AMERICAN HORSE BREEDER

ILLUSTRATED JOURNAL FOR HORSE OWNERS

Published Every Tuesday.

TERMS: $2.50 per year, including postage, paid by Publisher, in United States and Canada.
$2.00 per annum if paid in advance.
$3.50 per annum to England and Continent, postage prepaid by Publisher.
Proportionate terms for three and six months.
Specimen copies free to applicants.

Entered as second-class mail matter.
Responsible subscribers will continue to receive this paper until otherwise ordered.

EDITORIAL STAFF.

SIMON W. PARLIN, *Editor-in-Chief.*
FREDERICK WATSON, *Associate Editor.*
T. L. QUIMBY, *Associate Editor.*
JOHN H. JEWETT, *Associate Editor.*
C. R. WOOD, V. S., *Veterinary Editor*

Editorial and Publication Offices
220 WASHINGTON STREET - - - BOSTON, MASS.
87 WORLD BUILDING, PARK ROW, NEW YORK CITY.

Subscribers should always give the name of the postoffice to which their papers are sent. Serious delays and inaccuracies are apt to follow a disregard of this rule. Among 26,000 subscribers it is difficult to find a particular name, without a certain knowledge of the postoffice address.

Expiration of subscription is thus noted: Following each subscriber's name, as printed on the upper right-hand margin of the first page of each paper, is the day of the month, abbreviation of the name of the month and the year, showing the date up to which each patron has paid for his AMERICAN HORSE BREEDER. Thus: 4 Nov. '97, following a subscriber's name, means that the subscription is paid up to Nov. 4, 1897.

Subscribers may remit by mail at our risk, if the letter be registered, or if money order or draft, payable to us, is enclosed. Address

GEORGE B. JAMES, *Publisher.*
220 Washington Street,
Office The Horse Breeder. BOSTON, MASS

Entered at the Postoffice at Boston, Mass., as second class mail matter, March 17, 1891.

TROTTING INSTINCT.

Trotting instinct, which is a natural inclination to stick to the trotting gait when urged at speed, is a valuable quality in a trotter. A successful race trotter, however, must possess several qualities of which the inclination to stick to the trotting gait, or trotting instinct, as it is termed by some, is but one. A horse may have the instinct so strong that he may be a natural-born trotter, however, and still be of no account as a race trotter from lack of ability to stride long and gather quickly. The quality which enables him to do that is entirely distinct from the inclination to stick to the trot, just as much so as is sense of seeing from that of hearing. There are plenty of horses with an abundance of trotting instinct that lack the ability to trot at a high rate of speed. Some such will not break from the trot under a severe application of the lash, yet cannot trot a mile in four minutes.

The more trotting instinct the better, provided the other and equally important qualities be not impaired. One of the most important elements or attributes of speed in any machine, animate or inanimate, is the driving power. In the locomotive this is the steam generated in the boiler. In the race horse, whether runner, pacer or trotter, it is the quality which Dr. Harvey terms nerve force, a product generated in the system of the animal and stored in the motor nerves, by means of which the muscles are caused to contract, and by their contraction move the limbs, thus propelling the body of the animal through the air. The rate of speed depends largely on the degree of power or amount of nerve force, combined with a frictionless gait, possessed by the animal.

The natural gait may be, probably is, controlled to a great extent by instinct, which is a mental quality. The driving power, upon which the ability to go at a high rate of speed more largely depends than any other, is a physical quality.

Writers sometimes apparently lose sight of the fact that any one of the qualities which combined constitute a successful race winner may be modified, that is, increased or diminished, in the progeny of animals by judicious crossing. When a mare is lacking in nerve force she should be mated with a stallion that possesses this particular quality in a high degree, and whose ancestors on both sides were noted in this particular direction. If deficient in instinct or inclination to stick to the trotting gait, mate her with an intensely trotting-bred sire, but at the same time be sure that he is not deficient in some of the other equally important qualities which an animal must possess to enable him or her to race successfully. It requires judgment and a knowledge of the characteristics of the ancestors on both sides to accomplish this.

The successful, thoroughbred race horse possesses in a higher degree than any other breed of horses all the important qualities, excepting an inclination to stick to the trotting gait, that a trotter must have in order to become a successful race winner. This inclination to stick to the trotting gait may be improved considerably by education. All the education in the world, however, cannot give a horse lacking in nerve force the *ability* to trot fast.

Mr Forbes's experiment with Nancy Hanks (2.04) continues to be a subject of comment with turf writers. Now, Mr. Forbes does not expect the produce to become a fast trotter. He is hoping for a filly, and expects that it will be even stronger in some of the valuable race-horse qualities than its dam. By mating such a filly with Arion (2 07¾) or Bingen (3) (2 12½), he hopes, and he has reason to expect, that the produce will show greater speed ability than would the produce of Nancy Hanks herself by the same sire. Most of the trotters which have held world's champion records, from Dexter (2 17¼) to Alix (2 03¾), have been bred in lines similar to those which a foal will possess which will be by a first-class trotting stallion out of a mare by thoroughbred Meddler; second dam, Nancy Hanks (2 04). Directum (2 05¼), the champion trotting stallion of the world, is an example of this sort of breeding. So was Ralph Wilkes (2 06¾), the fastest son of Red Wilkes.

