

Correspondence.

FROM WATERLOO.

HORSES IN TRAINING.

To the Editor of the Sporting Times:

Mr. Chas. Lowell, of this village, has four horses in training for the coming campaign. Just now they are doing light work, but with favorable weather will condition rapidly. Charley says if the Woodbine Race Bill is an indication of future programmes, that it would be better to prepare his horses for the pasture field instead of the track. His horses are Octoroon, Lotta, Frank L., and the well-known mare Mary L., and they are all looking well.—TIME.

FROM OGDENSBURG, N.Y.

March 25th, 1878.

To the Editor of the Sporting Times:

Our spring has left us and winter has come again, but from present indications it will be a "young'un." Since my last we have had beautiful weather, and our Rifle Club has been practising almost daily. They are now busy laying out a new range on the banks of the Oswegatchie opposite the City Cemetery. Hastings won the club metal in a score of 45 in a possible 50. Mr. Averell's yacht "Lotus," was up the river last week, and reports plenty of ducks and no ice in the river.

Messrs. Mullin & Novins are constructing a henery and duck pond on the St. Lawrence River, two-and-a-half miles above Ogdensburg, and intend breeding some choice birds. Mr. Mullin is quite a connoisseur in fowls, and he informed your correspondent that when it was completed he wished him to pay him a visit, as he intended introducing a few new ideas of his own.—SCRIBBLER.

THE RYSDYK STOCK FARM.

To the Editor of the Sporting Times:

What Governor Stanford is doing for California, Alexander for Kentucky, and Backman for New York, Mr. J. P. Wiser is doing for Canada. A breeding stud of the magnitude of the Rysdyk Stock Farm, when established and conducted on sound business principles is nothing short of a natural blessing, and its founder a public benefactor.

I have had an opportunity to examine the work Mr. Wiser is accomplishing on various occasions, and am satisfied that the average horse stock throughout the Dominion will be greatly enhanced in value as the blood from this princely stud finds its way into the rural districts. The highly-bred Rysdyk is one of the best possible selections that could have been made for this purpose, being a son of the great Hambletonian, from whose loins have descended a large bulk of the brightest stars that have appeared on the American trotting turf. Rysdyk's stable companion, Phil Sheridan, is also noted as a trotter and sire of trotters.

I understand Mr. Wiser purposes holding a great sale of young trotting stock by these distinguished sires May 9th, when upwards of fifty head of as perfect and promising colts as were ever put upon the market will be sold at public auction, however great the sacrifice may be.

Strong inducements have been held out by the Northern N. Y. Breeders' Association to induce Mr. Wiser to defer his sale until its spring meeting of June 4, 5 and 6, which is held at Gouverneur, N.Y., but Mr. Wiser prefers that his chosen country shall have

Cocking.

FROM KINGSTON.

To the Editor of the Sporting Times:

SIR,—As I have no horse news to write you about, I will try and give you a description of a cock fight which took place here on Thursday night last, and was witnessed by a large number of sporting gents from the United States, Brockville, and other places near Kingston, as well as by most of our local bloods. An attempt was made to keep the affair as select as possible by charging \$1 admission fee, the money to go to an orphan, "Old Jack" being the orphan. Great pains were taken to secure good and impartial judges. A daring and savage attack was made, however, on the reputation of one of them by some few interested parties, but failed to receive much support, as the party in question is known to be the very quinnessence of fair play. But to business. The main was between representatives from Brockville and the celebrated Dennis Mahoney, of Rochester, N. Y. Each party showed thirteen cocks, between 4 lb. 10 oz., and 6 lb. 2 oz., those two weights being matches for \$200 on the main, and \$80 each battle, with 1½ inch heels. Seven of the birds fell into weight, and the battles may be described as follows:—

1st Battle.—Brockville put in a brown red white hackle cock, weighing 4 lb. 12 oz., that had done signal service in a main against Kingston a year ago, and of the strain of the famous Brockville "Iron clads." Rochester showed a bird very similar in appearance, but seemed to be higher stationed, and possessed of more elasticity and thumping qualities. On the first handing but little difference could be observed, and each party confidently expected victory to perch on his side of the house. The Brockville cock made vigorous efforts to cut his opponent by ruff, as of a very dangerous kind, but the Yankee managed to escape these for several handings, and succeeded in crippling his adversary very seriously, after which he had but little difficulty in laying the Canuck "hors de combat" and scored one for Rochester.

