



The Gentleman's Journal

TORONTO, FRIDAY, FEB. 28, 1877.

P. COLLINS & CO., PROPRIETORS.

OFFICE: -No. 90 KING-ST. WEST.

All Communications intended for the "Sporting Times" should be addressed P. COLLINS & Co., Sporting Times Office—and not to any of our employees. This will avoid any delay.

Managers, Agents, Doorkeepers, &c., of Amusements, and Managers and Secretaries of Racing Associations, Shooting Clubs, Athletic, Base Ball and Cricket Clubs, &c., &c.,

Are respectfully informed, that all Correspondents of the SPORTING TIMES are supplied with a card of a YELLOW color, with the name of the city or town and correspondent, signed by the proprietors of this paper, with a punch stamp of a horse's head upon the right upper corner, and dated January 1st, 1877, each card running for three months. No person is authorized to use any other credential on our behalf. Managers will save themselves from imposition by demanding an exhibition of said card, and refusing to accept any excuse whatever for its non-production. The card is not transferable; and if it be presented by any person other than the one whose name it bears, managers and others will retain it and mail it to this office.

Persons applying for the position of Correspondent are respectfully requested to consider SYLVESTER A. NEGATIVE.

DATES CLAIMED FOR 1877.

AMERICAN.

Fleetwood Park, N. Y.	May 29 to June 1
Whitmarsh, Pa.	May 26 to June 1
Muskegon, Mich.	June 5 to 7
Maumee, Ind.	June 19 to 21
Kalamazoo, Mich.	June 19 to 22
Jackson, Mich.	June 26 to 29
Cincinnati, Ohio	June 30 to July 4
Detroit, Mich.	July 8 to 10
East Saginaw, Mich.	July 17 to 20
Chicago, Ill.	July 17 to 20
Poughkeepsie, N. Y.	Aug. 21 to 24
Hartford, Conn.	Aug. 28 to 31
Medford, N. Y.	June 5 to 7
Freeport, Ill.	May 29 to June 1
Cleveland, O.	July 24 to 27
Springfield, Mass.	Aug. 21 to 24
Buffalo, N. Y.	July 31 to Aug. 8
Freeport, Ill.	July 31 to Aug. 8
Rockford, N. Y.	2d week in Aug.
Properstown, Ill.	2d "
Tiskilwa, Ill.	2d "
Utica, N. Y.	3d "
Earville, Ill.	4th "

CANADIAN.

Whitby	May 24
Woodstock	May 24
Kincardine	May 24
Dundas (local)	May 24
Winthrop	May 24 to 25
Mt. Forest (local)	July 2
Mt. Forest	Sept—

ICE RACES.

Montreal	Feb. 23 to 26
Burlington (Wellington Square)	Feb. 23
Orillia	Feb. 27 to 28
Calidonia	Feb. 23 to 24
Peterboro	March 1 to 2

ENTRIES CLOSE.

Orillia	Feb. 26
Peterboro	Feb. 28

Correspondents and others will remember the change of our office, No. 90 King-St. West, Toronto, is our present address.

vanco, and, when acknowledged as such, it is plain that Canada is not keeping pace with the march of progress, in this respect at least. All our premiums are given on the purse plan. So far as our knowledge goes, there have been very few stake races given in the country, and these few have been of the greatest benefit to the turf, and have created an interest which would have been deficient if the purse plan had been adhered to. In previous issues we have submitted the advantages of the system of stakes over purses, and they must be so fresh in the minds of our readers as not to require repetition here. Now that our associations are about making up their programmes for the Spring campaign their attention is directed to this matter. Let them introduce one or two races of this kind in their bills—if it is only as an experiment—make some effort to give it a trial. It is hardly our province to suggest what stakes should be opened, there is lots of room for a selection. A sweepstake might be opened for Province breeds, either open, or for three or four-year olds; or it might be given on the conditions of the Queen's Plate, for horses that have never won money; foreign-bred horses could also be provided for; and the race could be run with regular weights, be handicapped, or penalize winners. The whole range of our racing classes is open for a selection to the willing club. The entries should be made to close about a month before the date of the race, and acceptances should be made at all events a week or so before the day set down for the contest, so as to give an opportunity to allow due publicity to the acceptances. The added money need not necessarily be large, and the entry and forfeit monies should be in proportion. Who will be the first to inaugurate this system the present season.

