

RACING FIFTY YEARS AGO

Quarter Stretches on Which Horses Ran Against Each Other, Not to Beat Time.

Some of the Local Jockeys and Incidents of that Period—A Race that Recalls Clay's Memorable Visit to Indianapolis.

Said a reporter the other day to an old resident, when memory runs readily and presty ac-

quately over the last fifty years of the city's history, "I heard exactly some time ago that there was a regular race-course, supported by a racing or jockey club here in early times. What do you remember of it?"

"Well," said he, "we have made at least two attempts, and I'm not sure but more, to establish a race-course near the city, but the last was a failure, and the first short-lived and of little benefit in the promotion of stock breeding."

But we had the usual quarter race of horse-breeds settlements, a good while before we were ambitious enough to aspire to a regular mile-track and races for purses. West street, north from Washington, and, later, north of the mill-race to Indiana avenue, or the 'Michigan road,' it was called then, at Laquet's grocery or tavern, was the favorite quarter-track. The greater part of its length along the military reservation—now partly repressed and the park—on the west side, with a cord-fence bordered it on the east. The start was at the south end, the finish at Laquet's. The racers were sometimes farm horses that had hauled a load of wood or wheat to town, and, sometimes, the more pretentious riding and carriage horses of the town folks. There was no timing. The horses ran to beat each other—not the clock. Several young fellows were quite noted as "race-riders."

Among them I remember particularly a young man by the name of Debevoise, the nephew of Samuel and Arnold Risher, who were well-known owners in their day—both in their wigs were the primitive cars that hauled goods from Cincinnati—and lived on the Bluff road, a few miles south of the city. John Risher was a small man, and mid-bred, a jockey. Aranza Wright, a half-breed and a lively, active, little fellow, employed in the Palmer House by John C. Parker, the first landlord, and his brother, were accounted skilled riders. Both had at one time been connected with a circus. They belonged to the later of the West street track, and rode in the races of the regular course after that was opened, in 1841 or 1842.

"Were there no racing places in the country, or did the people all come to town for their horse play?"

"I suppose that almost any long stretch of a straight road, in good condition, was occasionally made a race-track by the neighbors, but there was one more frequently used than any other. It was the bed of the canal southward from Pleasant Run. The canal was about the time the aqueduct that was to take the canal across Pleasant run was to be built—the timber was already on the ground, and partly felled—and the canal was abandoned. A considerable section was ready for the water to flow through the west side of Perry township, and that being smooth, level and protected by the banks from wild racers that would fly the track was made the race-course of the 'Water-co crowd' which was about the 'hardest lot' in the country."

"The regular race-course, as you call it, was near the city, I suppose."

"Yes, it was on the north side of the Crawfordsville road, between the river and the residence of old Squire Johnson. The ground belonged, I think, to one of the Van Blicke family. It had been a corn-field, but was bordered on the south and west by a heavy wood and a close growth of unbrushed. The old wood-fence was not removed, nor was any elaborate preparation of stands or seats made. The track was leveled and rolled, and apparently as good as the best racing blood could ask. It ran round the four sides of the field of forty acres or thereabouts, the corners being rounded off to approximate circles. The track was in the center, and a rider and rider-fellow, and occasionally an ambitious boy would climb up a stake and perch himself there at the finish, bearing it down and tamping him into the track. The leading man in the enterprise was Edward S. Alvord, but he was joined by a number of sporting residents who helped him money for the purses. The largest of these was, I think, \$500 to the winner of the two best in three, or four or five mile heats. I believe a four-mile heat was run in 1842, when Henry Clay beat by a mile and a half, and the big race was 'Little Red,' a bay, and 'Georgetown,' a grey. Mr. Clay visited the course the second day he was here, and I think saw this race. The enterprise was premature, however, and failed the following year or the year after."

"You speak of Mr. Clay's visit to the race-course. What time of the year was it?"

