

## HARNESS HORSE RACING.

A Movement to Organize A NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

THE great interest manifested at the present time in everything that pertains to harness horse racing, especially among amateurs, has recently culminated in a generally expressed desire all over the country for the gentlemen drivers to band together in a national association.

There are many arguments in favor of the formation of such an organization just now, one of the principal being that there is no recognized definition of an amateur reinsman. Each trotting association in the different cities has one, and in several cases these are so different that a man who under one ruling would be considered an amateur would be barred according to the reading of the definition in another association. In fact, so confusing has the word amateur become that when the rules governing the intensity cup races at Boston were drawn up the word was omitted, and the term "gentleman driver" was substituted. The latter was defined as "one who has never accepted compensation for services as trainer or driver."

There are, however, many other considerations which have induced the amateur drivers to wish for a central governing organization. An amateur trotting circuit might be established, and each club might send a few of its best horses to compete in certain races around the country, and many other such things might be done to increase interest in the sport.

After the talk of organizing such an association had gone on for some time without any definite steps being taken, the Road Drivers' Association of New York, realizing that what was everybody's business was nobody's affair, took the matter up. Dr. H. H. Kane, the well known president of that club, sent a circular letter to all the prominent amateur driving associations in the country, asking their views on the matter. If they were in favor of the idea, it was suggested that each club appoint one or two delegates to a meeting to organize the proposed association. All have expressed themselves in accord with the plan, and the meeting will be held in New York during the week of or just after the coming national horse show, when many horsemen will be in that city.

Dr. Kane has had some correspondence with the officers of the National Trotting association and those of the American Trotting association. These two bodies govern professional harness horse matters in the eastern and western sections of this country respectively. They say that they will welcome the formation of such an organization and will give it any aid in their power and agree to recognize its rulings in any matter which may concern them or over which they may have jurisdiction.

It is also proposed that the organization shall publish monthly a list of all amateur races that have taken place in the preceding month and other information interesting to the members, together with a year book, giving the names of all horses owned by the members, their breeding, races they have won, etc. A committee will also probably be appointed to pass upon all disputed points that may arise. There are about 40 clubs in this country, located in a great many of the states which would be likely to join the new body.

Several suggestions have been made as to how the definition of an amateur shall read. One enthusiast who has quite a following suggests that there be two classes—class A, composed of the simple pure amateurs "who have never driven any but their own horses, have never driven in a public race against a professional and have never received any money consideration direct or indirect, in connection with driving his horses;" and class B, composed of "men who have never driven any but their own horses, but who have competed with professionals in public races." It is also proposed that the amateurs be thus divided the class B drivers shall be handicapped when in competition with class A men in cup races or matinees.

Still another proposition is that the new association shall yearly offer four trophies, as follows: One for the gentleman driver of trotters who has the best percentage of winnings during the year, and a similar one for the best percentage of winnings behind a pacer, and two others for the best percentage of winnings behind trotting and pacing teams respectively. This would put a premium on skill among gentlemen drivers and would induce them to get the fastest horses possible, and consequently boom matinee racing. Under such conditions it is not at all improbable that in the near future the world's record may be held by a horse driven by an amateur reinsman, and it may even be that the laurels to be gained by first driving a trotter a mile under two minutes is reserved for an amateur.

The two professional national trotting associations now in existence acknowledge records of two kinds—those

constantly on the lookout for fast horses suitable for their purposes, which are bought regardless of cost. The professionals have recently been complaining that one of the principal reasons for the scarcity of first class animals on the trotting circuits this year is this heavy buying by amateurs.

The organization into a national body of the amateur road drivers would do much to boom the building of speedways in many cities. The most famous of these stretches is the one that lies along the Harlem river in New York. The illustration depicts an imaginary contest over the lower stretch of that course and is from a painting by Gean Smith, owned by Dr. H. H. Kane. In the picture three well known trotters and their equally well known owners are contending for the lead. The horse nearest the river is the famous Cobwebs, 2:12, the king of the speedway, driven by Nathan Straus. The bold looking gray horse in the middle is Caryle-Carne, driven by Colonel Lawrence N. Lawrence, while an open length behind the leaders is the beautiful bay mare Lucille, 2:07, driven by her well known millionaire owner, Mr. C. G. Billings.

