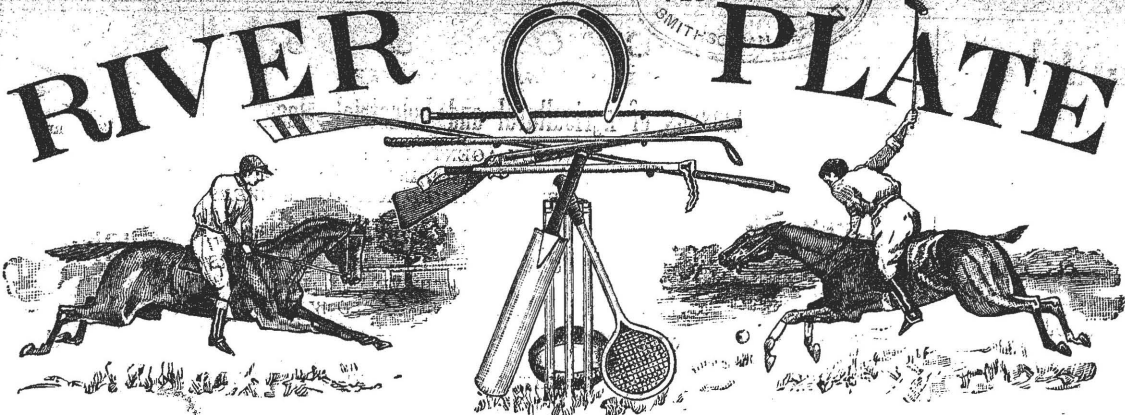


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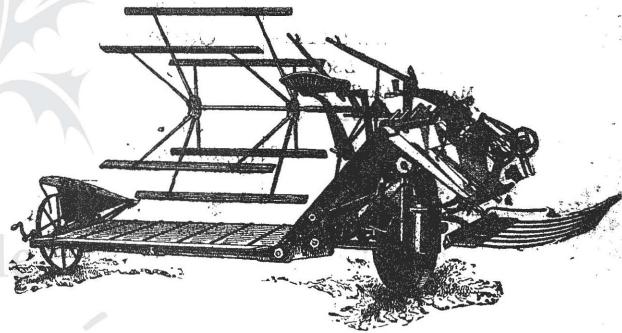
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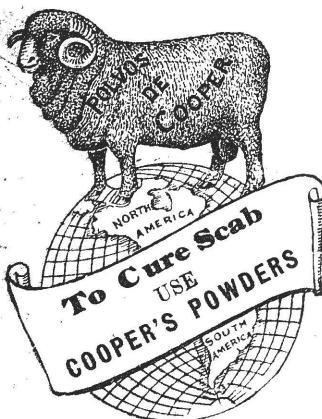
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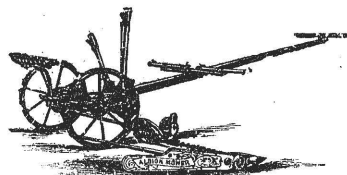
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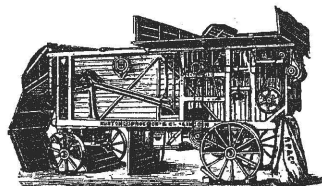
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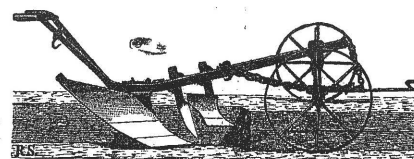
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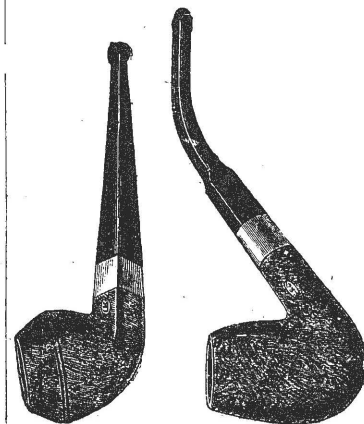
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HOME NEWS

RACING

LIVERPOOL AUTUMN MEETING—November 12th.
Great Lancashire Handicap, 1 mile.
Sir J. Miller's ch m Jodel, by Reverberation, dam by Petrarch, 5 yrs, 7st 1lb. S. Chandley 1
Mr J. H. Houldsworth's Carrick, 5 yrs, 7st 3lb. A. Watts 2
Mr J. Joicey's Ramelton Lassie, 4 yrs, 7st 6lb (inc. 12lb extra) Allsopp 3
Sir J. B. Maple's Golden Garter, 4 yrs, 8st 3lb. J. Woodburn 0
Mr Greenhalgh's Roy Neil, 3 yrs, 7st 11lb, G. Barrett 0
Duke of Beaufort's Simonetta, 4 yrs, 7st 9lb (inc. 12lb extra) Gough 0
Mr W. W. Fulton's Crystabelle, 3 yrs, 7st 7lb. Saunders 0
Mr A. M. Singer's Arise, 3 yrs, 6st 9lb (car 6st 10lb) O. Madden 0
Mr J. D. Wardall's Blanc Mange, 3 yrs, 6st 8lb G. Norman 0
Mr J. G. B. Hay's His Honour, 3 yrs, 6st 4lb. A. Fawdon 0
Sir R. Jardine's Rouge Dragon, 3 yrs, 6st. P. Chaloner 0

Betting—2 to 7 agst Roy Neil, 7 to 1 each agst Arise and Rouge Dragon, 100 to 12 agst Carrick, 100 to 8 each agst Jodel, Golden Garter, and Ramelton Lassie, 100 to 6 agst His Honour, 25 to 1 each agst Simonetta and Blanc Mange, and 50 to 1 agst Crystabelle. Won by half a length, three lengths between second and third.

DERBY AUTUMN MEETING—Nov. 15th
Chesterfield Nursery Stakes (Handicap) of 1000 sovs; about 5 furlongs, straight.
Mr W. Cooper's br f Armored, by Florentine—Ursula, 7st 12lb. W. Platt 1
Mr J. W. Smith's Wolf's Crag, 8st 11lb. G. Barrett 2
Capt. Machell's Erin, 8st 9lb. G. Chaloner 3
Duke of Portland's The Prize, 9st. J. Watts 4
Mr Jersey's White Coral, 8st 9lb. C. Loates 0
Mr Gubbins' Marletta, 8st 8lb. R. Chaloner 0
Mr R. H. Combe's Bill of Portland, 8st 4lb. Rickaby 0
Sir J. B. Maple's Gangway, 8st 4lb. J. Woodburn 0
Col. North's Royal Harry, 8st 3lb (car 8st 5lb) M. Cannon 0
Mr J. H. Houldsworth's Cornwall, 8st 1lb. F. Pratt 0
Lord Zetland's Santa Mana, 8st. Fagan 0
Mr Hamar Bass's Queen's Page, 7st 12lb. Rawlinson 0
Baron M. de Tuyl's Leominster, 7st 12lb. Finlay 0
Mr R. Sherwood's Lady Candahar, 7st 10lb. Griffiths 0
Mr R. G. Heaton's Fernando, 7st 7lb. C. Gray 0
Mr C. F. Yeung's Knight of Snowdown, 7st 7lb. Mullen 0
Mr W. Johnstone's Talleyrand, 7st 5lb. Allsopp 0
Mr A. Christo's Moonflower, 7st 4lb. Wall 0
Mr A. C. Barclay's Pet of the Fancy, 6st 12lb. P. Chaloner 0
Mr Rose's c, by Robert the Devil—Aigill, 6st 12lb. Heckford 0
Mr B. Wilyam's Gold Hackle, 6st 12lb. A. Watts 0
Mr R. Botterill's Scottish Maiden, 6st 6lb. Bradford 0
Cap. Machell's Halma, 6st 6lb. Knowles 0
Duke of Devonshire's Oatlands, 6st 5lb (car 6st 7lb) O. Madden 0
Mr T. Cannon's Cheyne, 6st 5lb. Gough 0
Mr J. T. Whipp's Evelyn, 6st 2lb. Huxtable 0

Betting: 7 to 1 agst The Prize, 9 to 1 agst Gangway, 10 to 1 each agst Erin, Wolf's Crag, and Oatlands, 100 to 8 each agst Armored, Scottish Maiden and Halma, 100 to 7 agst Leominster, 100 to 6 each agst Royal Harry and Fernando, 20 to 1 each agst Cornwall, Santa Mana, Queen's Page, Lady Candahar, Talleyrand, and Pet of the Fancy, 25 to 1 agst Marietta, and 33 to 1 each agst White Coral, Bill of Portland, Cheyne and Evelyn. Won cleverly by a neck, a length divided second and third.

Markheaton Welter Stakes (Handicap) of 500 sovs; about 1 1/2 mile.

Mr E. O. Bleackley's b c Ancajano, by Arc—
Evalina, 3 yrs, 7st. S. Chandley 1
M. Ch. de Gheest's Galette, 3 yrs 7st. J. Watts 2
Sir J. Miller's Chiltoning, 3 yrs 7st 4lb. Bradford 3
Lord Newton's Red Eagle, 5 yrs 8st 9lb. Holbeach 0
Mr J. H. Houldsworth's Springtime, 4 yrs 8st 9lb. M. Cannon 0
Mr Vyner's Sedgechat, 5 yrs 7st 13lb. Finlay 0
Lord Zetland's Patrick Blue, 4 yrs 7st 12lb (car. 7st 13lb) Fagan 0
Mr T. Brown's Garrick, 3 yrs 7st 7lb. W. Platt 0
Col. North's Old Boots, 4 yrs 7st 6lb. J. Woodburn 0
Mr R. H. Coombes's President, 3 yrs 7st 6lb. A. Watts 0
Lord Cholmondeley's Miss Tennyson, 3 yrs 7st 2lb. Wall 0
Sir R. Jardine's Backbitter, 3 yrs 7st 2lb. Lofthouse 0
Mr W. Johnstone's Weymouth, 3 yrs 7st 1lb. Allsopp 0
Mr A. Kilsyth's Helen Ware, 3 yrs 7st. O. Madden 0
Mr B. S. Cooper's Miss Hagioscope, 3 yrs, 6st 12lb. Huxtable, jun. 0

Betting: 6 to 1 agst Patrick Blue, 7 to 1 each agst Galette and Red Eagle, 8 to 1 (at first 5 to 1) agst Ancajano, 8 to 1 agst Chiltoning, 10 to 1 each agst Garrick and President, 100 to 7 each agst Sedgechat, Weymouth, and Helen Ware, and 20 to 1 each agst Old Boots and Miss Hagioscope. Won by a length, four lengths divided second and third.

Nov. 16th.
Derby Cup of 2000 sovs, second received 200, and the third 100; 1 mile.

Mr P. Fing's b h Warlaby, by Syrian—Lady of Urrard, aged, 8st 1lb. W. Platt 1
M. de Monbel's Ermak, 5 yrs, 8st 9lb. M. Cannon 2
Mr J. Bibby's Earl of Annandale, 3 yrs, 6st 5lb. Kendal 3
Mr W. Lowe's Gone Coon, 4 yrs, 7st 5lb. F. Pratt 4
Mr Abingdon's Lady Roseberry, aged, 9st 3lb. J. Watts 0
Mr A. Kilsyth's Euclid, 3 yrs, 8st 6lb. Rickaby 0
Mr W. Cooper's The Lover, 3 yrs, 8st 3lb. G. Chaloner 0
Mr J. Daly's Athel, 3 yrs, 8st 3lb. J. Wall 0
Prince Soltkyoff's Curio, 3 yrs, 7st 13lb. G. Barrett 0
Mr J. Charlton's St David, 4 yrs, 7st 11lb (car. 7st 12lb) C. Loates 0
Sir J. Miller's Jodel, 5 yrs, 7st 10lb (inc. 10lb ex) Finlay 0
Col. North's Lady Hermit, 3 yrs, 7st 5lb. Woodburn 0
Mr Maher's Detonator, 3 yrs, 7st 4lb. Doyle 0
Mr T. Holme's Lauriscope, 3 yrs, 7st 4lb. S. Chandley 0
Lord Ellesmere's Esmond, 3 yrs, 7st 3lb (car 7st 4lb) Mullen 0
Mr L. de Rothschild's Lottery, 4 yrs, 7st 1lb. Allsopp 0
Col. North's Arturo, 4 yrs, 7st 1lb. A. Watts 0
Lord Calthorpe's Versifier, 4 yrs, 6st 10lb. E. Knowles 0
Duke of Beaufort's Coromandel, 5 yrs, 6st 7lb. Gough 0
Col. Heyward's Kentigern, 4 yrs, 6st 5lb. H. Toon 0
Mr H. Holder's Toreador, 3 yrs, 6st 3lb. Bradford 0
Mr A. Kilsyth's Sprightly, 3 yrs, 6st 1lb. H. Huxtable, jun. 0
Sir R. Jardine's Sarawak, 4 yrs, 6st (car 6st 3lb) P. Chaloner 0

Betting—100 to 30 agst Ermak, 100 to 14 agst Lauriscope, 10 to 1 agst Lady Roseberry, 100 to 8 each agst Jodel, Gone Coon, and Lottery, 100 to 7 agst Esmond, 100 to 6 each agst St David, Warlaby, and Kentigern, 20 to 1 agst Athel, Versifier, Coromandel, and Curio, 25 to 1 each agst Euclid and The Lover, and 33 to 1 each agst Lady Hermit, Detonator, Arturo, Earl of Annandale, Toreador, Sprightly, and Sarawak.
Won by a length, three lengths between second and third.

Nov. 17th.
Osmaston Nursery Stakes, of 580 sovs, for two-year-olds; the Straight Mile.

Mr C. Stevenson's b c Pergamos, by Ollerton—Vellum, 6st 10lb. S. Chandley 1
H.R.H. The Prince of Wales's Downey, 7st 7lb. Bradford 1
Mr J. Dawson's Sir Benjamin, 6st 3lb. H. Huxtable, jun. 1
Mr H. T. Barclay's Miss Patty, 8st 12lb. Liddiard 1
Capt. Machell's KILLSALLAGHAN, 8st 11lb. G. Chaloner 0
(inc. 10lb extra) G. Chaloner 0
Mr T. Worton's Victor Wild, 8st 5lb. G. Barrett 0
Mr Heaman's Hardy Annual, 7st 12lb. Allsopp 0
Mr H. M. Foster's Jesmond, 7st 8lb. Pratt 0
Lord Ellesmere's Gabrielle, 7st 6lb. Mullen 0
Mr A. C. Barclay's Bird's Eye Blue, 7st 3lb. Gough 0
Mr J. Durward's Bohemond, 7st. P. Chaloner 0
Mr E. C. Clayton's Gill Beck, 6st 10lb. Cawte 0
Mr J. B. Knight's Loyalty, 7st 8lb. Woodburn 0

Betting—4 to 1 agst Pergamos, 9 to 2 agst Downey, 5 to 1 agst Sir Benjamin, 8 to 1 each agst KILLSALLAGHAN and Gabrielle, 10 to 1 agst Victor Wild, 100 to 7 each agst Miss Patty and Jesmond, and 20 to 1 agst Bohemond.
Won by five lengths.

