

little betting *sub rosa*, just as every transaction in life is liable to betting, but it forms no feature in the game. Now this is the kind of modified racing that is suitable to a colony, a kind of racing in which every owner of a horse may take part, under the salutary regulation that neither his own neck nor his horse's are to be endangered, no prize for mere speed given, and no temptation offered to betting or gambling. The effect is to foster in the mind of the farmer, as of the city tradesman, a pride in his horse, and to secure that care in selection and attention in keeping, without which our horses never can improve.

If we cannot have Epsom racing and English fox-hunting in Nova Scotia, we may at least have a trial course after the Canadian fashion, which would have one good effect; it would lead to fewer exhibitions of awkward and reckless driving round the street corners that are now a daily terror to the citizens of Halifax.

It will of course be argued (and justly) that those exhibition "trials" are not racing in the proper sense of the term. But it is a great mistake to suppose that they are of less interest to the horse-loving public than an actual race. Nearly all the advantages of the proper race course are secured, with others that cannot be there attained. When Elson went to New Brunswick last summer, the young men suddenly took to pedestrianism. In Halifax the desire for physical exercise has developed itself into cricketing. Who will say that cricket, without any prizes or betting, is less useful or less exciting than a walking or running foot race for 50 or 60 dollars a side?

THE DERBY DAY OF 1865.

The Derby day was unusually attractive this year, and the accounts of the race will be read with care, not by turf men alone, but by all who feel an interest in horses. The French horse **GLADIATEUR** carried off the palm, distancing the finest horses of England. Englishmen will not lightly let go the proud pre-eminence which English race horses have so long enjoyed as the finest in the world, and assuredly the Derby day of 1865 will not be without its effects in the stables and on the turf. We select from the English papers some of the details that are most likely to interest our readers:—

The Derby of 1865 is one which will long be remembered, and will occupy a prominent position in the history of the turf, for it will be recorded that this year—the year of the jubilee of peace between England and France, the completion of the half century since Waterloo—**Gladiator** avenged the defeat of 1815, and the splendid French horse of Count Lagrange wrested from Englishmen one of their proudest and most cherished honours, the blue riband of the turf.

To the friends of the turf it is, however, a somewhat serious matter that for the first time since Diomed won the Derby, now 86 years since, none but an English horse had attained to the highest and proudest honour of the turf. Englishmen can afford to be generous in this matter, and although many may regret, none will grudge, the enterprising Count the results of his gallant contest.

The horses about to take part in the race had been mustered in the paddock, where, as usual, persons were admitted to view them upon the payment of a special fee. The principal objects of curiosity were naturally

Gladiator and **Breadalbane**, though many still clung to the belief that there were points about **Wild Charley** which would render him a formidable rival. **Christmas Carol** improved as much as **Long-down** was depreciated upon close acquaintance. It was known by this time that **Mr. Jackson's** horse **Jupiter** would not be a competitor; all the others, however, were starters, and a new horse, **Kate Hampton**, was added to the list, thereby completing the original number of thirty. Leaving the paddock, the horses came in front of the Grand Stand for their preliminary canter. Among the first to show themselves were **Gladiator** and **LeMandarin**, both of whom were warmly welcomed. A considerable interval elapsed before **Breadalbane** made his appearance, but when he came forward, accompanied by **Broomielaw**, his backers likewise seemed encouraged by his appearance. There were some, of course, among the crowd who having backed particular horses concentrated their attention on them; but the great mass of the spectators had eyes or ears for nothing except the two horses accepted as representatives of the two nations. The canter up hill showed a slight but still a decided advantage of temper on the side of the French horse. **Grimshaw**, his jockey, was conversing with somebody, when **LeMandarin** started off in advance; **Gladiator** followed instinctively, and with good will. **Breadalbane**, on the contrary, when his time came, threw back his ears, and was a second or two in settling into his stride. The canter down hill was still more decidedly in favor of the French horse. His action throughout was so smooth and regular and sweeping that most persons made up their minds there and then as to the probable result of the race. The starting was attended with a considerable amount of vexation, and with one unfortunate accident, **Sharpe**, the rider of **Mr. White's Joker**, being thrown from his seat, and so much injured that, although he was able to rise from the ground, he did not attempt to take part in the race, and the horse was accordingly led back to the paddock.