"Early in October, 1842—the fall, I believe. He was swinging round the circle then, with the White House in the center, which Texas kept him out of, and let the Polk administration be the biggest procession ever seen here at that time, military companies coming from several towns and joining ours, while nearly all the trades in the town turned out to accompany the bearing of the tools or other incident of their occupations. Some miles east on the National road he was met by a delegation of citizens who accompanied him into town and headed the procession, which, after making a circuit of the principal streets—and it didn't take long, though the procession was two hours passing a given point—went out to Governor Noble's grove, where tables had been set and a barbecue prepared for a big crowd of three or four hundred. Mr. Clay spoke from one of the three or four stands. Mr. Clay spoke some over an hour, but it wasn't the best effort of his life, like his 'Voorhees' speeches, and when he was through he was followed at the different stands by better work than his own. Senator Crittenden and Governor Metcalf (the 'old stone hammer' of Kentucky, and Joseph and Little White, of Madison in this State, the most marvelous off-and-on speaker in this whole country, except perhaps Gerrit Smith, of New York, and W. W. Thompson and other Hoosiers of the Harrison-Tippencan campaign were among the speakers. Mr. Clay left the next day, I think, six o'clock. Van Buren had been here the June before—the 11th—and remained over Sunday, to break down and get rolled in the mud on the National road, which his veto left unfinished. It looked like fate, but it was contrivance and political jockeying anyhow."

"You refer to a second attempt to establish a race-course here?"

"The second attempt, as well as I remember, was in 1844. The track was around a field, partly occupied by a handsome grove, on this side of the river, a little west of Fall creek. I don't think that racing was kept up there after the fall of '44. The track, the fair ground had been the only race course about here for the last twenty years or more. It will probably continue the only one, as the State board takes good care of it, and popular preference turns to sporting matches instead of four-mile heats and of racing races."

ART OF WINDOW-DRESSING.

It Demands Talent and Pays in Return Sales for All the Expense Entailed.

display. As a rule, however, where stores have professional window-dressers in their employ they do not allow goods to remain in a window more than a few days at a time. It is, however, this custom of making fancy displays is going out of style. Many have noted in New York and Philadelphia how slowly a large blue curtain, such as I have here, is the case with A. T. Stewart & Co., and quite a number of the leading firms."

ODDS AND ENDS OF GOSSIP.

The Little Things That Come to a Reporter in His Daily Contact with Men.

The Journal is in receipt of a letter from Mr. J. S. Booth, a citizen of Greensburg, enclosing an envelope in which a letter was mailed to him from Chicago on April 18 last. He has just received the letter, it having been on its way nearly two months. During that length of time it has visited New York, crossed the ocean, found its way into the Indian mail, and went, no one knows how far on its journey around the world. It was no longer than a few lines, and marks on it, in the number of which Naples and Brindisi, cities in lower Italy, can be read. It was mailed in New York, and the great career somewhere in the East, probably in the vicinity of the Suez canal, by some one who could not read plain English, in the present Democratic mail service, a person who knew enough, evidently, to know that the abbreviation "Ind." referred to India, a remote country in southern Asia, but a State Indian, located somewhere near the center of a great Republic on the Western continent, the United States of America. The direction on the envelope is as plain as print, and not one letter in a dozen being directed in so legible a hand. The gentleman to whom the letter was sent suggests that the fact that the envelope had a cut of an oriental scene on it—account of Arabs galloping over the desert—may record for its Eastern trip. This seems to be the best explanation that can be given. The evidence is still growing that "the service is the best the country ever had."

The piping of dwelling and business houses for natural gas is being done in all parts of the city, but not nearly as rapidly as it should be. Very favorable contracts with the gas-fitter can now be made, but in about six weeks the questions to these artisans will be, "When can you pipe my house?" and "What will you do it for?" Many persons are waiting to know whether to pipe to the rear or front lines of their respective lots, not knowing at which end of the lot the low-pressure line will be laid. By looking at the plans filed by the respective companies in the office of the city engineer, it can readily be seen where the line will be placed. A certain percentage of the people are in this matter like the Arkansas peasant who built his house with a good roof on his house he said he could not do it then because it was raining too hard to ascend it, and when it was not raining he didn't need it. It is too warm now for a fire, and when winter comes it will be too cold to dig the trench or put out the soil. The fitters were already on the ground, and partly felled—and the canal was abandoned. A considerable section was ready for the water to flow through the west side of Perry township, and that being smooth, level and protected by the banks from wild racers that would fly the track was made the race-course of the "Water-co crowd" which was about the "hardest lot" in the country.

