

is concerned, the real trouble is that England has too much racing, and only the Newmarket, Goodwood, and Doncaster meetings are plentifully supplied with horses.

TURF INTELLIGENCE.

A BRILLIANT PROSPECT FOR THE COMING SUMMER.

Although not officially announced, it is generally understood that the difficulty between the Monmouth Park and the Saratoga Racing Associations as to the dates of their respective meetings next summer have been satisfactorily arranged, and that there will be no conflict of dates. The absolute days on which racing will take place have not yet been decided, but it is understood that the first summer meeting will begin at Monmouth Park on July 4, and end on July 12; that the Saratoga meeting will begin on July 19 and end on or about August 20, between which dates twenty-five days' racing will be given and 100 events run, for which a total of nearly \$75,000 will be offered in stakes, added money to stakes, and purses. About August 23 the Monmouth Park Association will begin its second meeting and continue it, with racing every other day, until the first Saturday in September, leaving an interval of four weeks before the fall meeting of the American Jockey Club begins at Jerome Park. Between these dates it is not unlikely that a four-day meeting will be given at Boston, it being understood that several wealthy admirers of racing in that city are willing to guarantee the money necessary for a meeting if the larger owners will positively agree to send their stables, or at least a portion of them, to that city. There is also some talk of a meeting in Philadelphia, either to follow the Baltimore May meeting or the June meeting at Jerome. Should the meeting take place, it will have to be after that at Jerome, as the American Jockey Club has already announced its meeting to begin on Decoration Day, May 30, and to continue to Saturday, June 7, with a possibility of one or more extra days during the week following. Should these dates be decided upon the speculators can calculate upon a long and busy season. The Mobile and New Orleans associations will race early in April. At Nashville the Blood Horse Association will begin its meeting April 29 and continue to May 3; Lexington will follow, May 11, to 16; Louisville, May 18 to 24; Baltimore, May 20 to 22; Cincinnati, June 8 to 7; St. Louis, June 10 to 14, and Chicago, June 21 to 27, with meetings not yet fixed to take place at Columbus and Pittsburg.

THE COLT AT SCHOOL.

The Rev. W. H. Murray—who does not write as one without experience—thinks it is high time to abolish the barbarity of "breaking" as applied to young horses, and he offers a better plan in his Golden Rule:

If you have a colt to teach, and have the habit of speaking sharply and loudly, correct yourself of it at once. Colts are timid, high-spirited things; if they are worth anything; and he who manages them should be of quiet habits and have a low, pleasant-toned voice. The trainer that yells, stands in the same category as the driver in the public race who screams and whoops like a Comanche Indian when coming down the home stretch; the one should be banished from the track, and the other turned out of the gentleman's stables. Our method of educating a colt to the harness and wagon is to educate him singly by himself; and this education should begin very early. When the colt is two or three or fourteen months old begin to put the harness on him. In a few weeks he is accustomed to it and ready for the shafts. But in doing this, do not be in a hurry. Give the youngster time to get thoroughly acquainted with every strap and buckle, as it were. Let him see everything and smell everything. The senses of sight, smell and touch are the great avenues of knowledge to the horse, especially the last two. The ear and eye give the alarm. These two organs stand, as it were, on picket for the animal's safety. But if your horse is frightened at anything, let him smell and touch it, and he will fear no longer. If your colt is afraid of the harness as it comes rustling out of the harness-room, let him touch it with his nose and smell it a few times, and he will soon understand that it will not hurt him. If he is inclined to kick or jump, if the breeching band or any strap hits his hams or legs, by gently rubbing them against the sensitive places he will soon become indifferent to them. By the time the colt is two years of age, or even less, he should be educated to go between the shafts, either forward or backward, and be thoroughly familiar with the harness and vehicle, and ordinary road service.

ing vaccine lymph from an animal vaccinated for the purpose with cow-pox. On arriving at the farm house of the late Sir William Logan, (now occupied by Mr. Thomas Irving), we were shown the fine stock of Ayrshire cattle for which the farm is famous. The animal that attracted particular attention was the vaccinated Ayrshire heifer, one year old, valued at \$100. It had been closely shaven about the flanks, had been vaccinated about six days previously, and the spot was now covered with a fine crop of genuine cow-pox pustules. The latter were hundreds in number and had the appearance of beads of pearl, with a depression in the centre of a drab or slate color, having a whitish rim. The animal having been properly secured to prevent kicking, the pustules were punctured with sharp ivory points, especially made for the purpose. The clear, water-like lymph which exuded from the puncture was collected on the ivory points alluded to, and these were laid on a board to dry. A number of the vesicles were left untouched, so as to produce 'scabs,' which are still preferred to lymph by many of the older practitioners. The lymph having dried on the ivory points, the latter are carefully packed in in cotton wadding, blue paper and tin foil, and placed in an air tight tin box in a cool place for preservation. On Logan's Farm are about thirty animals which have had the cow-pox during the past six months. No injury results to them from the infection. In a fortnight all trace of the disease disappears, and the animal is not again susceptible to the infection.—Star.

