EASTERN DEPARTMENT.

103 POTTER BUILDING.

38 PARK ROW - NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, JANUARY 10.

TRACK, PARK AND ROAD.

NEW YORK CITY, January 8, 1889.

A spirit of friendly rivalry exists between the trotting and thoroughbred interests. Whenever a Pontiac or a Dew Drop is sold under the hammer for a long price the gentlemen of the running persuasion triumphantly direct the attention of their brethren of the wagon and sulky to the fact. They, in reply, point to Bell Boy, $50,000; Maud S., $40,000, and down to yearling colts at $12,500 apiece. Granted that it is a neck-and-neck race as to breeding stock or colts and horses whose future is full of promise for racing purposes, but when it comes to selling geldings which have reached their limit, the trotter fairly distances the thoroughbred. This is clearly shown by the recent sale of the nine-year-old geldings Spofford, 2:18¼, and Governor Hill, 2:18½. The price for the pair is variously reported from $20,000 to $30,000, and I think it is safe to say the horses cost the South American gentleman $25,000. I know that Mr. McMillan fixed $10,000 as the net price on Governor Hill.

While the New York brokers have been busy bringing this pair together, A. J. Feek has not been idle. His friend William Moessinger, of Frankfort-on-the-Main, sent an agent to this country, and with Feek as guide and counsellor purchased the stallion James G , 2:20½, from J. I. Case, and the gray mare Jose S., 2:22½, through James Golden, of Boston. Feek also sold to same party his chestnut gelding Watt, 2:24¾, by Lysander. Our Syracuse correspondent says: "Feek gives no figures, but says long prices were paid for all of them."

The Executive Committee of the Driving Club of New York met at the Murray Hill Hotel last Friday evening and decided to nominate D. S. Hammond, proprietor of that hotel, as President of the club, and Nathan Straus as Vice-President, in place of David Bonner and J. B. Houston, resigned. A meeting of the members will be held next Thursday evening, 10th inst., to consider or confirm these nominations. There is a strong feeling among the Wall street and down-town members of the club in favor of the old President, Alfred de Cordova. This feeling is spreading in other directions, and many think he would be almost unanimously elected if the annual meeting was to be held over again. Certainly Mr de Cordova deserves unstinted praise for his popular management and sport-loving spirit displayed as President.

ORANGE COUNTY CLAIMS ITS OWN.

CHESTER, Orange Co., N. Y., January 7, 1889.

DEAR VERITAS:—It must be gratifying to every breeder and fancier of Hambletonian stock to note the great interest THE HORSEMAN, Wallace's Monthly and other turf journals take in carrying out the project of a suitable monument for Rysdyk's Hambletonian. In the January number of the Monthly the monument is treated as a fixed fact, and the question is raised whether it should be erected in Central Park or over the grave where the old hero's bones are laid in Chester. Now I think it is the sentiment and feeling of the majority of persons who wish to do honor to the old horse after his death that the monument should be erected where he lived and died. Let me say emphatically there is but one place, and that is the spot where he made his home and fame. He was bred in Orange county, and from weaning time in the fall of 1849 he drew sustenance from the Rysdyk farm at Chester. Then why desecrate his grave or leave his burial spot unmarked by lasting monument? It always adds to the melancholy interest of a tomb to know that the body rests there. The old hero's grave is on a hill back of the small stable in which he lived. This mound is in plain sight of every passenger on the main line of the Erie Railroad. Moreover, it is not necessary to get a railway guide to ascertain the location of the town of Chester, for it is known throughout America as the home of Rysdyk's Hambletonian. Hundreds and thousands of visitors have been in these parts during his lifetime and since his death, for his sons Volunteer, Sweepstakes, Messenger Duroc, Polonius and others have kept his memory green. It is well worth a trip to Chester to view the relics of the old hero. His stall is preserved, and there is not the mark of a tooth or imprint of a foot on it to this day. I treasure the remains of his first blanket, and also his trying gait, and the fetters used for old Abdallah's safety. Permit me to say that I was the originator of the project to have the monument erected, and aside from my own subscription it has already cost me more than many a wealthy breeder of Hambletonian stock will contribute. I have faith to believe that contributors of little or much, no matter where they reside, will consider that it is a fit and becoming thing to place the emblem of the departed hero where his body lies buried, and that a bronze statue of this horse of National fame, if place in Central Park or any other public resort, should be an entirely different undertaking from what the Breeders' Association has now in hand.