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SUPERINTENDENTS' ASSOCIATION.

Topics To Be Discussed at the Annual Meeting of Their Association.

On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of next week the County Superintendents' and Institute Conductors' Association will meet in this city. On the opening day Alexander Kinsley, of Whitely county, will read a paper on the subject, "How to Make Visitation by County Superintendents More Effective," which will be discussed by J. H. Reddick, of Pulaski county, and Calvin Moore, of St. Joseph county. "What Shall be Done with Township Institutes," is the subject of a paper to be presented by Charles A. Ames, of Clinton county, and it will be discussed by W. H. Johnson, of Knox county, and E. E. Martin, of Clark county. A report from the revision of the course of study for common schools will then be presented by J. H. Henry, of Morgan county, and the matter will be discussed by J. C. Maephorson, of Richmond, and W. E. Snyder, of Washington county. On the second day Prof. W. H. Hays, of DePue University, will read concerning history work in county institutes, and will be followed by C. A. Woodburn. A general discussion upon various topics will then occur. That upon kindergarten instruction as applied to primary work in county schools will be led by Mrs. E. Lora L. Haimman; the use of the outline in teaching United States history, geography and civics, government, led by Miss Charity Dye; methods in institute programs, by Prof. Howard Sanderson; and President H. B. Brown; primary language instruction for teachers, by Miss N. Cropan and George T. Bann. Other sessions will also be discussed. On Thursday, June 28, the work of the teachers' reading association and young people's reading circle will be taken up, with papers by C. W. Thomas, of Harrison county; S. F. Stookin, of Elkhart county; John W. Jenkins, of DeWitt county; James A. Markov, of Sullivan county; John W. Meyers, of Wabash county; B. F. Wisler, of Dubois county; E. O. Ellis, of Grant county, and G. M. Williams, of Owen county. The meeting will close with a discussion upon needed school legislation, by D. H. Edinger, Lawrence county; J. O. Lewellen, of Delaware county; W. E. Bailey, of Marshall county; A. M. Steever, of Dubois county, and J. W. Davidson, of Vanderburgh county.

Love Me, Love My Dog.

Chicago Herald. "Two handsome dressed young ladies, who were passengers on the train from St. Louis yesterday, occupied seats on a trunk in the baggage-car, having refused to be separated from a set dog which the rules of the road prevented them from taking into a passenger car."

Indianapolis People. As it is extremely doubtful about the Democratic nomination in Indiana, says that Thurman, of Ohio, has been nominated for Cleveland's running mate, the Republicans—appreciating the

"THREE SCORE AND TEN"

A Sketch of William D. Gallagher and a Poem from His Pen.

To the Editor of the Indianapolis Journal.

One of the most graceful things done at the recent writers' meeting was the election of Mrs. Sarah Bolton, Mrs. Rebecca S. Nichols, Hon. W. D. Gallagher and Hon. Stephen S. Harding to life membership in the association. This action and the reading of the beautiful poem "At Three Score and Ten," caused some inquiries to be made relative to its author, the Hon. William D. Gallagher, of Louisville, Ky. So much absorbed are our literary people in the younger generation in the things of their own day and hour that they readily forget, or do not consider the lights of a past generation under some circumstance brings them again in full view for a little time. William D. Gallagher is still living in the city of Louisville, near which place he has made his home for many years. He is eighty years of age, having been born in the city of Philadelphia in August, 1808.