STRANGE HABITS OF BIRDS.

The practical experience of the uneducated classes has, on many points, accumulated a treasure of accurate observations of nature, which the hasty civilization of the eighteenth century threw away with contempt, because the metal has generally been coined out in fabulous stories and superstitious tales, but from which the more comprehensive and more penetrating researches of the nineteenth century have extracted more than one nut of pure gold. Thus, it has been for a long time an enigma to the ornithologists how certain species of small singing birds, which spend the winter in Egypt or Algeria, and the summers in Southern and Western Europe, ever succeeded in crossing the Mediterranean, as many of them are not able to fly one-quarter of a mile without resting. The Bedouins of Africa say they travel on the backs of larger birds, whiling away the dreary hours of the sea-voyage by their song, and Bedouin poetry swarms with allusions to this charming picture of the songless stork carrying on his powerful back a cluster of small songsters across the sea. And, singularly enough, the peasants of Southern and Western Europe say exactly the same. Every European country has thousands of stories about the splendid gifts which the stork brings along from the Nile, and among those gifts are always mentioned as the first, babies and singing birds. But, in spite of this remarkable unanimity in the lower spheres, none has ever dreamed of finding a fact at the bottom of these tales, until lately, one great ornithologist after the other—Hengles, Roth, Hedenborg, etc.—declares himself willing to accept the explanation; nor have traces of positive proof been altogether lacking.

THE STARLING.

The common starling is a handsome bird, with bright, purple-green plumage, tipped with buff, and reddish-brown quill feathers. It has great vivacity in its movements, and elegant form. They assemble in vast flocks, choosing in preference some fenny district, where they perch at night on the osiers and other plants that grow in moist ground. In their flight they show a strange organization; each flock, no matter how large, seeming to be under command of a single bird, and to obey his voice instantly. A whole flock is sometimes seen darkening the air, when, at a single call, they disappear, each bird turning so that only the blade of his wing is visible. They migrate in July, flocks after flocks being seen on their southerly flight. Its nest is very rude and careless, not only in its make, but in its position, little attempt being made at concealment; and it is so talkative that it is sure to tell bird-nesting boys where to look. It feeds on insects, eating great quantities; in fact, the number devoured by flocks of starlings must be utterly beyond human calculation. The starling is easily tamed, and is a most amusing as well as a graceful pet. It is an admirable talker, and can be taught to repeat words and phrases nearly as well as a parrot. We have no starlings in this country; the meadow-larks and grackles being the nearest approach.

of 16m.—Worcester Spy.

HUNTING SEA-OTTERS IN ALASKA.

The sea otter, which constitutes the sole means by which these, the only civilized people of our new Territory, manage to clothe themselves now as we do and maintain their church, may be appropriately mentioned in detail. It is an animal when full grown, that will measure from 2½ feet to 4 feet at most from the tip of its short tail to nose. The general contour of the body is much like that of the beaver, with the skin lying in loose folds, so that when taken hold of in lifting the body out from the water, it draws up like the hide on the nape of a young puppy dog. The skin is covered with the richest of all fine deep fur, a jet black, with silver-tipped hairs, here and there scattered, as is so well known to our ladies of fashion. The sea-otter mother sleeps in the water on her back, with her young one clasped between her tiny forepaws. Frequent attempts have been made to rear the young sea-otters, as they are often captured alive; but, like some other species of wild animals, they seem to be so deeply imbued with fear of man, they invariably perish by self-imposed starvation.

KENTUCKY BOOT.

Of Major Throckmorton, who died at Louisville recently, an improbable anecdote is related. He was long the proprietor of the Galt House, and in 1846 Charles Dickens was his guest. Upon the arrival of the distinguished author, Throckmorton, who was hospitably itself, waited upon him with this glowing speech: 'Mr. Dickens, we are glad to welcome you. We know you and admire you, and will reckon it a privilege to be allowed to extend to you the hospitalities of the metropolis of Kentucky. As your especial host, I beg that you will command me for any service in my power to render.' Mr. Dickens received this with a frigid stare. 'When I need you, landlord, he said pointing to the door, 'I will ring.' The Major, Kentucky to the backbone, had no fancy for such an insult, and sent his ready boot searching for solidity in the region of Mr. Dickens' coat-tails.

