# LOOKING BACKWARD.

## Base Ball Season of 1905 One of Most Remarkable in History of Game.

(Copyright, 1905, by G. G. Hall.)

### AMERICAN LEAGUE ATTENDANCE.

| Where played. | April, May. | June. | July. | August. | September. | October. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Boston | 95,785 | 116,969 | 58,320 | 80,324 | 87,731 | 18,700 |
| Chicago | 236,104 | 71,538 | 138,533 | 144,225 | 78,885 | ..... |
| Sunday | 112,760 | 49,749 | 55,882 | 49,592 | 47,216 | ..... |
| Cleveland | 116,945 | 22,170 | 107,930 | 48,767 | 19,924 | 4,431 |
| Detroit | 75,732 | 10,500 | 53,772 | 20,400 | 28,497 | ..... |
| New York | 55,400 | 64,500 | 64,500 | 89,400 | 82,600 | 3,200 |
| Philadelphia | 87,123 | 169,405 | 54,742 | 79,472 | 217,643 | 22,961 |
| St. Louis | 141,500 | 11,200 | 85,220 | 60,645 | 27,100 | 16,413 |
| Sunday | 80,700 | 5,700 | 33,600 | 31,845 | 17,900 | 10,800 |
| Washington | 76,329 | 39,944 | 21,032 | 41,937 | 46,955 | 24,565 |
| Totals | 885,188 | 460,206 | 583,879 | 568,170 | 589,710 | 99,521 |
| Sunday | 193,460 | 46,249 | 92,482 | 81,737 | 65,176 | 10,800 |

The base ball season of 1905 will go down in history as one of the most profitable and sensational since the inception of the game. Remarkable plays were numerous. The extra-inning games showed the perfect physical condition and powers of endurance that are essential to a successful ball player, the twenty-inning game of July 4 being an example, when the two premier pitchers, Young of Boston and Waddell of Philadelphia, battled for supremacy in the American League on one of the hottest days of the season for over three hours.

Though not posted on the fine points of the game, the writer has followed the sport through the season, and gives some data that may be of interest to lovers of the great American game to file away for future reference. Following is a chronological calendar of happenings on the diamond during the season:

April 15—At almost the beginning of the season players began to receive injuries, Orth of New York Americans injuring his hand.

April 20—Olmstead released by Boston Americans.

April 24—For causing trouble at a game McGann of New York Nationals and Abbott of Philadelphia Nationals were fined $100 and $50, respectively, and suspended for one week.

May 9—Catcher Schreckengost of Philadelphia Americans injured finger and was compelled to retire.

May 9—LaChance released by Boston Americans. Grimshaw replacing him on first base.

May 10—Doran of Boston Americans sold to Detroit.

May 14—Collins of Boston Americans injured knee and will be out of game several days.

May 15—Scanlon of Brooklyn and Courtney of Philadelphia injured, both National.

May 24—Criger retired in favor of McGovern on account of injured knee.

May 30—Nichols of St. Louis Nationals injured by stopping hot liner.

June 1—The hardest hitting game of the season played at American League grounds, New York. New York made 27 hits for a total of 46 bases. Two triples, two home runs and a double were made, eight hits of Dineen in 2½ innings, nine off Winter in 5½ innings. Williams of New York made four safeties, batted in three men and made three runs himself.

June 4—Catcher Carrisch of Pittsburg split his hand and will be out of game for several weeks.

June 9—After 10 straight victories Waddell meets his first defeat, Chicago doing the trick after 14 hard-fought innings, by score of 3 to 2.

June 13—A free fight took place at St. Louis-Brooklyn game between players and spectators, police assistance being necessary to restore order.

June 14—Lajoie, king of base ball, made some of the most wonderful plays in the history of base ball at Huntington avenue.

June 18—McGann mobbed in St. Louis after Sunday game. Police called on to protect players.

June 22—A sensational 10-inning game at Huntington avenue between Chicago and Boston called on account of rain. Hobe Ferris presented with an umbrella by Providence fans.

June 24—Phenomenal games were played by Nationals. In a 12-inning game at New York, Umpire Johnstone nearly mobbed in giving decision which gave game to New York. Chicago-St. Louis played an 18-inning game, the former winning, 2-1, Chance, first baseman for Chicago, had 27 putouts to his credit.

June 27—Miss Alice Roosevelt was an interested spectator at Philadelphia-Washington game.

June 30—Huntington avenue attendance for five days of June: June 10, 19,980; June 13, 10,325; June 17 (two games), 15,989; Saturday, June 24, 11,703; June 28 (two games), 13,364. Total for month, 116,969.

July 1—Pitcher Owen of Chicago won a double-header at St. Louis, but seven hits being made off him in both games.

July 3—On account of blood poisoning in foot Lajoie, Cleveland Americans, will be out of game for two weeks.

July 3—Pitcher Gibson of Boston Americans compelled to lay off and get his pitching arm in condition.

