Sporting.

BIN A FISHIN'.

MANY a time when 'twas gittin' late,
I've seed him a sneakin' thro' ther gate,
Throwin' back'ards an anxious glance,
At a jagged tear in the back o' his pants.
He'd bin fishin'.

Then he'd slide his pole, a crookedy lim',
Up on the roof of the old wood bin,
An' ther bait he'd left in ther tomato can
He'd hide, an' say ter me, "Hello. Dan,
I've bin fishin'."

He'd hurry an' give ther "minnies" ter ma,
Afore she'd have a chance ter jaw
About him a leavin' o' his hoe,
An' allowin' o' ther weeds ter grow,
While he'd bin fishin'.

Then he'd say as he "was hungry an' dry,
An 'ud like some milk an' a piece o' pie,"
Ma 'ud say, "You kin hush an' go ter bed
For supper is over, an' ther table red
You just go a fishin'."

An' when he was off upstairs, why, Pa
'Ud fidget, an' grin', an' say ter Ma,
"Now, mother, don't be hard; he's a little chap,
An' many a time I've left my Pap,
An' gone a fishin'.

Then Pa 'ud go ter bed, with a wink at me,
Fur we, both o' us knew just how 'twould be,
An' mother 'ud take some milk an' pie,
An' steal upstairs a sorter sly;
As if she'd been a fishin'.

—*Catherine Zingler.*

NOTES.

IF you wish to advertise your race meetings the very best medium is THE ADVOCATE. Bear this in mind when the time comes round.

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MR. ROBERT DAVIES' mare Thistle dropped a fine bay colt to imp. Dandie Dinmont on Tuesday morning, the 6th inst. The little fellow is a perfect beauty, and can boast most aristocratic parentage. Thistle herself has before proved a good mother, having given birth to that most excellent racer, Cactus. She was bought by the Lord of Thorncliffe Manor, Mr. Davies, of the late Mr. D. D. Withers, and was got by imp. King Ernest out of Invermar, by Lexington out of imp. Invercauld, by St. Albans out of Eleanor by Voltigeur. Dandie Dinmont is the sire of Ajax, and is himself most royally bred, being by Silvio out of Meg Merrilies, by Macgregor. Thus, if ancestry goes for anything, Mr. Davies should just now be the owner of a plentiful stake-winner.

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MR. ROBERT BONNER, who owns Maud S., 2. 08¾, and Sunol, 2.08¼, and did own Dexter and Smuggler, is probably the most inveterate talker on the horse in the world. He has again been airing his views and it must be acknowledged they are pretty well to the point. He says that the horse breeders of the future, in order to raise prices up from the present slump into which they have fallen, must employ only the very best material. There never was a time when first-class trotters were worth more money than they are to-day, and there never was a time when ordinary ones were so low in price. For a time the situation may not change to any appreciable extent. The stars will bring as much money next year and the year after, but poor ones will sell lower and lower. Mr. Bonner continuing says that going back to the late fifties and early sixties, when old-timers like Flora Temple and Dexter were at their best, trotters were largely accidents, but to-day, with breeding farms at every cross-roads, the business is becoming so systematic that in a short time 2.10 trotters will be as common as 2.20 performers are at present. Dexter was an accident. He was not bred to break records, and sold when 4 years old for $450. People knew little or nothing at that time about popular strains and about the blood that produced the best results. All that is systematized now, and the breed is bound to keep on improving, which improvement will be manifestly aided by the newer and better courses, and the improved vehicles to which horses are driven. Horses that can trot in 2.30 and 2.40 will be cheap because they will be common. For those who breed nothing but the best the outlook is still a good one. Speaking of the time limit, the owner of Sunol thinks that the 2.10¼ as a 3-year-old on the old regulation track will not be beaten in a long time. People are apt to think the recent feats of Directum and Nancy Hanks entirely due to the horses—they are undoubtedly fine animals—but the pneumatic tire sulky and the kite-shaped track are innovations, and Mr. Bonner says we can only estimate the speed of the horses by subjecting them to the conditions under which the standard records were made. There must, he admits, be a limit to the trotter's evolution, so far as speed is concerned, and it will never reach the greatest time of the race-horse. This generation may not see a horse trot in two minutes, but there are people living to-day who will see it. After a time distance and endurance will be developed, he argues, and then we shall get the best results.

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A NEW organization for the transmission of race-track news, entitled the Electric News and Money Transfer Company, is reported under New Jersey laws. It is capitalized at $25,000, with Mr. J. J. Gleason, the owner of one of the Toronto pool-rooms, as president. Mr. Gleason is quoted as the largest stockholder, with Messrs. Keene, Plunkett, Keely and MacDonell as associates. The charter provides for offices in Brooklyn, New York, Saratoga, Albany, Danbury, Bridgeport, Philadelphia, Pittsburg, Scranton, Toronto and other cities. The purpose of the company is defined as to furnish news to pool-room and sporting resorts. The sooner the company is suppressed the better for all concerned. It will use the Postal Union Telegraph system and it is said will cause the Western Union a loss of $10,000 a day.

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THE death of Meg Merrilies at Prince Soltykoff's stud removes a fine old brood mare from a sphere of usefulness. She is known to Canadian horsemen as the dam of Dandie Dinmont. She was by Macgregor out of Meteor, and was 20 years old. Dandie Dinmont is the sire of Ajax, a Canadian-bred colt that is favorite for the Brooklyn Handicap. His sire is now in Kentucky and his dam Moonlight, by Princeton out of Simoom, in California, where she is to be put to the great Ormonde. She was bought by the latter's owner for $3,300, the highest price ever paid for a Canadian brood mare.