It is no secret that we are and have been in favor of this style of giving money. We assume it will be better for both Associations and horse owners, and it will prove more attractive to the spectators. Such have been the results in other countries, and why not here. So far as we are concerned to aid in this matter we will gratuitously advertise any stake race given in Canada by a regular association, at any of the meetings during the present season, in which the added money amounts to \$100 or more with the provision that the entries shall close at least one month before the date of the race. And we hope every association in Canada will take advantage of this offer, believing it will be for the best interests of all concerned.

THE GRAND TROTTING CIRCUIT.

The Board of Stewards of the Grand Trotting Circuit, styled last year the Septilateral, met to be the Octilateral of 1877, met in New York, Wednesday evening, to perfect a programme. The several tracks were represented by the following gentlemen: Cleveland, Wm. Edwards; Buffalo, C. J. Hamlin; Rochester, B. L. Sheldon; Utica, E. B. Graham; Springfield, L. J. Powers; Poughkeepsie, Morgan L. Mott; Hartford, Burdett Loomis; Fleetwood, G. H. Barnard. There were so many matters about which there was supposed to be a conflict of opinion to come before the Stewards, that the interested outsiders, who formed quite a lobby, anticipated a lengthy and, perhaps, stormy session. On the contrary, the session, which was secret, was of the most harmonious character, and all the arrangements were made before 11 o'clock.

Mr. Morgan L. Mott, of Poughkeepsie, was elected Chairman, and Mr. E. B. Graham, of Utica, Secretary. The claim of Springfield to the first week in the line, clashing with Cleveland, was the first diffi-

assigned to each track, or else postponing them, which prevailed last year, was adopted.

It was decided, with regard to declaring pools off, that this might be done by the associations, not by the judges. These comprised all the essential features of the programme, and after agreeing upon them, the stewards adjourned sine die.

MICHIGAN TROTTING CIRCUIT

The Associations of the Wolverine State are already buckling on their armor for the coming campaign. At a meeting of the stewards, held at Grand Rapids, on Wednesday of last week, the following programme was arranged: The circuit to commence at Muskegon, occupying June 5, 6, 7; thence to Kalamazoo, June 12, 13, 14 and 15; Grand Rapids, June 19, 20, 21 and 22; Jackson, June 26, 27, 28 and 29; closing at Detroit, July 8, 4, 5 and 6. The entries at Muskegon and Kalamazoo will close May 30, at Grand Rapids, Jackson and Detroit, June 4. Purses will be given to the following classes: 3:00, 2:30, 2:40, 2:23, 2:50, 2:26, 2:34, and a free-for-all. The programme will be the same at each meeting, with the exception, that at Grand Rapids and Detroit the 2:18 class will be substituted in place of the free-for-all. At Grand Rapids \$7,000 will be hung up in purses; at Jackson, \$8,000; and Detroit, \$8,000. Forage will be provided free to horses entered in the various races. A similar circuit to the above will more than likely be arranged in Illinois, all of which indicate that the coming season is to be an active one in trotting circles, equally so in the great West as in the East.

THE EXCELSIOR RACING CIRCUIT.

After the meeting of the Board of Stewards of the Grand Trotting Circuit, at New York, on Wednesday evening of last week, the four representatives from Cleveland, Buffalo, Rochester, and Utica spent a short time discussing the proposed Excelsior Racing Circuit. A letter had been received from Columbus, Ohio, stating that the association there would join in whatever was agreed upon. The hour was quite late, and, while the sentiment was entirely in favor of giving the races, a definite programme was not decided upon. The probability is that \$2,000 will be given at each place for a three days' meeting.

