

## FROTHING AT PARKHILL

Jan. 1, 1894, Feb. 4.—\$100. Trotting Mile heats.	
John Noble's brown mare.....	1 1
T. M. Rogers' Exchange.....	2 2
Thomas Taylor's Sitting Bull.....	3 3
No time.	

## GIANT HUMBUGS.

BY ARCHER.

The late excitement over the discovery of a fossil man in Colorado, "Missing Link," having a perfectly developed caudal appendage, leads me to believe that a history of this and kindred humbugs may not be without interest to the readers of the SPORTING TIMES.

The first hoax, the "Cardiff Giant," was as monstrous in character as the last, and was conceived in the brain of one George Hull, of Biguamptton, and personally known to the writer, a tobaccoist. According to his account, while watching by the bedside of a friend in Askey, Iowa, in 1866, he became involved in a discussion with a Rev. Mr. Turk upon the logical topics, concluding with a heated dispute as to the existence of giants upon the earth; a theory which he mainly maintained to be untenable, an idea the rev. gentleman hotly combatted, citing numerous passages in Scripture as evidence, particularly from Genesis vi., 4, and numbers xiii., 33: "There were giants in the earth in those days."

"And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, which come of the giants. And we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, etc." Winding up with the assertion that "such evidence was incontrovertible." Hull retired at a late hour, considerably excited, and not a little angered that he had been worsted in the argument, owing to his limited knowledge, and the more ready tongue of his opponent. Of one thing he felt convinced, viz., the credulity of mankind, especially where the Bible could be brought and cited as evidence. On this state of mind he conceived the idea of manufacturing a giant, which should be buried, and afterwards exhumed, and be passed off as a petrified man, deceiving the world, and at the same time replenishing his own greatly depleted exchequer.

In 1868, having completed his arrangements, Hull, in company with one Martin, whom he had taken into his confidence, went to examine the gypsum quarries in the neighborhood of Port Dodge, Iowa. The stone proving satisfactory, and easy to quarry, they purchased an acre of the land, and at once began work. The first attempt to obtain a block suitable for their enterprises proved futile, owing to the exceedingly friable nature of the stone; and, becoming annoyed by the persistent curiosity and suspicion of the neighbors, it was abandoned. Martin, who was rather lukewarm at the outset, now became thoroughly disgusted and withdrew from the project. Hull, however, was not to be daunted by a single failure, and, hearing of another gypsum bed in the more retired locality some miles away on the line of the Dubuque and Sioux Railway, then in process of construction, went thither to renew his efforts. By the aid of a barrel of beer he persuaded the foreman of the railroad gang in the neighborhood to employ his men in quarrying out as large a block as possible the following Sunday. This was accomplished, a slab some twelve feet long, four feet wide, and twenty-two inches thick being secured. With almost incredible difficulty and labor, owing to the bad state of the roads, the immense block weighing three and a half tons, was transported over the forty miles intervening between its matrix and Montana, the nearest railway station, where it was shipped to Chicago, being consigned to E. Burghardt, a stone-cutter, whose services had been secured to manufacture the giant. On its arrival at that city, it was moved to Burghardt's barn, which had been prepared for its

by the writer, and it was found that the giant near the barn, where a well had formerly been projected.

All being arranged satisfactorily, Hull returned to Union, November 4th, and shipped the "fossil" for Cardiff by four-horse team, under the charge of his nephew, Tracy Hull, and one Amesbury. He started the same evening by train, in order to arrange for the burial. On the evening of the 9th of the same month, the heavily laden team arrived, attracting little attention, owing to the darkness and rain, though the peculiar appearance of the iron-bound case and its apparent weight, from the amount of motive power demanded in its transportation, had excited considerable curiosity and comment while on the road. The box was unloaded and concealed in a pile of chaff, the team returning the same evening. A few nights later it was removed, and lowered into its resting place by means of a derrick.

