

From Pre-Revolutionary Days New York Has Ever Held Foremost Position in American Thoroughbred Racing

A WEALTH OF ROMANCE IN TURF HISTORY

Tales of Days When Horses Ran Four Mile Heats Here.

ECLIPSE'S VICTORY ON UNION COURSE

Be it frolic, fight or finance—it's America to the fore. As in other branches of sport America long ago established its world supremacy on the turf, and with the war abroad cutting down the supply of thoroughbred stock our position at the top will not even be challenged for many years to come.

Just as America leads the world in racing, so does New York lead the world in the history of the metropolis that racing got its first start on this side of the Atlantic, back in 1664. This city and vicinity have had more racetracks and tracks than probably even London itself. From time to time there have been most discouraging conditions and stumbling blocks placed in the way of those interested in the thoroughbred and competition, but still the sport has prospered.

The anti-betting laws of 1808, which threatened the extinction of racing in this State, were nothing new. Even as far back as 1519 laws were enacted that forced the abandonment of several courses and put a halt to all racing. But the following three years saw the inauguration of a halcyon era on the American turf. Temporary discouragements are sure to crop up from time to time, but they will never wipe out the game.

When Eclipse Beat Sir Henry.

It has been declared that in richness of associations the American turf suffers by comparison with the English. The history of racing in this country fails to bear out that assertion. We may not have any classic that approaches the famous Derby of Epsom, but there is many a fixture and many a course here that abounds in romance—stories of fabulous wagers, intense sectional rivalries, wonderful feats of speed and endurance.

Racing was established here in pre-Revolutionary days, with the laying out of the old Union course near what is now the course of the Piping Rock Racing Association, at Locust Valley, Long Island. It was at the old Union course that American Eclipse and Sir Henry ran the memorable match race in four mile heats, with \$40,000 as the stakes. That race, staged in May, 1823, is said to have been the most famous in American racing annals.

Stamina Was the Essential. Those were the days of four mile heats—and horses were bred and trained to go the route. Eclipse, not to be contented with the Eclipse which was imported shortly after the civil war, was a grandson of the great Messenger, progenitor of many a turf star and of at least 40,000 trotters. The Messenger was bred in England, and Eclipse in the light harness world. The inherent ability to go the route and pace in long heats was turned to his account on the turf track.

Messenger was born at Piping Rock, and in 1812 was given a military burial in the Quaker colony at Locust Valley. It was there that Eclipse and Sir Henry ran the match race in four mile heats, and in fact time to run, evident in his photograph, herein printed. Contrast Eclipse with Harry Payne Whitney's race horse Black Maria, who was bred and a worthy representative in speed and conformation of the present day line of thoroughbreds. Stamina was the main thing in those days, but speed now guides the breeder.

Run Five Long Heats.

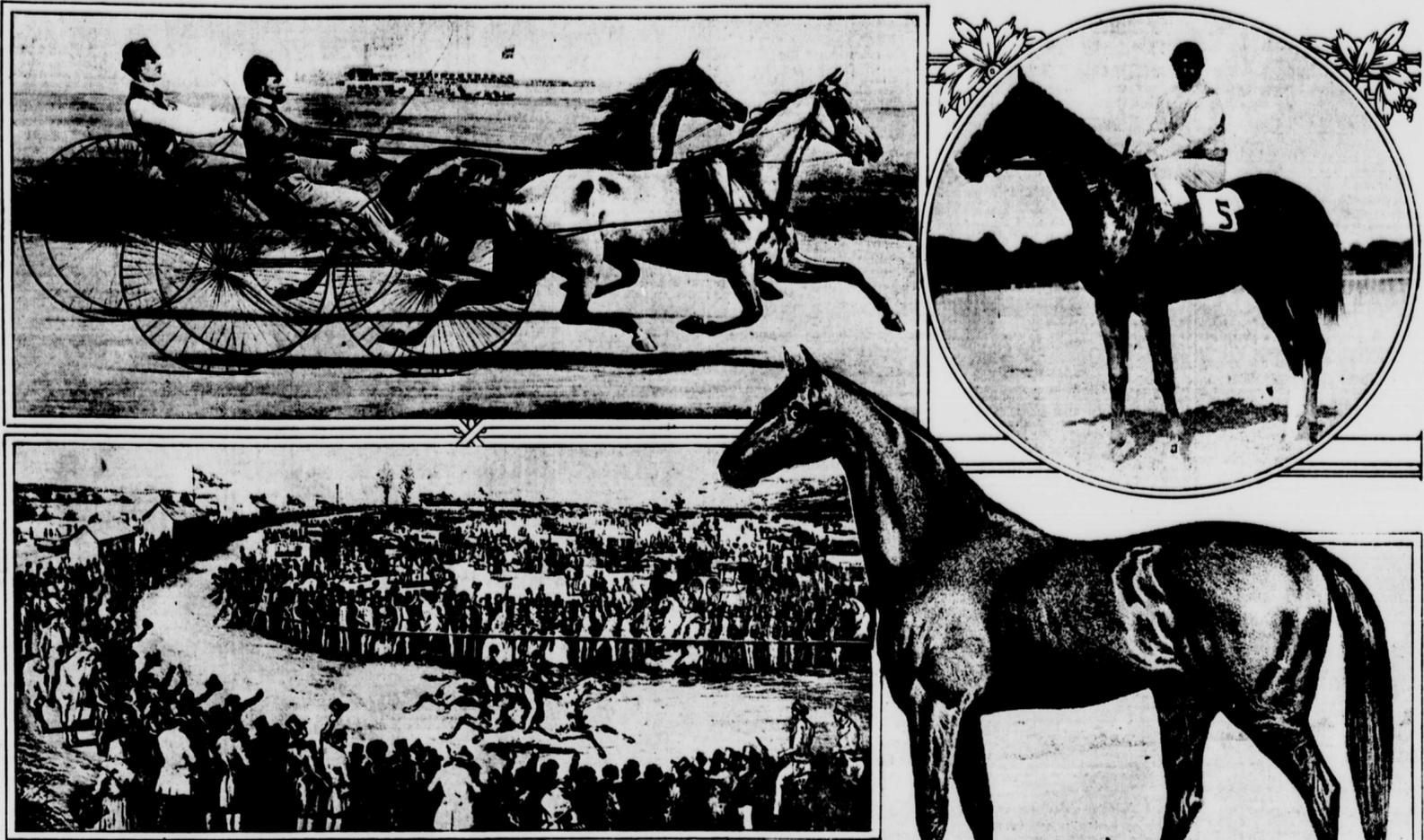
The Union course was the scene of another notable long distance race. It was run on October 13, 1832, and was an open event for a purse of \$6,000. They had to go five heats of four miles each before Black Maria was declared the winner. The first heat was won by Black Maria, which ran a dead heat with Trifle in the second four miles. Trifle won the third heat, Lady Relief the fourth and Black Maria the fifth. The dead heat brought out the fastest time, 7:55.