DON'T SMOKE WHERE THE CANARY IS.

From the Kingston Courier.

A city gentleman has a beautiful canary bird, which has been kept for some time in his reading room, as the gentleman was very fond of hearing the bird sing. Now, it so happened that the canary's cage hung just above the chair in which the gentleman used to sit and smoke. As time wore on it was noticed that the bird had ceased to sing as much as formerly. After a while the bird ceased to sing altogether. Finally, one day the bird was observed wildly endeavoring to keep on its perch, and floundering about the cage as though dizzy and very weak. It occurred to the gentleman and his wife that perhaps the tobacco smoke might have something to do with the bird's strange condition, and it was taken into another room. The pure air seemed to have an effect. In a day or two it was heard singing, though in a weak and tremulous voice. After a week had gone by, it began to send forth notes of purity and clearness, and at the end of a fortnight it was itself again.

CANADIAN CATTLE.

By reports furnished by Mr. Dyke, the Canadian Government Agent at Liverpool, it is shown that during the year just closed there have been exported from Canada to England 1,248 horses, 82,115 head of fat cattle, 62,461 sheep and 1,698 pigs. This shows an increase of nearly 600 per cent. for the previous year, which is indeed a gratifying exhibit. It is only a few years ago since Mr. Dyke first mooted the idea of building up an export trade in cattle with the mother country, and he is certainly to be congratulated on the dimensions it has already assumed. Mr. Dyke is a "real live agent," an indefatigable worker, and under his careful supervision Canadian interests are not likely to suffer. In his treatment of Canadians who visit Liverpool, also, there is something to admire, and many have reason to remember the courteous manner in which they were treated.

should be exercised, shed, etc., and his great powers were never improved as they would have been under more favorable circumstances.—Mr. Simpson, in California Spirit of the Times.

A LIVELY BOXING MATCH.

For some time past Charley Wilkes, a miner employed at the Scorpion on the shotgun shift, has been anxious to meet Harry Maynard, the boxer, in a regular prize fight for \$500 a side. Maynard declined all negotiations with Wilkes, but the latter, hearing that Maynard would box any man in town with gloves on the Alhambra stage, made arrangements to meet him on Thursday evening, 27th ult. Wilkes was on hand when the time came, and the two men stripped for the fray. The rounds were short and decisive.

Round First—Maynard led off with a smack on Wilkes' nob. Wilkes sat down.

Round Second—Maynard let his right loose at Wilkes' breast. Wilkes disappeared from the stage through the wings, and collided with a waiter girl who was carrying a tray of cocktails to a party of married gentlemen in one of the boxes. The girl was carried to her dressing room.

Round Third—Wilkes was knocked in various directions, to wit: N. E., S. W. by W. N. E. by E., and all other points of the compass.

Wilkes came up with a vindictive look in his eye, and made a rush at his antagonist. The men closed, and for a few seconds it was nip-and-tuck. Wilkes finally gave Maynard a nasty cross-buttock, but Maynard turned him over after the fall. Both men rose to their feet and closed at once for another bout. Maynard threw Wilkes and they both rolled over and over with wonderful rapidity, and it was hard to tell which was getting the advantage. The audience became intensely excited, and dozens of them kept rushing up to the stage and yelling themselves hoarse. Presently a stream of blood shot down Maynard's naked back, and the cry was raised that he was being bitten. Several men in the audience thereupon sprang upon the stage, and the combatants were separated. Mrs. Maynard, hearing the cry raised that her husband was being bitten, rushed excitedly on the stage and seemed anxious to take a hand in the row. After the men were separated it was found that the blood on Maynard came from a reservoir in Wilkes' nose. Considerable excitement prevailed, but Maynard maintained his usual good humor, and offered to shake hands with Wilkes, which courtesy the latter declined.—Virginia Chronicle.

GOOD CLOTHES.

The Hamilton Times says a rather amusing incident in relation to Rev. Mr. Mursell happened on Monday, showing as it does how good clothes are appreciated by a certain class. After the service in the Baptist church on Sunday morning a deputation from the Temperance Reform Club waited on the rev. gentleman and requested him to address the meeting to be held in the afternoon. On being acquainted with its object he informed the deputation that though a thorough temperance man he was not a total abstainer, however, he consented to speak. At the appointed hour Mr. Mursell presented himself at the door, but not being in the correct broadcloth, but in an ulster and a rowdy hat, the door-keeper refused him admittance as the hall was full. Consequently Mr. Mursell's eloquent address was lost because he did not look clerical enough.

