

"TOWN AND COUNTRY,"

A WEEKLY RECORD OF

Sports, Recreations, Live Stock, Matters

ETC., ETC., ETC.

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Secretaries of Clubs and Associations are requested to favor us with brief notes of their movements and transactions.

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Town and Country.

TORONTO, ONT., JULY 28, 1880.

WOODBINE RACES.

On our front page will be found the full programme of the Woodbine race meeting which commences this afternoon. The several races have filled well and it is to be hoped that a "large majority" of the horses will be present and take part in the several contests in which they are engaged. All of the races will be conducted strictly to rule, and with a view to retrieving the sport of the turf from the equivocal position it now holds with our citizens. Our experience, and it is not a very limited one, points to the conclusion that the advancement of the turf rests with the managers of tracks and meetings, and every well conducted gathering, is just so much gained in elevating and strengthening the position of the turf. A firm decided stand against, and an honest endeavour to frustrate all attempts at dishonest practices, is the high-road to success in this as in other branches of business. The promoters of the Woodbine meeting intend following out this programme, and now that the detractors of turf pursuits cannot raise the "pool

box" cry, they should be consistent and muster in full strength at Woodbine, to show that while they are opposed to wrong-doing, they are anxious to support a properly conducted meeting.

LACROSSE RECIPROCITY.

The tour of the Torontos, like all other sublimity things, however good, has come to an end, and our boys are back again at their homes in the Queen City of the West. It is almost too early to speculate upon the results which their visit to the United States must necessarily produce, but we do not think we err much in saying that as far as popularizing Lacrosse in that country it will mark an era in the history of the game. Launched under the auspices of Mr. Wiman and the Staten Island Cricket Club, the enterprise could hardly fail to be a success, and as far as we can learn the result has more than fulfilled the expectations of both the givers and recipients of the trip. Although Lacrosse has been played in the United States for years, it has had a hard struggle to maintain a foothold, on account of the lack of experienced players and the hardship in getting suitable practice grounds easy of access to the members. In large cities like New York, Boston, or Philadelphia, it is a much harder thing to keep a club together, owing to the distance many of the players have to travel in order to attend practice, than in cities like Toronto or Montreal, where the grounds are well situated and easy of access. At present, in a city like New York those who can play are so wildly scattered that real good team-practice is next to an impossibility, hence the weak team-play exhibited by American clubs when pitted against Canadian players. The American players, individually, are good men and fast runners, and only require practice such as our own teams get to make them very formidable opponents. The hope of Lacrosse in the United States is that it may by some means take the popular fancy and be recognized by the youth of the country as one of the games worth playing. If that end could only be attained, we are satisfied that it has enough inherent merit to make it keep its popularity after having once obtained a solid foothold. We think the visit of the Torontos will go a very long way towards giving it the desired start; it has brought it before the best class of the American people in a way that could not but impress them with the importance of its claims as an out-door sport. Our representative team has been fêted and feasted enough to turn the heads of any less abstemious crowd than lacrosse players, and during their entire visit have carried themselves in such a manner as to convince Americans that Lacrosse is not only a fine healthy athletic sport, but a game well worth the attention of gentlemen. Our boys seem to have won golden opinions from all with whom they came in contact, and we think we have great reason for congratulation when we consider that this team was not specially selected for the purpose of impressing our American cousins with our qualifications as gentlemen, but rather with a view of showing them the capabilities and beauties of our National game. That they are thorough gentlemen there can be no doubt, and of their fitness to illustrate the game there can be only one opinion, and we certainly feel a glow of honest pride when we consider that the players who so worthily represented their country and its sports are a fair sample of our Canadian youth and the class who in this country uphold our National game.

The sincere thanks of every well wisher of Lacrosse are due to Mr. Wiman and the Staten Island Cricket Club, for the generous manner in which the trip has been carried to a completion. Neither time, trouble, nor expense were spared by its projectors to make it an unqualified success, and the enthusiastic manner in which their efforts were seconded by the public press and their friends generally contributed

materially to making it what it really was, one of the events of the season.

If it is true that there is a tide in the affairs of all things, which if taken at the flood leads on to fortune, we trust that the supporters of Lacrosse in the United States will recognize the fact as far as the game is concerned. Its flood tide is now, and if they are equal to the opportunity they will not only deserve but attain success.

THE ASSOCIATION REGATTA.

Flattering indeed is the long list of entries received by the Amateur Association for its inaugural regatta to be held next Wednesday on Toronto Bay. No better indication that Canadian amateurs are anxious and willing to support an association the object of which is to keep the sport free from vile contaminations could be desired. The entries must be left to speak for themselves. Every possible contingency has been provided for by the several committees to which the conduct of the regatta has been transferred. There remains but one point to be considered, and that rests with the contestants themselves—the possibility of fouling. Lieut. Col. Ott is a gentleman used to command, and there is little likelihood of his extending any leniency towards offenders in this respect, we therefore caution all engaged in the races to exert every precaution and forbearance so as to secure in every respect a model regatta.

PRIZE POULTRY FOR SALE.

Mr. W. H. Doel for many years one of the most successful exhibitors of prize poultry in the Dominion, has we regret to say, been compelled by ill health to decide upon giving up exhibiting. His stock of poultry is of superlative excellence and embraces many well known prize-winners which it was Mr. Doel's intention to exhibit again this show season in addition to a number of carefully selected birds of his own breeding. What the yard consists of will be found fully set forth in Mr. Doel's advertisement, and to those who are desirous of adding to their present stock, as well as to any one who may fancy trying the fascinating business of poultry exhibiting, a better opportunity could hardly present itself. The exhibition season is rapidly approaching, and good birds will soon command high prices.

ELMIRA TURF CLUB—This week we have the pleasure of presenting to our readers the programme of the Elmira Turf Club meeting, which is to be held on August 26 and 27. Three races will take place on each day, and they are equally divided into running and trotting events, the purses amounting to \$680. This is the second annual meeting of the club, and it will doubtless secure good support from those who visited Elmira last year as well as others who have yet to make their first entry there. We would call the Secretary's attention to the omission of the date for closing of entries in the advertisement, which he will kindly supply as soon as possible.

CANADIAN COLT STAKES.—This stakes to be trotted at Woodstock, in September of next year, closes on August 1st with Mr. James Sutherland, Woodstock. It is for Canadian bred colts and fillies of 1878, and the race will be mile heats in harness. There should be a large entry for this stakes the conditions being so easy for subscribers. The full amount is \$20 each, but of this only \$5 is required at the time of entry, \$5 on January 1st 1881, and the remaining \$10 on August 1st 1881. The Association will add the sum of \$150 to the full amount paid in by the subscribers. Send on your entries without delay.