2nd Battle.—Brockville showed a 4 lb 14 oz. against Rochester's 4 lb. 15 oz., in color each bird being a black red with white hackles. Sharp fighting took place, each bird doing his level best to cut his enemy to pieces; but the "Iron clad" stood the test like a little man. His American cousin showed the white feather, and sought refuge behind the number 14 boots of "Slim Jim," one of the spectators. A credit of one was given to Brockville on the scoring board.

3rd Battle.—Each chicken weighed 5 lb. 2 oz., and resembled the others in style and color. Heavy cutting for several handings was witnessed, until the Brockville bird was fairly out fought, and the battle decided against him.

4th Battle.—Each side showed a brown red with a white hackle, weighing respectively 5 lb 8 oz. This was a fine battle, and every inch of ground hotly contested for several minutes; but the Rochester cock, towards the finish of the fight, evinced superior training, and beat the "Iron clad" in gallant style, scoring three fights for the American, with but one for the Canadians.

5th Battle.—Birds same as last, fine specimens of their variety, Brockville representative weighing 5 lb. 7 oz., and Rochester 5 lb. 6 oz. Heavy fighting was witnessed, and during four handings it was anybody's fight, and the balance seemed now and then to change in favor of either; but it was evident to a close observer that the purity of quill was lacking in the Rochester bird, as he did some sulking during the latter part of the fight, and left his opponent to fight it alone, finding his running rather using of more consequence to him than the winning of money for his backers. This scored two for Brockville.

6th Battle.—Rochester showed a dark red and Brockville a white hackle brown red.

English Curs.

THE LINCOLN MEETING—THE LINCOLN-SHIRE HADICAP.

The principal event of Wednesday last—the closing day of the Lincoln Meeting—was the Lincoln Handicap, about one straight mile. The stake had closed with 122 subscribers, of which number 88 accepted the weights. This being the first of the great events for the year, much interest centered in the race, and notably so when twenty-seven horses faced the starter. The race was very unexpectedly won by Mr. K. Peck's Kaleidoscope, who started at the odds of 8 to 1 against him, Rosy Cross, against whom 15 to 1 was laid, finishing second, and Cradle, at 10 to 1, third. Prince Bathany's four-year-old, Sidonia, was the favorite, rating as low as 4 to 1. The following is a summary

Lincoln Spring Meeting, March 27.—Twenty-sixth renewal of the Lincoln Handicap, for three-year-olds and upwards, at £20 each, £10 forfeit, with £1,000 added; entrance £3 each, the only liability if declared out by noon of Jan. 29, the second to receive £50 out of the stakes and the third to save its stake, the winner of any race after the weights are published (Jan. 23) to carry 7 lbs. extra; of two or more of the value of £200, 12 lbs. extra; the winner to pay £100 toward expenses, closed with 122 subscribers, or whom 84 declared out; about one mile.

(Note.—The highest weight accepting was 120 lbs; it was raised to 124 lbs. and the others in proportion.)

R. Peck's b g Kaleidoscope, 5 yrs, by Speculum, dam Recluse, 110 lbs. 1
Quartmaine East's br f Rosy Cross, 4 yrs, by Rosicrucian, dam Imposition, 113 lbs. 2
Lord Wilton's br b Cradle, 5 yrs, by See Saw, dam Honeymoon, 100 lbs. 3

Kaleidoscope, b g, foaled 1873, was bred by Mr. F. Bell and was sired by Speculum, dam Recluse, by Newcastle, out of Eliza, by Hermit, and was purchased when a yearling by Lord Duplin for 400 guineas. He made his appearance as a two-year-old, winning the Sandown Park Stakes, half a mile, and, out of eight other races, won the Montisfort Stakes at Stockbridge, the Pendergast Stakes at Newmarket and the Troy Stakes at the Newmarket Houghton. The following year he was the favorite for the Two Thousand Guineas, but finished third to his stable companion, Petrarch. In the same year (1876) he won the Winchester Biennial, one mile, the Seventeenth Biennial, one mile and a half, at Stockbridge, and the Corporation Handicap at Doncaster. In 1877 he won nothing as a four-year-old, though several times engaged. The horse's temper was rather ugly and lost him many chances of landing a race, but it is now said to be under better control. His victory in the Lincolnshire is the first he has scored this year.