July 4—First Baseman Grimshaw of Boston Americans taken ill with malarial fever.

July 4—The greatest day in history of game as regards sensational games and attendance, 155,693 being total attendance in both leagues. The American attendance was 83,209, and the National, 72,484. Philadelphia had largest attendance, 30,429, and Brooklyn the lowest with only 7,000, both National. All teams played double-headers.

July 4—The 20-inning game at Huntington avenue between Philadelphia and Boston Americans goes into history as the greatest contest of all, Waddell of Philadelphia and the old reliable Cy Young of Boston sharing alike the honors. It took three hours and eighteen minutes for Philadelphia to win, 4-2, and had the entire team played as did Cy, the result would have been different.

July 5—The attendance today in both leagues was 26,552, being 129,141 less than yesterday.

July 8—More extra inning games than ever. The Americans had 13 and 14-inning games to a tie, darkness preventing a winner, and in the National League there were two of 10 innings.

July 8—Buck Freeman replaced Grimshaw at first base on the Collins team.

July 10—Lajoie of Cleveland Americans out of game for balance of season on account of disability.

July 12—Seven hits, a total of eight, and seven runs in one inning was Fraser's gift to Cincinnati today.

July 13—Cleveland again takes first place.

July 15—Bay of Cleveland Americans muffed his first fly of season, the error letting in two runs.

July 17—This was shutout day for the Nationals, three games out of four finding goose eggs in the run column of the losers.

July 18—One of the hottest days in the history of the game. Thomas of Philadelphia placed a thermometer in the grass for one inning, and the mercury climbed to 116. It took 14 innings to win the game, and 2 hours and 25 minutes of work in that temperature is hot stuff.

July 22—In the St. Louis-Philadelphia game not a hit was made off Henley of Philadelphia, American League.

July 23—Up to date the Boston Americans have played 77 games, and Parent has that number of hits to his credit, an average of one each game.

July 25—Pitcher Pelty of St. Louis Americans made his first error of the season.

July 26—The first triple play of the season made by New York Nationals.

July 27—The shortest game in the history of the sport was played at Cleveland with Washington. It required only one hour and nine minutes to play the full nine innings.

July 31—The smallest attendance for the month was at Brooklyn, 700; the largest at Philadelphia, 30,429, both National League.

August 1—Pitcher Hahn of Cincinnati unconditionally released.

August 2—Waddell of Philadelphia Americans broke record to date by striking out 14 in the game with Chicago.

August 4—Boston Americans have season's record for lowest number of assists, only three recorded for today's game.

August 5—Old reliable Cy of the Collins team won his own game today against Chicago by making the first home run in his career, the score at the time being 4-2 in favor of Chicago. He also struck out 12 men.

August 11—The Pittsburg-Philadelphia National game one of the best of the season. Twelve innings, 1-0. No Pittsburg player got beyond second base till the last inning.

August 14—Cleveland and Washington (American) played an exciting 13-inning game. Huelsman was hit by pitched ball. Demis was spiked, both having to retire. Bradley was put out for disputing umpire. Spectators rushed for umpire, police protection being necessary to keep him from harm.

August 18—The Boston-Cincinnati (National) double-header at Boston was a royal batting affair, 54 hits, with a total of 81 bases. Seven home runs, two three-baggers and four doubles is the record for either league. Boston used three pitchers in each game, and Cincinnati used all but one of her pitching staff.

August 18—Manager Stahl of Washington American suspended for three days.

August 21—The first triple play of the season at Brooklyn was made by Weimer and Tinker of the Chicago Nationals. Five double plays were also made.

August 21—McGraw was ordered off the field at New York and Elberfeld suspended at Chicago.

August 24—Chicago and Philadelphia of the National forces played a 20-inning game, with a score of 2 to 1. It took four hours to find a winner, and is the longest game in the history of base ball as regards time.

August 25—Boston Americans lost two games to Chicago by same score, 3-2; New York beat Cleveland in 11 innings, 3-1, neither side scoring until the last inning.

August 30—Washington-Chicago played a 15-inning tie, darkness preventing a winner. Both sides scored their only run on an error and a single. American League.

August 31—Detroit had smallest attendance for month, but 600 being present at one of the games.

August 31—Up to date Mathewson of New York Nationals was the only pitcher who had won twenty games.

September 3—Pittsburg and Chicago split even in the first National Sunday games of the month, the scores of each game being 1-0. Eleven innings were required to find a winner in first game.

September 4—The Philadelphia Americans were forced to turn away 10,000 from the second Labor day game, 20,089 being in attendance at the time.

September 4—The Labor day attendance was as follows: Americans, 58,360; Nationals, 42,640. Total, 101,000. All played double-headers except Boston-Brooklyn Nationals, which was held up by rain.

September 5—Another good game at Huntington avenue, Boston. Winter and Waddell battled for 13 innings, the latter striking out 17 men. Boston tied score in ninth and won on Collins' smash to right, scoring Parent in the 13th.