In 1816 he came with his widowed mother to Cincinnati, which was no great city at that time, and there he graduated in 1820, and ever received an education in the village schools of the period. In 1821 he was appointed to a printer and began to learn "the art preservative." In 1824 he issued his first paper—a small literary hantling—and continued its publication for several months. In 1827 he entered into a generous literary rivalry with the younger generation, and through the columns of the Cincinnati Chronicle. In 1828 he traveled through Kentucky and Mississippi, and wrote letters for the Chronicle. In 1830 he married the Backwoodsian writer Xenia, O., but in the next year was called to Cincinnati again, to take editorial charge of the Cincinnati Directory, and in 1832 he was afterwards merged. In connection with Thomas H. Shreve, Mr. Gallagher continued to conduct the Mirror till about the year 1836, when he retired and became editor of the Western Literary Journal and Monthly Review. During the years 1835, 1836 and 1837 Mr. Gallagher published three volumes of poetry under the title of Erato No. 1, Erato No. 2 and Erato No. 3. These books or pamphlets contained the best of his poetical writings up to the time of his publication. He was also associated with his brother in the editorial management of the Ohio State Journal, at Columbus. During the years 1838, 1839 and 1840 he was the correspondent of the Cincinnati Gazette. In 1838, in conjunction with Otway Curry, he projected that beautiful magazine, "The Harp," which ran for a year and a half, and was a prominent one of the best-known writers as Otway Curry, Frederick W. Thomas, S. P. Hildreth, George Frazier, Lewis and Amelia B. Welby, Jas. W. Ward, Julia L. Dumont, Thomas H. Shreve, James H. Perkins and Daniel Drake, among others, were recognized as that of a man or woman who afterwards became illustrious in the West and known throughout the country. But with all this array of talents "The Harp" did not survive, because the people of the West had not reached that point in material prosperity which is a necessity to the success of even the most meritorious publication. In the latter part of 1839, on the invitation of Charles Hammond, Mr. Gallagher became one of the editors of the Cincinnati Gazette, and in 1844 edited the first collection of Western poetry, entitled "The Poetical Literature of the West." He continued his connection with Hammond's Gazette until 1850, when he accepted a situation in the Treasury Department at Washington, under his friend, the Hon. Thomas Corwin, who was at that time Secretary of the Treasury. During his stay in Washington he wrote one or more of his best poems. But this change in his manner of living broke off a newspaper and literary connection of more than twenty years' duration, which was never wholly resumed, and not resumed at all prior to 1860, except for a short time in 1854 when he was one of the editors of the Louisville Courier. After his return from Washington he made his home upon the farm which he had inherited from his father, near the town of Lexington, Kentucky, and was for a long time too much engaged in the poetry of fruit-raising and other out-of-door pursuits to spend much time with literature. But Mr. Gallagher's pen never took up his pen in behalf of his country and the old flag and wrote some stirring lyrics and ballads, which were of great value in strengthening the hands of Kentucky Union men. In his old age he removed to Louisville, where he suffered a painful number of years, and finally died in the city of Louisville, Ky., on the 17th of May, 1888. For more than a quarter of a century Mr. Gallagher stood at the head of the half-century Western literature, and his noble reputation abroad, and for a half century his poems have held their place in all worthy compilations of American verse. When invited, some years ago, to attend the annual meeting of the Western Writers' Association this year, he responded, regretting his inability to be present, but he read the following characteristic and beautiful stanzas, to be read at the meeting. These were written with his own hand, and the copy will be preserved with care:

"THREE SCORE AND TEN."

We wait for the gates to open,
We wait for the gates to open,
And the angels will greet us sweetly
As the years glide gently by.
From the past sweet voices call us,
That we may not forget,
And we know, by the tokens we see,
Of a life serene and true.
That some day, on some bright tomorrow,
When the wings of this flesh are furled,
We shall join them again, and forever,
In that brighter and better world.

III.
Still the old familiar faces,
From old covers and old books,
And we hear glad voices singing
With the breeze and with the brook;
Yet we know they are but echoes,
And reflections from above.
So from earth we yearn to heaven,
And we wait for the gates to open,
And the angels will greet us sweetly
When the night comes down with its shadows,
And the day is drawing nigh.

Mr. Hamilton's Last Public Speech.
Bangor Commercial.
The Hon. Hannibal Hamilton's speech at Ellsworth, Me., on Memorial day, was one of the most touching, and in many respects one of his most effective efforts. It was not only in one respect, as it was his last public speech. The following extract from it will be read with much interest: "I ought not to have attempted to speak here to-day, in view of my indisposition, but there was one thing which tempted me strongly to come. It is one thing that I can say and say truly, and I say it with confidence, my labor as a public speaker is done."