Queen's Plate of 165 sovs; about 2 miles.
M. Ch. de Gheest's b f Galette, by Nougat—
Sister to Toastmaster, 3 yrs, 8st 12lb. C. Loates 1
Lord Rosslyn's Buccaneer, 5 yrs, 9st 9lb. G. Barrett 0
Lord M. Beresford's Carabinier, 5 yrs, 8st 13lb. R. Chaloner 3

Betting—11 to 10 on Buccaneer, 11 to 10 agst Galette, and 33 to 1 agst Carabinier.
Won easily by three-quarters of a length, two lengths divided second and third.

FOOTBALL.

Though no exciting League matches were played on November 12, there were some exceedingly interesting fixtures decided. At the oval an enormous crowd witnessed the game between Sunderland and the Corinthians, it being the first occasion this season that the former had visited the South. For a long time the game was very even but towards the end of the first half the Corinthians held the lead by two goals to one. In the second, one contrary to expectations, the amateurs, still held their own and at the call of time were left winners by four goals to two. Considering the few opportunities the Corinthians have had of playing together their combination is said to have been wonderful.

Preston North End fought a hard game at Glasgow against the Queen's Park and though there was nothing in it till the last half hour the Scotchmen gained the upper hand at the finish and won a grand game by two goals to one to the great delight of the nine thousand spectators present. On their way home Preston North End played a league match against Stoke on November 14 and sustained defeat at the hands of the home eleven by two goals to one. The result of this game was important as, although the Preston men are still leading nominally, the real advantage lay with Sunderland as that club had played two games less than their leaders and was only two points behind them.

On the 12th Stoke had drawn with Everton on the latter's ground, an unpleasant feature of the match being a very bad foul in which a man was so much hurt that he had to retire, whilst the player in fault was ordered off the field. The other four games in the League played during the week ending November 19 gave an advance to the Midland Clubs, West Bromwich Albion, and Aston Villa, the two latter being afterwards third and fourth on the list.

Under Rugby rules Blackheath most unexpectedly suffered defeat at the hands of Oxford University on Nov. 12th. Two of their back division being unable to play weakened Blackheath somewhat, and their combination compared unfavourably with that of the Oxonians. The Dark Blue forwards are said to have been very smart, and there seems little doubt that the better side won. At the end of the first half Blackheath led by two tries to nil, but the Oxonians took up the attack in the second half of the game and eventually won by a goal and a try (seven points) to two tries (four points).

At Cambridge the University proved a great deal too strong for the Harlequins, and won by fourteen points to nothing. Cambridge also won against Lancashire, but were beaten by Cumberland under Rugby Rules.

The London Scottish fifteen showed to great advantage, it is said, against the Harlequins in their match on Nov. 12th. They never gave their opponents a chance and finally won by four goals and a try to nil.

In first division League matches on Saturday, Aston Villa beat Notts Forest by five goals to four; Derby County beat Burnley by a goal to nil; Notts County beat Newton Heath by three goals to one; Stoke drew with Everton; West Bromwich Albion beat Accrington by four goals to nil; Wolverhampton Wanderers drew with Blackburn Rovers.

In second division matches, Bootle drew with Burslem Port Vale; Lincoln City drew with Darven; Small Heath drew with Burton Swifts.

In Scottish League matches Glasgow Rangers beat Paisley Aberdeen by three goals to nil; Leith Athletic beat Clyde by three goals to nil; 3rd Lanark drew with Heart of Midlothian,—three goals each.

The death was announced on the 7th of November of Mr Henry Norris Smith, late of the well-known firm, Messrs Smith and Wellstood, Bonnybridge and Glasgow. Mr Smith was a great lover of athletic sports, was practically the founder of Athletic football, and was popularly known as the "father" of the famous Queen's Park Club.

ATHLETICS.

The freshmen's Sports at Oxford were held at the end of the week ending on November 12, and to judge by the results there is not much in the way of fresh athletic talent at the University. The hundred yards however brought out a good man in R. J. Salt who won by three yards in 10 2/5secs. so probably had something to spare. In the Mile too the first and second, J. Cornes and E. Trewby, ran well, but no other competitor accomplished anything worthy of note.

In a five mile steeplechase brought off by the Lea Herriers on November 12th, F. A. Cohen covered the distance in 30 min. 49 secs, the best time, for which he received a special prize and also one for finishing third. E. Hakin won with a start of 2 min. 55 secs., and C. E. Martineau finished second with a start of 2 min. 40 secs.

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TERMS—CASH WITH ORDER

The Finchley harriers decided a three and a half miles race at Neasden on November 12, which resulted as follows: J. Chour (2 min 30 secs) 1st, A. R. Chippendale (3 min) 2nd, net time 25 min 14 1/5 sec. Randall made the fastest time with 24 min 38 1/5 secs.

The annual inter-club race between Oxford University and the South London Harriers took place on November 12 when the Dark Blues won by 25 points to 35. A. C. Reynolds (Oxford), 1; A. V. A. Scott (Oxford), 2; E. Gavin (S. L. H.), 3; Finch (Oxford), 4; Rivington (Oxford), 5; Rowles (S. L. H.), 6. The winner's time was 43 min 39 sec, Scott's 43 min 51 sec, Gavin's 44 min 51 sec.

CHAPTERS IN ZOOTECCHNY

(Based on Sanson's "Traite de Zootechnie.")

VIII.

In the natural conditions of the development of the domestic animals there is a necessary relation between the evolution of the primary and secondary dentition and that of the bones of the skeleton. The successive appearance of the milk teeth take place during the period of the growth of the skeleton called the period of youth, in which all the tissues of the organism assimilate their constituent elements with the greatest activity. This first period of life is divided into two periods, the one in which the milk teeth are present and the other from and after the fall of the milk teeth until the permanent dentition is complete.

It is during this latter period, sometimes called the second youth, that the bones attain their full growth and structure and the animal attains its height. It must not be supposed, however, that the evolution of the teeth is complete when the permanent dentition is obtained, since the teeth, or rather their crowns, are always issuing further and further from the gum, and are only kept to the normal length by the fact that continual use wears down their free extremities. It is known that in the incisor teeth transverse sections taken at different portions do not show the same markings, and as the teeth become worn down to these various sections the markings shown on the surface vary and give us a means of estimating the extent to which the teeth have been worn down, and as the teeth have been found to wear away at a regular rate, the markings show us the age of the animal. We will now examine the dentition of the various species of domestic animals.

In the equine species the age can be determined with sufficient certainty in normal conditions up to twenty years of age. Equine dentition is divided into several periods. The first is characterised by the successive appearance of the milk teeth, the second by the successive use of their anterior cutting edge, the third by the appearance and usage of the permanent incisors, which usage has the effect of bringing to the surface the dental ivory between the external enamel and that of the interior, the fourth of the successive appearance of the dental star and the disappearance of the crown, the fifth by the appearance of the equilateral triangular surface, and lastly the sixth by the appearance of the surface as an isosceles triangle with the base to the front. Some authors describe the two last named periods as those of triangularity and biangularity.

The first period commences at birth and ends at 8 or 9 months.

The second commences at 9 months.

The third commences at 3 years.

The fourth commences at 8 years.

The fifth commences at 14 years.

The sixth commences at 17 years.

Young horses are ordinarily born without teeth, and from the sixth to the tenth day after, both the nippers and the three temporary molars begin to show themselves. From the thirtieth to the fortieth day the dividers appear, and from the sixth to the eighth month the corner teeth! This is the normal age of weaning. Up to this time the young horse has not used his teeth, and they remain intact. Henceforth the vegetable diet causes them to wear. At the tenth month the fourth molar in each gum, which is permanent, is cut and the temporary nippers are worn. The temporary dividers show wear at twelve months, and at two years the temporary corner incisors also are worn. From two years and a half to three years the temporary nippers fall and give place to their permanent successors, and at the same time the first and second temporary molars are similarly replaced and the fifth molars make their appearance. From three and a half to four years the milk dividers are replaced by the permanent ones, as are also the third molars, and the nippers show signs of wear. From four and a half to five years the corner

milk teeth and the canine in the male are permanent. At the end of the fifth year the cutting edge of the corner teeth is at the level of the neighbouring dividers, which are completely worn so as to show the structural markings. The sixth and last molars appear at this time, so completing the permanent dentition.

A horse ass or mule therefore which has all its milk teeth is less than two years old, one which retains its temporary dividers and corner teeth is under four years. One which retains its temporary corner teeth only is under five years. These it must be understood are normal cases but there are cases, precocious as they are called, in which the second dentition is complete at two years. There are also cases such as where the horse is parrot mouthed, when in consequence of the abnormal arrangement of the jaws with respect to each other the degree of friction is varied and the teeth show abnormal markings or want of markings.

A recent dispute about a horse in the Buenos Aires Jockey Club has illustrated this remark very forcibly.

At six years of age the dental arch is completely level owing to the use of the front edge of the corner teeth, but their hind edge remains intact, they are worn. At seven years the back edges of the corner teeth are worn so as to show the ivory behind the central enamel. This observation should be extended to the teeth in the upper jaws, as the upper corner tooth extends on each side of the lower one exteriorly, having at its edge a small ridge.

At eight years of age the fourth period commences. The wearing has extended almost to the bottom of the crown, which is shown by the extending of the central enamel towards the back edge of the teeth. As the level of the dental cavity is reached we see behind the central enamel and the front edge a yellow mark, called the dental star, formed by the cement which has there substituted the pulp.

At nine the star appears on the dividers.

At ten the star shows itself on the corner teeth and the crown has altogether disappeared from the surface of the nippers.

At eleven the dental crown is also effaced from the dividers, and at twelve it disappears from the corner teeth. All the incisors now show only the dental star but the nippers are still oval. It is at this age that the teeth are trimmed up by dishonest dealers to reproduce on their surface the markings of earlier years.

At thirteen years the irregularly circular figure of the nippers is the special sign of the age, which shape at fourteen becomes triangular in the nippers, at fifteen in the dividers and at sixteen in the corners.

At seventeen the surface of the nippers forms an isosceles triangle whilst the remaining incisors are still equilateral but from seventeen to twenty the surface of all teeth become shaped like an isosceles until at the latter age they are all equally so. After twenty it is impossible to fix the age of a horse. The teeth become straighter and the gums shrink more and more but without definite rates or ginding marks. The extent of wear of teeth in horses has been found to be approximately 3 m.m. in fine horses and 4 m.m. in those of inferior breeds. The normal length of the free portion of the incisors is 16 m.m.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL NOTES

All the readers of "Sport and Pastime" will have heard with regret, and very many with a deeper pang still, of the death of Frank Lucas Woolley.

Not only was he a genial companion and an excellent fellow in every way, but he was a man who took the keenest interest in the sports and pastimes of his beloved native land. The various clubs will have reason to deplore his loss; none more so than the B.A. Amateur Dramatic Club, of which he was a bright and intelligent light—having greatly helped it in its formation, acting as Honorary Treasurer when its finances were at their most difficult and critical period.

He was an enthusiastic amateur actor, taking the greatest pains to perfect himself alike in his lines as in the best conception of the parts he undertook; he never acted carelessly. Furthermore, as a fellow actor no one could have been pleasanter, as he ever did his utmost to make things go harmoniously as well as artistically.

Notwithstanding the sad funeral last Monday, when so many of his friends stood around the

wreath-laden coffin as it was lowered into the grave, it is difficult to realize that our friend has really left "the threshold of the life elysian whose portal we call Death."

Apropos of the rumour that Cleary's agent was hunting around for a theatre, a rumour which at the time I strongly ridiculed through the medium of these columns, I hear from England that Cleary is now in South Africa arranging for a tour.

The friends of Bob Fische, and they were many, will be glad to hear that he is considerably better and will shortly be at work again. This time at "The Globe" under Manager Boosey.

Never, perhaps, was there such a dearth of theatrical news; that is to say, so far as Buenos Aires is concerned, as at the present time. Although in the ordinary course of events we are naturally given to expect a lull in matters dramatic and musical at this particular period of the year, yet it seldom happens that a week, even in December, passes without there being something fresh or at least of importance to chronicle. Yet such is the position of affairs at the moment of writing, and there appears to be little prospect of any novelty seeing the light, with the exception of the new circus at the Politeama, of which more anon, for some time to come.

Bogus has of late been on the rampage, and the feeble-minded and the foolish have fallen easy victims to his artfulness. Bogus is liberal in nothing so much as promises, but between promise and performance, you know, there is a great gulf fixed, and I doubt if we shall see an amateur performance of "Hamlet" (the gentleman whose ambitions soar so high is vainly endeavouring to find a lady for the part of Ophelia—can anyone oblige?) Rumour also says that a band of Sullivanian enthusiasts are going to do "The Sorcerer;" also, that (this I write with bated breath) an Amateur Dramatic Club will be formed in Belgrano. If this last be true, the club will carry the best wishes of many of us with them in their big undertaking, but when I see so many—male and female—who, blinded by their stupidly conceited vanity believe in his or her mission for the stage, I cannot help thinking of the old proverb, "Seest thou a man wise in his own conceit? There is more hope of a fool than of him." And thus endeth the old, old lesson.

Point of view of course, is everything, and looking at the Quilmes Anglican Church Bazaar with the indulgent eye that I always take with me when I go to Bazaars or kindred shows, I came to the conclusion that the arrangements with one exception were good and what is more well carried out.

Thursday afternoon found me *en route* for the Bazaar intending, as did many others to feed there (here's the one exception referred to in my last paragraph) but a kind friend told me that you could not get anything to eat, but there was lots of "whuskey," some men can live on Whiskey I can't so concluded I'd accept a kind and welcome invitation to dine in Bernal, and on to the Bazaar afterwards.

Unfortunately it was nearly dark upon my arrival at the grounds, so could not admire them, but hearing the sweet strains of a Strauss waltz I followed them up and found myself in the thick of the fun, there was plenty of light here (though I fear some of the stall holders must be near sighted, for they appeared unable to distinguish the difference between \$2 and \$5 bills, at least in the matter of change, still I suppose that's all in the day's work.) Finding that my funds were beautifully less, and knowing that there was a chance of winning some at a race table, I proceeded thither intending to return and spend my winnings at the stalls, but "there's many a slip 'twixt the cup and the lip," and though fortune was kind at first, one's winnings had to be at once invested in raffle tickets, and luck changing, well the stalls did not get my money and the race game did.

The Mariani Circus has duly arrived, and I should say their stay will be a long one if the crowded house and first rate show of Saturday last can be taken as a criterion both of the goods they have to offer and the warm and enthusiastic reception which the B.A. public appear likely to accord them.

A better all round company it would be difficult to equal and almost impossible to beat. Never have I seen a clown drop down, tier by tier, from the gallery to the pit, or such riding as Sta. Mariani's and Miss Carr's, whose feats far surpass those of Rosita, the popular equestrienne of Frank Brown's circus.

The band is far above the average, though the choice of music was somewhat peculiar. Commencing with the march from "Aida" they proceeded with a new, very new and revised edition of Mendelssohn's "Wedding March," and then, horrors! a fearfully distorted arrangement of the Andante from Chopin's "Funeral March," arranged to suit the steps of a dancing horse. The rest of their selections were better chosen, with one exception, when—

It must have been of this identical tune
The apocryphal quadruped perished so soon.

The audience heard the mistake (which I think originated owing to the orchestral copies being mixed), and hissed, yelled and hooted at the unfortunate conductor until the music came to an abrupt and untimely end.

