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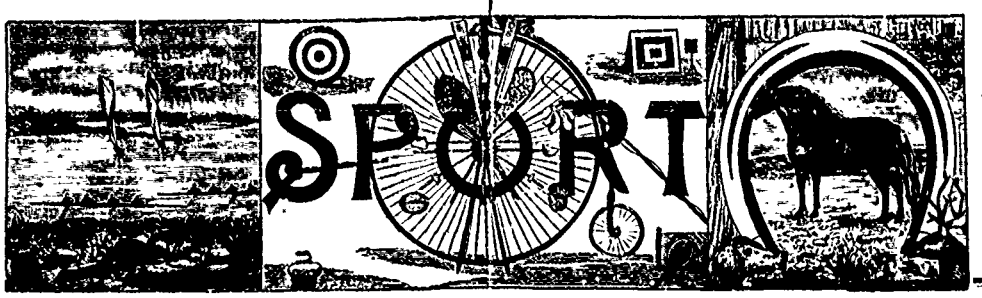

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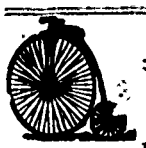

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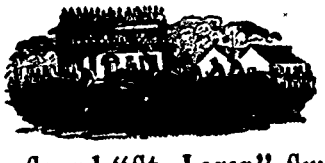

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ACROSS THE OCEAN.

A newsy letter from the Old Country. The week on Epsom Downs. Cricket notes. Important general news.

From our own Correspondent.

LONDON, MAY 28th, 1887.

DEAR SPORT,

The week on Epsom Downs is over, and the race for the blue riband of the turf, a matter of history. Little did I think when, in my last letter to you, I plumped for the Baron, that I should see such a comparative outsider as Merry Hampton win the classic event in a canter, and carracol past the post, as if she was taking the easiest of morning gallops. Going to the Derby, and the scene upon the course, has been written so often that even Americans—I beg pardon, Canadians—must be well up in the points of interest. Suffice it is to say, that all the old features were there, and new ones in abundance. Thimble riggers, fakirs and the thousands who make their living in the wake of the turf, were thoroughly represented, and from the gentleman who benevolently offered "arf a crown for a bob, and everyone a sure prize as I'm a living man," to the wealthy bookmaker, all were seeking for the soft spots in human nature, rendered all more soft by the excitement of the occasion and the attendant circumstances. "Arry" was out in force, and all grades of society were represented, from the heir apparent to the throne, to the lowest types of humanity in existence. With kindly courtesy about half-past one, and in capital time for the advent of the Royal party, the sunshine ran a rapid shimmer of light over the Downs. The advent of the Prince and Princess of Wales was marked by a burst of cheering, the reception of the Princess being sympathetically spontaneous.

The signal being given given for the horses to leave the paddock, Aintree led the way to the field, reaching the post seven minutes behind time, where Lord Marcus Beresford was waiting flag in hand, to dispatch them. There was very little delay for after one or two false movements the field caught his eye and without a mistake they were off. Porcelain made the running with the Shannon colt well up to the right. They were followed by Aintree, Eiridsperd, Blanchland, and The Baron, with Consolide, Martley, and Merry Hampton the whippers-in. Before a quarter of a mile had been covered, the Shannon colt took up a running from Eiridsperd, Grandison, and Porcelain, and then came The Baron, Blanchland, and Savile, with the others as they were originally, except that Martley was last. Before passing the mile-post Eiridsperd had drawn up to the girths of the Shannon colt, and they rattled along clear of Blanchland, Grandison, The Baron, Porcelain, and Savile, Aintree now figuring at the tail end. At the top of the hill Blanchland showed in front, as the Shannon colt dropped back. But Eiridsperd was on terms again almost immediately, and with the pair racing head and head down the hill, a gap of three or four lengths divided them from Merry Hampden, who had rushed into third place the moment Watts allowed him to do so. The Baron was now in his heels, and pitched so much on the steepest part of the decline that cries of "the favorite's beat" were raised on every side, as they approached Tattenham Corner. More than a quarter of a mile from home, Blanchland was in hopeless difficulties, and as Eiridsperd could not keep out of the way of Merry Hampton, Watts allowed him to take up the running when he saw that the Baron was beginning to struggle on under the whip. The efforts of the latter carried him into second place, below the distance, as from the moment that Eiridsperd was collared he had not an effort left, and resigned to Martley. The race was now over as far as the first three were concerned, for Merry Hampton had not the least difficulty in resisting one and all of the faint challenges of The Baron, and passing the post an easy winner by four lengths. Martley, who lost second honors by a couple of lengths, was being collared rapidly from the centre of the stand by Aintree, who left off about half a length behind him, with Eiridsperd fifth, Savile sixth, Blanchland seventh, Consolide eighth, Grandison ninth, Porcelain tenth, and the Shannon colt last. Time by Benson's chronograph, 2min. 43sec.