September 8—Donlin of New York Nationals made his 100th hit today.

September 10—Odwell of Cincinnati was hit twice in the back by ball and had to retire.

September 11—Washington made 30 hits in seven innings in second game, defeating the Boston Americans by a score of 14-0. The worst beating of season.

September 12—Arndt of St. Louis made a sensational steal home in ninth inning, scoring the winning run in second game with Pittsburg.

September 13—Murphy's home run for Philadelphia was one of the longest hits ever made on the Quaker city park, and was the only run of the game, shutting out the Collins team.

September 15—Bradley of Cleveland says he will retire from game at end of season.

September 16—Seybold's catch of Freeman's fly in the Philadelphia-Boston game at Philadelphia was the most sensational of the season, he jumping on the fence for the ball.

September 16—The engagement of Pitcher Winter of the Collins team was made known today.

September 20—Rumor that Grimshaw of Boston Americans had been sold to Minneapolis for 1906 not denied by Owner Taylor.

September 20—Seven errors, six hits and eight runs in one inning of Cleveland-Chicago game was enough to give victory to the latter club by a score of 9-6.

September 21—Washington-Detroit game at Washington was one of mishaps for Detroit. Schaefer retired at end of second inning on account of sickness, Lowe in fifth for injuring ankle sliding to home plate, and Mullin had thumb split by swift grounder in seventh. Detroit won, after all.

September 22—Dobbs, Lumley and Lewis of Brooklyn out of game on account of injuries.

September 22—Tinker, Bresnahan and Mertes were put out of game today at Chicago for disputing Umpire Emslie.

September 23—Boston Americans jumped into third place today.

September 23—Owing to injuries at Philadelphia yesterday, Flick of Cleveland will be out of game for balance of season.

September 24—A record of attendance for Sunday games, 55,700 being the total for three cities. Chicago alone had 24,700.

September 24—Cincinnati tried out five new men in a double-header winning both games against Brooklyn. The work of the recruits was a feature.

September 24—Two passes, two steals, a wild pitch, a passed ball, three singles and three doubles, for a total of nine runs, was the dose handed out by Chicago Nationals to New York today in the fifth inning. Umpire Emslie fainted on the field. Is it any wonder?

September 25—Capt. Tenney said today that he did not think he would manage the Boston Nationals in 1906.

September 25—Pitcher Walsh of Chicago Americans won a double-header from the Collins team. Only one other pitcher has the same record this season. He pitched the second at his own request, saying the champs were so easy he wanted to beat them twice. This makes five straight double-header victories for Chicago, a base ball record for wins.

September 27—Big Bill Dineen of Boston Americans shut out Chicago in the first game without a hit or a run. Henley and Smith of the Americans and Mathewson of the Nationals are the only other pitchers that have done the trick this year.

September 27—But what a slaughter in the second; Young and Barry knocked out of the box, and Hughes, not much better, was forced to swallow the pill for want of another pitcher. Nine hits, with a total of 17 for 15 runs, is rubbing it in hard for only six innings. Criger's home run, the only run of the game, was the longest hit on the local park this season. The ball went clean to center field gate. Chicago won 16 games of the series and Boston 6.

September 28—At the Selee benefit game at Chicago the free list was suspended and $4,000 was realized.

September 28—Philadelphia won the first game from Chicago in the final struggle for the American pennant before a large crowd, the Phillies being carried off the field on the shoulders of fans.

September 29—Matthewson of New York Nationals pitched one of the "headiest" games ever seen against St. Louis. After Shay had cleared the bases with a three-bagger, tieing the score, Mathewson held him there and retired the side and won the game in the eleventh.

September 29—Carl Green, treasurer of Boston Americans, sent in his resignation. He is to enter the advertising field with a large New York firm.

September 30—With the gates closed one hour and twenty minutes before play began, 25,446 base ball lovers, the largest crowd ever present in Philadelphia, were on hand for the third game between Chicago and Philadelphia, the former winning, 4-3.

Elberfeld and Fultz of New York Americans badly injured by head-on collision in New York. Elberfeld was treated by doctor and Fultz removed to hospital.

September 30—The attendance record for season goes to Philadelphia Americans, 217,648 being the total for September.

October 1—After losing fifteen straight games to New York, Cincinnati won the second of a double-header on home grounds, National League.

October 2—Chicago got its jolt at Washington by giving three wild pitches, a pass to first and an error, which gave Washington three runs and the game in the first inning. Chicago did not score till the ninth, but was one tally too shy. Philadelphia won her game with St. Louis, 5-0, American League.

October 4—For using profane language in yesterday's game, Ferris has been indefinitely suspended.

October 4—One of the best games the Boston Nationals have put up this season was its closing one with Pittsburg. Four times in twelve innings Boston had a man on third. Tenney by a magnificent run from first and a twenty-foot slide to the home plate, crossed the rubber in the thirteenth with the only score.

