

A HORSE CASE.

A CONDITIONAL TRADE.

A case was tried in the County Court here last week before Judge McKenzie which may be of more than ordinary interest to such of our readers who are handling horses. The facts and merits of the transaction are fully set out in the report of the case which follows:

Hamlock v. Richardson, was an action brought for a horse which had been purchased by the defendant from one Coulter. The case, as stated in Court, was that the defendant and Coulter exchanged horses on a mutual understanding, as the defendant alleged, that the bargain would not be declared void until the expiration of ten days. However, before the ten days had elapsed, the defendant sold the horse he had obtained from Coulter to the plaintiff. As soon as the defendant became aware of the sale, and, as alleged, before the stipulated time had expired, he visited Coulter for the purpose of getting back his horse, not being satisfied with the exchange. He was told that it had been sold to the plaintiff, and on visiting him, the defendant was informed that the sale had been made in good faith, and that the horse would not be given up. The same day after leaving plaintiff's house, the defendant drove to the village of Aurora, and his horse (the one received from Coulter) to the driving shed of an hotel. On coming to the hostelry, about an hour afterwards, he was somewhat surprised to find the horse had left there gone, and in its stead, hitched up in his cutter and standing in the same place, the horse he had traded and which at the same time evening had been in Coulter's stable. He swore he did not do it himself; did not authorize any one to make it; had not spoken to any one after leaving Coulter's about it. He further said he had asked any one about it from that day to this, or heard from any one how the exchange had been effected. But the strangest part of the mysterious exchange was that the following morning the 'Coulter' mare was found in the plaintiff's stable. On the day following the plaintiff went to defendant's place and demanded back his horse, being the 'Coulter' mare. The defendant refused to return the mare and hence brought action. After an absence of about ten days, returned into Court with a verdict in plaintiff for \$100.

Obituary.

MAJOR G. J. WHYTE-MELVILLE. Able on the 6th, announced the death of a man who may be almost said to have passed into popularity a quarter of a century ago with a dashing story of horseman and adventure. Major Whyte-Melville, son of John Whyte-Melville, Esq., of Leith and Strathfurness, by his wife, Catharine-Anne, a daughter of Francis Philip, fifth Duke of Leeds, and an aunt of the seventh Duke of Leeds, who married Louise Caton, of Baltimore, after the death of her first husband, Sir Bathurst Hervey. He was born in 1821 and first attracted attention as a writer by his novel of 'The Grand' in 1858. 'Kate Coventry' and 'The Interpreter' (1858) extended his reputation in this country. Of numerous other works, Brooks of Bridle (1864), Corrie (1865), Stanelia (1872), and 'The Interpreter' (1876), are perhaps best known. He was a dashing versifier and published a translation of the Odes of Pindar as well as a volume of 'Songs and Poems'. Our readers are well acquainted with the past few years we have run in our columns Digby Grand, Kate Coventry, and Stanelia (The Black Mare), and now republishing The Interpreter, and his death will create a void which will be hard to fill in this class of literature.

As Daly had won five out of the nine events, the hurdle race of 200 yards did not take place, and the referee decided that Daly had won the match; although the spectators were satisfied that neither man had done his best.

CHALLENGE TO LONG DISTANCE RUNNERS.

Boston, Nov. 30, 1878.

EDITOR SPORTSMAN: Seeing several challenges from the reputed long distance runners of America, I hereby challenge either of the following men: John Hughes (the Greenhorn), John Raine of Ottawa, or D. J. Ross of Quebec, to run me twenty miles for \$250. If either of the above men wish to accept this def., they can settle all preliminaries by calling upon John Goulding at the Manhattan Club grounds, Eighth Avenue, New York, whom I have deputed to act for me in this matter. If this is not answered within two weeks I shall claim the championship at long-distance running in America, and will give an exhibition of my powers in an attempt to run twenty miles in two hours.

Hoping I have not trespassed upon your valuable space, I am yours, etc.,
NORMAN TAYLOR.

THE ENGLISH SIX DAYS BICYCLE CHAMPIONSHIP.

The long-distance race for the English championship of bicycle riding at 10.55 o'clock on the evening of the 28th ult., at Agricultural Hall, London, with the following record:

Cann (£100)	1,060 miles 5 laps
Edin (£25)	1,024 " 8 "
Lees (£15)	952 " 2 "
Andrews (£10)	928 " 3 "
Terront (£10)	900 " 4 "
Higham	708 " 1 "
Evans	704 "

Keen, Stanton, White, Markham and Phillips retired during the contest.