### JIM ELLIOTT'S TROUT STORY.

A short while ago J. A. R. Elliott, the champion pigeon shot, was taking dinner in company with Rolla Heikes. The conversation drifted from shooting to fishing, and Rolla told of some of the fine sport he had enjoyed on the St. Clair flats. Elliott listened very attentively and finally spoke up in the following manner:

"When I was in Colorado, I saw a



COPYRIGHT 1900 BY H. H. KANE. LUCILLE, M<sup>rs</sup> C. G. BILLINGS. CARYLE-CARNE, COL. LAWRENCE. COBWEBS, M<sup>rs</sup> NATHAN STRAUS.

made against time and those made in a race. The amateur reinsmen will in all probability inaugurate a new class, called a ribbon record, which will be one made by a horse owned by an amateur and driven by an amateur to wagon.

All amateur records and races are made to wagon, as gentlemen drivers consider this style of vehicle more dignified than the sulky. Dr. Kane, one of the best known and most skillful amateur drivers in this country, recently said that he knew of no reason why a gentleman driver should wish to drive in a sulky, which is essentially the badge of a professional, especially as it has been proved by actual experience that a light wagon, built for racing purposes, can be drawn almost, if not quite, as fast as a sulky. The recent records made by The Abbot, Conroy and Lucille to wagon prove this. In a sulky the horse has both to pull and carry weight, while harnessed to a wagon the animal has only to pull weight. In Dr. Kane's opinion this is an important factor in the direction of equalizing the extra weight of the wagon.

Some of the finest horses in the country, both trotters and pacers, are now owned by gentlemen who keep them simply to drive for pleasure on roads and speedways and with no intention of racing them on the circuits. Many of these have agents who are

curious sight. The state fish hatchery is a wonderfully interesting affair. The trout eggs are hatched out in one place and carried along as the fish grow from one tank to another, until the trout finally reach a large, open pool. By that time they are six inches to a foot long, and there are thousands of them waiting to be fed. You can drop pieces of bread, liver or anything into the water, and great droves of trout will rush for it. The superintendent has a little girl about 10 or 12 years old who often feeds the trout, and they seem to know her and show great affection for her whenever she feeds them.

The day I was there the little girl wanted to show how the trout acted. So she walked around on the other side of the pool and began throwing out crumbs. In her efforts to throw them further out she lost her balance and fell in. I thought she was a 'goner' and started to run around to try and get her out. I finally reached the spot, and by the aid of a pole pulled her in. The surprising thing was that she never sank for a moment. After I got her out I discovered the reason. The moment she fell in those trout saw her danger and, with the keenest sagacity, hundreds of them rushed forward, got under her and kept her to the surface until I could get there. I never did take much to fishing, but I will never catch a trout as long as I live."

pions of England, and several other well known British experts will play in America next season and that their appearance on this side will be preceded by another challenge for the Davis International trophy. Recently these reports have received strong confirmation from abroad. Besides this, more excitement in international tennis is promised by the announcement that Messrs. Davis and Ward, the American champions in doubles, will most probably play in Europe next spring, especially for the all England championship at Wimbledon, and that Champion Whitman may also make a trip later in the season through the British counties and the continent. Davis is now abroad, but expects to return within a few weeks.

If all these plans mature, the interest in the game will be overwhelmingly strong, and the enthusiasts will be inclined to the theory that the good old days of the early nineties are with them again.

Followers of the art of fisticuffing and boxing promoters in New York are just at present indulging in the hope that they will, to a certain extent, be able to resume their favorite sport in that city within a few months. They think that about the 1st of February the Broadway A. C. and some other clubs devoted to pugilism will be allowed to give exhibitions, including six round bouts, just as is now done in Chicago. The heavyweights will be barred from participating in these contests, and everything will be done to avoid even the suspicion of scandal. New Yorkers have by no means forgotten the Walcott-West and Corbett-McCoy fiascos, and if any fraud or deception should be practiced on them again it would go hard with the principals and the sport.

