

ing. Hence the early appreciation of the trotting horse, and the wonderful development in speed in this direction.

In the South, racing stock held its own, and does even to this day; and nobly have they contested the palm of victory, and successfully, on many hard fought fields of racing blood in England and our own country. At the North, however, the trotting horse now reigns supreme. It is the intention here to present something of the wonderful increase in speed and endurance of the trotting horse of America, with information of the most celebrated horses that early gave fashion to this style of going, and a full list of animals and performances, that the reader may see at a glance the growth of this passion for trotting horses.

EARLY TROTTERS.

Until 1823 we have but little authentic information that regular trotting courses were established, and not until 1830 were fast trotting courses established. According to *Porter's Spirit of the Times*, the first public trotting in America for a stake was a match against time for \$1,000.

In 1824, A. M. Giles trotted his horse 28 miles in one hour and fifty-seven seconds. The same year Topgallant and Betsey Baker were matched to trot three miles in harness for \$1,000 a side. The race was won by Topgallant by 40 yards, in 8 minutes, 42 seconds. Topgallant also trotted 12 miles on the road in 39 minutes. The "Albany pony" did a mile in 2 minutes, 40 seconds. The Treadwell mare did one mile in 2:34; and Boston Blue trotted 18 miles within the hour. Boston Blue is reported to have been the first horse that trotted a mile in three minutes; it having been done in 1818. So that it will be seen that the Treadwell mare in 1824 had reduced the time to 2:34. Yet for many years after a 2:40 horse was considered extraordinary, as also was any horse capable of going on the road in 3 minutes.

In 1827, on the Hunting Park Association of Philadelphia, Screwdriver won two heats at two miles, beating Betsey Baker in 8:02 and 8:10, the three best time on record. Dutchman afterwards accomplished the same distance in 7:32 1-2, and Lady Suffolk in 7:40 1-2.

In 1840, on the Long Island course, Jerry beat Whalebone in a three mile trotting race, in 8:23 the first heat, and 8:15 the second. The best time for 2 mile heats that year was 5:22, 5:21; for 3 miles, 8:26, 8:27, 8:41, 8:56. On long distances Sweetbrier accomplished six miles in 18:52.

In 1834 Edwin Forrest, as yet an unentered horse, trotted his mile in 2:31 1-2, beating Sally Miller. The course was 1 mile and 10 yards in length.

In 1835 Dutchman made four miles, under the saddle, in 11:19 and 10:51, and Dolly, by Messenger, out of a thoroughbred mare, five miles

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