



The Gentleman's Journal

TORONTO, FRIDAY, DEC. 27, 1878.

P. COLLINS. PROPRIETOR
OFFICE:—No. 90 KING ST. WEST.

All Communications intended for the "Sporting Times" should be addressed P. COLLINS, Sporting Times Office—and not to any of our employees. This will avoid any delay.

Managers, Agents, Doorkeepers, &c., of Amusements, and Managers and Secretaries of Racing Associations, Shooting Clubs Athletic, Base Ball and Cricket Clubs, &c., &c

Are respectfully informed, that all Correspondents of the *Sporting Times* are supplied with a card of a Yellow color, with the name of the city or town and correspondent, signed by the proprietors of this paper, with a punch stamp of a horse's head upon the right upper corner, and dated October 1, 1878, each card running for three months. No person is authorized to use any other credential on our behalf. Managers will save themselves from imposition by demanding an exhibition of said card, and refusing to accept any excuse whatever for its non-production. The card is not transferable; and if it be presented by any person other than the one whose name it bears, managers and others will retain it and mail it to this office.

Persons applying for the position of Correspondent are respectfully requested to consider *SLANDER A NEGATIVE*.

DATES CLAIMED FOR 1879.

CANADIAN.

Hamilton..... July 1 to 8
Dundas..... May 24

ICE RACES.

Belleville..... Jan. 2 to 8
Campbellford..... Feb. 5 to 6

ENTRIES CLOSE.

Belleville..... Dec. 30

AMERICAN.

TROTTING.

Milwaukee, Wis..... June 2 to 6
Chicago, Ill..... July 15 to 19
Cleveland, O..... July 22 to 25
Buffalo, N. Y..... Aug. 5 to 8
Rochester, N. Y..... Aug. 5 to 8
Cleveland, O..... Sept. 9 to 12

RUNNING.

Savannah, Ga..... Jan. 21 to 25
Charleston, S. C..... Feb. 5 to 8

NEWSPAPER DECISIONS.

1. Any person or persons who takes a paper regularly from a Post Office, whether directed in his name or another's, or whether he has subscribed or not, is responsible for payment.

2. If a person orders his paper discontinued, he must pay all arrears, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made, and then collect the whole amount, whether the paper is taken from the office

RACING PREMIUMS AT FAIRS.

Enoch has been said in these columns to convince any one who has read it that the speed class could be made a valuable auxiliary to the success of our Agricultural Exhibitions, local and provincial. In the few places in Canada in which the innovation has been tried the success has been most flattering in favor of the permanency of the new departure. In the States where the speed class has been the acknowledged attraction at the Fairs, the experience has been such as to commence its continuance. Societies, which were in financial difficulties before the adoption of premiums for speed in their prize lists, have been able with this incentive to public support added, to place themselves on a basis of solidity and present an exhibit of their year's doings which makes a creditable showing in their ledgers. After the speed premiums have been adopted as a portion of their programme, there are very few Societies who have evinced any disposition to withdraw them. The surplus gained through this means enabled them to devote larger premiums to the other departments of the show, and in this way all parties were benefited. Visitors cheered loudly at the races, while the exhibitors felt an inward satisfaction in competing for larger prizes, even if the merits of their wares were withdrawn from the eyes of the spectators during the few hours each day the speed classes were in competition. But the Northern Indiana, U. S., Society thought this horse business was all moonshine, and the great increase in their receipts was due to the natural growth and good management of the affairs of the Society. In fact the Puritan element obtained the control of the Society at its last annual meeting, and determined they should have nothing to do with horse interests when racing was to be the means of competition. They relied on big squashes and brooding nag numpkins, only to find their anticipations were completely upset. The Society is now up to the neck in debt, with the probability that they will have to surrender the lease of the Fair Grounds through inability to pay the rent. With this experience, if the present managers can get through without entirely winding up the Society in bankruptcy, it is altogether probable that their next prize list will have a portion of it devoted to the horse classes where "speed will be the test of merit." They are heartily tired of running the show on "high moral grounds," (whatever that term may mean), and will revert to the course which their past experience has shown them to be not only successful financially but to give the greatest degree of satisfaction to their exhibitors and spectators. A lesson can be found in this for some of our Canadian Agricultural Associations whose finances are always a source of vexation to all who have anything to do with them. They will find the incorporation of the speed class in their premium list the panacea that will relieve them from all their ills.

A PLEASING INTENTION.