Concerning the grand race, I have culled the following few figures from the sporting papers, which may be of interest:—The value of the race was 4525*l*, the race last year when the Duke of Westminster's Ormonde was successful, being worth 4700*l*. The previous season Melton credited Lord Hastings with 4525*l*; in 1884 the stakes (divided between Mr. J. Hammond's St. Gatien and Sir J. Willoughby's Harvester,) amounted to 4850*l*; in 1883, when Sir F. Johnstone's St. Blaise won to 5150*l*; and in 1882, when the Duke of Westminster's Shotover was the winner, to 4777*l*. Some previous values follow:—1881, Mr. P. Lorillard's Iroquois, 5925*l*; 1880, Duke of Westminster's Bend Or, 6375*l*; 1879, Mr. Acton's Sir Bevys, 7025*l*; 1878, Mr. W. S. Crawfurd's Sefton, 5525*l*; 1877, Lord Falmouth's Silvio, 6050*l*; 1876, Mr. A. Baltazzi's Kisber, 5575*l*. The richest Derby on record was that of Lord Lyon in 1866, who then won for his owner 7350*l*.

The race this year was as I have said was in 2m. 43 sec. (one mile and a half) against the 45m. 3-5 sec. of the Duke of Westminster's Ormonde last year, and the 2min 44 1-5 sec of Lord Hasting's Melton the previous season. In 1884 Mr. J. Hammond's St. Gatien and Sir J. Willoughby's Harvester, who ran a dead heat, covered the course in 2min 46 1-5th sec, and Sir F. Johnstone's St. Blaise, in 1883, in 2min 48 2-5th sec. The times for several previous anniversaries follow:—1882, Duke of Westminster's Shotover, 2min 45 3-5th sec; 1881, Mr. P. Lorillard's Iroquois, 2min. 50sec.; 1880, Duke of Westminster's Bend Or, 2min. 46sec.; 1879, Mr. Acton's Sir Bevys, 3min. 2sec.; 1878, Mr. Crawfurd's Sefton, 2min. 56sec.; 1877, Lord Falmouth's Silvio, 2min. 50sec.; 1876, Mr. A. Baltazzi's Kisber, 2min. 44sec.; Mr. P'Anson's Blair Athol, and Col. Townley's Kettledrum, who won in 1864 and 1861, respectively, ran the Derby course in the same time as Merry Hampton, and that record has not been beaten. Like Blair Athol who carried silk for the first time when he won the Derby in 1864, Merry Hampton had not been seen in public before running at Epsom on Wednesday, and he won the race in the same time—2min. 43sec.—that the son of Stockwell did. Another coincidence may be noted, in the fact that Jem Snowden scored his first and only Derby victory on Blair Athol, and J. Watts has now steered his first blue riband winner in Merry Hampton. The latter colt too, is the first Derby winner sired by Hampton, and Blair Athol was the first of Stockwell's get to take the same race.

The Epsom grand prize of 1,000 sovs., and 200 sovs for the breeder of the winner, added to a sweepstakes of 25 sovs. each, was won handily by Eiridsperd who finished fifth in the Derby.

The Oaks was the other great event in the Derby week, and was won in a canter by Rêve d'Or.

Following is a table of the principal winning jockeys (flat) compiled up to yesterday from March 21:—

	Mounts.	Lost.	Won.
Wood, C.	155	110	45
Barrett, G.	201	167	34
Loates, S.	129	101	28
Webb, F.	73	51	22
Watts, J.	109	88	21
Robinson, W.	106	86	20
Fagan, J.	82	66	16
Martin, E.	107	92	15
Richaby, F.	71	57	14
Cannon, T.	57	45	12
Barrett, F.	60	49	11
Woodburn, J.	87	78	9
Brickenkaw, T.	23	15	8
Wall, J.	65	57	8

CRICKET.

