling there is unknown, and is entirely an American institution.

There is no admission to "The Field" of an English course, which is thrown open to all. In the vicinity of the grand stand there are two inclosures, one being the "Inner, or Tattersall's Betting Ring," and the other the "Outer Betting Ring." The entrance fee to the outer ring is, say, seven shillings (English), and some five shillings additional is charged for the entree of the inner ring (I am speaking of daily admission fees). The inner ring joins the saddling-paddock, where all the contestants appear previous to a race, and, on some courses, an extra charge is made for admission to this. The inner ring is patronized by the wealthy classes—race-horse owners, the large betting men, and professional book-makers, who are many of them members of Tattersall's. The members of the Jockey Club also, who are sportively inclined, rendezvous at this place. There is no ready money, no hand to mouth betting here, no money changes hands on the ground, but all bets are matters of honor, and the account is settled at Tattersall's on the follow-

ing day. It frequently happens that the rogues get caught in the act of cheating, and coming in contact with superior force, they get lashed around unmercifully, their clothes are torn from their backs, and they are pitched unceremoniously into a horse pond, narrowly escaping with their wretched lives. As soon as the numbers of the contesting horses are run up before a race, the book-makers break out loudly, shouting the odds and state of the betting market at the top of their voices, and make a horrible din. The larger part of the people who attend races in England, although belonging to the lower orders, are generally well behaved, and seem so much racing are good judges, and quickly detect any "pulling" in a race, greeting the "puller" with sods, stones, and shouts of derision, be he lord and amateur rider or a professional jockey. If, on the contrary, a race is well ridden, bringing out strong points of horse and rider, the winner receives a great ovation, cheers and bravos ringing all over the course. In clearing the track for a race the police have little trouble. As soon as the bell rings the people disperse, all wishing to see sport, and cheerfully giving way for the race to proceed. When a hurdle or steeplechase is to be run, the horses engaged are allowed a preparatory jump, and it is always taken advantage of, and all the horses have a crack at the hurdle prepared for the purpose. Racing cards and pencils are sold together, and the cry of "Who wants fourpennys' worth of card and pencil" is almost continuous. —*Spirit of the Times.*

## AN EXCITING HUNT.

A feat upon which the Arab hunter prides himself is to capture an ostrich. Being very shy and cautious, and living on the sandy plains, where there is little chance to take it by surprise, it can be captured only by a well-planned and long-continued pursuit on the swiftest horse. The ostrich has two curious habits in running when alarmed. It always starts with outspread wings against the wind, so that it can scent the approach of an enemy. Its sense of smell is so keen that it can detect a person at a great distance long before he can be seen. The other curious habit is that of running in a circle. Usually five or six ostriches are found in company. When discovered, part of the hunters mounted on fleet horses, will pursue the birds, while the other hunters will gallop away at right angles to the course the ostriches have taken. When those hunters think they have gone far enough to cross the paths the birds will be likely to take, they watch upon some rise of ground for their approach. If the hunters hit the right place and see the ostriches, they at once start in pursuit with fresh horses, and sometimes they overtake one or two of the birds, but often one or two of the fleet horses fall completely tired out with so sharp a chase.

The checker match for the championship of Wellington was won by Mr. Murdoch McKenzie. The match concluded on the seventeenth game, Mr. George Ritchie seeing that even if he should win the remaining nine he would not be even with his opponent. Out of the number played altogether Mr. McKenzie won twelve, Mr. Ritchie one, and there were four draws.

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...for him he was ever interested in. —*Spirit of the American.*

## A FAST POLE TEAM.

At the Bay District Courts, San Francisco, Cal., a remarkable pole-team performance occurred a short time since. A pair of roadsters, Gen. Cobb and Ellen McCord, owned by Mr. Chas. Crocker, of that city, trotted, to a road wagon, a mile in 2:28. The wagon weighed 196 lbs, and the driver 148 lbs. In order to understand how good this is, the team trotted to a road wagon on the Fashion Course, Long Island, in 1876, when Bruno and Brunette trotted the mile in 2:25. There was a great strife at that time to show the fastest team, and this Mr. Harker's were trained carefully for the express purpose of beating the time of Lady Palmer and Flatbush Maid, driven by Mr. Robt. Bonner in 2:26. The best technical "record," however, is the mile of Jesse Wales and Darkness, to a skeleton wagon, on Narragansett Park, in 1870, in 2:27. The San Francisco pair have only been worked a short time together, and they give strong indications that they will surpass the feats, great as are already performed. Both are by Niagara, formerly Washenaw Chief, the sire of the Stark mare and other good ones. There are strong proofs that Niagara was by Mambrino Chief. Another great performance to a road wagon on the same course was that made by Monarch, being a mile in 2:30, his driver weighing 190 lbs. Monarch is very nearly, if not quite, thorough-bred, being by Woodburn, a son of Lexington, his dam Victress, by Belmont. He is owned by J. B. Haggis, Esq., of San Francisco. It would be difficult to find any place where two such performance, under the same circumstances, could be made, and it is a satisfaction to Californians that all of them were bred there, while Kentucky reared the sires.

