TURF GOSSIP OF THE PAST FEW DAYS.

It would indeed be a treat to attend a sale of yearlings where every sale was a bona-fide one. Anent the recent Macdonough sale of St. Carlo youngsters, where the high average of nearly $1000 was set for the eleven head, the get of this promising young sire disposed of, it is now gossiped about that the sale was a padded one; that several of those which brought phenomenally big prices have been simply "farmed out"—a common practice resorted to nowadays—and that a major portion of their winnings on the turf, if they prove successful, will find its way back to the breeder. Breeders in this part of the country are very apt to prize horseflesh too highly. If a product of their establishment happens to turn out a crack colt or filly, as the case may be, they expect every yearling offered for sale by them the coming spring to bring a fabulous figure when led into the sale ring. Then, too, most of the yearlings these times have been tried before being catalogued for the market, and prospective purchasers on the inside receive the straight tip. The green one in the business is accorded the privilege of bidding on those supposed to be a minus quantity. The Baldwin sale, some days ago, was a fizzle, and there is no reason why it should have been otherwise. The yearlings shown were for the greater part the get of untried or unsuccessful sires. They were led into the ring and acted like old campaigners of the selling turf, put up at auction after having won a race. People like to speculate on the uncertain, where one is as apt to get a Hamburg or a Ben Brush as an October Derby candidate, and when breeders become aware of this fact there will be more competitive bidding and they will obtain a better general average for their yearlings.

The work of Starter Caldwell at the previous Ingleside meeting was of the phenomenal sort. It was snappy and keenly relished by all. But the same cannot be said of his handling of the gate since the opening of the meeting now in progress. Not satisfied with letting well enough alone and compelling the boys to line their mounts up at the barrier as on former occasions, the Prince has tried those half-running starts again. The result is that his deftness with the lever has been marred by a ragged fringe, neither appreciated by bookmakers nor public.

It seems that Fred Mossom, formerly in the employ of the Messrs. L. S. and W. P. Thompson, will train Marcus Daly's Western string the coming year. Last season from all accounts much jealousy existed between the different Daly trainers, Campbell and Moran, which all worked to the detriment of the stable's success. Trouble was further augmented, it is said, by myriads of "knockers," as tale-bearers are now designated, each with a tale of woe to pour into the ear of the Celtic master of Bitter Root.

The credulous have no business around a racetrack. "Opium yarns" are as plentiful as fleas in a sand lot. After every big stake race and nearly every close finish post-mortems go floating around, and here is the coroner's verdict on the Buckwa-The Roman-Orimar finish on Thursday, which goes as it fell from the limb. The story goes that Ed Purser, to throw the ring-trudgers off, made several good-sized bets openly on his horse Buckwa, and that quietly a commissioner of the tall New Yorker was making the rounds plugging The Roman. That when Buckwa fell back in the stretch below the paddock Martin let him do so intentionally, but that suddenly perceiving Orimar coming like a rocket on the outside and thinking that he was going to capture the plum, "Jockey Bell" shook Buckwa up and gained a doubtful decision by a nose. Willie Martin is a past master in the saddle and no doubt comes in for much unjust criticism. He is a brainy sort of horseman, riding few races alike, and this fact, no doubt, is what taxes the brain of the inventor.

English turf writers now ascribe much of Tod Sloan's success in the saddle to his experience in getting away from the barrier, an art the English jockeys are yet deficient in. The first one in this country to discover that the Australian was not impregnable was Henry Shields. When the barrier was an early comer here, Shields invariably got his mount away in advance of the others, and Sloan, not slow to perceive the trick, quickly caught on and took his mount back a length or so, with the result that he was very often noted in the formbook as away first. This is not the only caper probably that Tod showed his cousins across the pond, for he went over with a carpetbag full of them.

At last we have Pa Daly's redoubtable lightweight Master O'Connor, who he arrived Thursday night and is described as being as cool as an iceberg on the back of a horse, and able to finish with the best of 'em. He can ride at 68 pounds unless Thanksgiving turkey has increased his avoirdupois.