THE TORONTO HUNT CLUB.

The Hounds met on Saturday last at Mr. Shutter's hotel, corner of Bloor and Dundas street. The Master, Mr. Copeland, took them out, being assisted by Messrs. Messrs. M. A. Thomas and J. H. Mend, Jr. The Master and field trotted up to Mr. Kennedy's farm, on Bloor street, the hounds being cast in for the north side over that gentleman's farm. The fences being very stiff and high, caused seven or eight of the horses to come to grief. One of the members of the Club on a bay cob had a very bad fall at this point, so much so that he had to be taken home in a carriage. It was feared at first that his neck was broken. A gray horse and a cream horse also came down a "regular cropper" with their riders, it being thought at the time that one of the animals was killed, as every effort failed, for a time, to "get him up." The hounds kept going, and the big jumping horses had it all their own way, and, the scent being uncommonly good, they ran round across Dundas street, on to Mr. Foxwell's farm. The fox then doubled back across Dundas street, over Mr. Howland's farm. At this point the pace was killing, but, nothing daunted, the gallant pack kept their intended victim well in hand, who went straight across Mr. Baby's farm, and then crossed Bloor street, arriving at Mr. Ellis's farm, on the Lake Shore. He then doubled back again to Mr. Baby's property. This race, however, was no use, for the hounds were pressing him hard and he had to give in, being killed down by the Humber, after as gallant a struggle as the oldest huntsman present ever took part in. The run lasted an hour and thirty minutes, and returned

four months' journey by sailing vessel from Europe, over a distance more than one-half of the circumnavigation of the entire globe. Several fine horses of the best blood on the English turf did, however, make the long voyage successfully, forming the nucleus of the present large breeding studs in New South Wales and Victoria, some of which are exceeded in magnitude by few in the old country. After the opening of the Suez Canal the journey to the South Pacific was shortened over one half and since that time some of England's best-blooded stallions have been safely landed in Australia, and the thoroughbred horse in that country has improved in proportion, as seen by the recent great races there. The late three mile race in which such fast time was made, was, as mentioned above, run January 1 of the present year, at the Melbourne midsummer meeting of the Victoria Racing Club. The race was for the Champion Stakes, for all ages, and had a large number of entries, the value of the stakes being \$3,800. Seven horses came to the post—Chester (the winner of the great races last fall), Robinson Crusoe, Pride of the Hills (last year's winner), Pluto, Glenormiston, Waterford, the First King. The latter is a three-year-old colt of the Ring (by American rules he would be four on January 1), by King out of Misenet, by The Premier out of Maid of the Mill. King of the Ring was by Ace of Clubs (by Stockwell) out of Rose of Florence, by the Flying Dutchman. From this it will be seen that First King is exceptionally well-bred, but the best he could do in the Victoria Derby in November, which was his last appearance prior to the late race, was to run second to C. ester. The colt, however, improved so much, and was backed so strongly and persistently by his party, that he started the favorite for the Champion Stakes at even money. Chester being nearly as good a favorite at 10 to 8 against him, and he was also backed very heavily ever since the betting on the race opened. The others were at longer prices, from 5 to 20 to 1.

The race is thus described by the Australasian: Waterford took the lead, and made the running at a fast pace, followed by Glenormiston and Robinson Crusoe lapped, the others in a bunch, with Chester the absolute last. Before a mile had been turned, Glenormiston deprived Waterford of the post of honor, and went on a great rate for a three mile race, Waterford next, Pride of the Hills third, and the others following a length or two apart. Approaching the bridge, Pride of the Hills went to the front, and soon led by over a dozen lengths from Glenormiston, second, the others following in single file. As the leader came into the straight, the pace began to tell on him, and he quickly began to come back to his horses, coming to the stand only three lengths ahead of Waterford, who was a length in front of First King and Crusoe, Chester and Pluto close up, Glenormiston in the rear, and hopelessly beaten reaching the bridge again, First King followed the Pride, and in a few strides passed him, and Chester, also making toward the front, became second to First King, Pluto also being well up to Chester. Passing the abattoirs, these three got at even terms, but Pluto soon dropped back, leaving the issue to the two favorites, who ran side by side until the home turn was reached, where First King got a slight lead, and as Chester's rider was seen to be hard at work, a shout went up from the crowd, proclaiming the latter's defeat. Below the distance, Chester made a desperate effort, but without avail, and First King beat him at the finish four lengths, in the remarkable time of 5:20, Robinson Crusoe third, seven lengths from Chester, the others beaten off. The winner carried 10 lbs.