All were good, some exceptionally so. The two ladies whom I have previously mentioned, and the wonderful feats of the Bros. Almaio, who balanced themselves in almost impossible ways upon chairs in uncomfortable positions, and finished up by building up an amateur Eifel tower of chairs, and one of the brothers mounting to the top balanced himself on his head and while in this position emptied a pair of shooting irons. In addition they did some very tall acrobatic feats in company with Sr. Mariani.

Smart indeed was the trapeze performance of Sta. Astrogilda (a big name for a small child) some of her feats being simply hair raising, culminating in a drop of about 50 ft. from the trapeze into a net. This little lady went round selling her photos, and I asked her how old she was and she told me seven (being of the tender sex she most probably had learnt a lesson from her elder sisters and fixed her age as occasion required), but certainly ten years would have exceeded the limit. I suppose there is no S.P.C.C. in this country, but if there is they should certainly interfere in this case, for the child looked fearfully cowed and is badly scarred, the result of premature training.

Some bewildering juggling by Sr. Oreste and tricky and taking playing upon bottles, bells, a zither, &c., by Mde. Arkas Djelma, which brought down the house, and last, though not least, the amusing fooling of a clown, by name Flexmoor, helped to fill up an exceptionally taking and amusing programme, half variety show, half circus.

THE MAN IN THE STALLS

BUENOS AIRES FROM DAY TO DAY

In politics there has been a sufficiency of rumours, but apart from the unexpected resignation of the Governor of Cordoba there has been little beyond rumour. The resignation of Dr Pizarro on the ground that a government without force and without fraud is impossible, and that he will not be a party to either shows two things very clearly. One is that there are men of sterling honesty and true patriotism in the country, and the other that such men find themselves in the wrong place when they get into power. Dr Saenz Peña has sent Dr Tagle with an autograph letter to Dr Pizarro to induce him if possible to withdraw his resignation.

The sumario about the Rosales is still in statu quo. The men accused of participation in the alleged military conspiracy intended to take proceedings against the fiscal when set at liberty, for what they allege has been the improper manner in which he has conducted their case, but on Tuesday an order of the day was published dismissing all the officers accused in the Sr. Catalina matter from the army, on the ground that their conduct was inconsistent with military duty and obedience. A similar result has taken place in the case of the officers of the 9th battalion, who have been under arrest since April last.

When people who are tarred with the same brush begin to abuse each other the bystanders generally have a good laugh at them, and it is considered a case of the kettle abusing the pan for being black.

The Argentine papers are making merry over the numerous revolutions in Brazil as if, forsooth, the word revolution were unknown in Platan territory. One of the evening papers headed a recent notice of Brazilian outbreak with the phrase "the 100th revolution." This reminds one of a machine on view at some exhibition to which was annexed a card, "Guaranteed to make as many revolutions as a South American Republic."

The preliminary exhibition of Argentine products to be ultimately sent to Chicago seems to give very little satisfaction. We have not yet visited it as we understand that much yet remains to be put in position, but from all reports, both native and foreign, it appears to be about as much inferior to the real worth of the country as the Paris exhibit was exaggerated.

The "Prensa" offers a suggestion to the railway managers which is at least worth laughing at, viz., that in order to avoid people getting into full carriages at stations and having to stand during the whole or a portion of their journey, the guards should at each station hang out cards with "no room" or "room here" on them. The "Prensa" says that the guard by going through each carriage and comparing the people present with the tickets in his pocket, will be able to know which passengers will alight at each station, and so be able easily to put out the notice referred to. For good unworkable suggestions about railway management commend us to the "Prensa" in future.

It is rumoured that Dr. Pellegrini intends to return to political life as one of the chiefs of the Modernista or La Plata party. Dr. Roque Saenz Peña, the son of the President and a perpetual thorn in his side, has renounced his Senatorship and he is to be succeeded by Dr. Quintana. Of course the inevitable rumour of the return of General Roca to participation in politics is revived on every opportunity.

A certain Dr. Esteban Sarentes has made an offer to the Government to raise the Rosales and place her again at the disposition of the country. He asks for the loan of the "La Argentina" and the "Parana," with their crews and a few fathoms of cable, a diving dress, etc. Is not this a case of "first catch your hare," otherwise, "First find the Rosales."

The Lord Mayor is still pursuing his crusade in favour of tree-planting and flower growing in the public streets and squares and is very angry with those shopkeepers who are so selfish and so devoid of aesthetic taste as to cut down trees in order that their sign boards may be seen better.

It appears that a case of black mailing, in which an Argentine lady figures as the victim, has been decided in the London Courts, with the satisfactory result that the black-mailer has been condemned.

There was a little unexpected excitement in the Tigre Hotel on Thursday evening, when the frequenters of one of the saloons were requested to visit the Comisario. We hear of some hair-breadth escapes. The storm, however, soon blew over, and the gentlemen, after a few words with the Comisario, returned safe and sound to the scene of festivity.

Contrary to what we expected last week the Senate have decided not to suspend Judge Pizarro, against whom the Deputies have presented an impeachment, so that the country exhibits the scandalous spectacle of a Judge indicted by one Chamber of the Congress neither having the decency to present his own resignation nor being suspended by his judges until the inquiry is terminated. It appears that a majority of the Senate intend to dismiss the charge against the Judge at all costs. This appears also to be the view of the Deputies, who have withdrawn the charge on the express ground that "they have no confidence in the honesty and justice of the Senate as a court." We doubt if the Parliamentary annals of any country can show a similar state of things.

It seems that the Pope is going to denounce the Freemasons again, so that the brethren of all degrees must be quaking in their shoes.

Ahem! A portion of the arms and baggage belonging to the Commission for settling the boundary question with Chile was left with the police at San Juan. The Minister for Foreign Affairs asked for the delivery of these objects, and received the reply that the "boxes had been opened and found empty." Ahem!

Sr. Zenon Ferrari, a retired soldier has invented a portable cannon and mitrailleuse for use by light infantry. He is going to offer his inventions to his native country relying on its patriotism to remunerate him, and scorning with contempt the suggestion of a reporter to sell his inventions to a foreign power which would pay him "en oro."

It would appear that many accidents which have recently occurred through the careless making up doctors' prescriptions are due to the fact that very often the "farmacias" are abandoned by their responsible managers and sometimes the prescriptions are made up by peones. To remedy this the National Health Board are going to send round inspectors to see that the chemists are in their place or that at least their shops are left in the case of competent men.

After the 31st instant the old emission of postage stamps will only be of value to collectors and will not be of use for letters.

The latest form of cheap advertisement is newspaper correspondence. A advertiser that he is "the only Jones" or that he sells the best tobacco or the best something else and B writes to the paper calling attention to the fact that his name also is Jones or that he also sells tobacco, etc.

The state of things in Tierra del Fuego does not reflect much credit on the "powers that be." To imagine such a thing as a man-of-war flying the Argentine banner converted into a common *boliche* is bad enough, but when we hear that the aforesaid "powers that be" are practically running the concern, we don't know how to express ourselves. The revelations of Government mismanagement and abuse of authority in Tierra del Fuego are scandalous.

An attempt is being made to induce Dr. Manuel Quintana to take the leadership of the Modernistas, and it is on this account that he has been nominated a Senator for La Plata.

We always thought that Honiton was an inland town, but a contemporary on Saturday informed us that it was a "fishing village." Perhaps our contemporary would kindly oblige with details of the geological catastrophe that brought this locality forward so much as to place it on the sea shore, as in our atlas Honiton is inland, and we wish to be sure before correcting it.

RACING

BELGRANO—DEC. 18

Last Sunday's race meeting at Belgrano will be remembered for some time by those who were present. We ought to be getting used to wretched starting and judges' decisions directly opposite to our own ideas of the finish of a race, but we must confess that the starting and judging on Sunday last fairly carried off the palm. If the mistakes were made through carelessness, the sooner men who know their work hold the flag and occupy the judge's box the better, if they were made purposely, which we cannot believe, the public should rise like one man and insist on fair play.

As regards the racing it was good on the whole, and the weather being fine though rather hot, a fair number of people witnessed it. Proceedings commenced with the Premio Orme. The start was awful, Simpleton getting away several lengths in front. Carpintero won very easily by two or three lengths.

Thalia started favourite for the Premio Sir Hugo, but she could only finish third, Sucre, who was expected to run in the big Premio Final, winning easily from Jefferson, who finished well and paid a good dividend for a place.

The third race, the Premio Final, was the race of the day, it brought out the smallest field, however, only six three-year-olds going to the

post. Rivadavia started a very hot favourite. Federal coming next in the betting, but the running of this latter colt was disappointing to his backers as he was last the whole way. We do not think he was "meant." Rivadavia only just managed to get her head in front of Anacoreta at the finish, her stable companion, Prometeo, being third.

The Premio La Fleche occasioned the first shindy on account of the judges' decision. It is always difficult to see the finish properly from any part of the stands, stationed as one is some fifty or sixty yards from the winning post and about a hundred back from the course, but it certainly appeared to us that Apolo won fairly enough from Valiente. The judges, however, decreed otherwise, and made it a dead heat between the pair; there was a row round their box which however did not last very long. Apolo started a great favourite, whereas Valiente was fancied least of all with the exception of Manon Lescout.

Holland was an equal favourite with Stone Cross for the Premio Chene Royal, and the starter left him at the post. It took that official nearly half an hour to get his field under weigh, there were only fifteen starters, and again was shown the necessity for starting in the proper way from a walk. At the finish Zampa beat Stone Cross by a length with Chilliarch following them home.

Thalia, running for the second time, and again starting favourite, carried off the Premio Rueil in quite her old style from Robert le Diable and Clairon.

This race brought us to the last event of the day, the Premio Fra Angelica, and over which there was the biggest row of all. Sucre and Carpintero started almost equal favourites, Sucre being most fancied of the two. After the field had got well into the straight Carpintero took the lead, but Sucre and India Muerta soon were level with him and appeared to get in front a few strides from the post. As we said before, however, it is very difficult to see the finish from the stands, and how far wrong the judges were it is difficult to say, but India Muerta placed third to Sucre and Carpintero did not seem to us at all a correct decision.

The last race was run very late, and the whole day was most unsatisfactory and unlike what the Hipódromo Nacional meetings usually are.

Details:

PREMIO SIR HUGO, a handicap for horses which have not won more than \$6000 in 1892; \$1800 to the 1st; 1600 metres.

Table listing horses and jockeys for Premio Sir Hugo, including Rosa, Sucre, and others.

The Capital ran in front for a short way when she was joined by Sucre, the pair racing together for some distance till Sucre obtained the lead. When once in front the Bolivar colt stayed there easily and won from Jefferson, who came well at the finish, by three lengths, half a length in front of Thalia.

Tickets—Sucre with 1310 win and 1131 place, Jefferson 350 and 693, Thalia 1565 and 1705, Salaam 1489 and 1842, Egbert 1038 and 1460, Salvacion 547 and 980, Lucifer 174 and 464, Liniers 118 and 398, Ambush 230 and 523, Almirante 165 and 538, Estoque 142 and 319, La Capita 80 and 221, Totals—7168 and 10220.

Dividends—Sucre \$9.84 win and 5.34 place, Jefferson 7.45 place, Thalia 4.21 place.

PREMIO ORME, a handicap for horses which having run have not won a race in 1892; \$1600 to the 1st, 200 to the 2nd; 1300 metres.

Table listing horses and jockeys for Premio Orme, including Mathiason, Castlereagh, and others.

La Petite Ecurie's Clairon, 4 yrs 52 k. ... P. Torres 3 Stud Buenos Aires' Santa Lucia, 4 yrs 54 k ... E. Lopez 0

The flag was dropped to a wretched start. Simpleton got off in front and led to the turn at the stables, when

Carpintero took up the running, and never after being headed won easily by three lengths from Simpleton, who was a length in front of Sensacion.

Tickets—Carpintero with 1450 win and 2005 place, Simpleton 160 and 259, Sensacion 172 and 326, Charrua 657 and 1039, Santa Fé 687 and 873, Junio 316 and 529, San Lorenzo 17 and 15, High Life 226 and 459, La Plata 253 and 489, Te Olvide 370 and 865, Sandetti 126 and 305, Pertoldi 288 and 450, Patria 36 and 65, Musical 35 and 55, Soltera—33 and 60, Totals—4826 and 7794.

Dividends—Carpintero \$5.99 win and 3.45 place, Simpleton 8.08 place, Sensacion 56.13.

PREMIO FINAL, for three-year-olds, colts 53 kilos, fillies 51 kilos, winners of from \$3000 to \$8000 carried 3 kilos extra, up to \$12,000 7 kilos extra, and of more than \$12,000 7 kilos extra, maidens allowed 3 kilos; \$3000 to 1st, 500 to the 2nd; 1900 metres.

Table listing horses and jockeys for Premio Final, including La Prensa's Rivadavia, Sr. J. N. Villanueva's Anacoreta, and others.

Prometeo ran at the head of affairs to the last turn, where he gave way to Anacoreta after a short struggle. Anacoreta's name was being shouted as he came down the straight, when Rivadavia was seen coming up on the leader to catch him at the stand, a close finish between the pair resulting in the La Prensa colt gaining the verdict by a head, a length between second and third.

Tickets—Rivadavia and Prometeo with 3356 win and 2832 place, Anacoreta 900 and 722, Federal 1950 and 1610, Cham 696 and 682, totals 7225 and 6142.

PREMIO LA FLECHE, a handicap for winners of a larger sum than \$6000, \$2000 to the 1st, 200 to the 2nd; 1600 metres.

Table listing horses and jockeys for Premio La Fleche, including Golondrina, S. E. Acebal's Apolo, and others.

Valiente took the lead from the start and kept in front without being challenged till reaching the paddock, where Apolo caught him and an exciting race home resulted in the judge giving it a dead heat. There was considerable uproar after the numbers were hoisted, many of the crowd affirming that Apolo had won by a good half length, but from the stand it was impossible to see the result.

Tickets—Valiente with 733 win and 1103 place, Apolo 2914 and 2691, Santa Lucia 1283 and 1381, India Muerta 1004 and 1121, Danton 745 and 688, Brandy Snap 995 and 1121, Manon Lescout 400 and 679, totals \$874 and 8777.

Dividends: Apolo \$3.24 win and 3.52 place, Valiente \$6.93 win 5.73 place.

PREMIO CHENE ROYAL, a handicap; \$1800 to the 1st, 200 to the 2nd; 1100 metres.

Table listing horses and jockeys for Premio Chene Royal, including Capitan Lopez's Zampa, Sauterelle, and others.

After a delay of nearly half an hour the flag was dropped to a fairly good start, Politica and Stone Cross raced together in front till fairly in the straight, when Politica was beat; Stone Cross came on with the lead to the paddock, but here Zampa made his effort and succeeded in getting the better of Stone Cross, beating him at the finish by a length, the same distance separating second and third.

Tickets—Zampa and Corsario with 667 win and 1061 place, Stone Cross 1601 and 1531, Chilliarch 826 and 1064, Relampago 68 and 97, Huracan 512 and 632, Terminacion 637 and 894, Holland 1587 and 2203, Lugano 323 and 652, Marionette 433 and 723, Simpleton 82 and 102, Monk 59 and 324, Lancero 313 and 232, Politica and Sensacion 196 and 355, Totals—7098 and 9898.