One thing can be said of the steeplechase course at Ingleside if nothing else. It is increasing the number of patients in the different hospitals. Two or three riders are walking about with their faces looking as though they had made a terrific slide to third during the progress of a ball game, and one or two others are laid up. The latest addition to this latter brigade is Martinus, who had his kneecap fractured while exercising Veroqua yesterday. He will be laid up for some weeks. It is a dangerous game and is not receiving many new recruits of late.

F. E. MULHOLLAND.

JOE CORBETT WILL PITCH.

Joe Corbett, the clever young pitcher of the famous Baltimore team, did not return with that aggregation when they left for the East some weeks ago, preferring to enjoy his vacation at home. He has not given up training and practices all the time, so as to be in form for the coming season.

He will give another exhibition of his ability as a pitcher to-morrow at Recreation Park, when he will appear in the box for the James E. Pepper & Co. team.

As the game is in the cause of liberty in Cuba sympathizers are expected to attend and swell the receipts.

The White House team has earned a long line of victories and the game promises to be an interesting one. Game will be called at 2:30. Following is the line-up of both teams:

White House—Russell, pitcher; Eager, catcher; Reid, first base; Sullivan, second base; Keely, third base; McLaughlin, shortstop; Barry, left field; Beaton, center field; Samuels, right field.

James E. Pepper & Co.—Joe Corbett, pitcher; Cronck or Ford, catcher; Peterson, first base; Hyland, second base; Eber, third base; Ed Smith, short stop; Muller, left field; Dowd, center field; Dougherty, right field.

RUGBY FOOTBALL AT THE VELODROME.

The second game of Rugby football between the teams that played last Saturday at the Velodrome grounds will take place this afternoon. The managers state that some of the players have been let out and in their places are girls who will not shrink from slight punishment. The teams that will play to-day have been practicing since last Saturday and will surprise the natives by the improvement they have made.

ROBBERY ALLEGED.

John W. Wilson Arrested on Complaint of Louis Prathood.

John W. Wilson, a salesman, was booked at the City Prison early yesterday morning on a charge of robbery preferred by Louis Prathood, 1019 Market street.

Prathood's story is that he was in the saloon 1017 Market street when Wilson and two other men robbed him of a ring and a dollar. He went outside and notified Policeman Deely, who went back with him to the saloon, where Wilson was pointed out as one of the men who robbed him. When searched the ring and a dollar were found in Wilson's pockets.

Wilson appeared in Judge Campbell's court yesterday morning. He explained that Prathood lost the ring and dollar in shaking dice. The case was continued till Monday.

FLEET HOUNDS AFTER HEAVY PURSES.

The coursing men open the New Year at Ingleside to-day with feelings of much encouragement, enthusiasm and two exceptional stakes. Their encouragement arises from the fact that, with all the great strides the sport has taken during the past twelve months, 1898 promises far greater advancement. Their enthusiasm is due not only to this but to the actual evidence in hand, which evidence is shown in the increase of the purses offered to-day. The chief stake—if such it may be called—is an open all-age event, and to the total entrance money no less than $200 has been added. The second feature is a puppy sprint, and to this has been added $100. Never before in the history of coursing on the coast or in America has the sport attained a like plane or anything approaching it. Both stakes will be carried through the run down to-day and the ties run off to-morrow.

Judging it from paper, the entry of both events to-day seems likely to develop many surprises. At the same time, The Call has "picked 'em" before—two weeks ago "picked 'em" all. The selections will be found below for to-days run down.

The Orient kennels will properly observe the New Year by moving into new quarters on Broadway, near Montgomery street. Buildings requisite to the needs of their string have been in course of construction for several weeks, and in a few days the Orient will be the best housed kennels of the city.

The importance of careful handling and scientific training of greyhounds was never better exemplified than last Sunday. It has long been recognized that the Curtis kennels of Santa Clara always brought their dogs to the slips in condition. They have always done so. Lately, too, they have employed McCaffery, late of St. Louis, to aid them in training, and last Sunday they landed first and second money with Blackette, who has not won a stake in many months, and Rosette, whose entry at all surprised many, she having been reported a sufferer with distemper scarcely two weeks earlier.