In October, 1869, nearly a year having elapsed, Hull wrote Newell to "find the plant." In accordance with pre-arranged plans, two neighbors, Gideon Emmons and Henry Nichols, were engaged to sink a well; one Woodmansee was secured to stone it, and Nichols, aided by one Parker, began drawing stone. Suddenly the shovel of Nichols struck a hard substance, which, in clearing away, proved to be a massive stone foot, calling forth from Emmons the exclamation, "Jerusalem, Nichols, it's a big Injun!" As the earth was cleared away, revealing the outlines, several neighbors, chancing that way, were summoned to view the wonder. This was the nucleus of a crowd which numbered thousands a few hours later.

It has been asserted that the earth showed no signs of having been excavated so recently as the year previous; but the sworn affidavit of one John Hagan, who was among the first called to see the "Injun," proves the contrary:

"I took a shovel and got down into the hole, and as fast as they uncovered the body towards the head, I cleared the dirt off about up to the hand on the belly. When we were clearing off from the upper portion of the body, the earth cleared off from the sod and fell upon the body. I said, 'Boys, this is the spot where he was put down.' No reply was made, but Mr. Newell stepped around, and taking a shovel, trimmed the sod down square with where it came off."

The following day, Sunday, four wise acres of scientific pretensions, medical men of the neighborhood, investigated the subject, and swallowed the pill without difficulty, pronouncing the find to be a "petrified man." Later it was examined by Dr. Boynton, of Syracuse, a man possessed of some antiquarian knowledge, who decided to be a statue, "made some three hundred years ago by the Jesuit fathers," and at once offered \$10,000 for it. This and more tempting offers were declined, as sight-seers at half a dollar per head were apparently unlimited in number. However, Newell, in compliance with Hull's order, sold a three-fourths interest to half a dozen citizens of Syracuse, comprising a dentist, an American express agent, two bankers, and three pseudo-scientists, the price paid being \$30,000. A showman was now placed in charge, and in the way of advertisement, invitations were sent to Prof. Agassiz, Prof. Hull (State Geologist), S. B. Woelworth (Secretary of the University), etc. November 8th a large delegation of scientific men assembled from different parts of the State for deliberate and thorough inspection. They at once pronounced it a statue, and the State Geologist declared it to be of great antiquity. Prof. Ward, who filled the chair of Natural Sciences in the Rochester University, said, "Although not dating back to the stone age, it is nevertheless deserving the attention of archaeologists." A prominent clergyman wrote, "This is not a thing contrived of man, but is the face of one who lived like all the earth; the very image and child of God;" thus confirming the impression Hull received from his discussion with the Rev. Turk.

Only one man, however, could not be induced to apply to the "Injun" as a statue. Judge Barnum, of Erie R. R. fame, for an instant against Barnum; but that functionary replied that he had been in the "Injun" business, but had "closed out."

The giant soon came to New York after a short reception at Albany, only to find "Othello's occupation gone." After an unsuccessful exhibition of a few days, it was shipped to Boston. Here the excitement bid fair to break out again, from the fire created by the learned men—all men at the "Hub" are learned—of this modern Athens. Ralph Waldo Emerson pronounced it beyond his depth—which no one has been able to measure—astonishing, and undoubtedly ancient. Cyrus Cobb, the artist and sculptor, declared that any man who called the giant a humbug, "simply declared himself a fool." On the 4th of February, a number of Solons visited the exhibition in a sort of official body. They examined it long and patiently; the exterior was tried with acids; the head bored into; and the compass carried around it in search of iron. The conclusion arrived at was very satisfactory, and undoubtedly true, as it was decided to be a "stratified gypsum, probably very old." The subject invaded the Boston clubs, and one whole evening was occupied by the president of the Thursday evening club, in an address to prove that the giant was modern, because its features were Napoleonic. But a few weeks elapsed ere the proofs of the frauds perpetrated because incontrovertible, and the Cardiff giant was withdrawn from public gaze, to be consigned to popular oblivion. Its very name is sufficient to damn any public exhibition with which it may be connected, and even the side shows of the circuses consider its presence as a sure indication of pecuniary ruin.