Dividends—Zampa \$18.87 win and 5.30 place, Stone Cross 4.28 place, Chilliarch 5.29 place.

PREMIO RUEIL, a handicap for winners, \$3500 to the 1st 200 to the 2nd, 1900 metres.

Table listing horses and jockeys for Premio Rueil, including Buenos Aires' Thalia, Mnemosque, and others.

La Petite Ecurie's Clairon, 4 yrs 52 k. ... P. Torres 3 Stud Buenos Aires' Santa Lucia, 4 yrs 54 k ... E. Lopez 0

After the flag was dropped the runner took the straight where he was beat and Carpintero at the paddock took the lead. Passing the stands however Sucre and India Muerta challenged the leader and a most exciting struggle ensued. It appeared at the finish that Carpintero was beat for first place by India Muerta and Sucre, but the numbers of Carpintero and Sucre were hoisted together, and India Muerta was placed third by the judges. This decision was not at all in accordance with the public's idea of the result, and it certainly appeared that Carpintero was behind both India Muerta and Sucre.

Tickets—Carpintero with 1528 win and 1632 place, Sucre 1935 and 1184, India Muerta 289 and 386, Curupayti 28 and 52, Cabula 588 and 887, Brandy Snap and Melpomenes 496 and 980, Egbert 486 and 990, Soldado 892 and 723, Cautivo 480 and 703, Nedgate 181 and 473, The MacGowan 450 and 357, Ambush 143 and 263, Siva 327 and 320, Pluton 104 and 175, Jefferson 178 and 328; totals 8105 and 8859.

Dividend—Sucre \$4.68 win and 3.97 place, Carpintero 4.50 win and 3.94 place, India Muerta 10.24 place.

Table listing horses and jockeys for Stud Entre Rios, Satanelle, Sr. E. Acebal's Apolo, and others.

Robert le Diable made the running from Junio until reaching the last turn where Clairon took the lead. Before reaching the straight Thalia was sent to the front, to win easily from Robert le Diable by a length. Half that distance between second and third.

Tickets—Thalia and Santa Lucia with 1731 win and 1797 place, Robert le Diable and Don Carlos 808 and 1144, Clairon 1218 and 1133, Satanelle 887 and 883, Apolo 534 and 1886, Puygaveu 1348 and 1828, Junio 67 and 133, Almirante 145 and 273, Erato 1706 and 2067; totals 8394 and 11,134.

Dividends—Thalia \$8.72 win and 3.87 place, Robert le Diable \$4.94 place, Clairon 4.97 place.

PREMIO FRA ANGELICO, a handicap, \$1800 to the 1st, 200 to the 2nd, 1300 metres.

Table listing horses and jockeys for Premio Fra Angelico, including Mr C. Mathiason's ch h Carpintero, Ecurie Bolivar's b c Sucre, and others.

Table listing horses and jockeys for Stud Boqueron's Curupayti, Ecurie Titan's Babula, and others.

Soldado made the whole of the running to the straight where he was beat and Carpintero at the paddock took the lead. Passing the stands however Sucre and India Muerta challenged the leader and a most exciting struggle ensued. It appeared at the finish that Carpintero was beat for first place by India Muerta and Sucre, but the numbers of Carpintero and Sucre were hoisted together, and India Muerta was placed third by the judges. This decision was not at all in accordance with the public's idea of the result, and it certainly appeared that Carpintero was behind both India Muerta and Sucre.

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Dividend—Sucre \$4.68 win and 3.97 place, Carpintero 4.50 win and 3.94 place, India Muerta 10.24 place.

Table with columns SPORT PORTEÑO, WIN, PLACE, S. GONZALEZ WIN, PLACE, listing results for various races.

Table with columns SPORT PORTEÑO, WIN, PLACE, S. GONZALEZ WIN, PLACE, listing results for Premio Orme.

Table with columns SPORT PORTEÑO, WIN, PLACE, S. GONZALEZ WIN, PLACE, listing results for Premio Sir Hugo.

Table with columns SPORT PORTEÑO, WIN, PLACE, S. GONZALEZ WIN, PLACE, listing results for Premio Final.

Table with columns SPORT PORTEÑO, WIN, PLACE, S. GONZALEZ WIN, PLACE, listing results for Premio La Fleche.

Table with columns SPORT PORTEÑO, WIN, PLACE, S. GONZALEZ WIN, PLACE, listing results for Premio Chene Royal.

Table with columns SPORT PORTEÑO, WIN, PLACE, S. GONZALEZ WIN, PLACE, listing results for Premio Rueil.

Table with columns SPORT PORTEÑO, WIN, PLACE, S. GONZALEZ WIN, PLACE, listing results for Premio Fra Angelico.

ROWING

The following is the new committee of the Rosario Rowing Club:

- President—H. B. Coffin. Vice-President—J. W. Green. Treasurer—E. Newte. Secretary—H. S. Ferguson, junr. Captain—J. S. Sheenan. Vice-Captain—R. Mathews. E. P. Dale, T. E. Keyworth, — Roebuck, H. Dale.

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The writer's name and address are required with all letters
but not for publication, unless desired. Letters and en-
quiries from anonymous correspondents will not receive
attention.

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payable in advance.

River Plate Sport and Pastime.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1892.

SPORTING NOTES

The cricket match which was to have been
played on December 18 between two elevens
captained by Mr. S. Carlisle and Mr. M. G.
Fortune was postponed owing to the death of
Mr. F. L. Wooley which took place on Sunday
morning at his house at Flores.

The day by which the preliminary and first
rounds of the Buenos Aires Lawn Tennis Club's
Tournament have to be played off has been
altered to Thursday, the 22nd inst., and that for
the second and third rounds to Tuesday, the
27th inst. The final will be played on Thursday,
the 29th, as at first arranged.

Members of the Tigre Boat Club should not
forget that the entries for their races, to be
held on the 6th January, close on the 25th
instant.

I hear that if the roulette tables are stopped at
the Tigre Hotel that the Hotel will be shut up
altogether. The tables may perhaps be the
means of bringing people of a sort to the hotel,
but in the end they may drive just as many, if
not more, away from it, and so I don't see why
the proprietors should take such a step as closing
the hotel if play is stopped.

By the way, I see that roller skating is now
going to form one of the many attractions of the
Tigre Hotel, and that the rink, which will be
none other than the large dancing-room, will be
in charge of Mr. Armand, of the now far-famed
Columbia Skating Rink. This is a capital idea,
and one which should meet with lots of success;
skating is too heating a pastime in town just
now, but at the Tigre, where flannels are quite
au fait, it should be thoroughly enjoyable.

The members of the Buenos Aires Rowing
Club do not seem to look with much favour on
the enforcement of their club's rule, which lays
down that a member of the club when in one of
the club's boats must wear the club's uniform. So
long as the uniform only means the club's ribbon
round a straw hat or a cap of the club's colours,
I don't see there is anything to grumble at, in
fact the rule appears a very right and just one for
many reasons.

I hear that the Medía Luna Polo Club are making
preparations for celebrating Christmas and New

Year with a polo tournament on a small scale as
Venado Tuerto and the Castials are both going to
visit them for some friendly games.

Ormonde is to sail to-day in the Clyde for
England, and he will doubtless be visited in his
box on deck by many friends, and well wishers
for a safe voyage home again. Those who ridic-
uled the idea of Ormonde's being worth £30,000
will now have to take a back seat, as not only his
present owner Mr Maedonough, but also Mr Read,
offered that sum for the most sensational horse
which has ever lived. As the "Sportsman" says
in an article referred to elsewhere, Captain Eng-
land has now the "laugh over those who treated
his calm assertion that Ormonde was commer-
cially worth 30,000 guineas with derision." Or-
monde has, in fact, realised that exact sum, and
there will be a regular scramble for the subscrip-
tions to him if any are ever offered to the public.

What would people have paid in London to see
Doncaster, Bend Or, Ormonde, and Orme if they
could all have been placed in one building. Un-
fortunately Doncaster is now dead, so the four
generations would be impossible, but even Or-
monde alone would attract thousands to see him
who would pay highly for the privilege.

Cycling seems to be making rapid strides
here, the other evening a bicycle race was the
attraction at the Columbia skating rink, and a
ride from Buenos Aires to Lobos was, we hear,
successfully accomplished on Sunday last, the
18th, by Messrs Remondene and Sloper on their
pneumatic tyred safeties. It was originally in-
tended that more than these two gentlemen
were to have taken part in the ride, but they
alone turned up at the starting post at the time
fixed, 3.30 a.m. All the way to Flores the road
was found bad, but from there on to Zapiola it
was in splendid condition for bicycling, in fact
taking the roads outside generally they were
found excellent. The cyclists arrived at Lobos
at one o'clock, when a considerable crowd
awaited them. Needless to say their appear-
ance at various points of the road produced great
astonishment amongst the natives, who had
never seen anything like a bicycle in their lives
before and probably thought it something un-
canny.

Some time ago I remarked that the roads round
about Buenos Aires were unsuitable for bicycling
and was immediately corrected by one or two
cyclists who ought to know better than I. There
is one thing certain and that is that when one
out in the country, roads which have had a fair
amount of traffic over them could not I should
imagine be beaten for bicycling, and we shall
soon perhaps hear of tours to Bahia Blanca, and
road races to Cordoba, as of every day occur-
rence.

Mr. Brett, the well-known English trainer,
sustained a serious accident last Tuesday. After
seeing his horses gallop, he approached Lugano,
who kicked him on the leg breaking a small
bone. Mr. Brett went to the British Hospital
on Saturday where he is being successfully
treated.

The Rosario Rowing Club are about to pur-
chase a four-oared clinker built racing boat for
practising in, so that they will be enabled in
future to compete with the Montevideo and Bu-
enos Aires Clubs at their regattas. It has only
been because they have had no racing boats that
Rosario, which numbers in its rowing club one
or two first rate oarsmen, has not been lately
represented at the Tigre and Montevideo regattas,
and the new purchase will be hailed with delight
by the many friends of the Rosario Rowing
Club.

It was only last week that I had to say some-
thing about the wretched judging at Palermo
and Belgrano, and now again this week it is im-
possible to let the fiasco of Sunday last at Bel-
grano pass unnoticed. The starting was worse
than usual, which says a great deal, and two
dead heats were given which looked anything
but like dead heats, in fact in one the jockey of
the winner, at least the horse which should have
been the winner, having a half length's lead,
stopped riding his horse only to find himself
placed dead heat with the second. In the last
race the climax was reached when Carpintero
was deheaded with Sucre, and India Muerta
placed third when she was a good half length if
not more in front of the former.

Of course it is very difficult to see exactly the
result of a close finish owing to the absurd posi-
tion of the stands, and the absence of a press
stand in line with the judges' box, but there was
little doubt at Belgrano that both the decisions
mentioned were entirely wrong. The public was
not slow in letting the judges know what it
thought of them, and if it had not been that some
policemen were handy round the box there
would have been no end of a row. If the same
thing had happened in England I don't think
that there would have been much left of either
the judges or their box.

In one very bad start the number of horses
at the post was given as an excuse for the
starter. There were the enormous number of
fifteen horses! I wonder what the amateurs here
would do with a field such as that in the Cesare-
wich when twenty-eight horses were at the post,
and yet we read that Mr Coventry got this big
field away without any trouble, and for the sim-
ple reason that at home there is a rule to the
effect that the horses must be started from a
walk, and jockeys know that disobedience means
punishment of a serious kind, and that "kid-
ding" calls forth something more than excited
gesticulations.

Why don't the Jockey Club begin by adding
to their existing rules the one in the English
rules relating to starting, and then appoint a man
who is well known to have no interest in any
stable to start, and another to occupy the
Judge's box, paying to each a salary which
would ensure the club getting thoroughly good
men; then, and not till then, should we see fair
play on the racecourses here. It is a well known
fact that clubs which are supported by the public
and yet managed by amateurs always result in
failure.

One would have thought that there were
enough newspapers and to spare in Buenos Aires
already, without new ones being started, but the
cry is yet they come, and I have been told that
at the present moment there are more papers in
this city than in any other in the world. The
very newest is "La Ilustracion Sud Americana,"
which contains in its first number a portrait of
Athos. As a true representation of the Argen-
tine jockey's seat the picture is perfect—but
anything more hideous is hardly possible. We
recommend this picture to any one desirous to
give their friends at home an idea of how our
jockeys sit, hold their reins, and bit their horses.

Over nine thousand "cartas de catedráticos"
were received by the Sport Gonzalez on Satur-
day last for the meeting of the 16th at Belgrano
and the sum amounted to \$72,000. Part of this
sum was divided over Sunday's meeting among
the most successful prophets, the rest being held
over. One letter contained six winners, namely,
Carpintero, Sucre, Rivadavia, Apolo, Thalia,
and Sucre, Stone Cross being the only horse
over which the writer came to grief. To this
prophet, is awarded \$20,275. Twenty-two other
letters gave five winners, and to each of the
senders will be paid \$394. I see that up to
mid day yesterday no one had presented him-
self to collect any of these prizes.

Athos with his trainer, jockey, and groom ar-
rived safely in Montevideo on Monday, where he
will remain until after the International there on
the 6th of January.

It is a matter of serious consideration that in
the rage for mestization the little criollo horse
is fast becoming extinct. On many estancias
now it is quite uncommon to find any of the work-
ing horses under 14 hands, though the gauchos
who come to give a hand with the cattle at busy
times bring their troop of pure criollos with them,
for one of which they would not exchange two
mestizos. It is a significant fact that these men
can rarely be induced to part with one of their
little nags; they know their value and the diffi-
culty that would be experienced in replacing
them; besides, horses with any good blood in
their veins have been proved too often to be use-
less for cattle work, and no one realises better
than the gaucho that every day his little steed
is becoming more valuable.

There are still some estancieros, however, who
still breed from criollo stallions in place of a
weedy half-bred horse, with the result that their

GENTLEMEN'S DOUBLES.

Preliminary Round—

E. P. Rowland and R. Colville Jones beat G. Anderson and A. Dobson 6-2, 6-3.
P. Bridger and A. Leslie beat G. Leslie and J. B. Hall 5-7, 11-9, 7-5.

First Round—

A. Mohr Bell and A. Goodfellow beat F. L. Jacobs and F. H. Jacobs 6-5, 2-6, 7-5.
A. Anderson and R. W. Anderson beat H. W. S. Bird and H. A. Livock 6-5, 6-2.
B. W. Kennard and L. Corry Smith beat T. M. Lees and H. Mohr Bell 6-3, 6-2.
F. P. Rowland and R. Colville Jones beat R. C. Osborn and H. E. Gwyther 6-0, 6-3.
P. Bridger and A. Leslie w.o.
C. Reynolds and W. G. Cowes beat C. Curtois and W. Leslie 6-2, 7-5.
W. Bassett Smith and J. F. Kahl beat A. Sheard and T. Dodds 6-1, 6-1.
B. W. Gardom and R. W. Romer beat S. Gibson and D. Gibson 6-1 and 8-6.

MIXED DOUBLES.

Preliminary Round—

B. W. Gardom and Miss Gardom w.o.
L. Corry Smith and Miss A. Jacobs beat F. H. Jacobs and Miss M. Jacobs 6-3, 6-5.

First Round—

A. Dobson and Miss Dobson beat R. W. Romer and Mrs. Romer 6-3, 3-6, 6-3.
A. Anderson and Miss Mohr Bell beat B. W. Gardom and Miss Gardom 6-4, 6-2.
L. Corry Smith and Miss A. Jacobs beat R. W. Anderson and Miss Jacobs 6-5, 6-3.
B. W. Kennard and Miss Barfield beat F. L. Jacobs and Miss V. Jacobs 6-3, 6-2.