## DON'T KILL BROKEN-LEGGED HORSES.

The general impression prevails that a broken-legged horse is of no use to any one except the proprietor of a bone yard, and once an accident of this character occurs to a horse, the invariable order is to kill it to relieve it of its sufferings. That this is a grave mistake has been demonstrated in this city. About twelve weeks ago, "Nellie," a seven-year-old black Pathfinder mare, owned by Griffith G. Williams, of No. 359 Genesee street, had her right hind leg broken by the kick of another of Mr. Williams' horses. The accident occurred in the early morning, and when discovered the leg was found broken half way between the fetlock and gambrel joint. The lower part dangled loosely, showing that the fracture of the bone was complete. Nellie was a favorite, not only with Mr. Williams and his family, but with all the ladies and children in the neighborhood, and her owner could not part with her without a struggle. He consulted with one veterinary surgeon, and was told that it was useless to attempt to save the mare, and it should be killed. Mr. Williams hesitated, but finally consulted Dr. John N. Taylor, another veterinary surgeon, who, after examining the fracture, expressed the belief that the limb could be set and the mare saved. This pleased Mr. Williams very much, and he gave directions to spare no pains or expense to accomplish the desired result. Nellie was in splendid condition, and Dr. Taylor believed that the bones of a horse in good health should knit as readily as those of a human being. He arranged a canvass sling for Nellie and suspended it from the ceiling of a box stall, so that she could occasionally rest on the three injured limbs. Then the fractured limb was set, bound with leather and hickory splints, surrounded with a heavy canvass bandage and a heavy leather boot outside of all. Nellie flourished like a green

...private enterprise, and the ... from pools, and not a white upon and from the State or General Government as in Europe. It is by the means of the pool-selling that the great interests of the turf are maintained. The moment the pools are abolished on the regular tracks by law, the value of prices of thoroughbreds is lost, and it is with a loss of one half, and this will prove an incalculable damage to the breeding of the turf horse, the chief source from which our stock must be derived.

We cannot come into or believe that the evils of pool-selling on the tracks of the country is greater than the importance of the improvement of this species of live stock. Betting cannot be suppressed. No power, not even that of an absolute government, can effect such a result. Why, then, sacrifice an immense material interest in view of the present and future generations, and so largely involved, for the sake of a false show of morality—false because wholly impracticable. If you approve the bill by your signature you will not lessen the amounts of money that will be hazarded on the turf, but you will take from the Associations their chief means of giving their premiums, and thereby damage immeasurably the breeding interest of the country.

## POOL SELLING.

H. P. McGrath, in an interview with a correspondent of the Cincinnati Daily Enquirer, thinks the New York law prohibiting pool-selling on races will have a bad effect. He says, "People go to the race track and buy pools on the horses, in order to partake of the excitement of the races. Pool-sellers pay the Racing Associations large sums for the privilege of selling pools, and the money enables the Associations to offer large purses and stakes to be contended for. These large stakes induce the owners of the finest horses to enter and run for them, and this it is that makes fine racing, and makes the race track attractive and popular. Take away the privilege of selling pools, and the Associations thus deprived, will be compelled to curtail the size of their stakes and purses. This will prevent the owners of the best horses from entering them for competition, for if it cost four, five or six hundred dollars to train a horse for racing, you are not going to enter him for a stake of half, or even the whole, of that amount. If first-class horses do not contend for the prize, the public will not patronize the course, racing will fall into decrepitude, and the consequence will be that it will no longer be profitable to breed the finest kind of horses, for their price will decline so that it will materially interfere with the income of stock-raisers all over the country. That is my opinion at present, but the result may be to build up racing to an unknown extent outside of the State of New York, and may induce the owners of the best stock to run it more in the West and South."

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