The influence of weather on the noble but gloriously uncertain game of cricket, had never a better illustration than in the match M. C. C. and ground *vs.* Yorkshire. One run would practically have altered the result of this match at Lord's. When the last two batsmen of the visiting side got together 19 were required to save the follow on; 18 of these were wiped off, and then Chatterton bowled Hunter, and the Yorkshire men had to continue batting, with the result that in spite of the assistance of rain and some excellent batting on the part of Peel, they were all got rid of by twenty minutes to six, for 131, leaving the M. C. C. with 52 to get to win, a task they accomplished an hour later for the loss of one wicket. W. Flowers played a magnificent innings of 63, not out in the first essay of the club, W. Chatterton and G. G. Hearne following this lead with 36 and 44. Nothing remarkable was accomplished by Yorkshire outside of R. Peel's 54 not out in the second innings, a meritorious performance.

The unfinished match Cambridge *vs* Gentlemen of England (with Rawlin) mentioned in last week's letter was concluded this week. The following score tells the tale fully.

The University.	1st inn.		2nd inn.
E. Crawley, b Rawlin	2	b Rawlin	7
H. Orr, c Rawlin, b Robertson	2	st G. A. b A. E. Leatham	13
G. Kemp, ran out	35	b Rawlin	0
A. M. Sutherry, not out	54	c and b Robertson	9
E. Marchant, b Rawlin	0	c Walker, b A. E. Leatham	40
F. Meyrick-Jones, c Paravicini, b Rawlin	11	c G. A. b A. E. Leatham	17
H. Hale, c Webbe, b Rawlin	4	c Webbe, b A. E. Leatham	16
F. J. Ford, c G. A. b Leatham, b Rawlin	4	b Rawlin	79
L. Martineau, b Rawlin	11	b Robertson	26
N. F. Stephens, b Rawlin	0	not out	3
A. E. Cox, c & b Robertson	1	c Walker b Rawlin	4
Byes	6	Byes 12, l-b 1, w 1, n 1	15
Total	131	Total	223

Mr. Webbe's Eleven.			
C. I. Thornton, b Hale	15	J. Robertson, b Hale	0
E. J. C. Studd, b Stephens	1	A. E. Leatham, c Martineau, b Sutherry	15
J. G. Walker, b Hale	15	G. A. B. Leatham, not out	0
J. Frank, c Martineau, b Sutherry	4	Byes 23, l-b 1, n 1	24
A. J. Webbe, b Hale	38	Total	302
G. F. Vernon, c Orr, b Marchant	23		
Rawlin, c Orr, b Hale	46		
P. J. de Paravicini, b Hale	11		

Gentlemen of England (second innings).—G. A. B. Leatham, b Marchant, 9; Studd, b Stephen, 33; Robertson (not out), 3; Frank, c Ford, b Marchand, 2; Paravicini (not out), 3; leg byes, 1; total, 45.

In all the annals of cricket there is no similar record to that of the Yorkshire colts. For thirteen young batsmen to stay in all day and score 324 runs off such men as Peate, Peel, Wade, Preston, Ulyett, Emmett, and Bates, is a feat which passeth all understanding, and makes up a performance which the ground man at Brammal-lane will likely cut out and paste on the front of his hat.

It seems as if 1887 season is to be a sensational one. Following Mr. Horuby's performance mentioned last week is the dashing innings by W. E. Roller in the Middlesex-Surrey match. In the first essay Middlesex was disputched for 81. Surrey's innings netted 294 of which Mr. Roller contributed 118. He was at the wicket two hours and thirty-five minutes, scoring one hundred and eighteen out of 196, or three-fifths of the runs during his stay, and from start to finish batted with vigour and accuracy. His chief hits were ten fours, seven threes, and sixteen twos.

After several changes and a considerable amount of engineering the following has been finally issued as the official list of matches arranged for the Canadian Amateurs during their forthcoming visit to England. All the contents are two-day fixtures:

JULY.