Gibson & Suter are said to have sold their black dog Hercules. The name of the purchaser is being withheld. Probably this means a change of training and the later springing of a good thing—or its attempt.

Several Los Angeles leashmen have been in the city during the week looking for stock. In many cases, too, they might have secured it, but they appeared a bit shy of the price—mentally shy, that is. At the same time, Los Angeles is enthusiastic to a degree over the sport. It may not be long, therefore, till she recognizes that the sport is only the sport when at its best. San Francisco has done so, and has shown the fact to the United States.

The best-liked performers in to-day's run down are as follows:

Open stake—Joy Bells, Snowbird, Move On, Blackette, Old Glory, White Chief, Seminole, White Lily, Emerald, Lady Campbell, Magnet, Sweet Lips, Eclipse, Senorita, Mountain Beauty, Susie, Brilliantine, Granuale, Tessie Fair.

Puppy stake—Lily Wheeler, Marquise, Log Boy, White Wings, Master Jack, Gallagher, Soprano, Miss Dividend, Handy Andy, Gladiator, One Spot, Traver.

BOATING CLUBS WILL PLAY BALL.

Four of the principal boat clubs on the bay have taken the preliminary steps for the formation of a baseball tournament. The clubs comprise the Ariels, Dolphins, Pioneers and the South Ends. Nines from the clubs are practicing diligently in order to put up fast ball when the opposing teams meet for blood on the diamond.

It is proposed to play a series of games at Recreation Park, Eighth and Harrison streets. The boatmen see the importance of playing on these grounds, as the contest can be played with a live ball.

There is a great deal of first-class baseball material in the boat clubs mentioned, and when the nines meet on the diamond they should put up a fast and snappy game.

The first game of the series will probably take place a week from to-morrow and will be between the Pioneers and the South Ends, at least that is the programme now.

On the evening of January 10 the newly elected officers of the Dolphins will give a banquet, and on the evening of the 11th the newly elected officers of the Ariels will also give a banquet.

Next season promises to be one of unusual activity in boating circles. A number of the most prominent members of the Ariels have incorporated under the laws of the State for the purpose of building a floating boathouse. It will cost from $3000 to $4000 to construct, and when completed will be the first thing of the kind constructed on the Pacific Coast. These floating boathouses are very popular in the East, and when introduced here they will probably be adopted by all the prominent clubs.

The South Ends have nearly completed their handball court, and it is creditable to their industry, as the members have done all of the work of its construction themselves. The court is pronounced by experts to be one of the finest in the city.

WILL PLAY TENNIS TO-DAY.

Beginning at 10 o'clock this morning a class singles tournament will be held at the California tennis courts at Scott and Bush streets.

The winner in each class will receive a handsome prize for his cleverness, and the games are expected to bring out some fine work.

All matches will be decided by the best two out of three sets. In the finals three out of five will decide the winners.

Following are the entries and their classes:

Championship class—G. F. and R. N. Whitney.

First class—Chesbrough, Adams, Bliven, Bradshaw, Hooper, Welhe, Root.

Second class—Davis, Code, Blanchard, O'Connor, Stauf, Drumond, McGavin, Eckart, Corrigan, Prunnelt and Bee.

Third class—Walter, Bishop, Broemmel, Upham, Kellogg, F. Hamilton, Schmidt, B. Bell, H. Meyer, H. Tickner and Mabury.

Fourth class—H. Deuprey, M. Deuprey, Middleton, Bacon, Oliver and J. Corrigan.

George Whitney may not play, as he wishes to give some other player a chance to carry off a prize. His brother, Robert N., has been suffering from a cold during the past week and is not expected to play in his usual form.

Young Weihe is putting up a clever game and may surprise the leading players in the tournament.

Ralph Bliven is looked upon as a possible winner to-day. The improvement that he has shown in play in the past week has been marked.

On Wednesday next the young lady members will have a chance to show their abilities in a mixed doubles tournament.

FIGHTING MEN READY FOR BUSINESS.

