

# Sporting.

## NOTES.

The result of the English Derby was known in New York two seconds after the winning number was hoisted at Epsom. Three thousand niles a second beats all records. Electricity is evidently still in it.

With several extremely fast and improving young ones to look to some people appear to imagine that the two minute trotter is almost in sight. Speaking on this point recently and on the speed and courage of his famous filly Fantasy, Mr. C. J. Hamlin, of Buffalo, who, by the way, will be represented in the forthcoming trotting races at Hamilton, Ont., said:—"I think it wouldn't be right to ask such a young trotter to lower the record of 2:04. Fantasy is now a champion, and if she breaks Fantasy's mark of 2:05, she will still be a champion. Predictions are dangerous but my opinion is that Fantasy's prospects of succeeding Directum as the champion of his class are good, and I expect her to accomplish the feat. They speak of the two-minute trotter although they do not know what it means to trot a mile in that time. I remembered when Jay Eye-See trotted in 2:10 horsesmen thought the limit had been reached, but Maud S. came along and chopped off a second and a quarter. It was an easier task for Maud S. to lower the mark of 2:10 by over one second than it will be for a trotter to reduce Nancy's record of 2:04 by one quarter of a second. Some day a trotter may come along and place the record at 2:01, and after that it may take fifty years to take off that fraction."

BROTHER GOCHER'S *American Sportsman*, published at Cleveland, O., is in condensed form but it is the very extract of all that is good. Mr. Gocher, it is hardly necessary to state, is a Canadian. Formerly a school-teacher in the Ottawa district he accepted an engagement from Mr. E. King Dods, of the *Canadian Sportsman*, on the staff of which paper he received a thorough drilling in the horse business, and, having a natural aptitude for the work, he is now recognized as one of the best trotting horse authorities in all America. It is the fortune of gentlemen in Mr. Dods's position to educate men in their profession and then to lose them. Another of his pupils, and a warmly appreciated member of his staff, went from him last week in the person of Mr. T. L. Quinby, who has accepted an engagement with the *American Horse Breeder*, published at Boston, Mass. Mr. Quinby was with Mr. Dods three years and while there earned the respect of every man with whom he came in contact. Modest in his demeanor and retiring in habit, he adds to great capability and untiring industry, a splendid power for acquiring and retaining knowledge. He is moreover an entertaining and facile writer, and is bound to make his

mark wherever he goes. Mr. Joseph White, proprietor of the *Canadian Breeder*, Montreal, is another graduate from Mr. Dods's employ, while Messrs. E. W. Sandys, editor of that superb magazine *Otting*, Cy. Hacking, editor of the *Canadian Horseman*, and the writer of this, have all spent some time on the staff of the *Canadian Sportsman*.

THE Pocket-knife of England have received a setback by the dismissal of the change made against the losses of the Northampton race track that they were guilty of a violation of the law in permitting betting on their premises. This following fast upon the incident recorded at Eton, shows that there is at least one country where the too truly good are not to altogether rule the world. At Eton on June 4th, Lord Rosebery was present at certain functions that are celebrated there annually on that day. His presence prompted the Provost of the school to remark that in ninety years there has been nine Prime Ministers of England who were Eton boys, the last three being Lord Salisbury, Mr. Gladstone, and Lord Rosebery. Considering what they had in view that week, and especially considering what might happen on the Wednesday at Epsom, he desired to wish Lord Rosebery success in his recreations, as well as in his severe labors, and he thought the Prime Minister would be pleased to hear that a natural anxiety as to his success had had the unexpected effect of giving stimulus to classical research at Eton. They had all been asking themselves, "who was Ladas?" and he (the Provost) must confess that there was a line about him in Juvenal. His Lordship, in reply, said that he never expected to hear the Provost of Eton congratulate him of his past pupils on his prospects of winning the Derby. That was a benediction, which should reach far and bring luck, and he took that public opportunity of saying in answer to representations that had reached him from various sources, one of them only the day before from the secretary of the Anti-Gambling Society, that he felt no vestige of shame in possessing a good horse. More power to his Lordship will be the exclamation of every liberal-minded man when he recalls his many words.

IS regard to the query made in this column as to why horses' skulls were placed particularly over the pulpit, our highly esteemed contemporary the *Chicago Horseman* says it has received the following:—"When an old meeting house in Briarist street, Edinburgh, Scotland, was taken down in 1805, the old sounding-board above the pulpit was found filled with horses' heads." "Even now—1880," says another authority, "they put skulls into the sounding-boards over the heads of presbyterian ministers in Scotland." The three skulls found at Eldon were standing on their bases, mouths upwards and standing against each other at the top. The cavity seemed to have been purposely prepared for

them. They have been found in bell towers. The object in placing them there being, it is supposed, to increase the resonance, as in the case of "acoustic pots."