PRESCOTT.—One thousand head of cattle are being fed at Wiser's barns during the present winter, all of which it is said will be shipped by Mr. Wiser to the European markets early in the spring. Several colts from the Rydyk Stock Farm are showing a wonderful amount of speed and are particularly admired for their beauty.

OBSESSIVE HAVING A HOT TIME OF IT.—The trotting gelding Observer, by the Holmes Horse (son of Napoleon, by Sherman Black Hawk), was again fired on the 15th inst., by Prof. S. V. B. York, of Mendota, Ill., where the horse is owned by Mr. E. Lawrie. The operation was pronounced a very successful one, and it is thought the horse will be able to resume his turf career by the time the coming season is in full blast. Observer has a record of 2:24½.

...a visit to Hottentaw, expressed an earnest desire to go bear hunting, and accordingly one morning he started, in company with Green French, George Bargeas, and Joe Lightfoot. Arriving at a thicket, the dogs gave notice of their near approach to a bear, and the party decided to station themselves at certain points, and let the dogs go in and drive the bear out. This was done, but the doctor, becoming impatient, entered the thicket himself. The heavy undergrowth made his progress slow, but he fought his way ahead until he came to a fall on a tree lying in a little gulch. Helping himself along by the limbs he arrived at the upper end just in time to be confronted by a huge grizzly bear. Retreat was impossible, as it had been with the utmost difficulty that the doctor had advanced so far, there was no tree in convenient distance, and as the grizzly showed fight, there was nothing left for him to do but to shoot. Taking deliberate aim with his Henry rifle, the doctor fired, and the bear fell mortally wounded. Another load was sprung from the magazine into the rifle, and the doctor, looking towards his prey, was surprised to see a second bear in the same spot. This he shot also, and, quickly reloading, was yet more astonished to see a third bear in the same place where he had shot the other two. Again the lever moved and a fresh charge went into position, and again the doctor looked up and discovered a fourth grizzly coming toward him from the same opening in the brush. Wang went the gun again, and down went bear No. 4. By this time the doctor had got warmed up and excited, and he kept moving the lever and firing into the bodies of the bears until the sixteenth shot in the magazine were exhausted. Meantime his companions, hearing the shooting, and presuming the cause, made their way to where the doctor was, with the intention of assisting him, but found him on top of the largest bear, with the others strewn about, swinging his hat and shouting lustily. One was an immense grizzly, so large that the hunters could not handle him, and the other three were good-sized grizzlies, probably about two years old. The shooting of four bears by one man without even changing his position, is something hitherto unheard of, even in the most highly-colored annals of the western wilds.

NAUTILUS.—On Monday evening the Nautilus Rowing Club of Hamilton was fully organized and the following officers have been duly elected: John Stewart, President; F. D. Carse, 1st Vice-President; Harry H. Davis, 2nd Vice-President; F. J. Harris, Treasurer; T. Davidson, Secretary, T. F. Gordon.

What guides the salmon, the shad, the alewife, and the sturgeon, through dark and muddy waters to not only their own river, but to the very branch of it in which they first saw the light? It cannot be the sense of sight, for they do not see far, as birds do, and their eyes are of little use in turbid waters. It must be the sense of smell, which is highly developed in fishes.

There are two ways to do most things: right way and a wrong one, and therefore there are two ways to measure the mesh of a net. One way is 'from knot to knot,' and if you measure it in that manner you will never miss of doing it the wrong way. With the exception of a few localities, fishermen, from the banks of Newfoundland to the Florida coast, measure the mesh, that is, as far as it can be stretched, bringing the two middle knots together. Thus: A net with knots an inch apart has a two inch mesh. We notice that some of the state fish commissioners make this mistake in their reports.

POINT BREEZE PARK PHILADELPHIA.—An election for officers of the Point Breeze Park Association, held Monday, Jan. 6, resulted in the election of A. London Snowden as President, and George H. Colket, A. H. Merabon, James Clare, B. D. Stetson, W. E. Penrose, H. H. St. John, Wm. M. Slingerley, Wm. B. Fisher, Wm. H. Gregg, Chas. C. Haines, Chas. Colwell, and M. Murphy as Directors. Messrs. Haines, Colwell, and Murphy are new members, the others having been re-elected. The completion of the Board will insure, we presume, the reappointment of Mr. Chas. H. Town, especially as we believe that that there is no available candidate opposing him for the position.—Philadelphia Item.