THE LIVERPOOL GRAND NATIONAL

LONDON, March 20.—The attraction at the Liverpool spring meeting to-day was the fortieth renewal of the Grand National Steeplechase, a race which, from the stiffness of the course and its difficult jumps, ranks as the most important steeplechase run in Great Britain. Contrary to general expectation only twelve starters went to the post, a less number than in any year since Charity won in 1811. Of those that started the Irish horse Water, carrying 152 pounds, was the favorite, as little as 4 to 1 being accepted against him just before the start. He failed even to get a place, the winner turning up in Shifnal, who started at 10 to 1 against him, with Martha at 25 to 1, second, and Pride of Kildare at 7 to 1, third. The following are the conditions under which the race is run:—

The Grand National Steeplechase, a handicap for all ages, at £25 each, £15 forfeit, £5 only if declared out by 1 p.m. on January 29, with £1,000 added; the second to receive £100; the third to save its stake; the winner to pay £100 towards police expenses, winners of any steeplechase after the weights are declared, January 23, to carry 5 lb.; of one value £200, 7 lb.; £500, 10 lb.; and £1,000, 12 lb. extra; Grand National

Amusements.

CITY.

The stock company have been turning out the bill at the Grand Opera House this week, the programmes so far being The Hidden Hand for Monday and Tuesday, and Dora for Wednesday and Thursday. This Friday evening Mr. John Nickinson, the popular business manager of the Grand, takes his first benefit. A good bill is promised, and among the other attractions a distinguished Montreal amateur will make his appearance in a leading part. We hope to see the house crowded; it would only be a proper tribute to Mr. Nickinson for his efforts to enter to our amusement going citizens. The usual matinee to-morrow afternoon. On the 17th the Charlotte Thompson Combination commences a short season, the opening piece being Jane Eyre.

The popular "Flying Scud" has been the attraction all week at the Royal Opera House. In addition to the drama, specialists were introduced by Mr. Cool Burgess, Mr. Leon Caisse, ventriloquist, and Mr. and Mrs. Whiting, musical and sketch artists. In the drama the leading parts were well rounded by the Messrs. Holman, and Messrs. Halford, Banks, Dalton, Holman and Dixon. The acts of the specialists received rounds of applause. Cool Burgess' lecture on Temperance is one of his best efforts, and that's saying a good deal. The regular matinee to-morrow afternoon. Next week Miss Minnie Doyle, supported by Miss Florence Fairchild and an efficient cast, will present her new play of Zola. Miss Doyle is highly spoken of by the American press, and her new play is said to be very attractive.

Messrs. Redmond and Bailey are entirely refitting and reforming the Lyceum (Queen's) Theatre, and propose to open it with a first class variety company about the latter part of the month. Being practical men, we expect to hear of their success.

GENERAL.

HAMILTON.—Mechanics' Hall—Sheppard's Jubilee Singers, April 1 and 2.—Joe Murphy with Kerry Gow, April 5; Help, April 6.

DUNDAS.—Sheppard's Jubilee Singers, Town Hall, March 30.

GALT.—Soprano Miles and Star Drainage Company, March 30, in Under the Gaslight.

Mr. Den Thompson is at Emerson's Opera House, San Francisco playing Joshua Whitcomb to big houses.

KING ALFRED.—The son of King Tom and Scholar's dam has been brought back to England from Sweden, and the present owner of this good horse is to be congratulated on his possession. His covering fee is as yet but fifteen guineas.

FOR SALE

THE HIGHLY BRED TROTTING STALLION



ABERDOR.

Aberdour is a beautiful animal, 7 years old, perfect action, a most typical physical development of a trotting horse, and a most probable breeding, will be sold at the following price:—Aberdour, by Aberdeen, bred by Rysdyk's Hambletonian; dam Prosopine, Seely's American Star, by American Star, and through him running back to Diomed and Messenger; 2nd dam by Lovers, a thoroughbred. (See Wallace's Trotting Register, Vol. 1, p. 94.) Price, \$1,000. For further particulars as to terms, &c., address,

H. DAVIES,

Don Brewery, Toronto.

Toronto, April 2nd, '78

VESPUCCIUS.

To be sold at a private sale at present.