

HORSES AND HEARSAY.

Few people are aware that there is such a thing as a "Canadian Derby." There is, however, and it is run at Montreal under the auspices of the Bel-Air Jockey Club. The event takes place on Dominion Day. The conditions are these:

"Canadian Derby, for three year olds, foaled in the Dominion of Canada, a sweepstake of \$25 each, \$10 forfeit to be paid at time of entry, with \$300 added; \$75 from the stakes to second, and third horse to save his stakes; a mile and one-half; closed on Jan. 1st, 1890, with twelve entries. The runners and result were as follows:

Wm. Hendrie's b. c. Bullfinch, by Bullshead, Miss Jeffrey, 122 lbs., (Shauer)..... 1
J. P. Dames' b. g. Mohawk, by Moccasin, Brunette (Innes)..... 2
W. V. Henderson's ch. c. Milton, by Moccasin, Topsy (McCarthy)... 3
Hugh McGee's b. c. Initoski, by Inito, May Bee (Snider)..... 0
Time, 2.51. Betting, 3 to 1 on Bullfinch.

The time was 2 54. The time for the same distance for the Riding Ground cup on June 22nd, when Yorktown beat Emmeline, was 3.02.

The added money seems very little for such an important race, for we notice that in another race run the same day, the El Padre handicap, the added money was \$1,000; that was for 1 mile 1 furlong. Time, 2.01. Not bad going, that. Hendrie's Versatile was the winner, and only won by a short head.

I do not know if any Nova Scotian horse has ever run or been entered for this Canadian Derby, but if not, it is a pity. A race of this kind is of great importance for breeding purposes, and does more good for breeding than can be imagined. And it seems to me it is a pity that it is not more patronized.

I notice a daughter of good old St. Blaise, winner of the 1883 Derby, winning a race at the same meeting. Racing then seems to be making strides in the Upper Provinces, and is established on a firmer basis than it is here. Of course, this is only natural, but still horsemen ought to try their hardest to one day have the Canadian Derby won by a Nova Scotian horse, and perhaps the English and original Derby won by a Canadian horse.

I hear that Mr. Barry has sold the grey pony Tipperary for a good figure. Although Tipperary could not run at the summer meeting he will be a hard one to beat in the Autumn meeting, if he is a worthy son of his sire, Cabboggin.

There is to be a trotting meeting on the Riding Ground, on "Labour Day" next Tuesday that is. The races are restricted to the "Halifax Driving Club." Let us hope that they will be of a little better class and a little better managed than the last ones they held. There is room for much improvement in the trotting races that are held here, and if the officials would only use their authority and discipline sometimes, the meetings would be better patronized, and therefore the club would be more flourishing than it is.

Are the Colt Stakes to be held here during the Exhibition week? I hope so, for they are worth seeing. There being something genuine about them. The races are well and honestly contested and it is a pleasure to see them.

By the bye, where are the horses to be shown at the Exhibition, surely not on the grounds, there is not room there to show a cow, much less a horse.

I hear that Thomas Robinson is going to show ten fine yearlings by his imported horse "Yardly." "Yardly's" get seem to have all his good points, and they are all fine, strapping, strong colts, with good bone and muscle. It is pity that Yardly has never figured on the course since he has been here.

Americans are delighted because there is every prospect of both an English and French Polo Team, paying a visit to the States this season.

The last time an English Team came to this side of the water was in 1885, it consisted of Mr. John Watson, Lawley T. Howe and Malcom Little, and they carried everything before them. The American papers seem to think that any English team would have a bad time of it when it met the present Rockaway First Team, Foxhall Keene, Cheever, Corndon and Rutherford. I should be inclined to back the "Britishers" if the team consisted of the three galloping Peats and Lord Harrington. But they say that the Americans are exceedingly good. Foxhall Keene seems to be a good player, but is selfish, a very bad fault for a Polo Player, and one from which all the players in Halifax Club suffer; all the other three players are said to be excellent. Would it not be possible for the Garrison Club to arrange a match with one of

the many American ones, of course the home team would be hopelessly beaten, but still it would be a festive occasion, and one from which our club would derive much benefit. Or perhaps, the English team would be induced to come to this country, via. Halifax, and let us see some play.