October 8—The final games of the season were not of the sensational order, a sort of don't-care spirit taking hold of the players, but the Cincinnati-Pittsburg National wind-up was of the sensational order. Overall gave four bases on balls, pitching fourteen balls without a strike. Leach and Huggins made brilliant one-hand catches, and a triple play by Cincinnati was the feature.

### After-Season Pickups.

Lajoie's fielding average up to the time he was forced to retire was .991.

Up to July 8 Washington was the only American League team to make a triple play. Boston, Pittsburg and St. Louis of the National League had made one each. During the Cincinnati-Boston series two triples were made, one by each. This makes but four triple plays ever made on a Boston league diamond.

Haverhill of the New England League played a remarkable hitting and run-getting game July 15, scoring in every inning.

Up to August 1 William Maloney of Chicago Nationals had stolen as many bases as the entire Boston American team.

In the Philadelphia-Chicago (American) game of August 2 Waddell gave four bases on balls and hit a player in the first inning, forcing in three runs. He then struck out the side, the three tallies being all Chicago made in the game.

In the Cincinnati-Brooklyn game of August 3 Brooklyn made three triple base hits, but failed to score.

Saturday, August 5, was a banner attendance day in both leagues, 56,874 for the Americans and 52,950 for the Nationals.

The 20-inning game of the Chicago-Philadelphia Nationals of August 24 was one of the sensational order, neither side scoring till the 13th inning. The winning run was scored by McCarthy of Chicago in the 20th. Chance, for Chicago, had 30 putouts to his credit, which is the record for season. It required four hours to play the game, and is the third 20-inning game in the history of the sport.

In two games, one of seven innings, with Washington, September 11, and that with Chicago on September 27, of six innings, 47 hits, for a total of 29 runs, is the drubbing administered to the Boston Americans. The first game was a 14-0 score and the latter, 15-1.

The western cities comprised the American league up to 1901, when the real American league was formed. Washington, Boston, Baltimore and Philadelphia were the eastern clubs. Chicago won the pennant in 1901, Philadelphia in 1902, and Boston in 1903 and 1904. The flag this year goes again to Philadelphia.

Thirty-four double-headers were played in the American league in September and 22 in the National league.

Young Cy Young is to enter the matrimonial state this winter.

Mathewson of New York Nationals struck out 192 batters in 42 games.

Pat Dougherty may be seen wearing a National uniform at the South End next year if——

Good-by to the great American game till 1906.

The shutouts for the season:

American League—Boston, 9; Chicago, 13; Cleveland, 22; Detroit, 20; New York, 14; Philadelphia, 7; St. Louis, 13; Washington, 15.

National League—Boston, 15; Brooklyn, 20; Chicago, 13; Cincinnati, 10; New York, 10; Philadelphia, 12; Pittsburg, 10; St. Louis, 12.

### Extra Innings Played.

AMERICAN.

| Clubs. | 10. | 11. | 12. | 13. | 14. | 15. | 16. | 20. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Boston | 7 | 4 | .. | 2 | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Chicago | 11 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | .. |
| Cleveland | 2 | 5 | .. | 3 | .. | .. | 1 | .. |
| Detroit | 6 | 3 | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| New York | 8 | 5 | 2 | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. |
| Philadelphia | 7 | 1 | .. | 5 | 1 | .. | 1 | 1 |
| St. Louis | 5 | 3 | 1 | 3 | .. | .. | 1 | .. |
| Washington | 4 | 4 | .. | 1 | 1 | 1 | .. | .. |

NATIONAL.

| | 10. | 11. | 12. | 13. | 14. | 18. | 20. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Boston | 10 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | .. | .. |
| Brooklyn | 5 | .. | 2 | 2 | .. | .. | .. |
| Chicago | 9 | 7 | 1 | 1 | .. | 1 | 1 |
| Cincinnati | 10 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | .. | .. |
| New York | 7 | 1 | 2 | 1 | .. | .. | .. |
| Philadelphia | 7 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | .. | 1 |
| Pittsburg | 7 | 4 | 2 | 1 | .. | .. | .. |
| St. Louis | 1 | 4 | 1 | .. | 1 | 1 | .. |

## Honesty of Base Ball

The end of the base ball season in the big leagues of this country furnish the basis for a flood of thought which must be curtailed for present purposes, but no one can contemplate the past season without becoming impressed with one leading idea that may well serve for comment at the present time. The season of 1905 has brought more people to base ball games than any other has ever done, and it follows as a corollary that base ball was never more popular. It is entirely safe to say that the great sport has reached the point where it may be called the national game in fact. Granting this, one must naturally look for a reason, and it must be admitted, in the first place, that the game embodies those elements that appeal to the characteristics of our people. This is so manifestly true and has been the subject of such frequent exposition that further comment is not deemed necessary on that point. There is another feature, however, that may not have been realized by many—a feature so salient withal that attention is here called to it. This is the cleanliness of the game as a professional sport. Note how it stands the test of comparison. Almost every day one is given an opportunity to read of dishonesty and questionable methods in other branches of sports, which chicanery takes all manner of forms to fool the public and make for private gains. But professional base ball games go on without dishonesty or manipulation, furnishing a confiding public with a genuine article upon which they can rely. Here is where base ball is supreme. The great game might have the most attractive features in the world connected with it purely as a conception, but the moment dishonesty and chicanery appeared in its ranks it would retrograde woefully. It is the fierce but honest competition that holds the public interest, and so long as the game continues honest there is no limit to its possibilities.