AN OLD RACING ANNOUNCEMENT.

A friend sends us the following copy of a racing announcement clipped from an English paper, The Evening Post of the date of July 18th, 1721, one hundred and fifty-six years ago. From it it will be seen that four-mile heat races were then the rule, while the advocates for heavy weights must have been the controlling party. Fancy, horses running four-mile heats with 10 stone, 140 lbs. up—this would be sufficient to distract our Southern friends. The amount of the stake 80 guineas, about \$150, would be a small purse now-a-days for such a contest. Some of the conditions of the race appear quite singular to us moderns.

"By subscription, on Wednesday the 30th of Aug. next, a Purse of 10 Guineas will be run for on Kingsmore, near Ivichester in Somersetshire, by Hunters carrying 10 Stone the best of 3 heats, 4 Miles each heat. And on Thursday following, a Purse of 80 Guineas will be run for on the Moor aforesaid, by any Horse, Mare or Gelding that never won in Plate or Money the like value, to carry 10 Stone the best of 3 heats, 4 Miles each heat; all Controversies to be determined by the Majority of the Subscribers there present. The horse to be entered with the Bailiff of Ivichester aforesaid ten Days before the Day of running, and to be kept in the said Parish of Ivichester or its Neighborhood till the Time of running, each Horse to pay a guinea Entrance, which After Charges defray'd to be given to the 2d Horse or winning Groom, as the Majority of the Subscribers present shall appoint before Starting."

Sporting Gossip.

Mr. John Forbes has sold the well-known race-horse and stallion Mohawk, by Norton, dam Rebecca T. Price, to a gentleman at Tilsonburg, whose name we have not learned. He intends to devote the horse to stock purposes during the season, and race him in the Fall campaign.

An exchange well posted on the game laws says that it is perfectly legal to go house-hunting now.

There was a couple of races at Campbellford, Ont., last week. The first was a match, mile heats, between Mr. B. Gibson's Lady Gibson and Mr. Wm. Martin's Governor, for \$100. The Lady won in two straight heats; best time, 8:03. The other was a green trot, which was won by Kate Kearney, the best time being 8:10, beating Butcher Boy, Insley Maid, and Bay Billy.

Mr. Neil J. Campbell, Nelson, Ont., of the firm of Porter & Campbell, who owned the thoroughbred stallion King Tom, by Lexington, at the time of his death at Hamilton last summer, intends going to Kentucky to purchase a horse to take King Tom's place.

At a meeting of the stockholders of the East Saginaw, Mich., Driving Park, held recently, the following gentleman were elected to serve as its officers during the ensuing year: Mr. Wm. J. Barton, President; Mr. Harrison Coleman, Secretary; Mr. Joshua Tuthill, Treasurer; with the directory composed of W. J. Barton, John Welch, Harrison Colman, Joshua Tuthill, T. M. Hubbell, O. C. McLean and George C. Warner.

Any gentleman wanting to purchase a promising green horse should consult the advertisement which appears for the first time to-day.

The Turf, Field and Farm of last week supplies an omission in its Running Time Table published in our issue of the 9th inst. At Louisville, Ky., on May 18, 1875, Arizona, by Lexington, dam imp Zoue, ran two-mile heats in 8:37½ and 8:35½, which equals the fastest second heat, and at the same time is the best average. Our subscribers can make their own corrections in this valuable table.

A day's races are announced on Burlington Bay by the Burlington (Wellington Square) Association, this Friday afternoon.

Major J. R. Hubbard, of Nashville, Tenn., who is better known under the non de plume of "Albion," leaves that city to take charge of the Turf Department of The Spirit of the Times, New York. "Albion" is a powerful turf writer, and will be a valuable addition to the editorial staff of our contemporary.