Of course, it is not yet absolutely certain that these exhibitions will be allowed, but, according to the best posted authorities, the matter is now under the jurisdiction of the police, and it is thought that their consent can be easily obtained by means of a little judicious management.

The fighters are most anxious that the game shall be resumed in Gotham, because they expect to get larger purses there than in any other city, although the extravagant sums hung up before the repeal of the Horton law are not likely to be offered again.

Nobody who has witnessed the big football games this fall can have helped noticing the great amount of "harness" that the majority of players are wearing. A certain amount of paraphernalia has always been used by most players, and certain pieces, such as nose and shin guards and padding at exposed points, are not only allowable, but absolutely necessary to avoid injury.

This fall, however, many players have come on the field incased in hard leather facings to such an extent that they are almost as formidable as the mail clad knights of old. This harness would not be objected to if it simply defended the wearer from injury; but, as a matter of fact, in many cases it is a source of absolute danger to the opposing players.

One of the most prominent of the new

## WORLD OF SPORT

LAWN TENNIS players have been greatly encouraged by recent announcements in connection with the game for next season. Rumors have circulated ever since last July that the noted Doherty brothers, cham-

pieces of harness is a novel sort of headgear composed of sole leather. This goes completely over the cranium and has metal pieces inside to protect the wearer's ears. These metal pieces are the things that do the damage, and se-

PHOTO BY HALL. DARIEL, 2:07 1/2. M<sup>rs</sup> H. H. KANE. LAURA W.



Golf is passing through the same experiences as the bicycle, and the sooner it gets down to a good solid basis the better for the game at large.

The great revival of interest that took place during the past summer in tennis has done a great deal to hurt golf among the younger set—the very ones whom the game needed most to help it along in the years to come. But active and lively young men and maidens want something with more action



MOLLIE B. FACER AND TROTTER.

(Owned by R. B. Wright, Jr., Denver. Trotting record, 2:30; pacing record, 2:15. Both to 165 pound wagon.)

rious accidents have already occurred from their use.

The first outcry against them came from the Yale football team, whose members carry very little harness of any sort. In the recent Yale-Columbia game it was noticed by many of the spectators that, whereas the dark blue players were almost free from padding, the blue and whites were most of them covered with it. And yet after almost every scrimmage in that game time had to be called because a Columbia man was laid out, while very few minutes were lost because of a Yale injury.

It is said that the intercollegiate rules committee will have this matter brought to its notice at the annual meetings in the spring, and that some rule will be framed to prevent the indiscriminate wearing of hard leather pads. It is probable that the subject will be discussed by the committee, but, judging by the conservative methods heretofore adopted by this body, it is in my opinion very doubtful whether the members will see fit to do more than make some recommendation in their report, leaving the question to the good sense of the players.

Many experts, including Coach Woodruff of Pennsylvania, who are opposed to the use of so much harness, consider that the matter should be ignored and

cite rule 27 (a), which they claim covers this point and legally excludes hard leather caps and pads. The rule in question reads as follows:

"No one having projecting nails or iron plates on his shoes or wearing on his person any metallic or hard substance that in the judgment of the umpire is liable to injure an opposing player shall be allowed to play in a match."

Golf is fast approaching its permanent level as a national sport in this country. Several years ago, when the craze for the game first took root, the desire for outdoor exercise which the bicycle had implanted in thousands of people, together with the natural bent of the American public to rush madly into any new fad, gave golf a prestige and following which it has been found impossible to maintain.

Within the past few years hundreds of clubs have sprung up, at least one-half of which have no logical reason for existence. Out of every hundred people who were caught by the golf fever about 20 have kept up their enthusiasm. In their wild desire to be in the swim a number of men and women in a community would get together, lease a number of acres of land, erect a clubhouse and get an expert to lay out links. Wilding subscriptions would come in, and the officers of the organization would imagine that they were on the high road to success. The expenses would amount to a figure which could only be covered by a certain increase in membership, which the organizers considered the least of their troubles. In a vast majority of instances they have been woefully disappointed.

