

work a article, and discussed the evils resulting from the practice of clipping horses. I now return to my previous topic—the teaching of boys how to ride. Trainers make a mistake in putting up inexperienced boys on colts of any age, while their mouths are sensitive and tender. The boy being timid, and afraid of being thrown or run away with, roins his colt entirely too tight, which causes the young animal, whose mouth is yet tender to the bit, to plunge, rear, run back, or switch off to the side, all because he has not an experienced rider upon his back, who would pull him with a light rein, which would inure him to the bit, and gradually harden his mouth. He would then be enabled to bear the pressure of the bit, and would then go on with his exercise like an old horse: whereas, if the timid, inexperienced boy was continued upon his back in any exercise, either walking, trotting, or cantering, the colt would be spoiled, and, perhaps, turned out as worthless. For if the same timid boy is on his back when they come to breeze the colt, he will be sure to pull his colt behind, because his fear prevents him from letting his colt go to the front, and the colt is turned out, sold, or traded away without his merits being known, unless by accident the trainer should discover it was the boy's and not the colt's fault, and put upon his back a better rider. But where one man is training twenty or thirty colts he will hardly be able to discover it in time to keep the colt from being sent to auction and sold, and then, often to the mortification of both trainer and owner, he will come out the next season, in the hands of another trainer with a better rider, and distinguish himself as a racehorse, often beating those who had beaten him in the hands of his former trainer, and simply because his rider was unfit, either from natural timidity or inexperience, or, perhaps, both, to ride the colt properly. All this writing is intended for the benefit of the trainer, who alone is in fault in keeping poor riders upon their colts. In one-half the time spent with touts with drinking, smoking, chatting, and running to town to see the pool-selling, and watching the tout to get their share of the winnings, was expended in teaching the boys how to ride, it would be much better for all parties, owner, horse, rider, and trainer.

Whilst on the subject of trainers I wish to remark that there are two or three trainers who are confirmed drunkards; they are drunk every night when the owner is not expected. If they would confine themselves to their own stables, it would be so annoying, but they wander round to other stables and disturb everybody with their boisterous debauch. Their greatest nuisance, however, is manifested when they come out on the track with their horses. They commence, as soon as they get to where the other trainers are standing, a loud abuse of some one, or a savage, adverse criticism of this or that trainer, or of his horses, annoying every one upon the track. Now this is a nuisance that should be abated. Two at least of those I have in my mind are guilty of the above conduct, which I witnessed myself many times during the past season, and in justice to their employers their names should be given to the public; they are only withheld from the hopes of their reform. Both of them have been discharged several times from good places for drunkenness, but it does not seem to have worked a change in their habits. When a trainer is engaged to take charge of a stable of horses for a fair remuneration, he assumes a responsibility that no one can fully discharge unless he is sober, industrious, very attentive, humane, and honest, and then he may fall short, but he will have discharged his duty to his employers to the best of his ability.

No drunkard, let him be ever so intelligent, can successfully train a stable of horses. His whole stable economy becomes demoralized, for he sets a bad example, which is sure to be followed and repeated during his absence or while drunk, in the kicking, slapping, and knocking about boys and horses, thereby bringing all order and system to an end. When he goes out drunk upon the track with his horses, he will swagger around, hallo to his boys, change his instructions, and, in his drunken vanity, endeavor to show the other trainers what he can do with horses. Although his horses may be unprepared, he will, just as likely as not, order a trial run or brush every time they come through the stretch side by side or all abreast, or he will send them off in a three or four mile gallop, and instruct the boys to run their best the last two miles, and, if the weather is hot, he is sure to have a blanket and hood upon each horse. All horses are mostly overtrained in the hands of the best trainers, sometimes by working too many horses together, sometimes

and perhaps in the next gallop. All this may be remedied by a sober, attentive trainer, who goes with his horses to the track, is attentively watching the process of their exercise, and, after that, follows them closely to the stable, and watchfully cares to their cooling out, then attentively stops from stall to stall, and notes their clearing off, sees that they are kindly treated during the process, and, when ready to feed, calls the boys and measures out the feed for each horse himself, and remains at the stable until the horses are done, examining minutely the troughs to see which had eaten their feed and which had not, and how much they had left. By such unceasing attention he will ascertain how each horse was affected by his work, which will guide him in his subsequent treatment, either of their work or a change of food, change of air, change of clothing, or a diminution of the feed. No two horses can be trained alike at all times during an entire season, either from natural conformation, weakness of organization, an inactive liver, nervous system easily prostrated from severe work, or more affected by exposure to sudden heat or cold. These, and many other things in their superstructure, cause horses to be differently affected, apparently from the same treatment, and a trainer, however well informed in other matters, must have a long and continued experience to observe and treat intelligently various differing results which horses of different organization manifest under the same treatment.