JAMES C. HOWLAND.

NEWS LETTERS.

PITTSBURG, Pa., January 6, 1889.

DEAR VERITAS:—In this busy city of iron and ore, where men toil half-blinded and half-naked in the mouth of the glowing furnace, we have many votaries of the turf and are enlisting moneyed recruits in the breeding and ownership of fine horses. "Is Pittsburg still famous for pacers?" you ask. Why, yes; a drove of them, embracing all shapes, sizes and colors, with speed rating from 3:00 down to 2:15. I guess your old friend, Samuel Keys, knows as much about pacers as the next man. I dropped in on him lately, saying:

"Sam, let us talk about pacers and how you train and drive them to win."

"That's too much of a question for me to answer and make it useful to the boys. I've heard of men training by the book, and that one of them in driving a heat forgot his lesson. Of course he had'nt time to slow up and study the book, as he used to do in exercising, so he was all at sea and lost the race. I may say generally that I try to understand the nature, constitution and peculiarities of my subject in hand. No two are alike. They need different work and feeding. What suits one don't agree with the other fellow at all, and you must guard against dulling the edge after you have it honed right. If so there will be fewer off days in the campaign.

"Now there was my old partner, Magoozler, that made a record of 2:20½ more than twenty years ago. He was a very even-handed horse. Give him plenty of clean hay and oats on time, mashes and grass when necessary, also thorough grooming and regular work with kind treatment always, and he could be depended upon to pace a good race.

"Lucy, 2:14, was an independent, don't care kind of a mare, but when just at a fine edge she would make the talent look a little out. No race was too long for her, as you know."

Mr. Keys is wintering his stable of trotters and pacers at the Exposition Park, Allegheny City, which comprises Euclid, Charley Freil, Ironwood and Big Injun. All are under the care of the ever-faithful "Lucy Jimmy." Samuel tells me they are looking fine, and wintering good and strong. Speaking of Magoczler, reminds me of the day that he and that monarch, Dexter, went their race over Oakland Park. Poor Rody Patterson said to me: "Come Burr, let us go onto the stretch and watch Doble and Dexter finish the fight." And what a fight it was. I think Dexter was the grandest-gaited horse that ever was seen.

Moore Floyd, of Slow-Go, 2:18½, fame, now has the custody and conditioning of the fire department horses, and says it beats $10 a week per head working mock trotters for owners who think they ought to go in 2:20.

Harry Darlington and Paul Zimmerman are among the devotees to speedy double-teams. Harry B. Wray has his fast black horse home from Louisville, Ky.

Bob Young, who emigrated from here to Philadelphia, bought some speed in our town the other day. The fastest is the roan pacer Excelsior. Marshall & Hatfield, proprietors of Bijou Farm, recently sold to Disston & Killgore, of Pleasant Valley Stock Farm, Woodstown, N. J., the five-year-old stallion Bryan Hurst, by Lumps, 2:21. Price $1,000.

William P. de Armett, for whom I bought the chestnut mare Jenny M., 2:25½, is very fond of the trotter, and would be "in the market," as you put it, for a team, if Pittsburg had a suitable and convenient driveway for light rigs.

At James McKibben's cosy little farm I saw the chestnut gelding Bouquet Duquesne, five years old, by Duquesne, 2:17¾, dam Lady Atlanta; second dam Spray, a noted producer. Lady Mac, three years old, and sister to Bouquet Duquesne. Chestnut colt Little George, foaled 1886, by Euclid, 2:28½, dam Lady Atlanta, was broken last season and could turn Homewood Park track in 2:50, last half in from 1:23 to 1:24. So you see he likes to go the route. Mr. McK. has a nice yearling filly, sister to Little George. More anon. BURR.

BOSTON, Mass., January 5, 1889.