Effects of Thurman's Nomination.
Chicago Current.
As a policy stroke the nomination was an error. Ohio is solidly Republican. Indiana is doubtful with a candidate from that State, but without one is almost sure to be Republican. Whoever is nominated for the presidency by the Republicans, ex-Governor Porter will be the nominee for Governor of that State. He is a strong man, and the Democrats will have no candidate who can break his influence. They can count on losing Indiana. The Republicans will not need school legislation by D. H. Edinger, Thurman will not force the nomination of Sherman, for Ohio does not need it, and New York is not a Republican State. The nomination of Thurman will not force the nomination of Sherman, for Ohio does not need it, and New York is not a Republican State. The nomination of Thurman will not force the nomination of Sherman, for Ohio does not need it, and New York is not a Republican State.

Importance of Indiana's electoral vote—will no doubt place an Indiana man on their ticket. Either as President or Vice-president. Either the long many fingers fastened themselves on these candidates, and we have no hesitancy in saying that Porter would be the most popular. If Porter is placed on the ticket as Vice-president, he will take a hazardous chance for Democracy to carry Indiana, and if either Gresham or Harrison is selected for the presidency, we have much fear that the State will go Republican.

DULL SEASON FOR THEATERS.

Sid C. France at the Museum this week—The Doings of Actors and Playwrights.

The only theater open in the city this week will be the Museum, and this will be its last week this season. The attraction here will be Sid C. France, a popular sensational actor, and his dramatic and specialty company, who will give a variety of his best performance, including specialties by Miss Nora Beth, Mr. DeWitt Cooke, "King of Clubs," and others, and his Francis's drama, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, afternoons and evenings, he will give his sensational play, written by Frank Dumont, entitled "Dead to the World," which he assumes three distinct characters. During the latter part of the week he will present a sensational farce, entitled "The King's Pleasure," which he will perform every afternoon and evening. Sid France is an actor who has always been very popular at the Museum, and he is well known to the public.

Stage Guests.
Miss Fanny Davernport will summer in the Yosemite.
"A Postage Stamp" is the title of one of next season's new plays.
After the coming season Robson and Crane will star separately, the highest honors to Angerata Bitters as the most efficacious stimulant to excite the appetite and to keep the digestive organs in good order. Ask for the genuine article, manufactured by Dr. J. G. B. Siefert & Sons, and beware of imitations.

AMUSEMENTS.
GRAND CONCERTS
Tomlinson Hall, Plymouth Church
During Music Teachers' Convention, June 25, 26, 27.
POPULAR PRICES.
Artists—Blomfield, Stevens, Mas, Abercrombie, Lyra, and others. For subscription, \$1 for seven concerts. For sale at Rich & McVey's, Pearson's, Wulshofer's, and D. H. Harrison & Co.'s music stores.
SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT
The Greatest of All Curiosities, the Famous California CHICKEN MILL
Will be on exhibition all this week, day and night, at the entrance of the GRAND OPERA-HOUSE
10c Admission Only ONE DIME.
ENGLISH'S OPERA-HOUSE
Three Nights and Saturday Matinee, Commencing Thursday, June 21
THE LATEST NEW YORK SUCCESS.
PEARL,
The Southern Heiress
The Beautiful Emotional Drama, produced by the Original New York Company.
Superb Cast.
Magnificent stage settings.
Appropriate costumes.
Realistic scene by moonlight.
River scene by moonlight.
Great railroad wreck.
Thrilling situation.
Beautiful Tableau, etc.

right arm was extended until his hand reached the glowing nose of Mr. Trumblebridge. The latter tried to resist, but he was too late. The long many fingers fastened themselves on these candidates, and we have no hesitancy in saying that Porter would be the most popular. If Porter is placed on the ticket as Vice-president, he will take a hazardous chance for Democracy to carry Indiana, and if either Gresham or Harrison is selected for the presidency, we have much fear that the State will go Republican.

How long this exciting nose twisting and pulling match might have continued it is difficult to state. Just when it was most exciting a truckman, named Liddy, elbowed his way through the crowd and parted the combatants. As soon as over Mr. Stokes's fingers were forced apart a great stream of dark-red blood spurted from the nostrils of the little broker, and in a few seconds the pavement for several feet was hidden beneath a shower of Mr. Trumblebridge's blood current.