FAST SPRINTING IN ENGLAND.

Those persons who disbelieve in "evens" must have been much staggered by the running at Lillie Bridge, Nov. 16. In the 180-yard handicap G. Petley ran 121½ yards in 12.1-5 seconds, and J. Hutchens ran the same distance in 12 seconds. In the 180-yard handicap to be run at the Royal Victoria Palace, Manchester, Nov. 28 and 29, the starts included G. Wallace, scratch; W. Taylor, 1½ yards; G. Jackson and G. Petley, 2 yards; J. Richards, 2½ yards; E. Parsons, 2½ yards; J. Hutchens, 3 yards. From this we see that there are at least six men now running in England who are accounted better than Hutchens, and who can run any distance, from 100 to 150 yards in from a quarter to a half second better than "evens." "Evens," it may be necessary to add, is a pedestrian term for running in even time—thus 100 yards in 10 sec., 125 yards in 12½ sec., or 150 yards in 15 sec. It is said Geo. Wallace can run 100 yards seven yards better than "evens."

SKATES AND SKATING.

The season of the year has about arrived when the 'magic runners' are brought into use. To properly enjoy the amusement and exercise of skating the first necessity is a good pair of skates. Years ago, some time before the war, even the best artists on the steels were but indifferently shod; and we can remember in our childhood days when cordwood was almost as necessary an adjunct to a pair of skates as the straps themselves. But all this is done away with now, and a look over Mr. J. L. Rawbone's stock of skates at 123 Yonge street will show the great improvement that has been made in this department. He has the finest lot of goods ever brought to this city. Gentlemen living in the country can order by mail with as much confidence as if they were present to make a personal selection. Mr. R. has sent, during past years, thousands of pairs in this way without a disappointment in any respect. He also makes a specialty of skate grinding, and from specimens of the work we have seen, nothing could be better. Now is the time to prepare for this popular winter exercise, and anything you may want can be

telegrams, and properly, because there was a great desire to know all about it. Hundreds of thousands of dollars were said to be staked on the issue, and when the day of the contest came there was an expectation in "sporting circles" like that which precedes a great battle which is known to be imminent. The intense excitement was but deepened by the announcement of a high wind which ruffled the water so that the race must be postponed.

Meanwhile an enormous crowd had assembled to see the conflict, and the next day on the grand stand alone there were seven thousand persons. The river was calm, the rowers in good condition, and toward sunset they "caught the water." The course is about five miles, and away they went. They "pushed" and "dashed" and "spurred." One led, the other lost, a little, then they were neck and neck. At about half-way "the grand struggle began" with "magnificent spurring" on both sides, but the Canadian Hanlan finally pulled just ahead, and won by a length and a quarter in thirty-six minutes and twenty-two seconds. It was a famous victory. But there came simultaneously the rumor that Courtney had "sold out," to the great indignation of those who are of opinion that it should have been the greatest match of the century, and have made "an epoch in aquatic history." Aquatic history, however, is now left to deplore the possibility that a match where the betting "should have been even" was not bravely won, but basely sold.

SPRINTS.

Yes.—It has been suggested that ketchup is a good thing to feed a walker on who is behind.

CHAMPION FISTICUFFS.—John J. Dwyer, the Brooklyn prize-fighter, has accepted the challenge of James Elliott, and will fight him for \$1,000 and the championship, and has deposited the money.

A STRONG PICKPOCKET.—An evening contemporary last week said one of the pickpockets arrested at Ottawa had \$2,000 in silver on his person. As a dollar in silver is supposed to represent an ounce troy—12 ounces to the pound—he must have been quite a good one to carry that amount around with him.

SKATING.—Harry Fisher, of Ottawa, issues a challenge to skate any man in the United States from ten to one hundred miles for \$500 a side.

PEDESTRIANISM.—At Philadelphia, on Saturday night, O'Leary accomplished the feat of walking 460 miles in 124 hours, being 45 minutes ahead of time. He appeared to finish in good condition.

RACKERS.—In the racket match between Boakes, of Quebec, and Mahon, of New York, played in the latter city on Monday last, the Canadian won by a score of four games to one.