The Sacramento Athletic Club has, through its agent, E. J. Kay, arranged a match between Henry Baker and Jack Stelzner. They will fight twenty rounds before the Sacramento club on January 18. An attempt was made to get Spanjer, the light weight of the Sacramento club, and Eddie Connolly to sign for twenty rounds, but Connolly refused to meet Spanjer, as he has already arranged to leave for the East in a few days.

Tom Sharkey is very uneasy. He would like very much to have a second meeting with Peter Maher, but the large financial inducement offered by the National Club for a contest between Sharkey and Jeffries may keep the sailor pugilist at home for a few weeks. A fight between the two local heavy-weights should attract an enormous gathering of sport-lovers to the Pavilion.

Young Griffo, the Australian, and Frank McConnell have been matched to fight before the Vallejo Athletic Club on January 11. According to an agreement which the pugilists signed, they will box fifteen rounds and the winner will receive 75 per cent of the receipts. As McConnell is pretty clever the contest should prove quite interesting.

Dick Smith, late of Sydney, Australia, in a letter to The Call, states that he had seen the Starr and Griffo haybarn fight which took place a week ago and that Starr should have been declared the winner, as he had the best of Griffo.

Joe Gans, the Baltimore pugilist, is still after Dal Hawkins. In a letter to a friend in this city Gans says that he would willingly give a finger of his left hand for a try at the clever Californian. But Hawkins is not particularly anxious to fight anybody just now, and doubtless Mr. Gans will have to look elsewhere for a match.

Jack Daly demonstrated the other evening, when he fought Everhardt a draw, that Sam Fitzpatrick has under his wing one of the best lightweight pugilists traveling. Daly will give Lavigne trouble if the pair should ever happen to meet in a ring.

Billy Madden is looking about for a match for his man Goff, whom Madden believes to be one of the greatest pugilists in America. In a letter to The Call Madden says that he will match Goff against George Green or any other middle-weight in this State. Goff fought a draw with George Byers, "the colored wonder" of Boston, a few evenings ago.

Charley Bergen, who is the official publisher of the programmes of boxing contests, has completed a beautiful chart, which contains the pictures of the leading pugilists of the world.

HANDBALL IN THE COURTS.

Phil Ryan of the Howard-street handball court has announced the following games for to-morrow:

G. McDonald and M. McNeil vs. P. Ryan and D. Rodgers.

R. Murphy and J. Collins vs. J. White and E. Toy.

L. Waterman and E. McDonough vs. N. Berger and J. R. Bockman.

J. Hogan and M. Basch vs. D. Regan and T. Foley.

J. Kirby and J. McBrearty vs. S. Hurley and M. Joyce.

E. Barry and M. J. Stokes vs. P. Herrin and P. Foley.

J. C. Nealon and T. F. Bonnet vs. J. Riordan and M. J. Killgallon.

Games to be played at Condon's Occidental court are:

A. Collins and J. McCarthy vs. W. Hassell and W. Collins.

A. McInerney and T. Lydon vs. B. Clements and J. O'Brien.

A. McVicker and J. Shaw vs. G. Ebner and A. Hampton.

M. Mullaney and "Cyclone" Hayden vs. G. Cunningham and H. Moffitt.

J. O'Leary and S. Bradley vs. Professor Barrett and T. Curran.

J. Pendergast and P. Kelly vs. P. Hutchinson and J. Slattery.

G. Hutchinson and W. Kelly vs. A. Pennoyer and J. Wren.

M. Dillon and J. T. Cashin vs. J. O'Donnell and J. Condon.

GAME FISHES IN THE RUSSIAN RIVER.

Steelhead fishing in Russian River is first class now. The bar at the river's mouth was opened last Tuesday, and the game fishes have been running up the river since then. As stated in yesterday's Call, two Deputy Fish Commissioners seized three nets on Wednesday, and that practically puts a stop to net-fishing in the river for some time.

This morning a party of anglers will leave here for Duncan's Mills, and, unless a sudden change in the weather takes place, good sport should result. Anglers who have not heretofore prospected for steelheads on Russian River should keep in mind that the very best of tackle is indispensable. The reel is a very important part of an angler's outfit. It must be in first-class running order, as frequently the fish run out from 50 to 100 yards of line, then leap into the air, scoring a double somersault, and sometimes freeing themselves from punishment by smashing a leader or line with a swift slash of the tail.