The final North and South struggle at the Union course was staged in 1845, when the Northern entry, Fashion, was beaten by Kirkman's Peytona. The issue was decided in two straight heats of four miles—and how the men from Dixie cleaned up. Only the year before Fashion had set a world's record for four miles, at 7:32½, in beating Boston, the Southern entry, owned by James Long of Washington. Peytona won a great race at Nashville in 1843 for a purse of \$36,000. The Kirkman entry went four heats of four miles. Kentucky has revived the four mile race of the past, although it has originated the heat feature. In the Kentucky Endurance Stakes on October 7, 1915, Messenger Boy was timed in 7:14½, and the next year Sotomina went 7:10½ to a new world's record.

Lexington Was King.

In the middle '50s Lexington was the king of all over the distance route and set a record of 7:19.8-5 for four miles. On October 17, 1867, at Lexington, Kentucky, who was sired by Saratoga, was against the record and went the four miles in 7:19½. Only the year before, at Jerome Park track here, in the inaugural Stakes, Kentucky was a winner in slight heats, being timed in 7:43 and 7:41½. The old Union course was superseded in 1844 by the Fashion course on Long Island. The old Newmarket course, which was abandoned in 1819, was located on the Hempstead Plains on Long Island. The railroad spur that leads to the polo fields at Meadow Brook passes over the scene where once New York's fashion and beauty travelled to see the thoroughbred in action. There was another Union course in what is now East New York. The memory of which is still preserved in the name of the locality. The Centreville course was also located on Long Island, but was abandoned when established at Saratoga, and in 1866 Jerome Park was opened. Then came Prospect Park, later called Gravesend, and Monmouth. The tracks here were established in the section were Morris Park, Gutten-

RACING SCENES OF THE LONG AGO AND CONTRASTING THOROUGHBRED TYPES OF PAST AND PRESENT



Above, the grand stand at the old Union course and a race to wagon, that foreshadowed our modern trotting event. Below, the famous race in which Eclipse beats Sir Henry for a stake of \$40,000 at Union course in 1823.

Joyner Talks on Factors in Racing Success Abroad

Trainer of Whitney's Foreign Stable Says Interest is Maintained in England, Though Monetary Considerations are Decidedly Secondary.

A. J. Joyner, who had charge of the English stable of Harry Payne Whitney from 1909 to 1915 and who was the recipient of many attentions while at Newmarket, gave some interesting side lights on racing abroad, when interviewed at Empire City yesterday.

"First and foremost," he said, "the racing of thoroughbreds in England is a gentlemanly game. It is without a taint of the monetary returns. There is no question of the monetary returns. There are over there a greater number of men interested in the thoroughbred than in the United States. Many of them maintain breeding and training establishments and they are content if they win a few races each year.

"Outside of Lord Derby, I. B. Joel and E. B. Hilton, there are few owners who make their money in racing. They race for the glory there is in it, but not for the money. Many of them maintain breeding and training establishments and they are content if they win a few races each year.

"The short meetings and the fact that racing is held in every part of the country give it the advantage of a wide and less intimate knowledge of racing and breeding. This is an education in itself. The fact that there is wagering on the races, and that the public knows the Swards' Cup and other fixtures is an additional phase which tends to increase the popularity of the sport.