In regard to feeding, I will here stop to say a few words. Horses, when hungry, should not be fed with wet feed recently mixed—say at time of feeding, for, being very hungry, they will swallow it without half masticating it, because it is wet; whereas, had it been dry, deglutition could not have taken place until mastication had excited the salivary glands to have secreted sufficient saliva so as to lubricate and moisten the food before the horse could swallow it. Many horses have been badly coked from wet feed given in that way. A case in point was with Wild Idle, two summers ago, at Saratoga. After a severe race, whilst walking around the ring and cooling out, his groom offered him a small bunch of hay well dipped in water. The horse, being very hungry, grabbed a mouthful, and the hay being wet, after crushing it a little with his grinders, in that state attempted to swallow it, and became choked, remaining in that alarming condition for several hours before he was finally relieved. Now, if the hay had been dry, he would not have attempted to swallow it until he had properly masticated it. If you have not a properly scalded mash for your horse after the race (and every trainer, if he is a prudent man, will have one prepared), and if he will not eat a mash, he should be allowed to nip some grass, or eat some oat grass mixed with hay. It matters not how greedily a horse may eat a mash, either in chewing or half-chewing it before swallowing it, for it has been boiled or scalded until the oats have become emollient and soft, and therefore will not dry up the intestines by absorbing the moisture, as food unsoaked would do, if carried into the stomach. If you must give dry food to a hungry horse just out of a race, be sure to mix a pint or quart of bran with it, for then he will be compelled to hold it in his mouth until it is thoroughly masticated before he can swallow it, and it is well to mix dry bran with oats for all greedy feeders.

(To be Continued.)

A correspondent in Rod and Gun sends a specific for dog distemper. It is simply brown, German, soap. Take a piece about the size and shape of the thumb—say one half of an oz. for a pup five or six months old; one third more for a full-grown dog. Force it down his throat and rub his neck until you are satisfied that he has swallowed it. Intermit one day, and on the third day administer again and again on the fifth day. Two doses are usually sufficient. It acts readily on the liver and the kidneys. I had at one time five dogs—three setters and two pointers—attacked with this disease. Four were cured in six days. One managed, as I afterwards learned, to vomit up the soap, and proved to be the worst case of distemper that I ever met with. This one I finally treated with blue mass and quinine. It was four weeks before he walked about. Had I known that he had expectorated the soap at the time, there would have been no need of blue mass and quinine.

Time—1:54.

Same Day—Purse \$100, for all ages; \$80, 20. One mile.

L Jones' br g Jim Hinton, aged, by Rogers, dam by Leviathan ..... 1  
West & Hogan's br g Praug, 6 yrs ..... 0  
Time—2:06½.

Feb. 8—Purse \$100, for all ages; \$80, 20. One mile and a half.

J F Wilson's b g Tom O'Neil, 6 yrs, by Lightning dam Zingara ..... 1  
West & Hogan's b c Courier, 4 yrs ..... 3  
O W Medinger's ch f Libbie L, 4 yrs ..... 3  
Time—2:51½.

Same Day—Purse \$125, for all ages; \$100, 25. Mile heats.

West & Hogan's b h Ascot, 5 yrs, by Enquirer, dam Hinda ..... 3 1 1  
L Jones' b m Maria Barnes, 5 yrs ..... 2 3 2  
W Wyche's b c Hatteras, 4 yrs ..... 1 dr  
Time—1:55½, 1:55½, 1:58½.

Feb. 9—Purse \$100, for three-year-olds; \$80, 20. One mile.

L Jones' chestnut filly, by Lynchburg, dam by Engene ..... 1  
W P Burch's ch c Malinbraoe ..... 2  
Time—1:53.

Same Day—Purse \$125, for all ages; \$100, 25. Two miles.

West & Hogan's b c Courier, 4 yrs, by Star Davis, dam by Lexington ..... 0 1  
J F Wilson's b g Tom O'Neil, 6 yrs ..... 0 2  
J Jones' b g Jim Hinton, aged ..... 3  
Time—3:49½, 3:53½.

Same Day—Purse \$100, for beaten horses, with allowances; \$75, 25. One mile.