The steelheads of Russian River are exceedingly game, and consequently afford the lovers of angling grand sport. In fishing with a spoon you must troll deep and just keep the boat moving. When bait-fishing use large red flies baited with cooked shrimp. A good bunch of worms on a hook will sometimes prove very killing.

During the last week or so W. R. McFarland and Al Wilson have had grand sport on the Russian. McFarland hooked twenty-one fish and landed eighteen. Wilson hooked twenty-two and landed twenty-one, all on a leader made by himself. He is still fishing and enjoying grand sport.

Steelhead fishing at Point Reyes will not be good until something is done to stop the netting of fish at the mouth of the creek, and also the spearing of steelheads by Indians and whites.

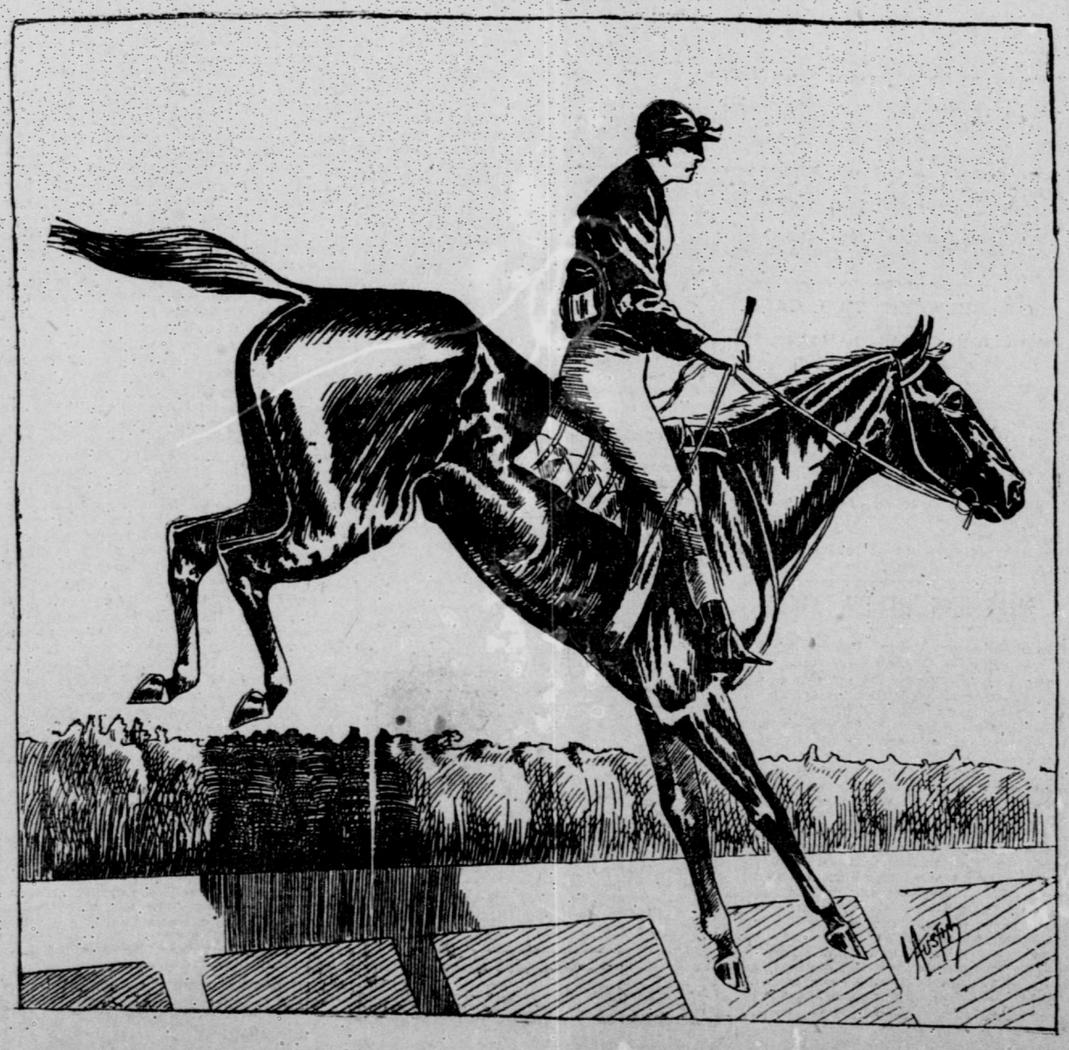
The United States Commission of Fish and Fisheries at Northville, Mich., is shipping 10,000 Loch Leven trout eggs to Oregon. They will be taken in charge by H. D. McGuire, State Game and Fish Protector of Oregon. The eggs will be shipped to the Clackamas hatchery.