LADIES' SINGLES.

First Round—

Miss Barfield w.o.
Miss Jacobs beat Miss A. Jacobs 6-5, 4-6, 6-3.
Miss Dobson beat Miss Gardom 6-5, 2-6, 6-3.
Miss Mohr Bell w.o.

LADIES' DOUBLES.

First Round—

Mrs. Romer and Miss Mohr Bell beat Miss Barfield and Miss A. Jacobs 6-5, 4-6, 6-4.
Miss Prebble and Miss Gardom beat Miss Jacobs and Miss Dobson 6-2, 6-3.

ATHLETICS

THE MONTEVIDEO SPORTS

Montevideo, Dec. 17, 1892.

To the Editor *River Plate Sport and Pastime*.

Dear Sir,—

In your issue of the 14th giving an account of the sports held here on the 8th inst., there is a statement which ought not to pass uncorrected. I refer to the account of the quarter mile race, which runs: "Hill, who was in receipt of 5 yards, ran from scratch to try and qualify for a standard medal, but he managed to put in his five yards before the pistol went."

This is incorrect, and it is only fair to the men who took part in the race that it should be altered.

If it were true that Hill ran from scratch, then according to the standard he has won the silver medal which is given for 57 secs., even, though he went before the pistol.

I myself heard Hill say that he was going to try for a medal, and asked him, as we were going down the field to our marks, if it were so; he said he had intended doing so, but added "I did not know you were running, otherwise I should not have thought of it."

I would feel much obliged if you would make it known that Hill took his five yards, and did not make them before the pistol went.—Yours truly,

PERCY H. VIGNOLES.

P.S.—I may add that you are at liberty to make use of this letter in any way you please.

(One of the officials of the meeting informed the representative of the Amateur Athletic Association, who was present, that Mr Hill was going to run from scratch and he was asked to time him for the full distance, hence the mistake in our report last week.—Ed. R.P.S. & P.)

We hear that a match has been arranged between Messrs Hill, Vignoles, and T. D. Lawrie of the Montevideo A.C. to run 120, 300, and 440 yards, sometime before the end of March on the Montevideo cricket ground. The match has resulted out of the quarter mile race at this last athletic meeting, and the one of last year at Montevideo, when these three competitors were not satisfied with their performances therein.

THE AMATEUR ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.

At a Committee meeting of the Amateur Athletic Association; it was resolved, that no records or standards in high or pole jumps would be accepted, in which the pegs for supporting the lath protruded more than half an inch "from the uprights."

Mr E. A. Short's performance of 33' 3" in putting the shot at the Montevideo sports on December 8th was accepted, and a silver standard medal awarded him.

POLO

An excellent game took place on the pretty Lomas ground last Tuesday evening. The ball was started at 6 and play was continued till 7.15, a cold wind blowing all the time and making it rather unpleasant for those of the fair sex present.

The following were the sides:

Captain	Vice-Captain
A. Mohr Bell	R. Bower
G. Anderson	H. Dobson
A. Goodfellow	C. Mohr Bell
J. Lees	H. Mohr Bell
H. Anderson	H. Souelher.

The game during the first quarter was very interesting, no goal being scored. In the second, one was scored by Cliff Mohr Bell, who was hitting extremely well, and fairly humbugged his opposing back. During the third a goal was scored by H. Anderson, making the score one all. During the fourth quarter a fine goal was hit by A. Mohr Bell, making the scores 2 to 1. At the call of time a fifth quarter was arranged to be played, with the result that A. Mohr Bell's side completely over ran their opponents and scored two more goals in the last ten minutes. G. Anderson, who had changed to No. 3 in place of A. Mohr Bell who went back, playing up exceedingly well and hitting one extremely difficult goal. Great praise is due to the young players, some of whom show great promise for the coming year.

THE PURCHASE OF ORMONDE

The account of the purchase of Ormonde, which we find in the "Sportsman" of November 29th, though accurate in the main details, is not strictly correct. The first and last offer, cabled by the representatives of Mr Macdonough of San Francisco, was £30,000; the first cable requested an option for time to allow of Mr Buchanan Baird V. S. to make an examination and report by cable on Ormonde's condition, and this proving most satisfactory the bargain was at once ratified and cabled through Mr Russell England, who was acting for Sr Don J. Boucau in Buenos Aires, and the lodgment of £30,000 against delivery of the horse was confirmed to Sr Boucau by Messrs Rothschild's representative here.

It is most amusing to hear Sr Don Salvador Boucau's account of the proceedings of the American sportsman, Mr Read, who came over to "beard the lion in his den," as described by the New York papers, and carry off the great horse of the century for his haras in the United States. The cuteness of the Yankee pitted against Argentine tact failed to take away the prize, and the New York crowd of racing men will smile when Mr Read returns from his bootless errand, his departure for which was heralded with such a brazen flourish of trumpets.

Had Mr Read approached in a straightforward way Messrs Tattersall or Captain Russell England, Sr Boucau's friend in London, he would probably now be the possessor of Ormonde. In place of this he preferred to pose before Sr Boucau as a "marchand de trotteurs" in the first instance, and when he at length showed his hand and after long negotiations offered the whole of the sum asked to Sr Boucau over the table, the horse was already sold by cable to Mr Macdonough, on whose part we may here say that there was never any hesitation in confirming the original offer, the acceptance of which on Sr Boucau's part was most loyally adhered to.

The negotiations were somewhat protracted owing to each cable having to be transmitted to San Francisco, but when Mr Read's project of purchase was once given away by the ill-timed announcement in the New York "Spirit of the Times," no time was lost, and the firm offer from Mr Macdonough was cabled before Mr Read arrived in Buenos Aires.

We understand that Ormonde will sail from the Ensenada Port in the Royal Mail ss Clyde to day, Wednesday, and a great crowd will doubtless assemble to see the last of the great horse. It is proposed to keep him in England during the season and serve a few mares, the subscriptions for which are stated in the "Sportsman" to be worth a hundred premium, a fact which forms a somewhat astonishing corollary to the many warnings sounded against the probable ill result of breeding such descendants of a roaring sire as Orme, Glenwood, etc.

Never did this grand specimen of the thoroughbred sire look better than at present, and we know that his purchaser looks on him as a cheap purchase and a good financial investment, and we have to congratulate Mr Macdonough on his purchase and the manner in which the whole business has been carried out. We have only to wish Ormonde *bon voyage* and a prosperous career in his new home in the United States.

Ormonde leaves us, and it is a safe prophecy that he will never be forgotten by the horse-loving natives of Argentina, and not only here, a horse who has stamped the lustre of his extraordinary racing qualities in Europe and the two Americas will surely always hold an important niche in the racing history of the world.

ESTANCIA AND COLONY.

We cordially invite and will be very pleased to receive communications for this column.

We have received the following interesting letter giving a case of abnormal milking:

Estancia Nueva "Las Macitas,"
December 11.

To the Editor *River Plate Sport and Pastime*.

Dear Sir,—

Under "Estancia and Colony," in your issue of Dec. 7, you mention a case of a calf giving milk at 11 months old, in California, concluding the paragraph by asking if any reader can mention a similar case. I therefore send you a statement of a somewhat similar analogous case, the difference being that it was a yearling filly in place of a calf. This yearling was by a thoroughbred horse, Othello (by Saunterer out of Blackbird, own sister to Sadie by Voltigeur), her dam a criollo, a most excellent mother, always having a most wonderful supply of milk. The filly was foaled on the 7th October, 1881, and was a very well grown foal at twelve months' old. Her dam foaled again October 25th, 1882, a ch. colt, and from the time this foal was dropped the yearling sister displayed extraordinary affection for him. When the foal was about four months' old, to the great surprise of my brother and self, we one day saw it trot up to its sister and begin sucking her, it then went to its mother and had another go down or two. We immediately had up the filly and found that she had a well developed udder full of milk. We left her for about a week longer, so that others might see such a curious instance of secretion of milk in a female from affection only. It was noticed that her brother was very impartial in his attentions, sometimes beginning with his dam when he wanted a suck, and winding up with his sister, or beginning with the latter and finishing off with his dam.

After having been seen by many interested spectators, we separated the filly, as she was beginning to fall off in condition from the unnatural drain on her.

She subsequently threw some very good foals and has at foot at present as lovely a filly foal by Sir Richard as anyone could wish to see. Her brother grew into a very fine horse.—Yours truly,
H. D. COLT.

**

Another correspondent sends us the following instance of premature motherhood:

"I have a pug bitch that has never had pups yet, the other dogs (grown up ones) at certain times are always running after and sucking her. I got two young boxes in the camp, and the bitch took them as if they were her own pups, suckling them and preventing other dogs approaching them! She has never had puppies.

**

From Carlos Casares, in the partido Nuevo de Julio, we hear that a small manga of locusts arrived in the camps on the 14th inst., and passed on in a north-westerly direction on the following day. Wheat in this district is a fairly good crop this year; a frost on the night of the 9th inst. did some damage to the tall wheat and to the maize. Camps are in good order, but rain is wanted badly. No sales of importance are to be noted; mestizo Lincoln sheep have been selling at \$3 al corte, and good criollo mares at \$7 al barrer.

**

Exporters of horses from this country to England should be sure of their market before sending any home just now, as there is a demand only in the towns for the very best horses.

**

Camels are suggested as a substitute for bullocks and horses in Australia, where they are beginning to be bred with profit to their breeders. They are said to be able to carry 300 lb. on their backs and do eighty-four miles in the eighteen hours, and find their own living wherever they may be. At this rate they can certainly beat the bullock, but we doubt their breeding for profit.

**

From Mercedes we hear that the camps are covered with locusts which are laying their eggs and in consequence are not doing so much damage. We recommend the owners of land in Mercedes to procure road scrapers, and wherever the insects have deposited their eggs to run the machine over the ground, as the eggs would be thus entirely destroyed in a most simple, and at the same time thorough manner.

**

We cannot remember when we first heard of the road scraper being employed as a locust destroyer, but we know it is exceedingly effectual in its work. The female locusts generally choose the side of a hard road for the deposit of her eggs, so the scraper would be useful, not only in destroying the eggs but also in repairing the road.

**

Can any of our readers give a name to, or recommend a cure for a "peste" which is carrying off many horses on the camps round Salas on the Pacific

line. The horses bear no outward sign of illness such as running at the nose, but they simply wander listlessly about, don't eat and naturally become very tucked up, then die. Some of the tame horses attacked have shown symptoms of colic, and have been tried with every remedy for colic, both English and native, but without success.

* *

The arrivals of wool at the markets during the past ten days have been very large. Ordinary wools are sold with difficulty but the finer qualities find a ready market owing to their scarcity. There is nothing to warrant an improvement in prices as the cables from Europe do not record a change, and the price of gold here remains fairly stationary. Wheat is a little short in supply which has caused a slight improvement in prices as the millers are running short of grain. Sales of the new crop are frequently reported and the quality of the grain is good on the whole.

* *

Several contracts are reported of the new crop, the grain to be delivered in January and February at the price of \$6.50 and 7. Santa Fé wheat is selling at 6.60 and 6.70 delivered on the river. A parcel of linseed has been sold at \$4 gold, the highest price yet reached for that seed.

* *

We hear that a steamer taking home cattle has been loaded with bran for her extra cargo it having been found that a profitable sale will result in England.

* *

The sale of nine thousand novillos of the Highland Scott Canning Company on Thursday last resulted as follows:

3000 novillos	at each	\$23.75
1500 "	"	23.25
1500 "	"	23.50
500 "	"	22.50
2600 "	from	17.50 to 20.50

A thousand cows sold at \$10 each. The total sale amounted to \$222,897.

* *

The export of frozen mutton shows an increase this year over last by 29,000 carcasses. Up to date there have been exported by the New River Plate Meat Co., The River Plate Fresh Meat Co., and La Negra 1,169,265 carcasses, whereas last year during a corresponding period the same companies exported 1,140,341 carcasses.

* *

The frosts in the beginning of November appear to have done more damage to the wheat crop of Santa Fé than was at first imagined before the wheat was threshed. However the crop is said to be excellent both as regards quantity and quality.

* *

The estate of the late Dr Salvador Maria del Carril, valued at nine million dollars, is to be divided to the heirs by Messrs M. P. Barrenecha and Pineró. The estate consists of:

- Estancia La Porteña in Lobos, area 12,500 cuadas, with 77,000 sheep, 7000 cows, and 8000 mares.
- Estancia Polvaredas in Saladillo, area 14,000 cuadas, with 45,200 sheep, 15,000 cows, and 3000 mares.
- Estancia Sol de Mayo in Rojas, area 12,000 cuadas, with 15,000 sheep, 13,500 cows, and 1100 mares.
- Estancia San Justo in Alvear, area 15,000 cuadas, with 13,000 sheep, 12,100 cows, and 1300 mares.
- Estancia Santa Rita also in Alvear, area 9200 cuadas, with 700 sheep and 500 cows.
- Estancia Pai Lauquen in Bolivar, area 17,200 cuadas, with 14,000 sheep, 11,500 cows, and 1100 horses.
- 400 cuadas in Lobos.
- 25 leagues of land in national territories.

* *

After January 1st the Brazilian Government will allow the importation of cattle into Brazil free of duty. This will be of great importance to the cattle breeders of Uruguay who hold lands near the boundary of the two Republics.

* *

The following interesting letter on Dishorning Cattle appeared in the London "Times" last month:—

To the Editor of the "Times."

Sir,—I should like, with your permission, to offer a few practical remarks on the subject of dishorning cattle, to which the article in the "Times" of to-day refers. All will, I think, agree that the practice of sawing or knocking off the horns of full grown cattle is abominably cruel. In this country it has, I think, been held to be illegal. On the other hand, there can be no doubt but that, in dairy herds especially, much suffering is caused and pain inflicted by one animal on another by goring.

Beyond this, very serious loss indeed is incurred by wounds on the udder, causing partial or total loss of milk.

In the Western cattle ranches of America oxen are deprived of their horns in order to pack them closer and with greater comfort in the railroad cars, the length of the Texan horn in particular making close packing impossible. The horns, however, instead of being sawn off are not allowed to grow. At the time of branding the calves, the red-hot iron is applied to the budding horn and nothing more is seen of it.

For some time I have adopted this method myself, with the result that the stock so treated are quieter and take nothing like the shed and manger room they otherwise would in the winter yards, squeezing in and feeding as they now do like pigs in a trough.

An observer will notice that the artificially and natural polled Irish and Scotch cattle wintered out in the midland pastures cuddle together like kittens for warmth, while those with horns lie apart with mutual distrust—I am, your obedient servant,

ALBERT PELL.

Hazelbeach, September 20th.

* *

We have received a sample of wheat grown on the estancia La Gama, in Venado Tuerto, on virgin soil, and it compares more than favourably with wheat grown elsewhere. The grain is plump and well grown. Altogether the sample, which is a fair one, is very satisfactory, showing as it does the state of the crops in Venado Tuerto. The straw is almost double as long as that of wheat grown down South.