U. S. CUSTOMS authorities are engaged investigating a charge that horses are imported from England to Montreal and then driven across the line.

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THE programme for the Hamilton Jockey Club's meeting to be held May 31, June 1 and 2, half the week following the Ontario Jockey Club's week, has been issued. Six races are to be decided on each of the first two days and seven on the third. The added money and the purses will amount to $7,000. The Bel Air Jockey Club's gathering at Bel Air, near Montreal, will be held a few weeks after Hamilton, when the added money and purses will probably reach $15,000. Thus owners will have three weeks' good racing in Canada for the large amount of $42,000. The Montreal programme has not come to hand, but the Hamilton bill is as follows:

First Day—Thursday, May 31.

Opening scurry, $250; 6 furlongs.
The youngsters; for two-year-olds; $300; ½ mile.
Wentworth handicap, $500; 1¼ miles.
Walker cup steeplechase, $300 added; 1¾ miles.
Prince of Wales plate, $500; 1¼ miles.
Burlington purse, $300; 7 furlongs.

Second Day—Friday, June 1.

Barton purse, $250; 6 furlongs.
The Canadian handicap, $400; 1¼ miles.
Hamilton cup, $500; 1¾ miles.
The Cocktail steeplechase, for qualified hunters, $350; about 2 miles.
Cradle handicap, for two-year-olds, $300; 5½ furlongs.
Selling purse, $300; 6 furlongs.

Third Day—Saturday, June 2.

Welterweight handicap, $250; ⅞ mile.
Wentworth Plate, $500; 1¼ miles.
Knowsley Plate, $300; ½ mile.
The T. & B. purse, $600; 1½ miles.
Farmers' race, $100; ⅞ mile.
The Trouble steeplechase, $500; about 2 miles.
The Get-Away purse, $300; 6 furlongs.

The entries due on March 1 for six events were found to be most satisfactory in number. There were 111 entries all told, an average of over 18 for each. The Prince of Wales' plate, for three-year-olds, to be run in 1894, has 17 entries and 19 for the same event in 1895. The Wentworth purse, for three-year-olds, to be run at the coming spring meeting, has 26 entries, and the 1895 race has 18. The Knowsley Plate, for two-year-olds, 1894, has 12 entries, and the event of 1895 has 19.

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THE "guff" that critics write is well illustrated in the following item taken from the Toronto *Globe*:

"A curious difference of opinion is found in the comparison of two reports of this class, as follows:

Field.	*Forest and Stream.*
—Tarquin, whose worst feature is a rather insignificant head.	—Tarquin, whose capital head is marred by coarse neck, light body and faulty stern."

As our contemporary says Tarquin must be a very hard dog to judge when experts so disagree.

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THE dock-tailed controversy commenced by Mr. Mackintosh, of Halifax, appears to have terminated with the presentation of the horses to Princess May, who, sad to relate, expressed no horror at their appearance. In its place, however, has sprung up a discussion as to how the horses were bred and by whom. Mr. John Beaupre, of Simcoe, who recently sold a team by Dr. Tom and Luck's All out of Royal George mares claims that he raised them and sold them to Messrs. D. T. and W. Lowes, of Brampton. The Messrs. Lowes say they are not the same team at all, but are by Whistlejacket out of Princeton mares. Mr. Beaupre, who claims to have recognized the animals by a photograph, published the certificates of a number of people to the effect that they also are able to distinguish them. The matter is of some importance, as if Mr. Beaupre is right the Messrs. Lowes have been guilty of misrepresentation and possibly may have been paid a higher price on account thereof. For some strange and inexplicable reason they refuse to say of whom the horses were bought. On the face of it this looks suspicious, although they may not want the breeders to know how much they cleared on them when Lady Stanley publishes, as she intends to do, a statement as to how the fund raised by the women of Canada was expended.

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HANLAN and Gaudaur, the oarsmen, have had a meeting and discussed the challenge issued by Sullivan and Harding, the English oarsmen, to row a double-scull race against any two men in the world over the Thames championship course for from £200 to £500 a side. In the first cablegram received in America it was stated that they wanted the match to be made for $25,000 a side. Hanlan, who is himself worth more than double that amount, does not wish to row. He has grown so heavy that for him to train means not only great self-sacrifice but tremendous labor. He has some important business interests that demand attention, and he does not care to give up everything and row a match unless there is something very considerable in it for him. He does not, however, ask, like the prize-fighters, for a purse that is a fortune in itself, but he will not row for anything so small as £500 a side, which when split up would only mean $1,250 for each man, a sum that would hardly more than pay the expenses of a man liberal in the distribution of his money. They would want two new boats at least and they alone would cost properly fixed up in the neighborhood of $800. Then there are the expenses of a trainer and of the voyage to and from England, for all of which Messrs. Sullivan and Harding do not propose to allow a sou. Regarding things in this light Hanlan has made a counter proposition that they really row for $25,000 a side and offering to allow the challengers $1,000 each for expenses to come to America. If such an arrangement were possible the race would long live in history as the greatest stakes ever rowed for. Just think of it! a sculling match for $50,000! But it will never come about, people generally regarding Hanlan's offer as an insinuation that there is no use talking row to him any more, as he is out of it and proposes to remain out. People will naturally say, then why doesn't he declare himself openly that way, instead of making a proposition that will be regarded as mere bluff.