This experience has been repeated in scores of cases, and clubs have sprung up like the proverbial mushroom. Wide awake real estate boomers have taken advantage of the craze to lay out links in the neighborhood of land they wished to sell and have reaped rich rewards.

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In 1860 Steinitz had to discontinue his polytechnic studies on account of weak eyes and constant breast trouble. He entered the journalistic field and was connected with a prominent newspaper. He played chess in his leisure hours and improved steadily, largely through frequent practice with Karl Hampe, after whom the Hampe-Allgaier gambit is named, and who was then the matador of Vienna chess. His steady advance to the master rank Steinitz demonstrated by his position in three tournaments of the Vienna Chess club, in which he was third in 1859, second in 1860 and first in 1861.

## SOME ANECDOTES OF WILLIAM STEINITZ.

The late William Steinitz, for many years the chess champion of the world, was born May 18, 1856, at Prague. He learned to play chess when quite young, and as a boy was considered the strongest player of his native city. At 27 he entered the Polytechnic institute at Vienna. He was then and, being himself too poor to buy a chess board and men, he practiced his favorite game at home on a prepared sheet of paper with men made of bits of different colored cardboard, on which he wrote their names.

Entering the rooms of the old Vienna Chess club one day, which then had its meetings in the Rebhuhn cafe, he was an interested spectator of the many games progressing. The president asked him whether he knew the game, and in the conversation following Steinitz offered to play blindfold. Two

best players, Nicholas Falkbeer, a brother of the inventor of the Falkbeer counter gambit, and E. Fitschel, at once accepted the challenge and had the good intention of routing the daring stranger. But Steinitz defeated them both and thus made his entry into the chess world in a triumphant and spectacular manner.

One of his frequent adversaries in those days was the rich banker, Epstein, to whom the champion generally conceded knight odds. When Steinitz in a game one day considered long and carefully, the banker gave expression to his impatience by a long drawn out "Nuh!" Steinitz made his move, a very good one, and it was then the banker's turn to think hard and long. "Nuh!" said Steinitz. This angered Epstein, and he asked, "Do you know who I am, sir?" Quicker than a flash Steinitz replied: "Oh, yes. On the board you are Epstein; but here I am Epstein."

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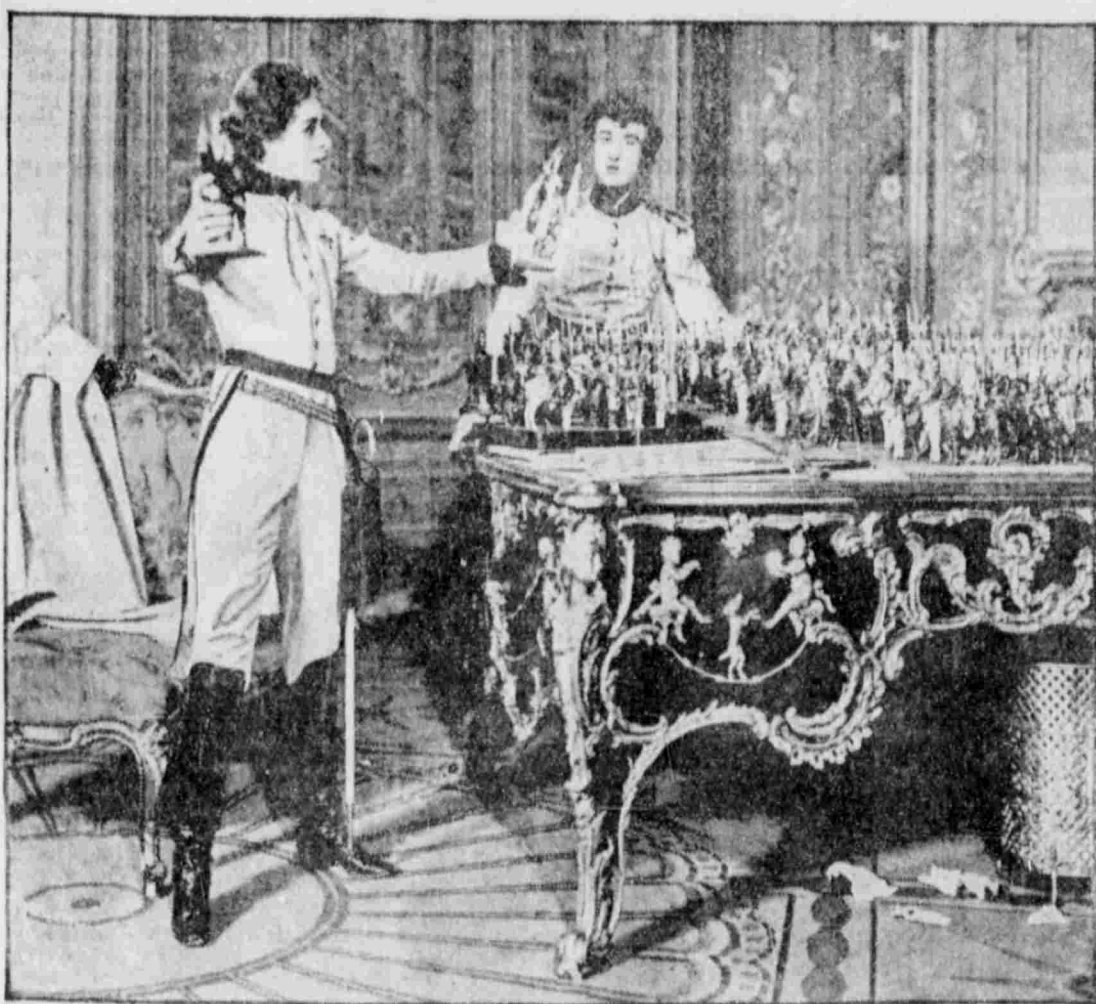
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MAUDE ADAMS IN A SCENE FROM "LAIGLON."