Concluded next week.

## Fur, Skin and Feather.

### MONTREAL FISH AND GAME PROTECTION CLUB.

At the adjourned meeting of this Club the annual report submitted at a former meeting was adopted. Mr. Shewan brought forward the subject of killing fish by dynamite, which had been practised at Lachine last summer by Americans. The matter received the earnest attention of the board, which entered their strong protest against the murderous practice. A resolution passed asking the Provincial Legislature to prohibit Spring duck shooting. The following officers were elected: President, R. W. Kelly; Vice-President, F. J. Brady; Secretary, A. N. Shewan; Treasurer, W. H. Rintoul. Committee: Messrs. McPherson, Lemoine, King, Normandieu, Wilson, Alloway, White, Penton, Ahern, Sinclair, Leach, Bourdeau and Dupuy.

### BOWMANVILLE TO THE FRONT.

An attentive correspondent at Bowmanville, advises us of a couple of matches which have come off in that locality. The first was shot at Newcastle a short time ago between Stein of Newcastle, and Colman of Bowmanville, for \$50; 15 single birds, usual conditions. The score was as follows, only 14 birds each being shot at, as Colman could not have tied:

Stein.....	011110*11010101—9
Colman.....	1110*1011010000—7
On the 30th ult. a two handed match took place at Bowmanville. The parties to it were Reynolds and Grey, professionals, (what is a professional pigeon shooter, anyway?) who were backed by Mr. Frank Henderson, the well-known horseman of Bowmanville, and C. & T. Colman, for \$50, 15 single birds each, usual conditions.	
Grey.....	011011106100111—9
Reynolds.....	000011100010001—5
C. Colman.....	000*11100100111—7
Thos. Colman.....	000*1111100*000*1—6

\* Fell dead out of bounds.

THE SPECIMEN.—A large mouse was recently shot in the train yard, and its head was sent to Mr. G. O. Fisher, of Ottawa, who has placed it in the hands of Mr. T. Hardy, taxidermist, to be stuffed. It is the largest mouse killed for years in that section, and is intended for a museum collection. Mr. Fisher refused \$40 for it.

ARRIVED.—The wild turkey cock, forwarded to Mr. Allan Gilmour, of Ottawa, by the proprietors of the Forest and Stream, for that gentleman's museum, has been received. Mr. Gilmour intends having it stuffed and placed in a large glass case for exhibition in his private museum. It is as fine a specimen of that species of bird as has been seen in this city.

THE FLIGHT OF A PIGEON.—Mr. Walker, of Mitchell, Ont., who is a great pigeon fancier, and is in possession of several valuable birds, a short time ago brought from Toronto a very handsome "carrier." When he thought it sufficiently "naturalized," he let it out with his other pigeons, but it at once flew high up into the air, made a few circles, and then made a "bee line" for Toronto. It arrived at its old home in a little less than three hours from the time it started.

### NAMES CLAIMED.

By MR. JOHN FORBES, Woodstock, Ont.

TOM ROLF, for bay colt by Tom Rolf, (the by Pugh's imported Aratus, out of the great pacing mare Pocahontas, the dam of Bonner's Pocahontas; dam Carlotia, by Fearnaught, Jr., record 2:26, out of Lady Smithers by Old Columbus; Lady Smithers' dam by Harris' Hambletonian.

By MR. H. B. B. ALLEY.

MINNIE A., for ch f, foaled 1876, by Judge Curtis, dam Blanche Chapman, by Rook Mirandi, out of Ida, by imported Glencoe.

PASHA, for ch c, foaled 1877, by Judge Curtis, dam Blanche Chapman, by Rook Mirandi, as above, owned by A. Gregg, London, Ontario.