16—Dublin, Canadians v. Gentlemen of Ireland.
18—Edinburgh, Canadians v. Gentl'men of Scotland.
23—Newcastle, Canadians v. Gentlemen of Northumberland.
25—Sunderland, Canadians v. Gentlemen of Durham.
27—Buxton, Canadians v. Gentlemen of Derbyshire.
29—Brighton, Canadians v. Gentlemen of Sussex.

AUGUST.

1—Lord's, Canadians v. Gentlemen of M.C.C.
5—Portsmouth, Canadians v. United Services.
8—Oval, Canadians v. Gentlemen of Surrey.
10—Southampton, Canadians v. Gentlemen of Hampshire.
12—Clifton, Canadians v. Gentlemen of Gloucestershire.
15—Stoke-on-Trent, Canadians v. Gentlemen of Staffordshire.
17—Birmingham, Canadians v. Gentlemen of Warwickshire.
19—Leicester, Canadians v. Gentlemen of Leicestershire.
22—Liverpool, Canadians v. Gentlemen of Liverpool and District.

A week's practice will take place on the Phœnix Ground at Dublin prior to the opening engagement.

The revised team is as follows:

Allan, A. C., Toronto.
Annand, J. Halifax, N.S.
Ferrie, R. B., Hamilton.
Gillespie, A., Hamilton.
Henry, W., jun., Halifax, N. S.
Jones, G. W., St. John, N. B.
Umpire, Mr. C. M. Shonly, Toronto; Scorer, Mr. R. C. Dickson.
Jones, W. W., Toronto.
Lindsay, G. G. S., Toronto, (secretary).
Little, W. C., Ottawa.
Ogden, Dr. E. R. Upper Canada College.
Saunders, D. W. Toronto.
Vickers, W. W., Toronto.

AQUATICS.

J. Haggerty and C. Beckwith have made arrangements to swim 500 yards, one mile, and half a mile, and as Haggerty is known and acknowledged as the fastest swimmer we have for a short distance, whilst Charley Beckwith is looked upon as an improving swimmer, the races give good promise of interest. The stakes are £150. The first race came off on Wednesday.

The bath bath being twenty yards long, it was necessary for the men to swim twenty-five lengths, so bearing this fact in mind the time made does not show anything very startling. Mr. R. Watson officiated as starter, and soon after the advertised time the swimmers were sent on their journey. Haggerty got away best, and rose from the plunge with his head well in front. Beckwith swam with a nice clean stroke, but the 100 yards champion showed best pace, and keeping ahead all the way (not more than three yards dividing the men at any part of the race) Haggerty won by a yard and a half spurting well down the last length; time, 7min. 35½sec.

The second race was on Friday evening. The race was over a distance of one mile, forty-four laps (or double lengths) having to be covered to complete the distance. Haggerty as swimming the 500 yards, was fairly well fancied for the longer journey, but Beckwith displayed most stamina, and ultimately scored the victory, thus leaving the swimmers with one win each, the third race of a mile to decide the question. The time was 29m. 51sec. The intermediate distance will decide.

Miserable weather took a good deal of interest out of the senior sculling contest at Eton. On each evening it was miserable and wet, but there was a great number of spectators present to witness the rowing. The course was a severe one, starting from the Eton Brocas up stream, round the Rusher, and back to Windsor Bridge—about three miles. The water was lumpy, which made it hard work for the competitors. The final heat was as follows:

First Eton Station: A. M. Clark 1
Second Eton Station: H. C. T. Hambro .. 2
Second Windsor Station: W. J. Thompson 3
First Windsor Station: C. S. Lloyd..... 4

Won very easily by one hundred and fifty yards; Thompson ran into the bank on his homeward journey at Upper Hope, where he was passed by Hambro: time, 20m. 38½sec.

The Oxford summer eight oared bumping races were first rate this season and resulted in an easy win for New college. These contests were instituted in 1838, this year being the first victory for this college, Magdalen won in 1886 and Corpus in 1885.

CYCLING.

In connection with the recent [illegible] by the N. C. U. a prominent [illegible] makes me acquainted with some curious facts in connection with cycling racing. I learnt with surprise that a clerk, whose salary was £2 weekly, had been engaged by such generous employers that last year he attended no fewer than 35 race meetings in all parts of the country, besides being allowed sufficient time for training, and all this only cost £50 or £60. Circumstances have changed since my quill-driving days. The stingy curmudgeons, who I formerly honoured by attending their office

(Continued on fourth Page.)

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