### IN THE GREENROOM.

Playwright Dazey has finished a romantic drama of American life. Several famous historical personages are introduced, and the various scenes give opportunities for the introduction of characters and a locale which have so far been little used on the stage. Another new work deals with life in the middle west, in a state which is as yet

untrodden ground for a play of this kind. The plot of J. M. Barrie's "The Wedding Guest" is the old story of the betrayal of an innocent Scotch lassie by an artist, with this new feature—that he promises his victim, who professes to have lost her love for him, that he will never marry another woman. He

breaks his promise, and the usual dramatic expositions follow, ending in the philosophic determination of both women concerned to make the best of the situation. There is an ingenious idea at the bottom of "Realism," the new one act comedy by Mrs. Madeleine Lucette Ryley recently produced in London. The husband of the heroine, a female dramatist, pronounces a scene in one of her

plays ridiculous because no jealous husband could possibly make such an ass of himself as the man in the fictitious situation, whereupon she arranges a little domestic surprise for him and demonstrates to him by his own conduct in similar circumstances that she knew more about the effect of jealousy than he did. Marie Tempest, now playing "Nell Gwynn" in London, is negotiating for

the English rights to "Her Majesty," the romantic play that has brought Grace George into such sudden New York success. When "Her Majesty" was performed in London for copyright purposes by Mrs. Carter's "Zaza" company last May, the lord chamberlain objected to the title, fearing offense to royalty, and it was called "Honoria." This little speech, made several years ago by Mr. Richard Mansfield, has been

remembered and unearthed by some one for the good of it: "Applause is to the actor what the law is to the fower. An actor can tell only how he is appreciated by the applause he receives, and only by that means can he measure his success. If he receives none, he falls by the wayside of his profession. Take a plant down into a dark and dismal cellar, and it bleaches and withers and dies. Take it out into the glorious

sunshine, and it sends its roots deep into the earth, its branches up into the heavens. It blossoms and tells how glad it is by giving forth beautiful flowers. Now, you are all little suns—and I'm a star."

In the days of Queen Elizabeth the floor of the retiring room of actors was always covered with green rushes, and it thus acquired the name, which we still use, of the "greenroom."



SCENE FROM VIOLA ALLEN'S LATEST SUCCESS, "IN THE PALACE OF THE KING."