* *

Mr Hugh Robson has sold 2500 head of cattle at a price of \$12.50 per head, this year's calves free, belonging to the Jewish Colonization Association, from Lincoln, to Mr Eduardo E. Perez.

ABOUT SNAKES

"Wherever the Devil reigned," says Stillingfleet, "the serpent was held in some peculiar veneration."

The universality of this superstition, in the days of old, makes it remarkable. In opposition to the sentiments of our earlier predecessors, we of the nineteenth century are ever ready to show our contempt and distrust of the reptile, by esteeming it a duty to our fellow man to annihilate every individual of the snake species that comes in our way. Let the origin of its veneration by the ancients be what it may, we are ever in wonderment that an object so repulsive and forbiddingly dangerous in its habits could ever have been deified. There are but few among us who would turn and rend the old lady who described the reptiles in question thus: "I tell 'ee thar' naasty squirmin', wrigglin' things, that snap thar' tails at 'ee, an' stings 'ee wi' thare pisenous tongues; and thar'll wrap thare crawlin', sticky bodies aroun' yer neck an' choke 'ee to death, an' the big uns swaller 'ee whole; which most 'em is."

The scientific agree to differ as to the peculiarities of snakes, and it is as well to leave the dissentients to their argument. That the accepted belief of years as to their powers of fascination over all kinds of animal life should once in a while be challenged is not surprising in this age of doubt and inquiry. We season our beliefs now a days, salt being a cheap commodity.

Many people acknowledge to having a mortal dread of snakes. Who indeed has it not in some degree? In the dim and distant past, when ophiolatry prevailed, it might well have been otherwise. From that crude worship all Pagan religions take their birth. Originating in old Chaldea, serpent-worship sent its ramifications into almost every nook and corner of the world. In Western Africa the snake-fetish is still prominent, and from none of the Dahomeyan rites in the snake or its emblem absent. In Egypt it was ever symbolical for good. In India, Mexico, and the more temperate north it was synonymous with evil. From the Egyptians the Greeks caught the notion of venerating the snake, and with them it was typical of wisdom, power, duration, the good and evil principles, and of eternity. Crowns formed of asps interwined were given to sovereigns and divinities to symbolise eternal life. The researches of antiquaries have brought to light abundant evidence as to the respect in which the snake was held by the ancients. From the buried cities of Mexico and Peru, from the ruins of Troy and Babylon, wherever the antiquary has delved in search of records of the past, fragments of statuary and exquisite specimens of the jeweller's art, wrought in serpent form, have been their treasure-trove. Jewellery in abundance; the finger ring, the armet, the necklet, all in imitation of the graceful and manifold undulations of the snake. Our modern jewellers have not been slow to appreciate the lesson. Victorian beauties adorn themselves with ornaments of gold and silver bearing the semblance of the snake. The glittering serpent symbol encircles the zones and throats of nineteenth century dames and demoiselles as haughty and flame-blooded as Cleopatra herself. The richest and most gorgeous salms of Europe and America are ablaze with golden emblems of a dead and gone idolatrous superstition.

When speculation has given way to truth, and the fables of time past are forgotten in the interesting facts brought forth by the naturalist and other close observers of nature, we shall, perhaps, not unwillingly, find something to say of the snake which may prove him to be other than utterly criminal. After all there is a great deal to be said about him that is at least amusingly interesting. He is not such a bad fellow. Like the rest of us, he has to earn his living, and it is to our naturalist brethren we must look for knowledge as to how he does it. He feeds, we know, on frogs, mice and birds. How does he manage to secure his prey?

Suddenly some one jumps up to ask, "Do snakes fascinate their victims?" Then follows the discussion with its mass of conflicting evidence. Six on one side, half-a-dozen on the other. Extraordinary statements as to their power of fascination are enunciated, and by some fully accepted. Refutation follows refutation, and still no certainty. One faction insists on the power exerted being fascination, the other scoffs and asks "Is it not rather fear; or the outcome of a nervous consternation that seizes on some people when suddenly brought into close neighbourhood with a snake?" If the latter, their fear is one of the best defined natural instincts of human nature, as it exists without having been founded upon any direful experience and cannot

be overcome with reason. It is quite on the cards that in our minds and not in outward things exists the beauty or hideousness that attracts or repels. Of mesmerism influence the snake is perfectly guiltless; but possibly a degree of temporary paralysis of the nerve centres occurs when weakly-constituted people are brought into contact with the ophidia. If it were made worth their while, no doubt the snake-charmers of India could give considerable information on this subject, they professing to have inherent capacities for carrying on their singular and apparently dangerous profession.

One of the most difficult-of-belief facts given us by observers of ophidian habits is that of the snake's predilection for milk. Where and how they have contracted the taste is not known. Certain it is they esteem milk as a favourite diet. Children and mothers are often placed in distressful positions by the attentions of some dry-throated snake; and this is accounted for by the smell of milk that ordinarily pervades young children and those upon whom they depend for sustenance. More than one instance is on record of snakes applying themselves to the breasts of a sleeping nursing-mother. Cows and goats are frequent recipients of similar attentions.

The snake is guilty of many oddities, and seeks shelter in very queer places. They have been cut out from the fleece on a sheep's back, where they were literally burrowed deep into the wool. Australian evidences of this fact are numerous. They delight in being pelted. Fifty years ago it was a common amusement with country-bred lads to secure and keep snakes, feeding them on frogs. Occasionally on high holidays racing matches took place, when the lads used to back their respective pets each against the other the course usually being through the holes bored by the sandmartin in the sandstone of chalk cliffs on the coast. What a fund of entertainment is provided by the ophidian family! Who has not been beguiled at some time or other by listening to stories about snakes? Go where you will the wide world over wonderful recountals of adventures with snakes are ever on the tapis. In the Australian bushman's hut, at the explorer's camp-fire, in the shanty of the gold-digger, snake stories form an ever-recurrent theme. The cowboy of the far west, the driver of the mule-train, and also the forest-abiding hunter—one and all of these can pile up the agony of probability, as well as that of improbability, till the very hairs on their listeners' heads fall off or whiten under the intensity of their fearful wonderment.

An English officer, one sultry day in British Guiana, tired with unsuccessful sport, threw his lines and drew his canoe to the river's edge, for the purpose of refreshing himself in the water. Having done so, he stretched himself, half-dressed, on the benches of his canoe, with his gun at his head, loaded with shot, and in this position he fell asleep. Presently he was roused from his slumber by a curious sensation, as if some animal were licking his foot. In a state of half stupor, natural to waking from a sound sleep, he cast his eye downward, and to his horror, perceived the neck and head of a monstrous serpent, covering his foot with saliva, preparatory to commencing the process of swallowing him whole. This gentleman had faced deaths in many forms—on the ocean, in the battle-field—but never had he conceived it in such a terrible guise. For a moment—and but for a moment—he was fascinated, and then withdrawing his foot, he instinctively seized his gun. He eventually killed the boa, which measured upwards of forty feet in length. Now what could have been the man's feelings at the prospect of playing the role of a bolus? The sensation which he felt momentarily overpowering him will materially assist the theory of those who are believers in the snake's powers of fascination.

The vitality of the snake is a matter of observation with all acquainted with its habits. In countries where they most abound the natives aver that a snake never dies—no matter how much killed—until after sundown. Some boatmen on one of the American rivers captured a large black snake, and put it in a cage for the snake of amusing themselves with its struggles to escape. Accidentally finding a mole, about the size of a mouse, they put the "groundling" into the cage with the snake. The reptile at once gulped it down, but the mole, making no difference between the sides of its prison-house and the solid earth, much to the amazement of the boatmen, ate its way out of the snake's side; whereupon it was swallowed again, and again gnawed its way into day light. The snake, getting a dinner under difficulties, once more titillated its throat with the oft-repeated morsel, but with no more success than the Irishman had with the emetic. The fourth time the snake vainly attempted to engulf its dinner, but was too much exhausted, and gave it up as an impossible job. The mole—so well calculated to make its way through the world—was put on shore as a reward for its bravery.

Now this mole, if it thought at all, would not have had much to say in favour of the fascination theory. By the kind order of an over-ruling Providence, in spite of our prejudice against snakes, it is not often we hear of fatalities from snake bite. In various countries are to be heard various methods of protection from the too close attentions of serpents. In Africa many people believe in the protective qualities of the scarlet geranium, and grow large quantities round and about their dwellings. Some again scatter salt on the ground, others use broken glass, asserting that snakes will not crawl over the glass, fearing to lacerate themselves. Possibly it is in this belief that Mexicans and the inhabitants of the western plains, when camping in the vicinity of snake haunts, arrange their horse-hair lassoes upon the ground in a circle, and lay themselves down within, knowing that no "crawlin' creepin'" reptiles will drag their harmful bodies across the prickly surface of the larlat.

Snakes are veritable poison bottles, but it is rarely a snake will take the initiative—another wise arrangement of things. There may be delight to some few in scraping close acquaintanceship with the ophidian, but in these times a scant shrift is allowed him. The services of the smooth bore or a friendly broomstick are called into requisition, and anathemas rather than psalms of devotion serve as a sacrificial hymn.

CORRESPONDENCE

[The Editor does not hold himself responsible for any opinions expressed or statements made in any letters that may be sent to River Plate Sport and Pastime for publication].

Buenos Aires, Dec. 12.

To the Editor River Plate Sport and Pastime.

Dear Sir,—

Referring to Mr Hayward's letter in your paper of 7th inst., heading "Fourth," I wish to observe that, some days before the return match referred to, I met Mr Goodiellow of Lomas Academy, whom I have known for several years, and, on my inquiring if he were coming to see the game, I received the reply to which such strong objection has since been taken.

Mr Hayward, by his own showing in the paragraph headed "Third," has every confidence in my veracity, as well as Mr Hutton, whose informant I was.

Enclosing my card, and apologising for encroaching on your space, I am, yours sincerely,

THE "MUTUAL FRIEND."

ENGLISH GAME IMPORTED INTO AUSTRALIA

From time to time steamers from England give proof of the capacity of their freezing chambers for bringing fresh game to the colony, as well as conveying fresh meat and fruit to London. By the Orient Company's ss Ophir, which arrived on Friday night, Sept. 30, Mr M. G. Anderson, the agent, received some grouse, which on examination were found to be in splendid condition.

RACING

The following are the handicaps framed for the meeting at Belgrano on next Sunday the 25th:

Table with columns for race name, horse name, and weight in kilos. Races include Premio Tribuna (1300 metros), Premio La Nacion (1100 metros), Premio El Diario (1300 metros), and Premio El Campo y El Sport (1900 metros).

Table with columns for race name, horse name, and weight in kilos. Races include Premio El Nacional (1600 metros) and Premio El Jockey (1900 metros).

Table with columns for race name, horse name, and weight in kilos. Races include Premio La Prensa (1600 metros) and Premio El Diable (1600 metros).

Table with columns for race name, horse name, and weight in kilos. Races include Premio El Nacional (1600 metros) and Premio El Jockey (1900 metros).

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POLO—INDIA v. AUSTRALIA

Early next year a party of polo players in India will proceed to Australia on a tour, arranged some time back. The team will include the following well known players: Capt. Hanwell, Royal Artillery; Oapt. Le Gallais, 8th Hussars; the Hon. J. Beresford and Mr Crawley of the 7th Hussars. The ponies are to be provided by the 7th Hussars. Polo has been popular in Australia for several years past, there being clubs in Victoria, South Australia, and New South Wales.

List of Clubs with their Secretaries

It has been suggested to us that this list would be more complete if the colours of the clubs were added to it. We should therefore be obliged to the secretaries if they would send us their club's colours as soon as possible.

ATHLETIC CLUBS

- AMATEUR ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION OF THE RIVER PLATE—Blue and White—E. Danvers, 559 Piedad. B. A. AND R. RY.—Yellow and Black—F. Tebbutt, 248 Avenida de Mayo. Campana—F. J. Bardrick, B. A. and R. Ry., Campana. Cordoba—J. C. Bowden, Gerencia, F.C.C.C. Córdoba. English High School—Edward Buchanan, Santa Fé 3590 Flores—Light Blue, Yellow, and Dark Blue with narrow White Stripes—B. G. Henderson, 89 B. Aires, Flores. HURLINGHAM—Blue, Red and Yellow—M. G. Fortune, 559 Piedad, Buenos Aires. Junin—H. J. Whitfield, Junin, F. C. Pacifico. LOMAS—Blue and White—J. Kahl, 631 Corrientes, B. Aires. Montevideo—J. Harvey, Club Inglés, Montevideo. QUILMES—Dark Blue and Orange—A. M. Hudson, 56 San Martin, Buenos Aires. Roldan—M. M. Graham, Roldan. ROSARIO—Claret and Light Blue—Thomas A. Hall, 2 Plaza Jewell, Rosario. Tucuman—A. S. Reade, Tucuman, F.C.N.O.A.

CRICKET CLUBS

- BUENOS AIRES—Black and Red—A. Lace, Banco Británico, Buenos Aires. CENTRAL URUGUAY—Black and Orange—A. N. Davenport, Talleres, F.C.C.U., Montevideo. FISHERTON—J. Beaumont. HURLINGHAM—Blue, Red and Yellow—M. G. Fortune, 559 Piedad, Buenos Aires. Lanús—D. Duncan, Plaza Constitucion, F.C.S. London Bank—R. L. Rumbold, Banco de Londres. MONTEVIDEO—Black and White—A. Gair, Club Inglés, Montevideo. WESTERN RAILWAY—Dark Crimson—F. T. Parkes, Tolosa.

FOOTBALL CLUBS

- Argentine Association League—A. Lamont, Plaza Constitucion F.C.S. Buenos Aires (Association)—B. B. Syer, 56 San Martin. BUENOS AIRES (Rugby)—Blue and White—W. E. Coubrough, London Bank. HURLINGHAM—Blue, Red and Yellow—M. G. Fortune, 559 Piedad, Buenos Aires. St. Andrews—E. Morgan, Plaza Constitucion, F.C.S.

LAWN TENNIS CLUBS

- BUENOS AIRES—Light and Dark Blue and Yellow—T. S. Boardle, 25 de Mayo 149.

POLO CLUBS

- Association of the River Plate—F. J. Balfour, 559 Piedad. BELGRANO—Black and White—J. W. Hunter, 3 de Febrero 102, Belgrano. CAMP OF URUGUAY—Pale Blue—L. Edwards, Barrancas Coloradas, Colonia. Cañada de Gomez—J. S. Robinson, C. de Gomez, F.C.C.A. CASUALS—R. McC. Smyth, Venado Tuerto. Gualaguay—R. Gordon, Gualaguay, Entre Rios. HURLINGHAM—Blue, Red and Yellow—M. G. Fortune, 559 Piedad, Buenos Aires. LEZAMA—Red and Black—E. J. Craig, Estancia Las Barrancas, Lezama. MEDIA LUNA—Pale Blue with Crescent—T. C. Fair, Soler, F. C. Pacifico. MONTEVIDEO—Chocolate and Green—A. Guillemard, Club Inglés, Montevideo. North Santa Fé—R. S. Foster, Chiru Traill, F. C. C. and R. Roldan—W. Ellery, Roldan, F.C.C.A. Rosario—W. F. Christie, F.C.C.A. Rosario. San Jorge—C. H. Hall, San Jorge, Estacion Molles, F. C. C. del Uruguay, Montevideo. SANTA FE—Red and Blue—J. Benitz, La California, Las Rosas, F.C.C.A. SANTIAGO DEL ESTERO—Green—Dr. Newman Smith, La Banda, Santiago del Estero. Strangers—G. H. Isaac, Venado Tuerto. Tuyú—H. Gibson, Los Ingleses, Ajó, F.C.S.