DEAR VERITAS:—Mr. George Brown, one of our Washington street tailors, has bought a new one that is the subject of quite a story. A year ago last summer Mr. Brown lived in Allston, and was quite friendly with one of his neighbors. Both owned horses, and every Sunday they hooked them double and took their families to ride. One day last week Mr. Brown went down to the auction on Portland street. George never goes to the auction unless he has something on hand that is special. This time he was looking after a mare called Brown Kate, with a reported record of 2:33 at Pittsfield last fall. They said she started in ten races and won nine of them, and showed a trial in 2:28¼. George was on hand two hours before it was time for the mare to be sold, and finally secured her, as he thought, at the low price of $240, and led her away. He had not gone a quarter of a mile when he met his neighbor and told him about his purchase. The man looked her over, and much to George's surprise said: "George, you are a chump. That is the mare that I owned and we used to drive double." George was dumbfounded, for he considers himself quite slick in the horse line. It completely upsets him to have his friends give him the cold laugh for paying $240, and ready to go up to $600, for a horse that a year ago he would not have bought for $125.

George H. Hall has bought the bay gelding Baby Lambert for road purposes. FREDERICK.

BROOKVILLE, Pa., January 4, 1889.

DEAR VERITAS:—Find inclosed my draft for $4 to renew my subscription. My horses are wintering well. I have to report the following sales: Bonnie Bank, filly, three years old, by Red Bank 636, dam Em Taylor, by Ridgway 642; second dam Blanche C. Arthurs, 2:35, by Kentucky Burr, son of Burr's Washington. Bonnie Bank was purchased by E. T. Carswell, of Johnstown, Pa. She started in nine stake races, and never failed to win a part of a stake. To the same party, Olive Wood, a yearling, by Maplewood 1335, dam Kate Wood, by Wood's Hambletonian; second dam Camer Maid, by Major Patchen, a son of Major Gifford, the dam of Bronco Bank, by Red Bank 636, four-year-old record 2:41. Consideration $900; and a black gelding, a good road-horse. To William H. Hughes, for $350, a yearling filly by Maplewood 1335, dam Em Taylor, dam of Bonnie Bank and Red Bank; second dam Blanche C. Arthurs, 2:35. My stallion DuBois 5771, four years old, by Sweepstakes, is showing very fast. His dam, Old Mag, by Smith's Henry Clay, a son of Cassius M. Clay 18, also produced Montgomery Boy, 2:28¼, by Sweepstakes. DuBois stands 15¾ hands high, solid brown, handsome as a picture, and one of the finest-gaited horses you ever saw.

Jack Fisher, of Galesburg, Ill., writes:

DEAR VERITAS:—While looking over one of the back numbers (August 6, 1886) of THE HORSEMAN, I see you make mention of a yearling colt by Kansas Wilkes serving a yearling filly by Favorite Wilkes. That in due time she foaled a well developed filly, and that the owner, Allen Bashford, Paris, Ky., was going to see if it would amount to anything. Now it would be interesting to many readers to know how she has developed so far.

DISTINCTIVE COLORS FOR OWNERS AND DRIVERS.

Dr. Busby is said to have kept his hat on in the presence of King Charles that the boys might see what a great man he was. Now we see many imitators of the doctor in the sulky, particularly at the small meetings, where some appear with hats, others with caps, and a few in their shirt sleeves, all of which mars the pleasure of the scene and confuses the spectators. On the running turf the proper clothing of the jockeys is made an important feature, and the stable is a poor one that cannot sport a silk cap and jacket of its own. When the rule was introduced requiring a driver to wear not only a distinctive cap, but a jacket as well, a great hue and cry was raised by some of the drivers, who feared that an ill-fitting garb might be assigned them instead of their own colors. But this can be easily avoided in making the entries by stating the colors to be worn. The leisure winter hours afford a good time to choose and prepare a cap and jacket peculiarly striking, so that horse and driver can be readily placed. Furthermore, two caps and jackets of the same hue should not be permitted. Bair and Hickok are in the habit of wearing a uniform sombre suit. Both Murphy and Turner look resplendent in the emerald, but grant them an equal right to wear green caps, one or the other should have a jacket bearing hoops, sash or sleeves of an entirely different color. Then let each stock farm proprietor, each owner of a stable, adopt a certain style of cap and jacket, differing in form and color from that in which the trainer of his neighbor or the public professional driver is robed. Let the noted whips provide themselves with a track suit peculiarly their own, and a grand stereoscopic effect will be produced that will burst on the race-going public like a revelation.