At last, just as the clock was about to strike four, the horses got away together, and till the ascent, or first half mile, had been traversed, there was not a symptom of lagging on the part of any. Round the corner they swept at a tremendous pace, and then one dropped back a little, and a knot of four or five stood out a length in advance. There were fewer dark colours than usual in the group, and consequently it was not easy to distinguish the position of the favourites; but as there were two or three patches of red well to the front, and as **Gladiator's** jockey wore red sleeves and cap, while **Breadalbane's** colours were "all rose," the excitement grew absolutely feverish. In the straight run home, none of the familiar colours occupied the expected position; and, until just touching the Grand Stand, **Christmas Carol** and **Eltham**, running their very best, appeared to have matters their own way. The width of the Grand Stand, however, determined the race. With a sudden rush **Gladiator** disentangled himself from the knot of horses that concealed him from view, passed first one and then another, and finally drew abreast of the leader himself. **Grimshaw** seemed to expect that he would have to rush for it against **Christmas Carol**, and in that expectation raised his whip and gave one stroke to the favourite, who re-

sponded with a stride that, despite previous performances, seemed almost supernatural. **Christmas Carol**, on the contrary, was capable of maintaining his pace, but no more, and **Gladiator** accordingly shot in an easy winner by a couple of lengths. **Eltham** was third; **Longdown** an indifferent fourth.

The sensation produced when it was known that the French horse had actually won was something indescribable. The barriers burst like so many cobwebs, and fully half the spectators present flocked on to the racecourse, so that from the paddock well nigh to **Tattenham** corner there was one dense, swarming, excited mass of humanity. The utmost efforts of the police with difficulty sufficed to clear and keep the space requisite for unsaddling, and although there appeared to be no visible need for the precaution, **Gladiator** was escorted into this area by a force of mounted constabulary. His jockey was repeatedly and very cordially cheered, and the friends of **Count de Lagrange** applauded again and again.

Gladiator has been purchased for the State Stud in France.

It is said that the Emperor of the French is as proud of the victory as if his army had gained a great battle.

GLADIATEUR'S MASTER.

Gladiator was owned by **Count de Lagrange** only son of the Minister of War to **King Jerome**.

The Count has a very large hereditary property; his principal residence is the **Chateau de Danger**, in the **Vexin**. It is surrounded by magnificent farms, the land being worth 200*l.* the *arpent*. The park contains five hundred English acres. **Count de Lagrange's** purchase of the **D'Aumont** stud, which he bought as it stood, startled his friends. The present flourishing state of the French turf dates from this purchase. The Count's *haras* is eight miles from the chateau, a most picturesque road leading to it. The stables are built in the centre of 700 acres of the finest pasture land in France. They contain at this moment five horses, forty brood mares, and thirty-six one-year old colts.

THE PARIS RACES.

At the Paris races which took place subsequent to the Derby, **Gladiator** came in first by three lengths.

STEEPLE CHASE IN NEW JERSEY.

At the steeple chase in New Jersey, "**Nannie Craddock**," of Toronto, came in first, followed by three Montreal horses, over a course of 3½ miles; time, 9.24.

EXTENSION OF SHEEP HUSBANDRY —A SHEEP SOCIETY.

England had its society—and a highly beneficial one it was—for the "Improvement of British Wool." There is no reason why we should not have something of the same kind in Nova Scotia. The idea, in fact, is likely to be acted upon. A number of persons in **Barrington**, in the county of **Shelburne**, are forming themselves into a society for the promotion of sheep husbandry. Owing to the rocky character of the soil in that section of the country, it is not adapted to extensive agricultural operations of the ordinary kind. The society is being organized, therefore, for