From the New York papers we learn it is the intention of Mr. Robert Bonner, of the New York Ledger, to trot some of his horses in public next year. It is not expected he will enter them for any of the purses, but more likely will give one or two days racing at central points for some charitable object, possibly of a local character—in which all the horses engaged will belong to his own stable. Mr. Bonner is opposed to the principle of racing for money, and in carrying this out has locked up from the public some of the fastest horses that ever pulled a sulky. While Mr. B. is apparently no friend of the

develops the latent taste for speed which exists among our citizens, requiring only some stimulus like is here suggested to draw it out. In his stable are thirteen horses which have trotted in 2:20 or better, and a little fancy could suggest fields for four or five races from the following list of horses belonging to him, each one of which contests would be more exciting than the other:—Edwin Forrest, who has trotted in 2:14; Grafton, 2:15; Joe Elliott, 2:15; Maud Macry, 2:17; Dexter, 2:17; Pochahontas, 2:17; Mosley, 2:18; Music, 2:18; May Bird, 2:18; John Taylor, 2:18; Startle, 2:19; Well-sly Boy, 2:19; Malice, 2:20; Eric, 2:20; Mamie B, 2:21; Marietta, 2:21; Astoria, 2:23; Centennial, 2:23; and Keen Jim with a four-year old record of 2:24.

AQUATICS IN GENERAL.

There is an impression that Wallace Ross will be a "trial horse" for Hawdon in his match with Hanlan. Ross is probably better aware of Hanlan's merits than any oarsman in America, and his opinion will be worth having on the other side of the water. If the Newcastle man can not easily give the New Brunswicker his back water, the result of the race, if it comes to an issue, can hardly be in doubt. The presence of Ross and Rosmer in England is not suggestive of anything good to the backers of the American champion. There is a probability, however, that neither of these men is aware of Hanlan's true calibre, under which circumstance their advice would have a contrary effect to the intention, however truthfully and in good faith made.

Judging from items in some of the American papers there is a disposition to match Courtney Against Hanlan for the championship, to row on Toronto Bay. No indication is given of the time, but the foreshadowings are that Hanlan should be prepared at all times on the requisite six weeks or two months notice to defend the title. It is well-known he has already a match on in England, but they assume that is only a private matter and must not be considered of primary importance to the championship of this country. It might not be considered sportsmanlike to challenge Hanlan with his present engagement to fill, but a complication would certainly arise if some aspiring and not over particular man were to put in his claim, properly backed up by financial considerations, for a championship race about the same time. If the American champion was to meet Hawdon for the International championship in the race already arranged, the affair would present a different complexion, as then there would be a valid claim for the leave of absence necessary to bring about a solution of the question of the respective merits of the men from both sides of the water. The championship carries with it the right to name the water upon which the race shall be rowed; and in these days of \$6,000 bonuses and other casual advantages, that privilege will be considered to be worth more than the \$1,000 stake which a championship match calls for. So if Hanlan should be challenged for the championship the coming spring it would place him in somewhat of a quandary. The question might resolve itself thusly:—Would he prefer going to England to remaining in America to defend his title to the championship. If he elected to stay at home he would have to forfeit in his English match, and if he crossed the water he might lose the title of American champion and all its rights and privileges for the time being by default. It is a curious dilemma, and one that has been presented for the first time in Canada. It is worthy of the champion's consideration as such an alternative

does know something about, and one quite as pertinent as the body of his last week's communication. He can, with almost one stroke of his pen, settle the question to the satisfaction of everybody.

The sporting editor of the *Globe* came down from his high horse on Tuesday morning last, and acknowledged that he had made a misrepresentation of the percentage of profits received by the Hanlan Club on their original investment. Instead of it being 50 per cent. as he originally stated, he now admits it was fully 100 per cent. The mistake was a singular one for that gentleman to make, and it bears the impression of deception, from the fact that there was no newspaper man in the country so well conversant with the ins-and-outs of the Club and its management as he. Now that the *Globe* has commenced explanations in regard to its disgraceful and mendacious article of the 18th on the former backers of Hanlan, would it not be as well for its sporting reporter to name the gentlemen he classed as "Toronto gamblers," "crooks," and "crooked gamblers." No man has a right to suffer under such an imputation of want of character without just cause, and to prevent an application of his epithets to innocent gentlemen this explanation is due. It might also answer another purpose; it would show what kind of company the sporting editor of the *Globe* had been keeping for the past two or three years to become so conversant with their methods of livelihood, and inferentially it might be learned why he transferred his allegiance from one set of "crooks" to another. After these explanations are made, there are a few more that will present themselves for that gentleman's consideration.

