

August 12 and 13. This gives eleven weeks of racing, and is the longest circuit yet formed for 1896.

THE mysterious disease that killed quite a number of horses in the neighborhood of Winton (New Zealand) some years ago has broken out with fresh virulence, and the area over which animals are affected has been considerably extended. One of the symptoms is a strong impulse to go forward, the poor brutes pushing through fences and hedges, oblivious of the injuries received. It is believed that the ragwort, ragweed, or bindweed, a coarse weed common about Winton, is the cause of the disease.

THE floors of stalls for horses should never be high in front. Professor Almond says that he is convinced from his own experience that a horse should never be compelled to stand for any length of time higher in front than behind. His experience leads to the conclusion that most of the common cases of bent knees in young horses is from their being tied in stables where the front of the stall is higher than the back. It is cruel to the horse, and an injury to all young animals. A horse, for comfort, should stand a little lower in front.

ONE of the greatest patrons of the English turf, Baron Hirsch, has joined the majority. During the past eight years he has paid high prices for Thoroughbred yearlings, twenty of the tops of those he bought costing him \$156,750. For La Flèche, by St. Simon-Quiner, he paid, \$27,500 at Her Majesty's sale in 1890. She won for him \$175,000 in stakes, including the One Thousand Guineas, the Oaks, the St. Leger, the Lancashire Plate, the Cambridgeshire and the Ascot and Liverpool cups. Lately Lord Lurgan has had the management of his racing stable and breeding stud.

THE *Scottish Farmer* says: "The proof of the vast superiority of a Clydesdale gelding over a Shire gelding in every point which goes to enhance value in a draft horse is complete, and the way to improve the English gelding in these valuable properties is to cross the ordinary big, open Shire mare with a well-bred Clydesdale horse. Last year the number of Clydesdale horses travelling in England was considerably in excess of the number travelling in any previous year, and there were few counties in which a Clydesdale stallion was not at work. This season, as far as we can learn, there has been no diminution in the supply, and ere many years are over a better class of geldings will be found in some districts than those

seen in the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, this spring."

THE *Horse Review* tells a story of one G. W. Marsh, of Concord, N.H., who had a vicious horse which grabbed him by the arm when he went to feed him, and chased him out of the stall. He sold him the same day, and agreed to deliver him to the unsuspecting purchaser that evening. When he went to halter the horse to deliver him he was again attacked, and so severely injured that the delivery could not be carried out. This reminds the writer of an old story of a thief who, having stolen a sawmill, returned to carry off the mill-dam, fell in, and was drowned. and adds: "As a matter of fact, every owner of a vicious horse should follow the example of the young man in New Jersey, who, discovering that a recently-purchased mare was vicious and ungovernable, promptly shot her, making it impossible for her to maim or kill anyone."

THE London *Live Stock Journal*, which is generally down on anything colonial, and which is especially against the admission of Canadian cattle to Britain, says: "In face of the flooding of the London markets with Canadian 'cart vanners,' it is scarcely possible that there can be a reaction in favor of homebred horses of similar type or some time to come. The average number of these Atlantic 'swimmers' sold under the hammer during the past few weeks has been between 350 and 400, and it is known that the floating cargoes to come in are such that this average will be considerably increased. There are really no first-class London dray horses amongst them, but the town contractors find them suitable for rough-and-tumble work, and economical at the money." We are glad to have even this faint praise from such a source, and hope to send some first-class heavy draught horses in days to come from Canada.

MR. F. C. STEVENS, the well-known Hackney breeder of Maplewood Stud, Attica, N.Y., has lately brought out from England one of the best and most carefully selected lot of Hackneys that ever left England. Some time ago Mr. Stevens had the misfortune to lose the stallion Ottawa (4440), which won for Mr. Robert Beith, M.P., of Bowmanville, the first prize at the World's Fair, Chicago. To replace this loss, and also bring out a few good mares, Mr. Stevens sent over his manager, Mr. E. T. Gay. With him went Mr. Alex. Galbraith, of Janesville, Wis. They brought Clifton II., last year's champion winner at the Royal. He is a dark dappled chestnut, four