## Corbett's Slow Ball

Special Dispatch to The Star.

CHICAGO, October 21.—"It was a funny way I discovered a slow ball," remarked Joe Corbett recently, recalling the old days when he was the premier pitcher of the National League.

"When I broke into the game with Baltimore I had a good fast ball, and my curve ball was as good as anybody's. In fact, I think I had a little better curve than most pitchers, and I used to depend on my fast ball and curves to win games. I would shoot a curve at the batter which he would break his bat reaching for, and then I would push up a fast one close to the latter which would drive him away from the plate. By mixing them up I used to manage to hold my own. I had seen pitchers manipulate a slow ball successfully, and I experimented with it some in practice, but I never had the nerve to throw one at a batter in a game until I pitched at Pittsburg one day.

"Fred Clarke, who is still with the same club, was up. I think he must have fouled off a dozen balls. It was a hot day and a close game, and I was sweating like a steer. I had tried everything I knew on Clarke. I had fed him all the curves I had and put up fast balls for him to hit at, and he fouled them all. I didn't know what to do. Then the thought struck me to try a slow ball. I didn't know much about it, but said to myself that he can't no more than knock it out of the lot, so I'll let her flicker. I wound up and let her go. It was such a complete surprise to Clarke, who had never seen me work a slow ball before, that he went at it like an amateur and hit it right into my hands. It was an easy out and we won the game.

"But for Clarke fouling off all those balls I might never have developed the slow ball, which is a dandy, and which has helped many a pitcher out of a hole. So you see we sometimes sort of stumble onto things in base ball."

### Artful's Retirement.

Special Dispatch to The Star.

NEW YORK, October 21.—It is said that the reason of Artful's retirement before the running of the Brighton cup was a bowed tendon, and that it is not certain that the mare will ever come back to the track.

# SYSONBY, KING OF THE TURF, LIVES IN ROYAL FASHION

## An Array of Attendants Look After the Welfare of the Great Racer Day and Night—His Weekly Expenses Greater Than a New York Clubman's—How the Horse Was "Brought Up" and Trained—Fabulous Winnings the Owner's Reward.

"THE greatest race horse America has ever seen." It is a big bill to fill.

Think of the galaxy of stars that have flashed victoriously down the homestretches of American tracks, and the hundreds of thousands—yes, millions—of dollars they have galloped home with.

Remember, you who can, the triumphs of Lexington, Longfellow and LeComte. Remember Hindoo, Iroquois and Hamburg, Raceland, Tenny and Irish Lad—idols all. Remember mighty Domino, who in three years brought back to his stable from hard-fought fields $196,580.

Their laurels are all faded now in the light of Sysonby's wonderful performance. When they stripped the saddle from him after the annual Champion stakes on September 9 he had put $189,853 into the pocket of his owner, James R. Keene, in his two initial years of racing.

* * *

On financial grounds alone he has earned his title of king of the American turf. And he lives like a king. No monarch in history, with chamberlains, and seneschals, and gentlemen in waiting, and men at arms, and jesters, and nimble pages waiting upon his nod, ever existed in more royal fashion, had a greater retinue of retainers or was greeted by more thunderous applause when he showed himself in public.

From the time that Sysonby was born, on the Keene breeding farm at Castleton, Ky., down to the minute you are reading this paragraph this sovereign son of Melton has had all the care and attention that are given to royal princes.

Many of his playmates on the Kentucky blue grass, as regally descended as himself, came away to New York and were sold as yearlings, but the shrewd eye of his veteran owner, which had read aright the signs of promise in such colts as Foxhall, Kingston and Commando, foresaw a brilliant future for Sysonby. "Jimmy" Rowe, than whom there is no better trainer, seconded Mr. Keene's judgment, and from the day they passed their verdict to each other nothing that a kind providence can vouchsafe a horse was lacking to Sysonby.

There was the softest of straw for him to sleep on, the pastures were searched to find him the tenderest grass. There was a small regiment of darky boys to rub and clip him, and his feed was mixed and administered with a care that would have done credit to a nursery governess. His temper was coddled and his idiosyncracies humored. No shouting, nor sudden alarms—nothing that could fray his nerves or develop flighty tricks in him was ever permitted. The gentlest and most skillful and most patient hands accustomed him by slow degrees to saddle and bridle. And when, in the spring of 1904, he journeyed north with a long string of the Keene horses to begin his turf career, the hopes of that venerable financier and sportsman, his owner, were centered in him.