When the two-minute line is crossed by a trotter, as it is sure to be, we predict that the animal which accomplishes the wonderful feat will be bred very similarly to that which Mr. Forbes intends to breed from a filly by Meddler, out of the famous ex-queen of trotters, Nancy Hanks (2 04). It is fortunate that progressive breeders like Mr. George B. Inches and Mr. J. Malcolm Forbes are to be found, and we are glad that they are located right here in New England.

New England trainers and owners of racing stables will not be placed at so great disadvantage in early races as they feared. The season has been so wet and backward in Kentucky and the West that horses in those localities will be in but little better condition for early racing than those in the East.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

The second annual show of the Providence Horse Improvement Association will be held on Lincoln Field, Brown University Grounds, this year. The dates selected are June 22 and 23, and the show will be held day and evening. The association has recently issued the catalogue of classes and premiums. The general scheme of the catalogue is about the same as last year. There are six trotting classes, as follows:

Four year olds and over stallions; two year old stallion, filly or gelding; yearling stallion, filly or gelding; trotting mare available for brood mare, all to be shown in hand with saddle horse, or in harness; three-year-old stallion, filly or gelding, to be shown in harness; stallion, mare or gelding, trotter or pacer, to be shown in harness, also pacing class for four year olds or over, to be shown in harness. The other classes cover the roadster, harness horse, both light and heavy, saddlers, draught, cob and delivery and hunters and jumpers.

Entries close on Saturday, June 11. The officers of the Association are: Col. Isaac L. Goff, president; John Shepard, Jr., vice president; Frank F. Olney, treasurer, and Walter W. Whipple, secretary.

One of our exchanges, a paper that got very much excited over the licensing and one or two other rules, and which is still in a belligerent mood, says that if the associate members of the American Trotting Association were permitted to violate the mandatory rule of that association regarding distances, why should it not be permissible for associate members of the National Trotting Association to suspend the operation of the licensing rule?

This is precisely the argument that we have indicated would be used in this case, and when the National Trotting Association has consented to the violation of Rule 28, what is it going to do about punishing an association that proposes to suspend the operation of any other rule in the book? If an association may with impunity suspend the operation of Rule 28, then it may suspend the operation of Rule 7, which relates to the identification of a horse, and thus invite the crime of ringing. It may suspend the operation of Rule 15, which says that a man found guilty of dosing or tampering with a horse, or making a fraudulent entry, shall be expelled, again inviting fraud, and so on.

Does all this tend to the moral welfare of the turf? We think not. As a matter of fact, this hue and cry about the licensing rule is altogether out of proportion to its importance. As proof of this statement, we offer as testimony the published entry lists of those meetings already closed, and which were advertised and will be conducted, without exceptions, under the National Association rules. Readville, Rigby and even Hartford have received larger entry lists than ever before in their history, and the same may be said of Glens Falls if not of Cleveland.

The proper place to make a fight over the rules is on the floor of the turf congress. A fight was made there, and the opponents of the licensing rule were defeated. They had a fair show, and it would seem that they ought to accept their defeat gracefully. If it is too big a lump to swallow, there are the open doors of the two associations, the back door of the National Association is open, and the latch-string is out at the front door of the American Trotting Association.

No association, any more than the State, can afford to wink at revolt against its statutes. Authority, to command respect, must exist in fact as well as in name.

The choice of Mr. E. V. R. Thayer for president of the Boston Horse Show is an excellent one from every point of view. Mr. Thayer's social position is such as to commend the support of the "400," and which is, of course, essential to the success of a horse show, and he has a wide acquaintance among the lovers of the horse. While he is an all-around sportsman, Mr. Thayer is particularly fond of a good horse, and he bred and owns Mikado, that as a yearling took a record of 2.49½, trotted to a two-year-old record of 2.32, and last year in his three-year-old form reduced this record to 2.20¼. Breeders and owners of the light-harness horse may rest assured that their department of the show will not be overlooked or neglected.

On the board of directors there are also Mr. Thayer's brother, Col. John E. Thayer, one of the proprietors of Maplehurst Farm, Lancaster, Mass., the home of the great sire Baron Wilkes (2 18), and Mr. Eben D. Jordan, proprietor of a splendidly equipped hackney stud at Chiltonville, Mass. More practical men are on the board of directors than in any previous year of the society's history. The other directors are Messrs. Francis Peabody, Jr., J. Murray Forbes and Samuel D. Warren.

The dates selected for the 1899 Horse Show are April 17-22. Already President Thayer has received many flattering assurances of support from well-known exhibitors, among them Charles F. Bates, who in himself is one of the principal features of the National Horse Shows at Madison-square Gardens, New York.

With these gentlemen at the helm, we are perfectly safe in saying that the Boston Horse Show of 1899 will be a splendid success. LEE.