Notwithstanding Mr. Hanlan's statement in his letter of last week that he would go to England under the guidance of the Hanlan Club, it is currently reported that that organization is in the throes of dissolution caused by dissatisfaction with those who usurped the management, and we have been informed it is extremely doubtful if another meeting of the Club will be held. The reasons for making the Lachine match on a basis of being able to lose about \$1,800 and not win a dollar, are anxiously looked by some in the interest of the Club; the disposition of the \$2,000 alleged to have been paid to Courtney is also a question fraught with considerable interest to some of the members; the refusal to let Hanlan row at Hamilton, by which he lost the favor of that part of the country, and many other similar subjects are alleged to be sufficient reasons why that organization will not meet again in deliberation. It is no secret there is a strong indisposition on the part of many of the present members to be parties towards finding the funds to send Hanlan to England to meet Hawdon, and the general impression is that if the Hanlan Club of 1879 has an existence its personnel will be widely different from that which carried the champion through the past year.

TROTTING-COLT STAKES FOR 1879.

The managers of the Gouverneur (N. Y.) Agricultural and Mechanical Society announce the following trotting colt stakes, to be trotted at the Fall meeting of 1879, now open for nominations, to close on January 1, 1879:—

Colt Stakes for two-year-olds (foals of 1867); entrance, \$25, p. p.; mile heats, 3 in 5, in harness.

Colt Stakes for three-year-olds (foals of 1876); entrance, \$25, p. p.; mile heats, 3 in 5, in harness.

Colt Stakes for four-year-olds (foals of 1875); entrance, \$80, p. p.; mile heats, 3 in 5, in harness.

nothing that can be classed as representative. The city has never had a first class base ball team that could rank in comparison with her lacrosse and cricket teams, and as a consequence base ball has never been permitted to grow into existence as a game that would attract any share of public attention. But if a Toronto team of base ball players was superior to any nine in the country, they would soon command the same tribute that is paid to our other champion organizations. Base ball statistics show that the annual revenue even in small places can be depended upon to reach from \$15,000 to \$20,000 for the season's campaign. Toronto should be able to do as well as this, and if this expectancy should not prove faulty the investment would be a good one. This proposal of Malone's may again set our enterprising base ball friends to renew their determination to have a professional nine, and if any steps are taken in the matter it is to be hoped they will be carried to a successful issue.

A GOOD YOUNGSTER.

The New York Turf, Field and Farm of last week in speaking of the stock at Prospect Hill Farm, Hartford, Conn., the property of Mr. Charles T. Pond, mentions in the following very flattering manner a son of Mr. Wiser's horse Rysdyk:—

"Another representative of Mr. Pond's harem is Galling, a young three-year-old stallion, by Rysdyk (son of Rysdyk's Hambletonian, out of Lady Duke, by Lexington), dam Lady Goldsmith, by Rysdyk's Hambletonian; 2d dam by Webber's Tom Thumb; 3d dam by Sleepy Dave (son of Henry, by Sir Archy); 4th dam by Commodore (son of Tippoo Saib, by imp. Messenger); 5th dam by imp. Messenger. This young scion of nobility, though not yet four years old, is sixteen hands high, and otherwise remarkably modeled for a stock horse. He is a natural trotter, and develops in his majestic bearing all the qualities which promise the highest success as a stallion, laying aside his pedigree, which is rich enough to compare with the fabled wealth of famed Goleonda."

Sporting Gossip.

There will be two days' ice racing at Belleville on January 2nd and 3rd, 1879. \$400 is the amount of the purses, and the races are principally for local horses. The entries close Dec. 30.

Mr. Cope Stinson, formerly of Brantford and Hamilton, is driving a grey colt at Buffalo that is said can show quarters in 35 seconds. He has made a match to go on the road in sleighs against Mr. Garry Mack's Billy Seward.

How did the renowned Harry Percy warm up the sluggish blood of his war-horse? With a Hotspur.

Recently the racehorse Diamond, owned by H. Ford of Prescott, when being exercised threw his jockey, Tom O'Hara, a Toronto boy, and started off at a quick gallop, dragging with him the boy, whose foot had caught in the stirrup. The lad, with much difficulty, was rescued from his perilous position, but not until he had received such injuries as, it was feared at one time, would prove fatal. He is now, however, doing well and is expected to recover.

The annual meeting at Jackson, Mich., will be held the second week in June. The premium list will amount to \$9,000. A special purse, very probably, will be offered for Hards, and the place will not be overlooked.

Who said the seasons did not play euchre? Summer passes, and autumn makes it next. Managers of Ice Races should at once communicate their intentions to this office. If a meeting will not afford advertising—it will be a poor one that won't send me a bill anyway, and we will take care to put it where