* * *

How they were realized makes one of the most luminous pages in American turf history. All through the spring of 1904 the little army of men who draw pay in the Keene stables at Westbury, L. I., schooled and cared for Sysonby. It was work for him now, long, easy gallops in the crisp mornings, with blankets to start the sweat from him. Slow coolings out, walking up and down in the sheltered paddock, muffled in fresh, dry blankets, currying and brushing and hand-rubbing to keep his skin in order; cold sponges to his feet and ankles, drying with flannels and polishing with chamois skin until he shone like satin. There was a carefully devised schedule of feed and water on the card beside his stall door; there was inspection several times a day and a daily visit from the farrier to care for the four small hoofs on which so much depended.

There were small gallops for appetite and after a while short bursts of speed, lengthening as his strength and endurance grew. And by and by there were brushes for a furlong or two with his stable mates to bring out the racing spirit that was in him. And continually the hearts of owner and trained warmed to him. He was coming on, but they said nothing. They knew that after all there was only one test for a race horse, and that was far away yet.

When July came the stable knew that Sysonby was ready. On July 14 at Brighton Beach they turned him loose in the Sweepstakes and he came home with $850. That was the beginning, and still Mr. Keene said nothing.

The following Saturday he won the Brighton junior, with $12,000, and then the turf world woke up. "Sysonby" was in great black letters across the head of the racing columns. In his first two appearances he had paid the feed bill which had been running up ever since he was born.

* * *

Rowe was wise enough not to kill this layer of golden eggs with overwork. Sysonby ran no more races at that meeting, but booted and bandaged and blanketed was turned into a "palace car" and with three attendants constantly within reach made the journey to Saratoga. Here was where the men who follow the horses, who know form and breeding and stable gossip, first really discovered Sysonby. On the 1st of August, the first time out, he captured the flash stakes in rather easy fashion, and added $5,000 more to the good side of his page in the stable's ledger; five days later he picked up $13,000 in the Saratoga special, one of the great things at the Spa.

James R. Keene, whom most people consider a hard proposition, had a tender spot in his heart now and Sysonby filled it. At the close of the Saratoga meeting, when the horses were departing for winter quarters, W. B. Leeds took Mr. Keene aside and offered him $100,000 for Sysonby. He said no. He probably would have said no to five times that sum, for Mr. Keene has always had an ambition, not to get money—that is easy—but to breed and own the greatest race horse in the world. He thought that week at Saratoga that he had succeeded. Today he has no doubt of it.

Here is the table of Sysonby's winnings:

| | |
|---|---|
| Brighton Beach Sweepstakes | $850 |
| Brighton Beach Junior | 12,000 |
| Saratoga Flash Stakes | 5,000 |
| Saratoga Special | 13,000 |
| Coney Island (third place in Futurity) | 2,583 |
| Gravesend Junior Champion | 6,260 |
| 1905, three-year-old: | |
| Belmont Park (dead heat with Race King, Metropolitan handicap) | 5,500 |
| Coney Island Tidal | 15,000 |
| Coney Island Realization | 17,390 |
| Coney Island Commonwealth | 12,000 |
| Brighton Iroquois | 6,000 |
| Brighton Derby | 12,000 |
| Saratoga Great Republic | 42,000 |
| Coney Island Century | 15,000 |
| Sheepshead Bay Championship | 25,000 |
| Total in two years | $189,853 |

The total earnings of Domino before Mr. Keene retired him to the stud were $196,580, and that was the American record. But Domino took three years to do it in. Sysonby in two years has come within $6,000 of his total, and if he races next year to $100,000 of winnings, will have beaten out Isinglass, who holds the English record with $287,275 in three years' going.

* * *

And it is not alone the English record of earnings that Mr. Keene is after. He aspires to the primacy of the English turf, and it is toward Newmarket and Epsom Downs that Sysonby's aristocratic nose is turned today.

At the opening of the present season there were fifty-four horses munching oats in the Keene stables at Westbury. The ordinary care given to a thoroughbred is greater than that bestowed on most children, but Sysonby had much more than that. He was watched and tended with more assiduity than all the rest of the stable put together, and when he was sent to the post was as fine as a racehorse ever gets to be.

It was plain from the moment he began to run that he was going to live up to his two-year-old standard and outdo it. They saw that he was moving with incredible haste, putting good horses one after another behind him with ease, toward that coveted position where his name would be a synonym for all that was good in a thoroughbred.

And they nursed him accordingly. The care of Sysonby from week to week costs more than is spent by many society men on their necessities, and even on their pleasures. When he travels nowadays from track to track it is in a special car, softly cushioned from floor to roof, to prevent any injury or abrasion. His valuable legs are always carefully bandaged, and there is never a moment, day or night, when there is not a stable boy beside him, except when he is on the track, with Jockey Nicol on his back.