## Lacrosse.

### THE TORONTO CLUB.

The semi-annual meeting of the Toronto Lacrosse Club was held on Tuesday evening of last week at Jewell & Dennis' restaurant. Over sixty members sat down to a capital dinner, when upon being fully discussed, a loyal toast—the only toast of the evening, proposed by President Hughes—was heartily received. The Treasurer, Mr. George Massey, read his financial statement for the past year, showing a small balance to the credit of the club. The club propose sending sixteen of their best players, who will leave for England about the first week in June. London, in all probability, will be visited first, and a series of matches played with representative and combined teams. While the Toronto players in are the metropolis H.R.H. the Prince of Wales has signified his intention of witnessing the game. A short sojourn in Paris will follow, and then Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham, Sheffield, Newcastle, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dublin, and Belfast will be visited in turn. The tour will be of two months' duration. The club, whose membership at the present time is 189, have secured very commodious and eligible club rooms on the north side of King street, immediately west of Yonge, and enter into possession February 15th.

The California mare, Mollie McCarty, will take part in the spring meeting at St. Louis. She is a magnificent race-horse, and it is to be hoped that she will come East during the coming season.

THE CALIFORNIA MARE.—A large mouse was recently shot in the train yard, and its head was sent to Mr. G. O. Fisher, of Ottawa, who has placed it in the hands of Mr. T. Hardy, taxidermist, to be stuffed. It is the largest mouse killed for years in that section, and is intended for a museum collection. Mr. Fisher refused \$40 for it.

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## Amusements.

CITY

On Monday evening Pink Dominoes was the bill at the Grand Opera House, Mrs. Morrison appearing as Lady Maggie Wagstaff. On Tuesday the regular company went on a trip east to Belleville, Tuesday and Ottawa. Sullivan's New Mirror of Ireland till out the week. The different views are faithful pictures of the scenes they represent in the "old sod," and are of a higher order of art than are usually seen in entertainments of this class. The various songs, dances, and sketches with which the performance is interspersed were pleasingly executed. To-morrow afternoon the usual matinee will take place. On Monday evening next, Mr. William Crane (the old Toronto favourite) and Mr. Stuart Robson will appear, supported by the stock company of the Grand.

The attraction at the Royal Opera House all week has been the revival of the spectacular drama of the Twelve Temptations. Several new features have been introduced, and the piece is as attractive as when first presented to a Toronto audience. The regular matinee will take place to-morrow; and the last chance of seeing the piece will be to-morrow night, when it will be withdrawn. On Monday evening the Langards, supported by their own combination, will commence a season of six nights and matinee. The initial programme will be the drama of Heart and Crown, especially written for the company; twenty sketches by the great Langard, introducing songs and speeches; and living portraits of notable celebrities.

The contest, Spiritualism vs Magic, at Albert Hall on Tuesday evening, was a regular farce, and Professors Church and Gazzino will gain nothing in reputation by the performance.

GENERAL.

MONTREAL.—Mr. Dominick Murray commenced an engagement of one week at the Academy of Music, the bill for Monday and Tuesday evening being Arrah-na-Pogue and B. B.

OTTAWA.—Grand Opera House—Georgia Minstrels, February 4 and 5; Mrs. Morrison's Toronto Grand Opera House Company, Feb. 6, for four nights; Langard Combination, 21st.

HAMILTON.—Langard at Mechanics' Hall, Feb. 8th and 9th.

LONDON.—The Langards at New Mechanics' Hall, Feb. 6. Sophie Miles and Star Dramatic Co., at Holman Opera House, Feb. 6, for four nights.

ST. CATHARINES.—The Langards on 4th to good house. Performance first-class.

PETERBORO.—Cool Burgess and variety company, Feb. 6.

GUELPH.—Sophie Miles extended her stay two nights, Monday and Tuesday of this week. Cool Burgess, Feb. 18.

SEAFORTH.—Jeannie Watson and J. F. Hardy are concertizing in the vicinity of Seaforth, Goderich, Clinton, &c.

James Taylor and Miss Ada Alexander are doing turns at the Metropolitan and Lusby's, London, England, appearing in "Scrapes from Simon."