Here is an account of a pulling match at Monmouth Park last Saturday. Rey del Rey and San Juan were two horses belonging to one stable, the stable's money was on Rey del Rey, and the public's was on San Juan. The latter could have won easily but was prevented doing so by Doggett pulling him, and as can be seen much excitement was caused:—

"All at once Murphy looked over his shoulder and called to Doggett. No one knows what he said, but Doggett at once pulled up and Rey del Rey won by a scant head.

"Instantly there was a commotion. The thousands who had their money on San Juan, and who saw their horse deliberately pulled under the noses of the judges, clamored for an investigation. The thing was done so openly that there was no possible excuse for inaction.

"Mr. Galway and Mr. Withers, who were both in the stand when the race was run, looked up the rules and immediately called a meeting of the Stewards, Doggett and Matt Allen, the trainer for Ehret, were sent for. Doggett admitted that he did not ride San Juan to win, and said that he received stable instructions to let Rey del Rey win. Allen said he thought a declaration had been made. After deliberation the stewards decided to declare all bets off on the race. The decision was a popular one and the crowd cheered the stewards.

"The next question was what to do with Ehret and Allen. Doggett was unquestionably obeying stable orders. It would have been folly to have punished him. But in Ehret's and Allen's case there had been a grave violation of racing law. If little Doggett had pulled his horse up a hundred yards from the Judges, the stewards would not have seen it, in all probability, and the San Juan backers would have had no resource. They would have been swindled, deliberately robbed of their money, and the robbery would have been done by stable orders, and the stable would alone have profited by it.

"After nearly an hour's deliberation, the stewards decided to investigate the whole matter next Tuesday. Trainer Allen said after the race that he expected Secretary Crickmore to come to him and ask him to declare. Mr. Allen has trained horses for nearly forty years; and it is difficult to imagine a man with so much experience being guilty of such an amazingly foolish speech.

"The decision of the Stewards was discussed at the track, on the cars coming home and at the hotels last night. The only people who disagreed with it were those who were betting on Rey del Rey. It was the unanimous opinion of those who had no money bet on the race, that as a fraud had been attempted upon the public, and a horse had been deliberately pulled, nothing was left for the judges but to decide as they did.

"It was a hardship on the place betters and the one, two, three betters, but somebody had to suffer; and, it was contended, it was better that some few should lose prospective winnings than that the public should be boldly robbed.

The following was the rule under which the Stewards acted. It was certainly plain enough:—

"Rule 85.—An owner running two or more horses in a race may declare to win with one of them, and such declaration must be made at the time of weighing out and is to be immediately posted on the notice board. A jockey riding a horse which his owner has not declared to win must on no account stop such horse, except in favor of the stable companion on whose behalf declaration to win has been made.

"The World can say for Morris Park," said Mr. Hennen Morris, after a race, "that hereafter we will couple the stable in the betting, as they do in the West. We have no jurisdiction over Monmouth, of course but we will have this rule when we run our own dates."

"I have advocated coupling the stable in the betting for years," said Mr. Galway. "I think this affair to-day will cause the reform."

"I am in favor of coupling the horses in all betting," said Mr. Philip Dwyer. "If a man wants to bet on an individual horse a private arrangement can be made with the book-maker."

The World has continuously advocated coupling horses in the betting. It is the rule in the West, and it works well there. It is the only way to prevent such scandals as that of yesterday.

M. G.

Awe-struck Visitor (in artistic studio): "It must be very difficult to produce such an exquisite work of art.

Von Dauber: "Nonsense! Almost every body can paint a picture, but finding a rich fellow to buy it after it is painted is where the art comes in."