ROWING CLUBS

- BUENOS AIRES—Blue and White—Piedad 852. MONTEVIDEO—Blue and Black—J. Murray, Banco Británico, Montevideo. ROSARIO—Dark Red and White—E. W. Newte, English Bank, Rosario. TEUTONIA—Blue and White—F. Lindheimer, Chacabuco 73 TIGRE—Black and Golden Yellow—W. E. O. Haxell, 56 San Martin, Buenos Aires.

Aluminium Horse Shoes

Aluminium horse-shoes are said to have been tried with remarkably successful results in the Russian Army. According to a Note translated by Captain E. Lambert from the "Invalide Russe," a few horses in the Finland Dragoons were first chosen and shod with one aluminium shoe and three iron shoes each; the former being on the fore foot in some cases, and on the hind in others. The experiments lasted six weeks, and showed that the aluminium shoes lasted longer and preserved the foot better than the iron ones. No aluminium shoes broke, and they were used over again for re-shoeing. The horses, moreover, were worked over hard and very stony ground. The most important fact of all is that aluminium horse-shoes are only one-third to one-fourth the weight of iron shoes. Their cost is admittedly greater; but, on the other hand, very little charcoal is required in shoeing, there is no loss in weight, and the value of the old metal is the same as that of fresh.

PRICES

Price of gold on the Bolsa from December 14 to 20 inclusive:

Table with columns for day and gold premium percentage. Days listed: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Monday, Tuesday.

The prices at the Corrales during the past week have been as follows:

Table with columns for animal type and price range. Animals listed: Bullocks, Novillos (mestizo), Cows (mestizo), Cows (ordinary), Calves (regular), Sheep.

Table with columns for crop type and price range. Crops listed: Hay, Maize (morochó), Wheat (barleta), (French), (Saldomé).

Table with columns for animal type and price range. Animals listed: Novillo Hides, Cow Hides, Sheepskins, Wool.

FIXTURES

RACING

Sunday, Dec. 25—Hipódromo Nacional, Belgrano.

CRICKET

Sunday, Jan. 1—B.A.C.C. v. South of Riachuelo, at Palermo, Sunday, Jan. 1—Lanus v. Hurlingham, at Lanus.

ROWING

Friday, Jan. 6—Tigre Boat Club's Second Series of Races.

LAWN TENNIS

Thursday, Dec. 29—Buenos Aires Lawn Tennis Tournament, Finals. Friday, Jan. 6—Finals of the L.A.C. Lawn Tennis Tournament, at Lomas.

HURLINGHAM

FORFEIT LIST

Stud 2nd Argentino (Sr. Joaquin A. Capmany), entry fee \$50—Pluton. Premio Expreso, April 6. Stud Stop (Sr. Molina), entry fee \$30—Pinquilla. Sr. J. M. Ezcurra, entry fee \$30—Don Laguna. The Laddie Steeplechase, Sept. 8. Sr. J. M. Ezcurra, entry fee \$30—Hurdle Race, October 17. Sr. E. Billinghurst, entry fee \$25—Murcielago. Premio Las Rosas, Nov. 25. Stud Crisis (Sr. E. W. Fernandez), entry fee \$50—Crisis. Premio Gardena, Nov. 25.

1892

Mr E. Billinghurst—Premio Europa, Jan. 6... Fine imposed by starter \$20. Mr C. J. Klappenbach—Premio Europa, Jan. 6... Fine imposed by starter \$20.

J. Skinner English Tailor

HAS

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TO

291 - SAN MARTIN - 291 (ALTOS)

Polo Breeches

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SHEEP AND WOOL

Sheep, in their domestication and culture, are inseparably associated with the history of civilisation. Next to the culture of the soil, it is probable that a pastoral life was the earliest occupation of mankind, and hence we read in the oldest known account of human history, the Book of Genesis, "And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground." The story of the first domestication of the sheep is lost in the dim history of antiquity, but it appears to have been coeval with the first appearance of man, since we find its remains associated with the bones of the animals killed in the chase in the earliest cave and lake dwellings, when man was even unacquainted with the use of metals, and formed his weapons and tools from rude stones and flint. The place of its origin is also uncertain, but there are a number of converging lines of evidence which seem to indicate that its original habitat was somewhere in the highlands of Central Asia, in the neighbourhood of Afghanistan, and from this centre it spread in every direction along with the migrations of early man. The stock from which it was derived is also a matter of dispute, although the existence of a race of wild creatures, such as the Aoudad (*Ammontragus tragelaphus*), the Argali (*Ovis ammon*), and the Mouflon, (*Ovis musmon*), in Asia, Europe, Africa, and America, which possess a similar affinity to the sheep that the wolf does to the dog, has led some naturalists to suppose that this may have been the source from whence it was derived by cultivation and breeding. Certain structural peculiarities, however, seem to indicate that there is a much greater probability that all these wild animals themselves may, along with the domestic sheep, have had in the remote past a common ancestor, from which they have diverged in different lines during the long course of prehistorical ages. However this may have been, there can be little doubt that the sheep which we now possess is far in advance of its early progenitors, and the best modern sheep, as exemplified in the New Leicester or Australian botany, differ as widely from the first domestic sheep as one of the last Great Northern express locomotives does from the original "Puffing Billy" which now stands in South Kensington Museum. Few creatures seem to present greater varieties than the sheep, and this tendency to variation has no doubt been of the greatest service in the improvement of the breed, and tended at an early period to the complete differentiation of the domestic sheep from its wild progenitor.

DISTRIBUTION,

The wide distribution of the sheep over every portion of the world undoubtedly indicates that a long period of time must have elapsed since its first removal from the place of its origin—a period during which local variations have had time to become permanent characteristics of the race, and thus stamp some of the members with all the appearance of creatures indigenous to the country. It is not necessary for the purposes we have in view in this article to go into the distinctive characteristics of the sheep as distinguished from other animals to which it stands related in the zoological scale, or even to enter into the peculiar features of the sheep itself, so far as its anatomical and physiological characters are concerned, since these must be well known to all who have been engaged in sheep farming; but it may be interesting to note that it belongs to the same great family which includes the various species of animals which we usually term cattle, such as the domestic ox and the antelopes, as well as goats. The last, which stand nearest in relation to the sheep, may also be termed wool-bearers, although they are not so in the highest sense of the term, because the fibrous covering of the goat can never attain those peculiar qualities which are distinctive of wool in its highest state of perfection—the development of the fibre seems to be arrested at a certain stage in its evolution, beyond which it never passes.

MEAT AND CLOTHING

The great service which the domestic sheep renders to man depends upon two qualities. It is one of the best sources of animal food, inasmuch as it supplies both meat and drink—mutton and milk—and it also furnishes the best of all materials for clothing purposes, both on account of its warmth and durability—viz., wool. It is for this reason that it has always occupied a first position as a source of wealth and commerce, and we may indeed say from an industrial point of view its chief end is to produce mutton and wool, because in the

more civilised countries its place as a milk producer is scarcely recognised. It is a fortunate circumstance, which renders the sheep all the more valuable, that whatever causes tend to improve the quality of the wool also tend in the same degree to the improvement and the quality of the mutton; but these improvements are not always in the direction of early maturity or large dead weight—considerations which in this country, at least, have often a predominant influence on the part of the farmer in the choice of the breed which he selects, because, from the close proximity to large food markets, the consideration of the carcass has frequently been even of higher importance than of the wool, especially since a lower range of prices for this commodity has ruled during late years.

The meat question does not strictly come within the range of this paper, but it may be noticed that its value will always be proportioned to the attention which is paid to the condition and health of the sheep, and negligence in this respect, as in the production of wool, will always be attended with deterioration both in the quality and price which the article will command.

WOOL

With regard to wool, it is most surprising what ignorance exists in regard to its properties and treatment, even in quarters where such want of knowledge would hardly be expected.

It seems almost incredible that in a country where woollen manufactures have reached their highest state of perfection, and the manipulation of wool engages the attention of such a large portion of the population, there are many customs and methods employed by the growers of wool which are seriously detrimental to the best interests of the manufacturers, and it is to be hoped that the spread of education, especially technical education, will remove these anomalies, and conduce to a closer working together of wool producers and wool users, for a common end. Some of these difficulties and anomalies may be best understood if we explain the structure and method of growth of the wool fibre, and point out the peculiarities in the structure which are of the greatest value in the use of wool for textile purposes.

STRUCTURE.

A fibre of wool is not by any means a very simple structure. It is composed of a very large number of complex chemical compounds, which are very readily acted upon by various reagents, and which depend for their best qualities and stability very largely upon the health of the sheep—indeed, it may be asserted, without any fear of contradiction, that no better index of the general condition of the health of the sheep can be taken than the condition of the wool, and the author has been able to read, under the microscope, the variations in this condition, written on the structure of the individual fibres, in the same way that the atmospheric variations are recorded on the weekly or daily sheet of a self-registering barometer. The fibres of wool are true appendages of the skin of which they are an outgrowth, and differ only in structure from the horns or hoofs, which, strange to say, are only modified forms of the same essential materials. The method of generation and growth is the same in all.

When attached to the animal, each fibre is implanted in a cutaneous depression or follicle, which is an involution of the epidermis, and corresponds with the epidermis in structure layer by layer. The fibre is fixed into this follicle and attached to the bottom by a dilation called the bulb or knob of the fibre, which encloses the papilla or pulp from which the fibre is generated. In structure the fibre is built up of a series of cells, which undergo modification so as to constitute the different parts during the process of growth. Thus, the fibre is in living connection with the fibrous sheath of the follicle. The fibre itself forms a long (more or less cylindrical) body, part of which is embedded within the follicle, but the larger part is external to it and outside the skin. This portion is termed the shaft or stem of the fibre, and it usually decreases in diameter from the base towards the unattached extremity, where, when uncut, it terminates in a point of more or less fineness.

The wool fibre is a wonderful structure, being built up of hundreds—may, even thousands—of individual cells, which are wonderfully co-related to each other and to the general structure of the whole fibre. Some idea of the complicated nature of this structure may be obtained when we state that in a single fibre of Lincoln wool it has been estimated there are no less than 500 to 700 cells in cross section, and 250 in every linear inch, so that there are about 125,000 or more in every inch of length in the staple. These cells differ in form and density in the various parts of the fibre, and it is impossible to injure any of these without impairing the organic unity of the whole and deteriorating its quality as material for use in textile fabrics. Considering that wool-producing is one of the chief functions of a sheep, it would not be a bad plan for a practical wool-user to be associated with the other judges at a sheep show, so that he could lend his judgment amongst the others in determining the relative merits of the wools on the various sheep from his standpoint. The wool fibre consists really of two principal parts, an inner or cortical substance which is composed of long spindle-shaped cells, upon which the density and elasticity of the wool depend. This comprises the larger part of the fibre. Outside this cortical substance there is an outer sheath or case composed of flattened horny cells, which bind together the cortical cells, and to this outer or epidermal sheath the lustre and firmness of the fibre are due. This outer sheath is built up in a regular manner, all the scales having free margins or edges which overlap each other, like the scales on a fish's back or the tiles on a house-top, the free margin always pointing in the direction of the point of the fibre. These scales are always

most numerous in fine wool, and they differ in character in every variety of wool; so much so that we are enabled to distinguish all the specific varieties of wool by the arrangement of the scales, and thus frequently enabled to detect mixtures of different wools in cloths and other fabrics. In the natural condition these scales are laid down close to the shaft of the fibre, and are covered all over the surface with a fine gelatinous enamel; and Nature secures that they shall not be disturbed, or injured by providing a natural unguent or grease, which is termed *suint*. This *suint* is a very fatty potash soap, largely soluble in water; and, by its covering the whole surface of the fibres, it prevents the scales from coming into juxtaposition, and thus all felting action is prevented; for the felting property of wool is due to the interlocking of these scales. If once this *suint* is removed from the surface of the fibre, the scales are left without protection, and subject to attrition from friction with neighbouring fibres, which breaks their fine, delicate, free margins, destroys their lustre, and injures the flexibility of the fibre. So long as the fibres are ensheathed in the *suint* all dirt or foreign matter is prevented from coming into contact with them, for even if dirt is present it only cakes into the *suint*, and not into the fibre, and when it is washed the *suint* dissolves and leaves the dirt free to fall off without any injury to the fibre itself.

TREATMENT OF THE FLEECE.

When sheep are washed with the wool upon their backs the *suint* is dissolved off the surface of the fibres, and the fibres themselves are left dry and hard, and even when they do not felt they never regain their suppleness and natural condition again. Quite independently, therefore, of any question of cruelty to the animal which is compelled to carry a wet fleece on its back for days, with consequent injury to its health from damp clothing and the suppression of the production of *suint*, it is a positive injury to the wool, which can never after be rendered again so suitable for manufacturing purposes.

It is found from actual observation that much of the cutting, or matting, of the wool which occurs in some fleeces depends upon some functional disorder in the sheep which prevents the proper production of the *suint* from the skin; and thus the wool fibres, not being properly lubricated, mat together. This want of lubrication also makes the skin hard and dry, and the irritation tends to make the sheep restless; and thus the endeavour to remove this irritation by rubbing itself, either against the ground when laid down, or other objects when standing up, felts the wool into tangled masses. If sheep are dirty they will clean themselves in a grass field or straw-yard far better than by washing, and the wool will receive no injury, whereas when washed the whole fleece is deteriorated. No washing of the wool ought to take place until it reaches the manufactory, and as soon as it is washed it ought to be sent forward into the first process at once.

Next to the quality of wool, nothing is so important to the manufacturer as its condition, and the more natural its condition the better. Attention to this matter will well repay the farmer, because it will fetch an increased price, and give greater satisfaction to the user. The greatest care ought also to be exercised in the use of any materials on the wool, either as an insecticide or for other purposes, because many of these dips and washes are chemically of such a character that they impregnate the fibre of the wool, and are of very serious importance when the wool has to be made into fancy dress goods, where fugitive colours and light shades are required—often causing endless trouble both to the dyer and user, as well as loss to the manufacturer.

A word to the wise is sufficient; and the farmer cannot study too much the necessary conditions upon which the quality of the wool depends. The best breeds of sheep may give unsatisfactory results if their management is characterised by ignorance and stupidity. That which conduces to the best benefit of the sheep reacts all round, and is best for the wool-grower and wool-user alike; and the sooner this is learned and acted upon the better.

After the wool is shorn from the sheep it has to be packed and forwarded to the place of manufacture, which is seldom in the same neighbourhood where the wool is grown. In packing and transit the wool is subject to constant pressure and attrition—especially when, as in the case of colonial wool, the bales are subjected to screw or hydraulic pressure. When the natural *suint* or grease is left in the wool, the fibres are so protected that even this rough usage scarcely injures them in any appreciable degree, but when the wool has been washed the matting and felting which necessarily occur are fatal to the best using qualities of the wool which can never be, by any after treatment, restored to its natural condition, and thus makes more waste, combs and spins worse, and causes a deteriorated quality of yarn.