OBSERVATIONS.

Leaves from the book of experience convey the best lessons. A short time since a country friend brought to this city his pair of village trotting champions. One of them was a pretty good horse, but nature branded the other with a stamp signifying "sucker," which spoiled the sale as a pair. My friend candidly remarked on leaving, and it should be borne in mind, "My trip taught me one thing, which is, if you have the goods you can demand the price, and get it, too; but a moderate article is worth more in the country."

An Orange county breeder chanced to see a back number of a Western weekly which contained a picture purporting to be a likeness of Rysdyk's Hambletonian. As this breeder frequently saw and admired the old hero at home, he vents his indignation in the following note: "It is the most outrageous caricature of a horse that it has ever been my misfortune to look upon, as it represents a beefy cart-horse with a rat tail, or a Percheron with his tail shaved. Let no one think the horse stood for such a picture. There is not the least resemblance in it to Hambletonian."

A thoughtful contributor sends me the following from Syracuse, N. Y.:

DEAR VERITAS:—Our old friend John North died on New Year's Day. The funeral was held this afternoon (January 3), and the body deposited at Oakwood Cemetery, this city. Had he lived until the second day of the month he would have been fifty-two years old. He was a genial, whole-souled man, and will be greatly missed by his friends and associates.

I may add that the trotting-horse breeders of Central New York and the thousands of readers of THE HORSEMAN will also miss him, for as Secretary of the local breeders' association and representative of THE HORSEMAN he took an active part in furthering their interests.

During his last illness he delegated THE HORSEMAN'S business to his friend Dr. H. L Leonard, of Syracuse, N. Y., who is Treasurer of Central New York Breeders' Association, and will henceforth act as local agent of THE HORSEMAN for news and business.

A gentleman of large experience as a breeder and developer of the speed of trotters is seeking a situation as superintendent of a first-class stock farm, or as head trainer of such a place where there is gilt-edged youngsters to be developed. I know the advertiser well, and can safely say there are few men who stand higher in the profession. He has been quite successful in conditioning colts and horses for races and records. His services will surely prove valuable to his employer.

IN THE MARKET.

It is not necessary to consult the Trotting Register or take counsel with a pedigree expert in respect to the relatives of Rosa B. and her daughter Rosa Dudley advertised for sale in this issue. The breeding, records and speed potency of Charley B., Mambrino Dudley and George M. Patchen are "known and read by all men." Then again Rosa B. is in foal by Powhattan, a young stallion directly descended from the famous stallions Phallas, 2:13¾, and Almont. Such lines of breeding are most desirable, and the offerings I learn, are individually of good form and quality. Our representative at Syracuse says: "Rosa B. was bought when six years old by Wilbur M. Brown for $1,200, for road purposes. She is a natural trotter, and he told me that he sent her against the best roadsters, and was never beaten on track or road."

Hugh Kerr, 26 Ward street, Paterson, N. J., with his accustomed shrewdness, has added to his estate a choice collection of trotting-stock. An excellent colt-breaker is now driving for him two youngsters by Sweepstakes. One is a bay colt, fifteen months old, and the other is a bay filly, seventeen months old. The dam of the colt is Mollie McCarthy, by Hambletonian Prince. She is own sister to the well-known trotter and roadster Clifford G. It is quite a novelty to see the juveniles perform to skeleton-wagon, and Mr. Kerr has many callers. The gem of the stable is a handsome bay colt, foaled 1886, got by Mansfield, 2:26, dam by Kentucky Prince; second dam Midday, by Bolton, son of Rysdyk's Hambletonian; third dam by Hambletonian himself. Mansfield, being full of producing blood, is sure to make a successful sire, and this colt already acts as if he will be a credit to his famous relatives, as he shows great speed and promise. Green Mountain Maid, dam of Mansfield, having nicked so wonderfully well with Hambletonian, gives assurance that her blood will further assert its power through his descendants. Mr. Kerr, being over-stocked, is ready to sell, and therefore puts forward his best brood mare, Kentucky Thorn, in our advertising columns. As will be seen she was got by Kentucky Prince, out of the noted campaigner, Young Thorn, 2:30½, with frequent public trials much faster.

