

CRACK THREE-YEAR-OLDS.

Some Remarkable Performances During The Past Season.

The wonderful fast time made by the crack three-year-old trotters during the present season is a matter of fact that it is only six years ago since the first three-year-old trotted below 2:20. In 1883 Hinda Rose, by Electioneer, dam Beautiful Bells, by the Moor, in the third heat of a race trotted in 2:19 1/4, and the whole trotting world looked upon it as one of the star performances of the year. The filly was not new to fame nor was she any stranger to trotting tracks, for, as a yearling, Nov. 5, 1881, at San Francisco, Cal., she trotted against time and obtained a record of 2:43 1/4. Nov. 14 she trotted against her own record and reduced it to 2:35 1/4. This was the champion record at that age and remained so until the ill-fated Norlaine, in 1888, reduced it to 2:31 1/4. Norlaine was by Norval, dam Elaine, 2:20, by Messenger Duroc. As a two-year-old Hinda Rose only started once. At Lexington, Ky., she met Fugio, Wilkes Boy, Lexington Wilkes and Strathblane. The first heat was won by Fugio in 2:36 1/4, the California winning the next two heats in 2:32 and 2:32. In 1888 she again crossed the mountains, making her debut for the season at Chicago on July 20. In that race she met Elvira and Fugio and defeated them in 2:31 1/4, 2:31 and 2:31 1/2. At Cynthiana, Ky., she again defeated Fugio in the slow time of 2:36, 2:43 1/4 and 2:33 1/4. On August 29, at Lexington, Ky., she took Fugio, Lizzie Wilkes and Early Dawn into camp in 2:32 1/4, 2:32 1/4 and 2:32. At Hartford, Conn., on October 3, she reduced her record to 2:20, and at Lexington, Ky., on October 10, she met Wilkes Boy and Fugio and distanced them both in the third heat. The time was 2:28 1/4, 2:32 and 2:19 1/4.

The season of 1884 developed no three-year-old record-holders. In 1885 the famous Patron came to the front and tied the record of Hinda Rose. Patron, by Pancoast, dam Beatrice, by Cuvier, made his bow to the public as a two-year-old at Brantford, Ont., where, driven by Cope Stinson, he made a record of 2:42 1/4, defeating and distancing Josh Billings and General Scott. In 1886 he met on October 8, at St. Louis, Manzanita, Silverone, Eagle Bird, Iona, Granby and Greenlander. This was a grand field and resulted in a great fight. Manzanita won the first and second heats in 2:23 1/4 and 2:24 1/4. Silverone won the fourth heat in 2:24 1/4, Patron winning the third, fifth and sixth heat in 2:23 1/4, 2:24 1/4 and 2:25 1/4. At Lexington on Oct. 19, he met Silverone and Granby and reeled off the race in 2:20 1/4, 2:25 and 2:19 1/4. The three-year-old honors were now divided and so remained till 1887, when Sable Wilkes, by Guy Wilkes, dam Sable, by The Moor, cut the record down to 2:18. September 8, 1887, he made his first appearance and in a three-year-old class at San Francisco he defeated Soudan in 2:28, 2:28 and 2:27 1/4. September 12 he repeated the trick in 2:25 1/4, 2:29 and 2:26 1/4. September 15, at Lexington, he met Soudan and in 2:30, 2:29 and 2:31 1/4. September 24 he walked over in 2:27 1/4. At San Francisco, October 29, he trotted against 2:19 1/4 and defeated it in 2:18. That record remained undisturbed till the present season, when it has forever been put in the shade. Axtell began early to chip off the seconds, and he never stopped until he had placed the famous mark of 2:12 against his name. He thus holds dual honors as the three-year-old champion and the stallion king. Close upon his heels and only passing him came the famous filly, which, as a two-year-old, trotted in 2:18, and now has a three-year-old record of 2:13 1/4, while below 2:20 we have Lilli, 2:17 1/4; Allerton, 2:18 1/4, and Margaret S., 2:19 1/4.