As international communication becomes more perfect, the competition between wool-growers in home and foreign countries will be more keen in every class of wool, and it will behove the farmers in this country to do their utmost to distance their rivals in the condition in which their wool is presented to their customers. If the precautions which have thus been pointed out are neglected, they will certainly be driven out of the market. In the great race for supremacy, which will be a struggle for the "survival of the fittest," those will win who unite sound scientific knowledge with practical experience, and they only can reap the golden harvests of the future.—"Live Stock Journal,"

F. H. BOWMAN, D. Sc., F. L. S.

A SPORTING DISCUSSION

SCENE.—A quiet street in Kensington. Rain is falling. A lady has taken refuge in a porch, and a gentleman is running towards the same shelter.

"We play with light loves in the portal."
—Swinbourne.

SHE (to herself). That man is sure to come in here, for this seems to be the only porch. What a nuisance! Now, some girls would consider it fun, I suppose. Perhaps I should, if I were that sort of girl.

HE (to himself). Only one porch! And a petticoat under it already! What a bore! I must intrude upon it but what a capital opening this would be, if—well, if I were that sort of man.

SHE (to herself, as he draws near). Why, it's Captain Berkeley! How jolly! I wonder how that dear little wife of his has been getting on. Perhaps he won't know me. Positively, I don't believe he does! Well, I can't remember the man, if the man can't remember me. That's clear. But I shall not be surprised if this turns out amusing after all. (Puts up a hand to see that her coils are in order, and assumes a look of bland unconsciousness).

HE (to himself, as he draws nearer). Hallo! I know you. It's that jolly little woman who was at Rugby last winter, and rode so well. What was her name? Oh, yes; Everitt! I wonder how Everitt is. He was a very good sort. Why, hang it all, she doesn't know me. Well, I have a mind to pretend not to know her. I will. Perhaps this may be interesting after all. (Puts up a hand to satisfy himself that his neck-tie is in place and enters the porch). Both stand staring in silence at the rain.

HE. Can I go out and find you a cab?

SHE. Thanks! It's very good of you, but you'll get so dreadfully wet.

HE. That's of no consequence; and I can't be much wetter than I am. (Makes a slow movement towards the pavement).

SHE. Well, it's really very good of you, I'm sure. (He steps down.) But stop! No; don't stop down there! Here, out of the rain. Where are you going to get one from?

HE. I don't know—South Kensington Station.

SHE. But that's miles away. You'll get soaked.

HE. It's not so handy as it might be.

SHE (smiling). And you'll be gone ever so long. (To herself.) I'll just see what sort of a man he is.

HE (bowing). Not a moment longer than is necessary. You may be sure of that. (To himself.) Hm! I wonder.

SHE. May I? Well, I won't have it. I'll take my chance here. Either the rain will stop or a cab will pass. And so you really would have paddled all that way—for a stranger. What—er—what—!

HE. Yes! What—?

SHE. I don't quite know what I want to say.

HE. Say "devotion"—"What devotion!"

SHE. No! How absurd! That's not it. Courtesy! What courtesy! But you knew you would not be allowed to go. (He steps into the street again.) Come back, at once! How very rude to leave me alone, and in such weather! Or do you want to go?

HE. I'll answer you, if you'll answer me. If you wait here till a hansom passes, you may have to wait a very long time. Will that weary you—too much?

SHE (boldly). No. Now do you want to go?

HE (airily). "The Lord do so to me and more also, if aught but death part thee and me." (To himself.) That ought to frighten her. If it doesn't, poor Everitt! She ought to have a lesson.

SHE (composedly). Thanks, awfully! (To herself.) What a disgraceful man! And that poor little wife of his! Oh! he ought to be most severely punished. (She looks at the sky and he at the pavement. Then he at the sky and she at the pavement.)

HE (pointing to a parcel in her hand). Been shopping?

SHE. Yes.

HE. Very good shops round here. My w—that is, I've heard so.

SHE. Indeed? As cross-questioning seems to be the order of the day, may I ask what you've been doing?

HE. Only been lunching with a man who lives out here.

SHE. From your enthusiastic manner of speaking I can guess that you have not found "lunching with a man" very entertaining.

HE. It wasn't immense sport. There were two or three other men there, and we bored each other.

SHE. And us? Did you bore us? Were any of us there?

HE. No. None of you.

SHE. And it wasn't immense sport?

HE. It wasn't.

SHE (after a pause). You consider women sport?

HE (also after a pause). I say! I say! You know, I can't answer that.

SHE. Why not?

HE. You're one, and you mightn't like the truth.

SHE. But I suppose you can say what is not true?

HE. On occasion.

SHE. Well, then, do thus—answer me truthfully, and if you see dissatisfaction dawning upon my expressive countenance (turns full upon him a piquant face radiant with smiles), why, stop, and answer untruthfully.

HE (turning rather a flushed face upon her). I will answer. Yes; I do think women sport. I think they are the best of sport. For their pursuit is dangerous, and their capture a disappointment. And to hunt such a quarry with zest and distinction, a man must be a good sportsman, for he knows that his pleasure will be in the excitement of the chase only, and not in the reward. There!—(staring closer into her face.) And whether it is dissatisfaction that is dawning on your face—er—or the reverse, I don't

know; but whatever emotion it is, it is making you look wonderfully handsome.

SHE. My dear sir, I do not know if the wind is a southerly one, but, in spite of the cloudy sky, this is not a hunting afternoon.

HE. Why, then, it was dissatisfaction after all. But confession for confession. Do you consider men sport?

SHE. I don't know. Yes, perhaps. Rat hunting is better than nothing. This is what I think—that there are men against whom all the sporting instincts of a good woman should rise; men to whom we should show no mercy; men whom it is our duty to treat as the arrant scamps and cowards that they are; men who should be fooled, ridiculed, and disgraced.

HE. Goodness! the villains! Such as—?

SHE. Such as? Well, I'll tell you. Such as impostors, who have elaborate paraphernalia from— from—

HE. Say Purdey's—

SHE. No, that's not where my h— I mean that's not the name I was thinking of, but the name doesn't matter. Men who have all sorts of guns and talk large and can't shoot, and men who buy game and pretend to have shot it.

HE. Oh, that's bad.

SHE. And poachers, who kill in illegitimate methods, and under disguise, and do not respect their neighbour's property but would fire at his last pheasant—even if he had only one.

HE. That's bad, too, but—excuse me—when a fellow's only one thing to bag in his preserves, isn't it usually called his ewe-lamb?

SHE (laughing). Oh, but I'm serious. No treatment is too bad for poachers of that kind.

HE. I thoroughly agree with you. For poachers of that kind—for the woman who claims the world's respect while her behaviour is not respectable; for the matron who pins schoolboys to her apron; and for the wife of a trusting husband who is eternally angling for another wife's husband—for such poachers no treatment is too bad.

SHE. Are you married?

HE (after a moment's hesitation). No. Are you?

SHE (unhesitatingly). No. Why?

HE. Why then we, at any rate, my dear lady—

SHE. No. That's too fast.

HE. Too fast! Do you fear I shall not be able to stay the course?

SHE. No, No, No. Oh, how sporting we are! I never talked such a lot of slang before in my life. We shall get to fishing soon, and then we can tell what lies we please. I believe. Stay the course! What do you mean? There is no course. There will be no race. This is a false start. The flag has not dropped. And it never will. For I scratch.

HE (speaking slow). Then I walk over, and claim the stakes.

SHE (speaking slow). What are the stakes? (To herself.) Surely he will never dare!

HE (to himself). I won't. But she deserves it.

(A hansom crosses the top of the street.)

SHE. Oh, call it! Call it!

HE (having put her in the hansom). Where to? I will be magnanimous, and let you off the forfeit.

SHE. York Mansions, Victoria. And there is no need for magnanimity, sir. You can come there when you please to claim those stakes—if you bring your wife with you—Captain Berkeley.

HE. We will call. I shall be glad to meet your husband again—Mrs Everitt.

SHE. So you knew me all the time, and you dared—

HE. So you knew me all the time, and you thought—

(They look at each other and burst out laughing.)

SHE. We haven't been very nice, either of us.

HE (taking off his hat). Well, we needn't tell the story to any one. "S. and D. News."

O. J.

A FACT

An employee of the F.C.C.A. became lately the happy possessor of a mule of the female persuasion. After much cogitation and mature deliberation he received the brilliant idea of causing the procreation of the species by a cross with a thoroughbred horse, arguing with himself that this might be formed the nucleus, not only of a racing stud of decided originality but of his own fortunes. To accomplish his fixed purpose he sought out a gentleman known to be a most successful breeder and large proprietor of thoroughbreds. At the interview he modestly asked permission to put the mule to one of the "Lords of the Harem." What horse was to have the distinguished honour of showing himself a foalgetter of extraordinary powers hitherto unknown and to show that the accepted theories on the subject were fallacies, is not divulged, neither is the reply which was received extant. But oh! what would one not have given to have seen the face of that past master in all that pertains to the horse, when he had recovered sufficiently from the shock to be capable of speech? The story got abroad, and some unfeeling or unsympathising friend pointed out to the would-be aspirant for fame that mules did not breed. "What!" ejaculated "Tiene un boleto, Señor?" "don't try to spoof me. If mules don't breed how do they get 'em?"

Cañada de Gomez

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

December 18.

In a long talk which I have had with Mr Wasey, of Los Sauces, La Esperanza, and Monte Cristo, I learnt to my great surprise that this gentleman's opinion as to the prospects of the harvest in Santa Fé is anything but sanguine, and he is not a pessimist by any means, rather trying to believe in the published reports of a prolific year. Yet on examination, a survey not of his own crops only, and relying on his acknowledged sound judgment, he has come to the conclusion that the average wheat yield in this province will not exceed 10 quintals per square, and that it will be nearer 6, and yet he himself sows the quintal to the square.

In some places there may be a yield of 14 or 15 quintals, but this Mr Wasey includes in striking his average. At 10 quintals the expenses may be covered but no profit can accrue to the grower. Wheat is now selling at \$5 to \$6, but it must go up, such is the general opinion, and buyers who lost last year may this recoup themselves.

Driving to Armstrong yesterday, Mr Wasey and a friend noticed the healthy and flourishing appearance of a field of wheat, and both remarked it. On the return journey Mr Wasey, not satisfied, got down and plucked a handful of ears, and on rubbing them together found not a single grain in the dozen or more ears, which he held in his hands.

The maize at La Esperanza suffered most severely from the hard frost of last Saturday night, that in the low land was perfectly white and frost bitten. Notwithstanding this it is intended to put in some 300 squares more at once. Weeds and live pests have played havoc with all classes of cereals. The locusts are here. Schonberg is alive with saitonas. The other morning, very early, there was noticed a manga of locusts in a most luxurious square potrero of alfalfa, just outside Correa. They had then eaten nearly one half, in a straight line, not leaving a blade of grass standing. The cattle had all retired to the far fence, where the pasture was yet untouched. On the return of my informant at 12 o'clock these pestiferous insects had all but completed their task of demolishing or devouring every green thing in the potrero.

There is a good market for fat cattle just now in this district, and prices rule good. This morning 150 were sold here, and on the same estancia from which these came they are to-day parting 100 more, which are already placed. The former number were only bought two days ago. In spite of the demand the vendor of these animals says that whereas he would had been able to get them, have bought 500 or 600 head, at a time, a month or six weeks ago, he will not now go beyond 150 unless he has an assured market.

Mr. Wasey emphatically declared that in a very short time the locust will not allow us to have a fat beast around but that we shall all be eating "black lean meat." This seems certainly a pessimist view, but from the experience and judgement of the speaker, and his well known insatiation to look on the bright side of things, it is, in every way worthy of attention and consideration.

Mr. Robinson, is very busy cutting. I have not had a chance yet of asking his opinion of the harvest, but shall do so on the earliest opportunity.

I saw Mr Frank Brandney on the station this morning, looking hearty and well. He has only had a month at home and that month wet and dreary. The voyage to the old country and back, seem to have in part made up for English weather although the Clyde was in the Pampero off Montevideo and gave her passengers a taste of her quality. Mr. Brandney goes at once to La Independencia. Several of our old friends are to return in April or May, so our surroundings may be a little brighter once again.

C. W. W.

LAS PETACAS

Owing to a clerical error we made our correspondent "C.W.W." state that the estancia Las Petaca, reviewed by him last week, comprise "mas or menos" 1 1/3 leagues, when he wrote "mas or menos" 12 1/3 leagues, which is the correct size of the estate.

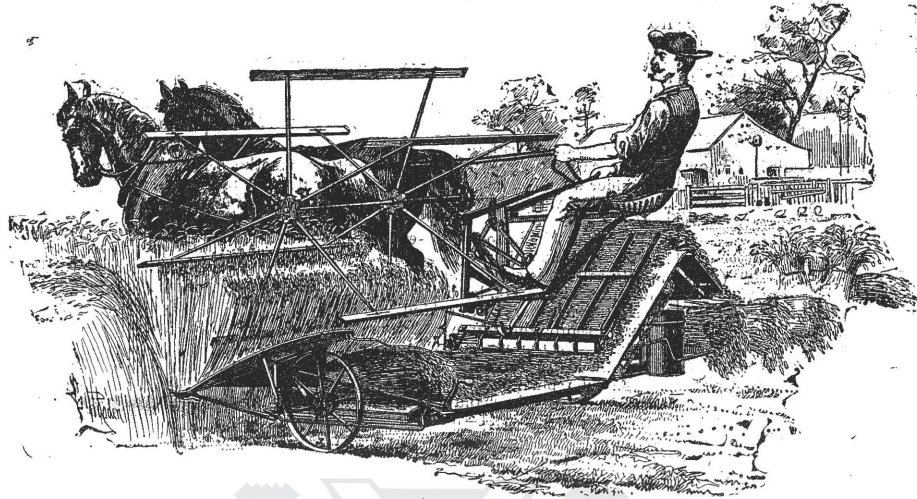
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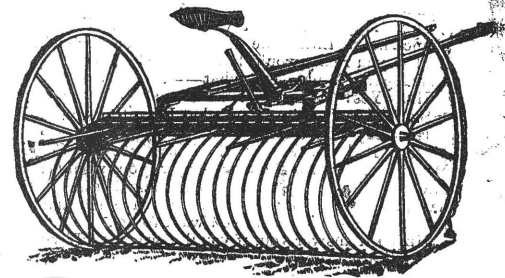
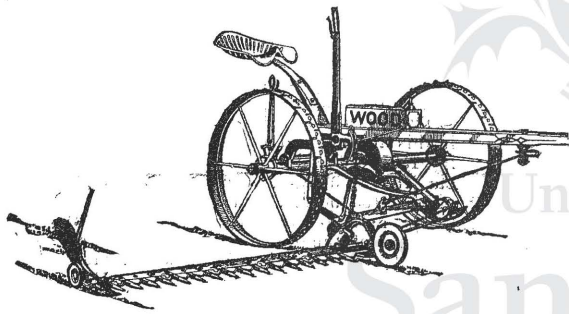
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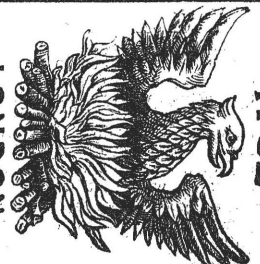
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