JOHNSTON.—Mr. E. W. Johnston in company with John West made his debut in athletic feats on a stage at Tony Pastor's, New York, last week. Their programme consists of such little trifles as hit and kick, 9 ft. 6 in.; running high jump, 5 ft. 10 in.; standing high jump, 5 ft. 8 in.; and Johnston is said to have jumped 18 ft. 6 in. in a broad jump. Their act is clean and graceful, and they are great favorites. Johnston writes us that he intends to go to Scotland next Spring to meet Donald Dinnie in an all-round contest, and these exhibitions are the means he takes to keep himself in shape.

SPRINTING.—An exciting foot-race took place at Tecumseh Park, London, Ont., for \$20, on the 6th, between John Tracey and Walter Whitmer, of London. The affair had been given considerable publicity, and about one hundred persons assembled to witness the contest. The distance was 100 yards. A fair start was obtained, but from the beginning Tracey took the lead, and came in the winner by about seven yards. Time, 11½ seconds.

ENGAGEMENTS.—The following contests have been arranged to take place on the Cricket Ground here to-morrow (Saturday) afternoon:—P. Holland and H. Latham, both of Toronto, 75 yards, running, for \$150; J. Dixon and E. Alberli, both of Toronto, one mile run, for \$100; Geo. W. Irvine, of Ottawa, and Burton Simon, of Toronto; ten mile walk, for \$100.

BROUGHT TO LIGHT.—Last week we published a paragraph headed 'mysterious,' in which we referred to the late sprint race at Denver, Col. At that time we had strong suspicions as to whom the parties were. This week we have absolute proof as to their identity. Mr. C. H. Williams is no other than Fred. C. Saporitas, of the Harlem Athletic Club, and Mr. Davis is the noted

Aquatic.

THE CHAMPION SCULLER OF AMERICA.

That Hanlan, to speak in racing parlance, "had changed owners, and was about to enter another stable," has been an open secret for many days, and a duplicate copy of one letter of instruction to his English agent has been read by several New Yorkers. The reasons for this step have been faintly shadowed forth in the clippings from the CANADIAN SPORTING TIMES, which we published in our Rowing Department this and last week, and which were selected purposely because no one could suspect a Toronto journal of injustice toward Hanlan or the Hanlan club.

That Hanlan has acted wisely in seeking new advisers is beyond question. He may or may not have finally learned the true history of his last match, and found out, what many people have long known, that one at least of his backers had been playing "fast and loose" in a shameful manner. This specific knowledge was, however, unnecessary, for there are facts enough admitted by all parties to show Hanlan that his interests, both as regards money and reputation have been mismanaged. One of his backers has publicly acknowledged and boasted that Hanlan has been pulled and hauled in the interest of the pool-box; that he has at different times been instructed to stay behind for a certain portion of the race to help the betting; that he has been directed to win by only a certain distance, and when, on one occasion, he got chilly while waiting for his competitors, and started to paddle home a little faster, telegrams were sent to assistants up the course, and Hanlan signalled to hold back, that a match made for only \$2,000 was persistently advertised as for \$5,000, to give it a fictitious importance, and that on the Kennebecasis the turning buoy was secretly moved half a mile up stream, thus fraudulently changing the course from five to six miles, for the purpose of robbing those who had bet on time.

Such tricks and devices might be pardoned to fourth-rate professionals. But the champion oarsman of America holds an honorable title, and is, to some extent, public property. His position makes him a representative man, and to him is intrusted the safe-keeping and maintenance of his country's aquatic honor. Self-respect and a proper pride in himself and his country should teach him to keep his moral character up to the standard of his physical prowess, and to avoid small swindles and petty larceny.

Waiting all discussion as to the moral rank of their maneuvering, and its influence on Hanlan's good name, it is not hard to see that his backers have driven a hard bargain with him in money matters. The Hanlan Club have published a balance-sheet of the season's work, the correctness and completeness of which has been repeatedly questioned by those in a position to be well informed. But in the absence of any positive proof it is only fair to receive it as accurate, and to accept as true the accompanying explanatory statements. By their own showing the Hanlan Club took entire charge of his aquatic business, and handled all his money. Sometimes they gave him half of the stake, purse, and railroad commissions received for a race, and sometimes all of the net proceeds. They took in all about \$4,000 of his money, which they claim, no doubt truthfully, was all spent in boats, sculls, wages of assistants, and the traveling expenses of Hanlan and party, including himself, trainers, attendants, and backers.