In Oregon.
The Legislature is over three-fourths Republican—more than enough to override the veto of the Democratic Governor, who will continue in office until 1890. Some of the strong Democratic counties of the State have this year elected by force the Republican Governor, and some of the county officers, all Republicans; only a very few Democrats; a substantial and decisive victory; it shatters the Democratic party. It dispenses with the horse prohibition scheme which betrayed the cause it professed to serve, to league with and help the Democratic party. It has cleared and purified the politics of Oregon. A Republican will be chosen United States Senator by the ensuing Legislature. And the electoral vote of Oregon will be cast for the nominee of the Republican party for President and Vice-president. The victory is most gratifying now. It will be complete in November. Hurrah! Hurrah! Hurrah!!!

She Wondered.
Boston Transcript.
A little girl who was taken to the Episcopal Church for the first time heard the clergyman read "do they hang the prophets and the saints?" "On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." "Grandma," said the little girl after she got home, "do they hang the prophets and the saints? On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets?"

Swapped His Fiddle for a Harp.
Bronwood Reporter.
There will be no more dancing frolics in colored circles in Bronwood in future for the lack of music. The blind fiddler, named John, who had joined the church and burned his fiddle. He was immersed on last Sunday morning, near town, while quite a happy band stood around and sang and rejoiced.

An Easy One.
Teacher—What is the plural of child?
Boy (promptly)—Twins.

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Will be on exhibition all this week, day and night, at the entrance of the GRAND OPERA-HOUSE
10c Admission Only ONE DIME.
ENGLISH'S OPERA-HOUSE
Three Nights and Saturday Matinee, Commencing Thursday, June 21
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PEARL,
The Southern Heiress
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Realistic scene by moonlight.
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Great railroad wreck.
Thrilling situation.
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importance of Indiana's electoral vote—will no doubt place an Indiana man on their ticket. Either as President or Vice-president. Either the long many fingers fastened themselves on these candidates, and we have no hesitancy in saying that Porter would be the most popular. If Porter is placed on the ticket as Vice-president, he will take a hazardous chance for Democracy to carry Indiana, and if either Gresham or Harrison is selected for the presidency, we have much fear that the State will go Republican.

How long this exciting nose twisting and pulling match might have continued it is difficult to state. Just when it was most exciting a truckman, named Liddy, elbowed his way through the crowd and parted the combatants. As soon as over Mr. Stokes's fingers were forced apart a great stream of dark-red blood spurted from the nostrils of the little broker, and in a few seconds the pavement for several feet was hidden beneath a shower of Mr. Trumblebridge's blood current.

In Oregon.
The Legislature is over three-fourths Republican—more than enough to override the veto of the Democratic Governor, who will continue in office until 1890. Some of the strong Democratic counties of the State have this year elected by force the Republican Governor, and some of the county officers, all Republicans; only a very few Democrats; a substantial and decisive victory; it shatters the Democratic party. It dispenses with the horse prohibition scheme which betrayed the cause it professed to serve, to league with and help the Democratic party. It has cleared and purified the politics of Oregon. A Republican will be chosen United States Senator by the ensuing Legislature. And the electoral vote of Oregon will be cast for the nominee of the Republican party for President and Vice-president. The victory is most gratifying now. It will be complete in November. Hurrah! Hurrah! Hurrah!!!

She Wondered.
Boston Transcript.
A little girl who was taken to the Episcopal Church for the first time heard the clergyman read "do they hang the prophets and the saints?" "On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." "Grandma," said the little girl after she got home, "do they hang the prophets and the saints? On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets?"

Swapped His Fiddle for a Harp.
Bronwood Reporter.
There will be no more dancing frolics in colored circles in Bronwood in future for the lack of music. The blind fiddler, named John, who had joined the church and burned his fiddle. He was immersed on last Sunday morning, near town, while quite a happy band stood around and sang and rejoiced.

An Easy One.
Teacher—What is the plural of child?
Boy (promptly)—Twins.

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