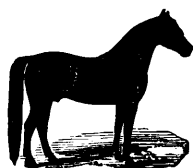


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[CUT THIS OUT]

### Death of A Famous Donkey.

**A**N English exchange of recent date announces the death of England's champion mare donkey. Flying Scud, so well known and beloved of the metropolitan coster world, has just died in her comfortable quarters in the Southwold road, near Lea Bridge, Essex, after a brief, but painful illness. Death is ascribed by the skilful veterinary surgeons who attended the famous donkey during her last few hours of agony, to the accidental twisting of a vital part of the internal anatomy. The case was from the beginning hopeless. Flying Scud first saw the light of day some twelve years back in Stepney, and her earlier years were spent in the service of a dust contractor. Seven years ago, for the sum of £20, she passed into the hands of James Spencer, an enterprising coster, fruiterer, and green-grocer, residing in the Southwold road. Flying Scud was destined soon to make a big reputation. Her rare ability as a flier speedily made itself manifest to the new owner, and the autumn of 1892 saw her matched for £100 and the Championship of England against the well-known flyer, Crooked Tail Billy, a crack animal belonging to Mr. R. Thornton, of Manchester. The race came off in due course at Loughborough, in Leicestershire, before a crowd of spectators, es-

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timated at nearly 800, on September 6, 1892. It proved, according to general anticipation, an easy win for the South country mare, which broke all previous records by covering the mile, with light coster cart, in the quick time of 3 min. 18 sec. Ever since that event, Flying Scud has remained in undisputed possession of the donkey championship. The owner has repeatedly challenged the assume world without any response being forthcoming.

In the beginning of the present year, viz., February 20, he inserted the following notice in the *Sporting Life*:—"Donkey racing.—Jim Spencer to J. Horncastle.—Seeing that J. Horncastle fancies his donkey against any in England, Jim Spencer will match his donkey to concede Horncastle's donkey 25 yards start in a one mile straightway race. Spencer will give Ted Tweed's donkey the same start, or any other donkey in England can have a level race, for £50 or £100 a side. By covering Spencer's deposit a race can be ensured." The deposit money remained in the hands of the stakeholders for a considerable period, but was never covered; indeed it was only recently returned in consequence of Mr. Spencer's utter failure to get anyone to make a match with him. Invincible as a racing donkey, Flying Scud was likewise never beaten when a prize com-