THE value of good roads is well exemplified in the fact that experience shows that horses must be fed one-fourth more when driven over unpaved streets than when they travel the same distance over a solid and nearly level surface. In the larger cities of America (those with a population of 10,000 and over), there are more than 600,000 horses used for driving purposes. It is estimated that they cost on an average not less than \$100 per year each to feed. This means an expenditure of \$60,000,000. Those well-paved streets mean a possible saving of \$15,000,000. There are 400,000 vehicles in daily use in these cities. The tires, spokes, springs, rivets and other parts which are strained by traction will last twice as long in service on good pavements as on rough roadways. The average yearly cost of repairs and of wear and tear is \$25, so that in this item there is a possible saving of \$5,000,000 per year. Adding in for interest and the saving from these two items would pay for 350 miles of street paving each year if made a special tax. This is the financial aspect of the case but who can estimate the value of the increased pleasure and comfort of driving over good roads as compared with the bad ones. Oh, ye farmers, begrudge not the expenditure made by your municipal councils in the matter of roads, but see that the most is made out of it.

THE Buffalo correspondent of the *American Sportsman* under date of June 11th tells the following story: Matt Dwyer, who had the honor of putting two yearlings in the 2:30 list, one in California and one in New York, will probably be seen out behind another yearling crack this year. A Canadian farmer rode out on the track at the Buffalo Driving Park behind a youngster, and before the drivers knew what he was doing, the farmer sent his colt along with the aged performers. Then the colt attracted general attention, says *The Engineer*. The farmer hitched the youngster to a sulky, and timed by a half dozen watches, he paced a quarter in 43 seconds, and that under a pull. The trial was considered remarkable, and it was all the more so when it is known that the colt was roaded fifteen miles Friday with two bushels of oats on his back. After the trial the colt joined Mr. Dwyer's string, and in the hands of this successful handler of a yearlings he will be heard from this year. The colt is known as Slick Wilkes and is owned by H. Ashley of Belleville, Ont. He was sired by Ashman 2:18½, dam by Moonstone, a son of Clear Grit. Mr. Ashley says Slick Wilkes was broken when he was only a month and a half old, and has been regularly driven since he was two months old. He is a strong youngster, of a nervous temperament, and is so high strung that his owner has been forced to give him fifteen miles of road work in order to work him satisfactorily.

An effort was made to secure Directum for an exhibition at Woodbine Park, Toronto, but Mr. C. C. McVey, the experienced professional, who has loaned him, declined, after the manner of his rule book to even acknowledge the receipt of a courteous letter sent him on the subject.

THE American Derby, to be run at Washington Park, Chicago, on Saturday next, is expected to be a record-breaking race, as five crack colts are being specially keyed up for the event. They are Domino and Hornpipe of the Keene stables, the Cooper King's Senator Grady and Matt Byrnes, and Trainer Roger's Doris. Domino is most fancied, although his men are dubious as to whether he will like the distance—a mile and a half. The present indications are that these will be eleven starters as follows:

J. R. and F. P. Keene's b.c. Domino, by Hinyar—Mamie Gray..... 15  
J. R. and F. P. Keene's b.c. Hornpipe, by Mr. Peckwick—Rond Dance..... 12  
Marcus Daly's c.h.c. Senator Grady, by Troquois—Satinet..... 12  
Marcus Daly's b.c. Matt Byrnes, by Hampton—Cherry..... 15  
J. W. Rogers' b.c. Doris, by S. Madrol—Glendora..... 12  
E. J. Baldwin's b.c. Rey El Santa Anita, by Cheviot—Alabo..... 12  
Simeon G. Reed's b.c. Lucky Dog, by Dardelin—Lou Lanier..... 12  
E. Corrigan's b.r.g. Square Fellow, by Longfellow—Square Dance..... 15  
E. Corrigan's b.r.g. Despot, by Judge Murray—Spinster..... 12  
Kendall Stable's b.c. Prince Carl, by Springleck—Longlow..... 12  
Pueblo Stable's b.c. Agitato, by Cyrus—Frolie..... 12

The distance is a mile and a half and the guaranteed value of the stake \$25,000, of which \$20,000 goes to the winner, \$3000 to the second horse and \$2,000 to the third. Domino, Hornpipe, Doris, Senator Grady and Matt Byrnes represent the east; Rey El Santa Anita, Lucky Dog and Agitato the far west, and Square Fellow, Despot and Prince Carl the central or Chicago section. Square Fellow and Matt Byrnes are maidens. Domino, the unbeaten, has won nine races and scored a dead heat in a match with Dakins. Senator Grady has captured six of his seven starts, Doris five out of six, Hornpipe five out of eight, Rey El Santa Anita seven out of fifteen, Lucky Dog four out of thirteen, Prince Carl four out of thirteen, Agitato three out of twelve, and Despot six out of thirty-three. Lucky Dog and Senator Grady and Matt Byrnes have not faced the flag this season.

THE team which we are sending to the National Rifle Association meeting at Bisley this year is believed to be exceptionally strong. It is composed of first-class marksmen under command of Major F. H. Holston, of the Royal Scots, and a remarkable fact is that five of the squad are members of one battalion, the 12th York Rangers. Never before has a single regiment secured so many representatives. The team leave by the Parisian on the 23rd inst.

SUPPRESSION of time is beginning to show its ugly head again. We have had (Continued on page 470)

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