

MAUD S., THE GREAT FOUR-YEAR OLD.

Maud S., the sensational four-year-old is a chestnut without a hair, standing 15 3/4. She is blood-like in appearance, has an intelligent head, good legs and feet, a short back, a substantial neck, and unusual length from point of hip to loins. She was bred at Woodburn, Ky., and was foaled in the early spring of 1874. Her sire was Harold, bred to Abdullah, and her dam was Miss Russell, by Pilot, Jr. Harold was got by Rysdyk's Hambletonian, Pilot, Jr., from whose loins came Miss Russell, was son of old Pilot, a trotting and pacing stallion but little appreciated in Kentucky. The dam of Pilot, Jr., was Nancy Pop, by Hancock, by Sir Charles, by Sir Ancy, by Imp, Dioned. Maud S. was purchased as a yearling at Mr. Alexander's sale for \$250 by Capt. Stone, of Cincinnati. Captain Stone used, and in the spring of 1877 his father placed the now famous Maud S. in the stable of the young trainer V. W. Bair, and ordered her to be sent to any one who would pay \$350 for her. Bair had bid her so well that he tried to induce Capt. Stone to buy her. After some persuasion the Captain said he would take her if she could be bought for \$300. Bair replied that \$300 was the lowest price, and he added that he feared she would pass into another man's hands if the sale was not consummated that afternoon. In a postulant mood Capt. Stone led the track, but shortly returned and said: "Bair, you seem to want the filly so bad you may take her, and give me my order on me for \$350." The Captain was fairly hounded into a piece of good fortune. Had it not been for the persistence of his trainer he would not have become the purchaser of the filly. The chestnut daughter of Harold and Miss Russell was named Maud S., after Capt. Stone's daughter, a charming miss, now in her thirteenth year.

On the 28th of March, 1877, she showed Mr. Bair a half-mile at the rate of 3:22 to the mile. After this she was never given a trial without beating her previous time several seconds. The past summer she started in a green race at Carthage, Ohio, over a two-thirds of a mile track and won easily in 1:41, 1:40, 1:41. The object in putting her in a race was to see how she would act in company, and the Carthage track was selected to avoid a record. In the latter part of September Capt. Stone proposed to match Maud S. against So So for \$5,000 a side, a proposition which was not accepted. During the meeting at Chester Park the first week in October, the daughter of Harold was sent a mile in 2:24, and among the timers was Mr. Jos. Harter, who said that he would give \$20,000 for her if she should show a mile in 2:20 in her four-year-old form. The Sunday following the meeting she trotted a mile in 2:23, which was a remarkable performance when we remember the track is half-mile. The day after this wonderful trial she was shipped to Lexington, Ky., and during the meeting of the Horse-Breeder's Association at that place, the second week in October, she was a star of attraction. So So and Red Jim also were on the grounds, and an effort was made to get up a race between the famous three-year-old and the two four-year olds. The negotiations came to nothing, and, owing to the bad weather, neither Maud S. nor So So was able to show a fast mile to the crowd during the race week. A day was appointed the following week for trials of speed, but the weather continued bad, and the exhibition was postponed. Wednesday, Oct. 23, was next selected for the public trials. Tuesday, the 22d, it was announced that the administrator would trot against his record of 2:23, and as the morning was soft and lovely quite a number of gentlemen drove out to the track. At twelve o'clock the sky became overcast, and it looked so much like rain that Mr. Bair decided to anticipate the arrival of Captain Stone and give Maud S. a mile before the storm again spoiled the track. When he came to the stand for the word a rain, chilling wind was fiercely blowing, and predictions were freely made that 2:25 would not be beaten. The first quarter was done in 35 1/2, the half mile in 1:14, and the mile was finished in 2:23. There was no hitching, no swerving. Tuesday night Captain Stone arrived from Cincinnati and he drove to the Phoenix under dreaching skies. He told Bair to get the mare ready for shipment home, deeming it useless to remain in Lexington for another effort. Wednesday morning the sun came out bright, and we got into the carriage with Captain Stone to drive out to Dr. Herr's. During the drive Bair remarked that he had left Maud S. at the depot in charge of her groom, and that in an hour she would be on her way to Cincinnati. Turning to Captain Stone, we said: "You have tarried nearly three weeks in Lexington waiting for a good day and track. All of your appointments have been disastrous. If you think Maud S. can trot in 2:20, why not stop a few days longer. We have not had our autumn summer yet. It looks as if the storm

better, and would, in all probability, have beaten 2:17 1/2. In all of his fast miles, Rarus was never at the half-mile pole in 1:06. Maud S. quickly recovered her wind. Fifteen minutes after the performance she breathed freely and ate eagerly of the bunch of hay held before her. She is a hearty feeder and nothing seems to affect her appetite. She trotted in ten ounce shoes behind and in one-pound shoes forward. She wore six-ounce toe-weights, and ankle boots behind. She never hits herself, but the boots are put on for safety. In trotting a 2:27 gait she does not require toe weights. It is thought that she will get along next year without any weights whatever. She very seldom leaves her feet. She is all trot. She has never been handled by any one but Mr. Bair; he deserves too credit for making her what she is. The mile at Lexington, on Saturday last, was the thirtieth mile that Maud S. had been driven at speed. Sunday, Capt. Stone received a despatch from Mr. V. H. Vanderbilt saying that he would take Maud S. at \$20,000. He replied Monday morning that he had been put to additional expense, that he had promised his trainer, Mr. Bair, \$1,000 in case he beat 2:18, and that, therefore, his price was \$21,000. Monday night Mr. Vanderbilt telegraphed back to collect \$21,000 from the American Express Company, and to ship the mare to him by express. This closed the matter. Capt. Stone had offers from other parties, but Mr. Vanderbilt was first in the field and so secured the prize.—*Zurf*, Nov. 1.



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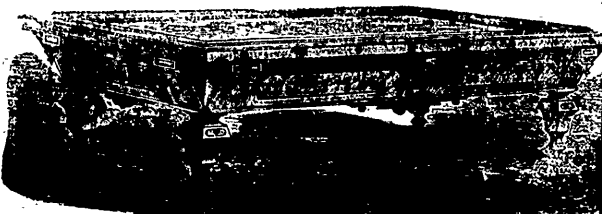
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