"Society is still another contributing influence," resumed Joyner. "Ascot and Goodwood especially are famous for their hospitality. The great London clubs, such as the Bachelors and Sports and all the crack racing clubs, some between the third and fourth years an hour is set aside for entertainment. Members of these organizations distribute tickets to their friends, and it is really a gala occasion, with ladies and gentlemen dressed as only the English could turn out for such functions.

"Perhaps as great as any of the factors aids to the racing game are the military meetings. These are mostly cross-country and the horses are ridden by the crack horsemen of the army. Races are also given at these meetings for members of the various clubs and there is the strongest kind of rivalry. This way of course puts a damper on this branch of the sport, but the love of a good horse is so strong in the English heart that I look for a resumption of these meetings as soon as peace is restored.

When asked if English horses were not as a rule bigger than ours Joyner replied: "Yes, I think they are and they require more time to come to hand than our horses. They are bitted and driven about with reins and a saddle and never backed before September. In the best of pedigree stock all breeds, for sale at Ardley, N. Y. Tel. 30-W Dobbs Ferry. FRANK H. ADYMAN, Prop.

WATLAND BOARDING KENNELS. Best kennels in America. Dogs conditioned and handled at all shows. Best of pedigree stock all breeds, for sale at Ardley, N. Y. Tel. 30-W Dobbs Ferry. FRANK H. ADYMAN, Prop.

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A Difficult Question. As to how our horses compared with those of England Joyner remarked: "That is a difficult question to answer. American horses of quality if they could be landed in England at the top of their form could hold their own. English-



Above, Harry Payne Whitney's Pennant, a good example of the present day horse, bred for speed. Below, American Eclipse, a splendid type of the horse that ran four mile heats.

WYCOLLAR BOY HAS DOLE PREPARING FOR TWO BIG DOG SHOWS

Mrs. Rainey's Wire Haired Fox Terrier Destined to Be King of His Breed Here.

Mrs. Rev. A. Rainey's wire haired fox terrier, Wycollar Boy, has come into his own with a vengeance. When this dog came from over the seas he was widely heralded as the real thing in wire. The first American appearance, but he did not do all the things that were expected of him. The reason was obvious, for on the occasion the little tyke was not in his best form.

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DOG EXHIBITORS SHOW DISCONTENT

Offering of Cash Prizes or Special Trophies Would Stir Interest.

REVIEW OF THE SEASON

With the closing of the Southampton Kennel Club show a week ago last Saturday and the summer season of dog shows came to an end. While the attention of fanciers will now be directed toward the coming fall shows, a retrospect of the open air shows which have just passed is not out of place at this time.

Probably the outstanding feature and the one which promises great food for thought is the fact that nearly all of the 1916 spring and summer shows fell below the mark set in previous years. There has been a scarcity of three point fixtures and many hardy animals that have hitherto been a part of the picture over the 300 dogs required for a three point rating have had to be content with a two point rating this year.

This fact is causing much show discontent and superlatives are being used to awaken interest. If the shows of past years are to be kept up, the summer season of dog shows will have to be held in a different way. The reason for this falling off in entries are found on every side and no two fanciers will be found who agree as to the real cause.

Too Many Shows. Some advance the claim that there has been an overabundance of shows and that they came too near together, others will be found to say that persons are tired of the ribbon affairs and want money shows.

The last reason seems to hold water. The superintendent who has had an excellent record in the past, says that he will handle the biggest shows this year. The main reason for a decrease in point fixtures at shows held during the past few months is because there is little or no real money offered and the cups and trophies that are held up as an inducement to draw entries are not held up as they should be. It is not possible to give a trophy to a member of a certain club or to give a trophy to a member of a certain club or to give a trophy to a member of a certain club.

Require Some Inducement. The Southampton Kennel Club held their show at the Meadow Club, Southampton, L. I., and the strongest link in the chain of exhibitors who are waiting something to win to arouse their enthusiasm was welded. A wonderful lot of gold speaking money throughout the season. The result was a three point rating for the exhibitors and the show was a success. The result was a three point rating for the exhibitors and the show was a success.

MANY SALES REPORTED. Southampton Dog Show Most Profitable Ever. Several sales were reported at the Southampton show last week. In fact this proved to be the most profitable show on the circuit from a selling and buying standpoint in a number of years.

With the successful completion of the Southampton Kennel Club Show, the Danbury Agricultural Society, recently a serious fire destroyed a number of buildings on the Danbury Fair grounds, among them the building in which the dog show was held.

The Danbury show falls on October 4 and 5, and this show also divides interest in the three shows held there. Every year one of the attractions of the Southampton show is the local classes, and a well versed dog man said that Saturday's fixture that the dogs exhibited in these local classes this year were better than had ever been seen there. Among the sales was that of a fine, young, wire haired fox terrier which Theodore Hoffman brought over from England recently. This little tyke went to a local resident.

KENNEL DIRECTORY

Advertisement for the Kennel Directory, listing various kennels and dog shows. Includes sections for Chow Chows, Pomeranians and Pekingese, French Bulldogs, Collies, Japanese Spaniels, German Shepherds, and others. Also lists dog shows like the Hudson County K.C. and Pedigree Blanks Free of Charge.