SALES.

W. G. Knight, of Schoolcraft, Mich., recently sold the black stallion Schoolcraft Wilkes, by Young Wilkes, dam by Anthony Wayne, to parties from Indiana. Price reported $4,000.

The proprietor of Babcock Stock Farm, Hornellsville, N. Y., shows his faith in Smuggler by breeding his best mare to him, and also in purchasing good ones for that purpose. He has recently bought of Mr. W. P. Balch the bay mare Hernani, seven years old by Hermes, out of Belle of Cayuga, by Hambletonian Prince. Belle produced Parana, 2:19¼, and Bertha S., 2:29¼. Mr. Babcock also purchased Modjeska, chestnut mare, seven years old, by Abraham, dam Nancy, 2:23¼; second dam the mighty Pocahontas, the pacer, 2:17½.

The handsome bay stallion Capadura 1042, record 2:30, the representative son of Long Island's favorite stallion, Pearsall, 2:43, has gone from his home at G. Howland Leavitt's stables, Bay Side, L. I., into the hands of J. J. Yost, of Johnstown, N. Y., where his stud career will begin. This horse was used until three years ago on the up-town drives, and his style, way of going and cleverness was much admired. After passing into Mr. Leavitt's hands he showed trials of 2:24 and 2:26. Capadura has but nine colts, the oldest coming three years old. They are finely finished and of good size, with the purest kind of trotting-action, which is not to be wondered at, for I think there is no living stallion with more direct and nearer crosses to Messenger than Capadura's pedigree shows. His sire, Pearsall (sire of dam of Lumps, 2:21), was got by Jupiter, son of Long Island Black Hawk, out of Empress, by old Abdallah; second dam Suffolk Queen, by Engineer; Jupiter's dam Gypsy, by Almack, grandson of Messenger; Capadura's dam Sally Jones, by Rysdyk's Hambletonian; second dam by Beak's Wildair, son of Gray Messenger, he by imp. Messenger.

ADVICE TO ADVERTISERS.

In order to make quick sales observe two salient points: First fix your lowest cash price at once, and next let it be based on the animal's present standing as to speed and breeding. Last week a breeder took counsel with me as to advertising some of his stock for sale. He put fancy prices on two of them, as they combined the blood of Kentucky Prince and Green Mountain Maid. Most excellent breeding, but as they do not happen to have the exact strains which produced Guy, Sunol, et. al., I hinted to my friend that his prices were prohibitory, and that he was dazzled by the company of rich relations. It is necessary for the animal to show speed or boast of proven producing-power in the sire and dam to command Palo Alto or Stony Ford prices. The average buyer will not pay high prices for prospective speed or the records of remote relatives. It is demonstration, not anticipation, that rules the pocket of the intelligent buyer.

FRAGMENTS.

Dr. C. A. Wood, of Greenville, Hillsboro county, New Hampshire, writes me as follows: "Inclosed please find $4 for my subscription to THE HORSEMAN for 1889. I cannot get along without it any more than I can without my dinner. The more I read it the more interested I become."

S. D. Bridge, proprietor of American House, Canton, N. Y., in renewing his subscription, January 1, writes: "We are all alive up in old St. Lawrence, and take quite an interest in THE HORSEMAN. Have had no snow, and, as a consequence, no sport."

The home colony and boarders, numbering fifty head all told, of trotting stock at Mount Eden Stock Farm, Jerome avenue, this city, are all in lusty, good health, thanks to proprietor Fred Akers' good luck and good management.

Of all the sons of Rysdyk's Hambletonian standing for service today, I dare say Goodwin's Hambletonian is placed at the lowest fee. He made the season of 1887 at his owner's stables, Alburgh Center, Vt., for $15 per mare, and yet he is brother-in-blood to Dictator, Aberdeen and Sweepstakes. Goodwin's Hambletonian is noted as the sire of that valuable prize-package of speed and good behavior, the gal-