Antique maiden schoolmistresses, in small New England villages, may think that the Hanlan Club have shown great generosity in thus working six months without pay, but man, more versed in the ways of this wicked world, see it, in another light. The real case may be thus plainly stated. Edward Hanlan was, in the spring of 1878, a first-class sculler. He may or may not have been able to beat Courtney in a fair race, that point being now as far from satisfactory decision as it was a year ago. But he could certainly easily outrow any other man in this country, and unless interrupted by sickness or accident, his season's work could not help being an unbroken series of successes. A handful of shrewd speculators wished to have a finger in this pie. They organized the Hanlan Club, with a membership roll, including the usual number of reputable citizens whose names gave tone and respectability to the institution. But the real club, stripped of its veneering and feathers, consisted only of the half dozen schemers who planned the speculation. They apparently bought the champion just as they might have bought Rarus or Bramble, and proceeded to make the Grand Circuit with their newly purchased property. They were betting men, and "worked the pools" at every regatta. Having entire charge of Hanlan's training, they took good care to have him always in good condition, and having all his money in their hands, he could not, if he would, have sold them out. He rowed according to their instructions, kept behind during certain stages of certain races, pulled fast or slow as he was told to do, kept his mouth

HANLAN'S CONCERTS.

The Detroit News says the concert for Hanlan's benefit at Windsor on Thursday of last week was rather a primitive affair, only about 800 persons being present. Among the volunteers on the occasion was Mr. Jas. Wyld, a comic vocalist, not unknown to a Toronto audience, who met with a really good reception. After the concert a supper took place at the Crawford House. The result of the affair was a surprise to Hanlan's Toronto friends, who expected a perfect ovation to him in the western town from the fact that a resident gentleman who has made himself very prominent during the past campaign had charge of the whole affair, and it was thought his influence would have been sufficient to guarantee its success. At Saratoga on Thursday where the champion stood on his own merits, the concert was a grand success, the Town Hall being well crowded. The net results of both concerts will be about \$200.

TRICKETT ON DECK AGAIN.

From the following extract from the Melbourne (Australia) Times it would seem that the courage of Trickett, the champion Australian sculler, has risen to a wonderful height since the recent defeat of Courtney by Hanlan, at Lachine. The Times says: "Mr. Punch, Trickett's chief backer, authorizes us to state that Trickett will row Courtney, the United States champion; Higgins, the champion of England, or Hanlan, the champion of Canada, a single scull race in best and best boats, a distance of three, four or five miles, for £1,000 or £2,000 a side. Trickett will allow either of the above oarsmen expenses to row on the Parramatta River, or if the backers of Higgins, Hanlan or Courtney will arrange a race for £2,000 a side, or not less than £1,000 a side, and the championship of the world, he will take reasonable expenses to row them on neutral waters in their respective countries." If the Australian really meant business in this matter, the above challenge was totally unnecessary, as a simple communication to this office containing a proposition to row Hanlan in Canada, would have met with a favorable response, and our Antipodean cousin could not place his figures too high for the main stake. The chances are it is all brag, and neither America or England will have the pleasure of seeing Trickett on its waters.

DISPOSED.—In an advertisement in to-day's paper Mr. Ed. Hanlan, the champion, announces that he will on Friday of next week, at 108 King Street, West, Toronto, dispose of his English racing shell, made by Jowett; and at the same time the double scull lap-streak in which McKen and Elliott rowed the Gaudaur Bros. at Orillia.

Amusements.

CITY.

Mr. Charles Pope, the distinguished tragedian commenced an engagement of one week at the Grand Opera House on Monday evening, and has appeared in the leading roles in Othello, Ingomar, Macbeth and Iphigenia, being ably supported by the stock company. To-night he will take his benefit, when Hamlet will be the bill. At to-morrow's matinee Ingomar will be presented. On Monday evening the Marie Gordon Combination in That Lass O' Lowrie's.

Modjeska, the great, favored Toronto with four of her inimitable performances on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings and Wednesday matinee, when she presented Camille, Romeo and Juliet, East Lynne, and Frou-Frou. She is supported by a strong company especially engaged for this tour. Business has been very good, considering the very unfavorable weather she has had to contend against, and her return will be anxiously looked for by the best class of our theatre patrons.

The Lyceum is playing a double company dramatic and variety—this week and has been meeting with more than a fair share of success. The new comers have been well received and their acts have created a good impression. Next week several specialties will be offered.

GENERAL.

MONTREAL. Dominion Theatre May Fisk's Blondes and Capt. Bogardus all this week. Theatre Royal—Well filled houses, the latter by the London Senatorial Co. being a leading feature. Grand T. M. is advertised for early appearance.