The next meeting of the fly-casting club will be held on January 11 at the office of the Fish Commission.

The penguin has used its wings so little that in the course of ages these members have become dwarfish, and can no longer be employed for fight.

Rio Janeiro's principal street is only thirty feet wide, only half a mile long and no carriages are allowed to enter it.

Andy Blakeley's Good Jumper, Snowdown, With T. Murphy Up, Taking the Water Jump at Ingleside.



DUCK HUNTING OVER SALT MARSHES.

Since the arrival of the cold snap duckshooting has been very good on the east shores of the bay. Down about Mount Eden and Alvarado hunters have been enjoying very good sport. In the salt ponds where shooting is not prohibited large bags of sprig, widgeon, spoonbill and teal ducks have been made. The morning and evening shooting is particularly good, as the birds then fly from pond to pond, thus affording the "blind" sportsman an opportunity to exercise his muscles in gun lifting and trigger pulling.

Last Sunday the hunters who camped on the mudbanks of Midshipmans slough, longing and hoping for a chance to swing their guns on fast-flying "cans," met with disappointment. Karney and Burns were puzzled to know where the royal birds had taken wing, but when they figured upon the numbers of ducks that have been killed on Tubbs Island and vicinity since the season opened they did not wonder at Mr. Can's absence.

But the canvasbacks are on the northeast shores of the bay in thousands, and during sunlight they loaf and sleep, and when darkness sets in they seek the marshes and bay flats, where they wax fat on small crabs and shellfish.

A good stiff blow from the south is all that is needed to drive the "cans" into the marshes. But, then, duckshooters cannot complain, as they have had good sport since the season opened.

The Blackjack Shooting Club expects to enjoy first-class sport to-day and to-morrow on the Sherman Island preserve. Latest intelligence from Antioch is to the effect that the birds were returning to the ponds and that the outlook for good up-river shooting was excellent.

Sly, the crackajack duck shot of Antioch, defeated W. Remfree Jr. last Sunday in a pigeon shoot. Sly made a clean score, grassing twelve birds. Remfree's friends are of the opinion that their favorite had partaken too liberally of English plum pudding and was to a slight extent out of condition.

Two prominent members of the Black Jack Club have challenged any two men of Antioch to a live-bird shooting match. Doubtless the defi will be accepted.

Henry Stelling of Davisville, who recently defeated Henry Ruhstaller of Sacramento in a 100-bird pigeon race, has issued a challenge to Otto Feudner of E. T. Allen Company. The challenge has been accepted on condition that the challenging party shall post a forfeit. Feudner wants a 100-bird match, the shoot to take place near this city on any of the club grounds.

The Sportsman's Club of Ukiah is deserving of unstinted praise for the good work it has been accomplishing in the way of game protection. Recently the president of the club was informed that market hunters had been slaughtering deer for their hides, and he lost little time in unearthing the camping grounds of the poachers and bringing them to justice, as the following letter to the sporting editor will attest:

UKIAH, Dec. 29, 1897.

Sporting Editor Call: The Sportsman's Club of Ukiah, consisting of its best citizens, including every prominent attorney in town, has succeeded in apprehending four men north of Ukiah in the vicinity of Sanhedrin Mountain, wantonly slaying deer, regardless of age or sex, and by continued zeal and energy the club found witnesses to the depredations. Warrants of arrest were sworn out and constables sent to bring the men in. One law-breaker was found with a doe actually across his shoulder. The four poachers were brought into Ukiah and placed in jail, and on a hearing before the Justice they pleaded guilty and were fined $50 each.