TURF GOSSIP.

From the Spirit of the Times. Fred Taral, the jockey, has severed his connection with the Beverwyck stable. Taral has been in Campbell's employ for the past two years, and has ridden some very clever races during that time. Campbell says the trouble with Taral was one of increasing weight. The young man is of good constitution and inclined to flesh, and several times he has been unable to make weight for races which the stable considered it had an excellent chance of winning.

John Campbell, the Beverwyck trainer, offered Barnes, the jockey, \$8,000 for his services next season, but the little jockey refused to sign. Barnes has had more offers than any one in the profession. Senator Hearst and Mr. Scott both are said to have wanted him, but he has acted very coy with every one who made any advances, and it became common gossip that he was "holding out for the best offer." Barnes has the reputation of being the best light-weight in the profession, and in the opinion of many he is fully five pounds better than any of his contemporaries. Certainly, he has wonderful patience for a youngster, and seems to be able to time his finish with a judgment that would do credit to Tom Cannon or the best in any country.

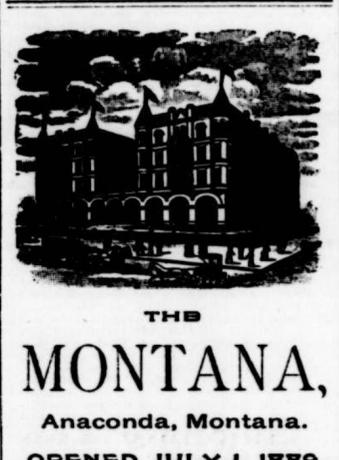
The retirement of Mr. A. J. Cassatt comes rather unexpectedly upon "the faithful," and there are many pessimists who claim that it foreshadows the gradual retirement of all the real sportsmen who view the undue extension of the season, and the fact that racing is becoming too much of a business, with anything but favor.

Hamilton's engagement with Mr. Belmont, which was discredited as "rumor" when first announced, turns out to be an absolute fact. As was stated a few weeks since, we had heard enough to know that Garrison would not continue to wear the maroon jacket of the Nursery, and had heard that Mr. Belmont seriously considered the advisability of engaging an English jockey. Hamilton's engagement is much better, as an English rider, however good, cannot learn the style of racing here until he has been several months in the country, it differing so essentially from that of "the mother country." Hamilton is much the best of the colored jockeys of to-day. He is cool, patient and daring at times to the verge of recklessness, as he shows when he rode over the Twin City field on Exile in Lakeland's black jacket.

William Hayward, the jockey, will, we hear, ride for Senator Hearst next season. We do not know that it is definitely settled, but we have heard that Matt Allen, who trains the stable horses, has negotiated for his services since, by proxy, Hamilton, signed with Mr. Belmont. The retirement of Mr. Cassatt leaves Hayward without an engagement. He could ride as a sort of free lance and secure the practice he would need, but Hayward is a most conservative man. He prefers a stable engagement. It is wholly opposed to his temperament to fight for position. He loves the security of position, is rather old-fashioned, and has no "valet," he carries own traps about and is always around when his stable's horses are running and whether he is riding or not deems it his duty to be present and assist in making the horse's toilet.

El Rio Rey whose death has been reported and his obituary recently being during the week is, at the hour of going to press, better than he has been at any time during the week, although he is not out of danger. The colt developed a slight cold a week ago, which became acute in

Buenos, accompanied by symptoms of pneumonia, his fever being high. Dr. Sheppard was called in and he treated him. On Tuesday he was reported dead and his obituary appeared in the evening papers. Mr. Grey of Missouri, who had left Westchester, where he was, on the same morning, reported him as alive, but his statement was ignored. The colt is likely to recover although there is always danger of relapse. Even should he recover, there is a strong possibility of his wind being thickened if indeed he is not a "roarer."



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