General Notes.

Bessie Bonehill (2.05¾) is in training again this year.

George H. Ketcham will campaign *Rhoda Farrand* (2 14½).

Straight Line (2.12½) is showing a lot of speed in her work.

Jupe (2) (2 13¾) has been registered, and his number is 30226.

A brother to *Johnston* (2.06¼) is in training at the track at Oktoc, Miss.

The old mare *Yolo Maid* (2 12) will be raced some again this year.

Haughty (dam of Feliciana, 2 15) has a colt foal at foot by Jay Bird.

E. R. Bowne has W. B. Fasig's recent purchase, Alrich (2 13¾), in his stable.

Reflector (2.07¾) has been purchased by Graham Bros. of Claremont, Ont.

Mascot (2.04) stepped a mile recently in his work in 2 16 over a half-mile track.

The get of Baron Wilkes (2.18) will be prominent on the turf again this year.

Susan (dam of Supremacy, 2.29¼) has a colt foal at foot by Rensselaer Wilkes.

It is hinted that William K. Vanderbilt may invest some money in race horses.

Bowman (2 17¼), by Moquette (2.10), is showing up finely in his work this spring.

Charley Mell is at Louisville, Ky., with a string of horses, including Pilot Boy (2.09¼).

Hal C. (2.25), by *Hal Dillard* (2.04¾), has been sent to John Kinney to train and campaign.

One of the latest arrivals at Charter Oak Park, Hartford, is Matt Laird with *Rubenstein* (2.05).

The Irish Sporting Club of Dublin, Ireland, has joined the National Trotting Association.

Al Russell is located at the Omaha track with *Charandas* (2.14½), Godelia (2.16¼) and other good ones.

Mabel L. (dam of Reina, 2.12¼, Judge Keeler, 2.14, and others) is with foal by Lord of the Manor.

The Hawaiian Jockey Club of Honolulu, Hawaiian Islands, has joined the National Trotting Association.

A closing-out sale of all the stock on the Corbitt Farm, California, is to be held on Thursday of this week.

Samuel Smith, Pimlico, Md., has sold Still Alarm (2 18), by Red Wilkes, to T. H. Melson of Accomac, Md.

It is reported that Galtee More, winner of the 1897 Derby, has been sold to the Russian government for $125,000.

Messrs. Reed & Co., Woodbine, Ia., have bought Mediumwood (2 19¼) from Oaklawn Farm, Menominee, Wis.

John Minchin, V. S., is out with a letter in the Goshen News advocating the building of a mile track at that place.

B. O. VanBokkelen left California last week for the East with Wayland W. (2.12½), Elert (2.19) and Stamboulet (2.19).

Johnny Marston will campaign his stable through the Vermont and Northern New York Trotting and Pacing Circuit.

One of the good green things in Oscar Ames's stable is Royal Rene, by *Roy Wilkes* (2.06½), out of a mare by King Rene.

Elision, the mare by Arion that is in the Allen Farm string, recently stepped a half in her work at Terre Haute in 1.07½.

L. Nelson, Jr., trainer for Lomo Alto Farm, Dallas, Tex., marked 23 horses during the season of 1897 from 2.13¼ to 2.30.

Earl Baltic (2.17), by Baron Wilkes, is at the head of a big stud in Styria. He was purchased by Russian parties last year.

Plunkett (2.13¼), now 11 years old, will be campaigned again this year. He is faster than ever, and recently stepped a half in 1 04.

Mamie F. (dam of *Pinewood*, 2.11½, and four others) has a filly at foot by Guy Wilkes (2.15¼), and will be bred to him again this year.

Hambletonian Wilkes, sire of Phœbe Wilkes (2.08½) and 21 others in the list, has been well patronized in the stud in California this spring.

Among the record horses in George Saunders's stable at the Cleveland Driving Park are Elloree (2.09¼), Iago (2.11), Pasonte (2.13) and Mackey (2.13¾).

Tuscarora (2.22½), the one-time sensational colt trotter, and that was seriously injured not long ago, was recently chloroformed to end his miseries.

The services of Grand Baron (2.18¼), by Baron Wilkes (2.18), have been so much in demand this spring that his owner has decided to keep him in the stud.

Flying Jib (2.04) was not in shape to be sold at the Fasig sale, and was withdrawn. He is now in the stable of trainer Thomas Galliger, at the Cleveland Driving Park.

Reveille (2 21¾), sire of Fred B. (2.10¾) and others, has changed hands. He has been purchased by a Cleveland (O.) gentleman, a Mr. Albion, from J. W. Patch, Jefferson, O.

It is said that the gelding by Raymond, son of Simmons, and out of Gazelle (2.11½), is capable of a mile in 2.12. He is in the stable of the California trainer, C. A. Winship.

It has leaked out that George R. Canfield, Cleveland, O., was the actual purchaser of Peko (2.11¼). Mr. Canfield will race her at the matinee meetings of the Gentlemen's Driving Club.