If the sportsmen of other towns where the game laws are being constantly violated were as determined to enforce the law as the gentlemen of the Ukiah Sportsmen's Club there would not be much use for the State Fish and Game Commission, which really does not pretend to enforce the law—that is, so far as the protection of game is concerned. We take our hats off to the members of the Ukiah Sportsmen's Club.

The executive committee of the Pacific Coast Field Trial Club has decided upon Colonel Arthur Merriam of Memphis, Tenn., as the judge of the Bakersfield field trials.

Sportsmen who are desirous of good quail, brant, duck or rabbit shooting should leave on the 7:25 a. m. or the 1:45 Sausalito boat to-day for Point Reyes, Marshalls or Tomales stations. On the sandhills, about one mile north of Tomales, cottontail rabbits and quail are numerous, and brant and ducks are plentiful in Tomales Bay. A special train will leave Tomales on Sunday at 4 p. m., landing sportsmen in this city at 7:30 p. m.

A few days before Christmas an officer accosted a man on Market street who was staggering under the weight of a twelve-pound turkey which was harnessed on his right shoulder.

"What are you doing with that bird, sir?" asked the officer in a commanding voice.

"Why, going to have a chew on it when I get 'ome, h'old man. What do you suppose?" meekly answered the turkey-bearer.

"Strong bird, that. It has seen better days evidently," remarked the officer.

"Yes, I guess it has seen better days," replied the man who was booked for a big feast. "This bird was raised and stall fed on my grandfather's estate in h'old H'england and shipped to the war correspondent of the Black Jack Shooting Club.

"Great Scott! Who in the name of King Turkey is the war correspondent of the Black Jacks?"

"'Tis me, sir; 'tis me," proudly answered the poetical sportsman, who was sweetly anticipating a glorious feast on a bird that had been killed four weeks before its arrival in this city.

Market hunters must make themselves scarce in San Diego County. The Supervisors of that county have ordained as follows:

"Section 1. Every person who shall transport, carry or procure another to transport or carry out of the county of San Diego any quail, the same having been killed or captured in the county of San Diego, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

"Sec. 2. Any person found guilty of a violation of any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be fined in the sum of not less than $20 or be imprisoned in the County Jail in the county of San Diego not less than ten days, or be punished by both such fine and imprisonment.

"Sec. 3. This ordinance shall not be construed as abrogating or suspending any of the laws of the State of California for the protection and preservation of game.

"Sec. 4. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect on and after the 24th day of December, 1897."

The game warden of the county has offered a reward of $10 for information that will lead to a conviction of the transgressors of the law, and Wells, Fargo & Co.'s Express have issued orders to their agents to receive no shipments of quail for transportation after the date mentioned.

Miss Ellen Nussey, who acted as bridesmaid for Charlotte Bronte, has just died at Birstall at the age of 83 years.

WHEELMEN NOT AFTER CENTURY RUNS.

It is evident that the average road-racing cycler of nowadays prizes very lightly the heretofore coveted honor of accomplishing the first century ride of each successive year.

In years gone by it has been the wont of a large number of sturdy road riders to start at midnight on New Year's eve and cover the relay course of 100 miles laid out by the California Associated Cycling Clubs, from this city to San Jose and back to Alameda on the other side of the bay. He who finished first was proclaimed the rider of the first century of that year. Many strove for the honor, let the weather be what it might, and on stormy occasions from twelve to twenty hours' plugging through mud and rain have been required, to the ruination of one's wheel and the jarring of his constitution.

Note the lessening interest this year. But five men have announced their intentions of making the trial. They are "Trilby" Fowler, Bay City Wheelmen; L. H. Smith and J. H. Nash, Olympics; F. Jugwetz, Acme, and M. G. Curtis, Alameda. And yet the weather is perfect and the roads all that could be desired. I expected there would be a list of half a hundred.