* * *

In the stables at Gravesend, where he is now, he occupies a box stall thoroughly ventilated, but studiously protected from draught, and fitted up with all the appliances of horse comfort. By his side at night a colored boy sleeps, sometimes two of them, curled up in the straw at the horse's feet. The slightest sound or movement from this royal animal brings them to his side. Sudden changes in the weather may necessitate change of his blankets or adjustment of the doors and windows. That is part of their business.

For his diet, which in itself is a science, Trainer Rowe has marked out a menu almost as lengthy as that of a Broadway restaurant. For Sysonby the "balanced ration" is reduced to its finest point to meet the slightest change in physical condition. Most horses can eat plain hay. "Hay," with Sysonby, means a judicious combination or perhaps alternation of clover, timothy, alfalfa and many other varieties of grass. He has oats, but he also has bran, cornmeal middlings, and sundry other breakfast foods served dry, wet, hot, cold, as his condition requires. Ever so often his feed is mixed with oilmeal, for the benefit of his coat, but more particularly to keep him on the good side of that fine line which divides perfect condition from overtraining and staleness.

There are two or three men who all day long, week in and out, have nothing to do but look after his cleanliness, and he is blanketed, rubbed down, exercised and blanketed again with unfailing regularity. The pick of the whole company of stable boys is delegated to ride him, and every man in the establishment feels upon his shoulders the burden of this great responsibility.

Sysonby has a good disposition to begin with, and all this fabulous care and cozening have brought him to maturity with the temper of a kitten. In fact, it is his equable temper and tractability that have helped to win for him the surpassing esteem of his owner.

* * *

But for all that, Sysonby, like almost every thoroughbred, has his hobbies. One of them, perhaps, the most remarkable, is his predilection for his chum. This individual is not, as might be supposed, an animal of as blue blood as his own, but a dingy, stringy-haired, fat little runt of a pony, such as you see lugging a load of children in a village cart. To keep Sysonby in the best of humor for his racing, and in fact for his daily life, it is necessary to have this pal of his in the near neighborhood. Given that, and he will do anything that is asked of him.

It was early discovered, too, that he was particular about jockeys. There are good boys in the Keene stable and other good boys upon whose services Mr. Keene has the call, but before Sysonby ever went to the post Mr. Rowe had tried them all on him and found that for some mysterious reason he would work best for little Nicol.

Nicol is a modest lad, who in spite of his success with that great horse might find himself entirely out of place and of no value on the back of other beasts which Fuller or Redfern or Hildebrand or perhaps a dozen other jockeys could ride into the money unfailingly. Between Sysonby and Nicol there is a perfect understanding, resultant, the jockey declares, from the fact that Sysonby knows and appreciates the fondness that Nicol has for him. The boy believes, even more firmly than does Mr. Keene, that his mount is the greatest racehorse the world ever saw, and is looking forward to the day when he shall ride him to victory in the classics of the English turf.

* * *

At the Waldorf-Astoria the other night Mr. Keene said: "I truly believe that Sysonby never had an equal. His consistent form and his regular running confirm this statement. A truly great horse must be a master at short or long distance and go equally well in mud or dust, and, furthermore, must carry weight, and carry it to the end with speed and willingness, no matter what the company or how hard the competition. Sysonby has done that and more, as a study of his races will show. I never saw a horse in England or America that had more speed, and nobody, I think, will now dispute that he is a stayer. The only black mark against him is his defeat in the Futurity, which neither I nor any one else can explain. We know now that it was not a truly run race, and the mystery of it will never be explained.

"I have had many offers for Sysonby, but I would consider none of them. I was very fond of some of my other horses, Kingston, Voter, Cap and Bells, Disguise, Commando and Foxhall, for instance, but Sysonby is the best yet. Why, he won within ten days the Tidal, Commonwealth and Realization stakes, netting $50,000. Isn't that a racehorse?

"I thought a lot of Foxhall and Domino, but I believe Sysonby occupies a higher place than either in my regard. If I send him to England I am sure that he will win everything there, for I know the English horses, and there is none like him."

* * *

Trainer Rowe is equally enthusiastic. "I have been called a good trainer," he said the other night, "but it takes a good horse to make a good trainer, and Sysonby is the best. I have never known a horse like him. As docile and tractable as a kitten, he does not show a single bad trait, which is peculiar in a racehorse. Most of them are cranky. Sysonby works hard and seems to delight in his racing. I am satisfied he is the greatest horse the world ever saw."

"Billy" Lakeland was asked one time his opinion of a certain vaunted horse. He answered dryly: "When a man has a good coon dog—a really good coon dog, you will always see a lot of coonskins nailed on his stable door."

Sysonby certainly has "coonskins nailed on his stable door"—to the tune of $189,853.