An ice meeting will take place at Orillia on the 27th and 28th. \$460 are offered in premium.

Mr. John F. Phelps, jr., well-known in trotting circles as the owner of Delhi, Sadie Howe, John F. Phelps, jr., and others, died at his residence in Brooklyn, N. Y., on the 6th inst.

Mr. R. Davies, Don Brewery, Toronto, reports the sale of the Royal George stallion Whirlwind, to a gentleman living in Markham. The consideration was not made public.

Wingham announces its second meeting on the 24th and 25th of May.

Peterboro Winter Races on March 1st and 2nd.

Nothing new in the Hanlan-Scharff match. No answer has been received by the Ontario Rowing club from the latter in reply to their communication respecting a match with Hanlan.

Messrs. Grand & Son announce, one of the most important horse sales which has ever taken place on the continent. The attention

FROM HALIFAX.

HALIFAX, N.S., Feb. 16, '77.

To the Editor of Sporting Times:

DEAR SIR—The annual meeting of the Nova Scotia Yacht Squadron was held a few days ago, about two weeks after the annual meeting of the Royal Halifax Yacht Club. The following are the officers of the squadron:—Commodore, His Excellency the Earl of Dufferin, Governor-General of Canada; Vice-Commodore, S. A. White (re-elected); Rear-Commodore, Henri St. George Twinning; Secretary, F. C. Tumichraet (re-elected); Treasurer, W. J. Stairs; Committee of Management, D. Cronan, J. E. Butler, A. C. Edwards, D. C. Chalmers, J. Fraser; Sailing Committee, Lt.-Col. H. W. Clarke, P. M. Passow, G. A. Black, H. W. Brookfield, W. J. Stairs; Messengers, J. E. Butler, Rodrick McDonald. It is expected that some close races will take place between the Royal Halifax Yacht Club and the N. S. Yacht Squadron in the spring. Why don't some of your yachtsmen from the upper Provinces challenge some of our yachtsmen next summer?

A Driving Park is about to be formed in Kentville, N.S. This will be the second in the Province, Truro having the first. This will bring out some of the fastest horses in the Maritime Provinces.

The St. John papers wish to get up a crew of four to row our champions. Halifax sporting men are anxious that this wish should be consummated, and will probably take up the cudgels if we are challenged.

A skating carnival was held in Windsor on the 12th, which was quite a success.

The St. John Curling club recently defeated the Pictou, N.S., club by six points. Yesterday the Pictou club beat the Thistle club of St. John by seven points.

A young folks' concert, under the leadership of Prof. Norton, was held on the 18th. It passed off well.

At the Academy of Music: Inebriation on the 10th, and the celebrated sporting play The Flying Scud, from the 12th to the 16th. On Monday, and the whole of next week, Pique.

Yours, etc.,
BLUE NOSE.

FROM COBOURG.

COBOURG, Feb. 20th, 1877.

To the Editor of Sporting Times:

[[Sir,—Sporting items in this town just now are like Vennor's snow storms—very few and far between.

A game of Draughts was played on Friday evening last over the wires of the Dominion Telegraph Company, between the Checker Clubs of Port Hope and Cobourg. The game resulted in favor of the latter after three hours play.

Skating Carnivals are all the rage this winter. The last one was held on Wednesday evening, on which occasion there were over two hundred ladies and gentlemen in costume.

Alex. Cathbert, the modeller and builder of the yacht Lady Stanley, Annie Cathbert and Countess of Dufferin, besides a large number of second and third class yachts, has just turned out a "standing keel" yacht for a number of gentlemen in Prescott. The following are the dimensions: a 10 ton yacht, 9½ feet beam, 30 feet keel, and 35 feet over all. As she is on her supports at the foot of the harbor, she looks a picture of elegance and strength, and will just suit the waters for which she is destined.

The curlers have not been so bent upon "clearing out" all the neighboring clubs this year as was the case during last season. As they have five medals in the possession