L. H. Smith, one of the Olympics' best road riders, explained to me his reason for not taking much interest in the ride. "What's the use?" he said. "You get no credit for it. Last year I rode what afterward proved to be the first century made in the United States in 1897. It was made under trying conditions, through mud and slush, and I turned up at the clubhouse on Post street dead to the world. Did they toss me a laurel wreath and praise me for it? Not much. Captain Hadenfeldt said I was a —— fool for making such an ass of myself; that I would have been better off home in bed. And he was the captain of my club.

"Well, I wouldn't have minded that so much, until I heard that 'Trilby' Fowler, who made almost as good time as I did, went around to the Bay City Club, of which he was not even a member, and they made a lion of him and praised him to the skies for his great ride. If I make the ride this year it will be for my own satisfaction and not for club glory."

I don't think the Olympics thoroughly appreciated the merits of Launcelot Smith's ride at the time or until after it was too late to properly recognize it, for they are always mindful of worthy performances on the part of their racing men and reward them accordingly. For instance, only last Tuesday night Ed Kragness was presented with a beautiful gold watch for his century record of 5 hours 18 minutes, and Kragness, Nash and Loos received gold medals for their triplet record made at the Olympic meet at the Velodrome October 3 last. So you see in Mr. Smith's case it was apparently an oversight.

The Encinal Cyclers of Alameda will entertain the board of governors of the C. A. C. C. for the first time next Saturday night. The clubrooms are located in the second story of the building formerly occupied by the Alameda Public Library, on the west side of Park street, between Santa Clara and Central avenues, about equidistant from both the broad and narrow gauge railroad lines. Passengers should alight at Park street (the station bears the same name on both lines) and in the case of the broad-gauge it marks the terminus of the road. Delegates should take the 7:30 narrow-gauge boat from this side, as most of the officials will go over at that time.

There promises to be a "hot time" at this meeting over the Kraft matter, there seeming to be an inclination on the part of the delegates to reverse their action of last meeting reinstating him. Inconsistent as it may seem in the face of such action, however, there is a decided feeling that Birdsall and Theisen and Percy Mott should be reinstated.

Arthur C. Thornton, who was captain of the Olympic Club Wheelmen for two terms and who has lately had his headquarters at Portland, is in the city for the holidays, renewing old acquaintances. "Ike" says it rains too much up there to make good wheeling at this season of the year.

The path of a manager of cycling races is not always strewn with roses. D. Lloyd Conkling, who took Sharick, Jones Whitman and "Trilby" Fowler to Honolulu, writes to a friend here that he has had considerable trouble. Conkling worked hard for the interests of his men, securing them concessions and advantages which his experience had taught him, and even going so far as to rub down Sharick for all his races. Instead of rewarding him, Conkling writes that "he skipped out of town, leaving several bills behind and saying I would settle. He also told around town that Desky and I had beat him out of $100. Now, Desky is the best sort of a man, and has done everything in his power to make us comfortable and happy. He has done everything he promised, and more, too. I had to commence suit against Jones yesterday for what he owes me."

Desky is the owner of the Cyclomere track at Honolulu, who took the professional riders down there. Sharick and Fowler have returned, and Conkling, Jones and Whitman will stay. Conkling says in his letter that Fowler treated him all right and that Whitman is as square as a die. Sharick has escaped him by leaving, but he is going to stop Jones' passport if he attempts to leave the islands until Allan squares up with him.

The cycle baseball tournament begins Sunday, January 9, and, meanwhile, the clubs are practicing daily. To-morrow two hot preliminary games will be played, in which there will be a good deal of club feeling. The Olympic Wheelmen and Olympic Cyclers will meet at 10 A. M. at the Velodrome and the Bay Citys and San Francisco Road Club at 2:30 P. M. at Sixteenth and Folsom streets.

The governors of the ball game will meet again next Monday night at the Bay City Club, 441 Golden Gate avenue, to discuss matters pertaining to the tournament, particularly the amateur standing of some of the players.

The Bay City Wheelmen held its annual theater party at the Tivoli last evening. Fifty of the members were in attendance and had a merry time.

H. W. SPALDING.

In a Norway village where no hotel exists, a prominent resident is subsidized by the Government and required to provide accommodation for at least four travelers. In all case the charges are moderate and the accommodation excellent.

NEW TO-DAY.

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