JAS. R. KEENE AND GEN'L SANFORD AT SARATOGA

"SYSONBY" JUST AFTER TRAINING

"SYSONBY" WINNING THE GREAT REPUBLIC $42,000 AT SARATOGA.

## SYSONBY NEAR TO DOMINO'S RECORD

There may be some doubts in the minds of racegoers in regard to the greatest racehorse the American turf has seen during the last twenty years, but there is no question that in Domino and Sysonby James R. Keene has owned the greatest bread-winners in the country.

It seldom falls to the lot of one man to own at any period two such great horses as they. But to possess two such champions in less than fifteen years is remarkable. With these two horses alone Mr. Keene has won $381,433 from the various racing associations.

Domino, known as the black whirlwind, won $196,580. This sum will likely be eclipsed by Sysonby, the racing marvel of today. It took Domino three years to win this amount. In two years Sysonby has won $184,853. If the latter had won last season's Futurity, the only race in which he has been defeated in his career, he would have beaten all previous winnings made by race horses in this country, and he would have overtopped Domino's record by nearly $30,000.

Sysonby leads all horses this year in the matter of money won. During the season he ran in nine races, won eight outright and made a dead heat in the other event. His total net winnings is $145,160. Artful, Sysonby's greatest rival, has not been nearly so fortunate in landing the rich plums of the turf this year. Her most important victory was the Brighton handicap, worth $22,000. She won two other overnight events, and her winnings amounted to $23,500. That she was able to win this sum was a matter of great surprise to most turfmen, as she was a very sick filly all last winter, and was not expected to live. She had catarrhal fever, which usually leaves race horses' lungs in such a congested state that they are unable to stand the strain of heavy respiration when racing. But Artful was an exception to this and although she was ill at frequent periods she clearly demonstrated this season that she was a great race mare.

Ormondale, the winner of the Futurity, is the largest winning two-year-old of the season. He won only one race, but as that event exceeded in value every other race of the season it placed him at the head of the list. First money, coupled with two third places, which he secured during the Saratoga and Brighton Beach meetings, placed his winnings close to $45,000. His nearest rival was Harry Payne Whitney's Burgomaster, who won a number of stakes at various tracks.

Hamburg Belle, for two seasons a favorite with racegoers, won $15,000 this year. This was a large sum, considering that she is now four years old and did not race very often. The other horses in Jack Joyner's stable did remarkably well, and he will share the year's honors with James R. Keene and Harry Payne Whitney, the two leading winning owners of the season.

Cairngorm got his share of the money with $43,000. Tradition was the second best three-year-old filly of the season and gathered in $18,480. Jacobite, the leading winning two-year-old in Sydney Paget's string, won $15,000. Ormonde's Right, the only other son of Ormonde besides Ormondale racing in the east, won $7,200. The stable's winnings to date amount to $121,000.

There have been no horses in America that have won $200,000. The English thoroughbreds exceed ours in this respect. Isinglass, in three years, won $287,275. He is, in the matter of money won, the champion race horse of the world. Donovan, during the same period of time, won $275,760. Flying Fox in two years won an aggregate amount of $200,000.

## Records at Belmont

Special Dispatch to The Star.

NEW YORK, October 21.—So many records have recently been made and so many have been equaled that there is still suspicion among some of the brightest of the racegoers that all is not right with the new course at Belmont Park. This, too, despite the fact that the turf authorities have seen fit to have the course surveyed especially to satisfy this feeling. However, gossip will not down.

In sporting circles this week it was general talk that something must be the matter when horses of the caliber of Kiamesha and Aeronaut can cover ground in such remarkable time. Neither of the horses named has ever been noted for possessing any more than the average amount of speed, and at times it is hard enough for them to win races. Now both are record holders—that is, they equaled records made on tracks that had shorter turns than has Belmont Park.

One owner remarked that it was hardly fair to compare the records made on the main course of the track with records that have been made on courses like Gravesend or Brighton. They are only a mile in circumference, while the oval at Belmont is a mile and a half. This makes the turns at mile tracks much shorter and sharper, giving horses racing at Belmont a big advantage when records come into consideration.

Take, for instance, the race of Kiamesha's. She ran a mile over the main course. She had practically only to make one big sweeping turn to run a mile in 1.37 2-5. The question is could she accomplish the same thing were she to negotiate the four turns at such a course as Brighton? Surely any fair-minded racing man would say that she could not; that a mile there in something about 1.39 would be her limit.

For some time, however, the talk that the Belmont course was short has been in the air, and the managers evidently were aware of it, for they had Surveyor John McLaughlin measure the distance between the various posts. The gentleman is the representative of one of the big railroads, and a couple of days ago he reported on some of the shorter distances. Mr. McLaughlin says that the distances are correct in every instance, and he put in a supplementary report in relation to the longer distances. Again he says that every pole is in its correct position. This makes the records established at the meeting sound in every particular, so that the probable reason for them is no doubt due to the fact that the horses have only to make practically