W Wyche's b f Abdallah, 4 yrs, by Abd-al-Kader, dam by Jeff Davis ..... 1  
C W Medinger's ch f Libbie L, 4 yrs ..... 2  
West & Hogan's br g Praug, aged ..... 3  
Time—1:53.

#### RECIPROCITY ON THE ENGLISH AND FRENCH TURF.

A short time ago we made reference to the action of Lord Falmouth, one of the most prominent and influential patrons of the English national sport, in his endeavors to secure reciprocity to British owners of race-horses on the French turf. As our readers are aware, a singular spirit of exclusiveness exists in racing matters in France, whereby horses bred in England are admitted to the Grand Prix of Paris alone of the many rich stakes at Longchamps and Chantilly, whereas, on the other side of the Channel, everything is open to all comers. Three years ago Admiral Rous, the recognized, although unofficial, representative of the English turf, made an appeal to the French Jockey Club, suggesting a reciprocity in their racing relations, but it was blandly negatived by that turf organization. At the Newmarket Houghton meeting last fall, nearly all the principal two-year-old stakes fell to French owners of thoroughbreds, and the prospect is that the three great events of the English turf this year—the Two Thousand Guineas, Derby, and St. Leger—will be carried across the Channel. It is in consequence of this view of coming events that Lord Falmouth has decided to submit the following motion to the English Jockey Club at the Newmarket Craven meeting in April, under the conviction that generosity should no longer be confined to England:—"That no produce stakes, or weight-for-age race, to be entered as foals, yearlings, or two-year-olds, shall be open to foreign-bred horses, unless specially advertised to be so, or unless such horses were bred in those countries which throw open their races on equal terms to British horses." Public opinion among English turfmen has become strongly formed since the question of reciprocity was first ventilated some months ago, and Lord Falmouth will have such substantial support, when the subject is deliberated upon in the councils of the Jockey Club, that it is highly probable he will succeed in carrying his motion.—Spirit.

Gill College Gate, at 8:30 p.m. The winner, Charles J. LeMessurier, reaching the goal opposite Lumpkin's Hotel, at 8:34 p.m., E. W. Mudge, second, 8:34½; Thomas Elliott, 8:34½; Thomas Winter, 8:35½; Wm. M. LeMessurier, 8:26; Gavin Houston, 8:26½; W. Kilo, 8:27. E. W. Mudge's actual time in running was 14 minutes, having been handicapped 2½ minutes. G. H. Houston and W. LeMessurier, were also handicapped 15 seconds and 45 seconds, respectively. The members of the club adjourned to Lumpkin's after the race, where a pleasant evening was spent. The medal was presented to the winner by the worthy President, Mr. M. Hutchings, who, in a happy speech, congratulated Mr. LeMessurier on his success. The latter replied in a short and appropriate manner. A vote of thanks having been given to the zealous and indefatigable vice president, Mr. Wm. M. LeMessurier, who is about leaving the city on a visit to Newfoundland, and to which he replied at considerable length, the club broke up at its usual hour.

#### A STRANGE EPIDEMIC.

The London, Eng., Pall Mall Gazette says a strange epidemic among horses has made its appearance in some parts of Scotland, and there are, it is stated, more than 500 horses at the present moment suffering from its effects in Edinburgh. The disease commences with great weakness and swelling of the eyes and limbs, the left eye in the majority of cases being affected more than the right. There is also frequently intestinal disorder, and spots appear on the tongue as though from blood poisoning. The attack lasts on the average from five to twelve days. Opinions appear to differ as to whether it is infectious or not; at any rate, it is spreading rapidly, and affects horses indiscriminately in all classes of stables. One case has occurred in a cow suffering from it, and, as the animal was stalled beside a pony which had also suffered from it, there seems reason to fear that the disease must be infectious. On the other hand instances are mentioned of horses escaping the disease altogether, although occupying stables where several other horses were attacked. The dampness of the atmosphere which has lately prevailed is supposed to have originated the epidemic, and indeed the abnormal state of the weather during the last six weeks is quite sufficient to account for any amount of sickness, not only in the stable, but also in the kennel.

#### WESTON AND O'LEARY.

It is now quite certain O'Leary and Weston will have a brush in a six days' race. Sir John Astley, Lord Lennox and a few others backing Weston. There will, no doubt, be considerable excitement among the people as the time draws near for the race. The British public are anxious to see who is the best man, and will bet heavily on the race. It is understood bets are being made five to one in favor of Weston. One thing, this is a genuine match and no boy's play. If Weston expects to win this race, he must go in earnest and leave out all his high-falutin notions. Excuses will avail him nothing this time. If he gets beaten, he might as well pack up and go home. If he wins, he can make all the money he wants. It is business this time. Weston, at present, is doing nothing, while O'Leary is at work on short matches, and will come to the score in good form. Both men must do their level best, and if they are in fine condition and walk, five hundred miles will not win the race. It is too soon to form an opinion as to who will win. They both feel the importance of the race, and wish to win.

DEATH OF SUNDOWN—In Lafayette County, Mo., this fast race-horse, and handsomely bred stallion, terminated his career in death. He was carried to Upper Missouri by the well-known Western breeder, Mr. M. Grady, of Warrensburg, and his loss is a serious one to the stock interest of that country. He was a chestnut, foaled 1865, by Uncle Vic, out of imp. Sanny South, by Irish Bird-catcher; and dam Equal, by The Cure; 3rd dam Equation, by Emiliee, then through Maria, by Whisker, to the D'Arcy black-legged Royal mare, his twelfth dam.

Mr. John W. Harbeck, New York City, has bought of Wm. H. Shaw, Middletown, N. Y., the bay trotting mare Frank Eaton, (Cate Sayre) by Rydyk's Hambletonian, dam by Kimball Jackson, for \$1,000.

The International Association, which met at Pittsburg on Tuesday next, the principal object in view in the formation of which are: 1. An alliance to further the best interests of the game of base ball, and for the protection of both clubs and players in the matter of contracts and engagements. 2. The adoption of such rules as will secure the above-named objects, and provide uniform regulations for the government of clubs and players in their intercourse with each other. Mr. Gorman also enumerated the engagements perfected, and the salaries promised, and asked the opinion of the members thereupon.

A general discussion was then indulged in, the unanimous expression being that the managers had made the best possible engagements, and that the nine as constituted would be a hard one to beat.

On motion, the managers were empowered to procure the services of a competent player, whose duty will be to act as manager of the nine when playing foreign matches.

Mr. Gorman was appointed a delegate to the Pittsburgh Convention. Mr. W. J. Reid (of W. J. Reid & Co.) was added to the list of managers by an unanimous vote.

The procuring of suitable grounds was left in the hands of the managers.

The meeting then broke up. The Association was never in a better financial position than at present.

At the annual meeting of the London Beaver club in the City Hotel, on the 14th, the following officers were elected: President, Mr. W. J. Reid; Vice-President, Mr. W. Hyman; Secretary-treasurer, Mr. Cameron Currie; Capt., Mr. Charles Trebilcock; Assistant Captain, Mr. J. Phair; Managing Committee, Messrs. Fred. Trebilcock, H. Ryan and A. Rosse. The selection of the nine was laid over.

The London Mutual—Honorary President, Mr. W. B. Meredith, M.P.P.; President, Walter Munro; Vice-President, J. Gleason; Secretary, J. McDowell; Treasurer, E. Kidner; Captain, W. Mountjoy. The following are the playing nine for 1877:—Messrs. Mountjoy, Slater, Campbell, Dunn, Tierney, Welch, Thompson, Morrison and Steinhoff.

## The Trigger.

#### SHOOTING AT BRACHVILLE.

A shoot for a purse of \$20 took place at Brachville, on the 15th inst. The conditions were to shoot at 5 birds each. The purse was divided into three parts: \$10 to first, \$6 to second, and \$4 to third. Mr. W. H. Priest, hotel keeper, had the management of the affair. The following is the score:

SHOOTERS	21 rds.	25 rds.
J E Thacker	1 0 1 1 1—4	
W Manders	1 1 0 0 1—3	011—3
A Mayhew	1 1 0 0 1—3	010—1
G Harwood	0 0 1 1 0—2	
J Pascoe	0 1 1 0 0—2	
J Forbes	0 1 0 0 1—3	
E Grant	0 0 0 1 0—1	
—Cook	0 0 0 1 0—1	
J McMurry	0 1 0 0 0—1	

This was followed by a four-handed match, Messrs. Harwood and Manders against Messrs. Pascoe and Forbes, for \$20. It will be seen the score was a tie, and the shooters having run out of cartridges, a draw was agreed to.

Manders	11110—4
Harwood	11101—4

Pascoe	11111—5
Forbes	10011—3

Subsequently a match was made between the above parties for \$100, to be shot at Woodstock, on the 30th.

BALD EAGLE CAUGHT—On Friday morning Mr. C. J. McMillan, of Erin, exhibited a large bald eagle on the Guelph market. The bird had been killed by eating liver saturated with arsenic, which had been placed to poison foxes. It was placed in the hands of taxidermist.