## OUR WESTERN NEW YORK LETTER.

[*From Our Own Correspondent.*]

BUFFALO, N. Y., October 30, 1888.

ED. HORSEMAN:—Good-bye to the trotting season of 1888 in Western New York. As a whole the trainers and drivers have done unusually well with their stables of fast trotters and pacers, and will go into winter quarters with flags and banners waving high. Track and turf stories will soon be the order of the day around the coal stoves, and many an interesting sketch will appear in THE HORSEMAN before the wintry winds shall have come and gone. During the winter a number of new stars of the turf will be jogged on the road and kept in fine condition to respond to the first ring of the judges' bell when the spring time comes again. The outlook was never more encouraging than at present, and everybody looks well and feels well. Shake, and look pleasant!

FAST TROTTERS OF THE YEAR.

All told there are over one hundred and twenty-five horses owned in this country having records of 2:40 or better. A complete list is being carefully compiled for THE HORSEMAN, and will appear next week. The handsome stallion Mambrino King has two of his get in the 2:30 list this year, Mocking Bird, 2:23¼, and Henrietta, 2:23¼; Wilkie Collins has Balsora Wilkes, 2:17¼, and Annie Wilkes, 2:26¼; Rochester has Minot, 2:26¼, and Oriana, 2:25; Almont, Jr., has Grandmother, 2:28; Almonarch has Daisy Webb, 2:28¼; Alpine has Algoma, 2:29. Star Monarch has reduced his record from 2:30 to 2:23½; St. Elmo, by Duke Alexis, obtained a record of 2:27¼; Grover Wilkes, by Red Wilkes, got a mark of 2:24¾, and Hartford, by Peacock, stopped the ticker in just 2:30. The records tell the story of the trotting boom in this section. Never before was there anything like it; still we have but fairly commenced. Just watch our sulky wheels hum in about three years more, or five years at the outside.

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE TROTTING TRACKS IN ERIE COUNTY.

Altogether there are nineteen public and private trotting tracks in Erie county, the blue-grass Mecca of the North. It is claimed that there is no place in the world of the same area of square miles that can produce so many; if so, trot them out. Here is our list:

| *Location.* | *Length.* |
|---|---|
| Buffalo Driving Park | One mile |
| Hamburg Fair Grounds | One-half mile |
| Springville Fair Grounds | One-half mile |
| East Aurora Fair Grounds | One-half mile |
| Williamsville Fair Grounds | One-half mile |
| Tonawanda Driving Park | One-half mile |
| Holland Driving Park | One-half mile |
| North Collins Driving Park | One-half mile |
| Gowanda track (village partly in county) | One-half mile |
| Marilla track | One-half mile |
| Jewett farm track | One mile |
| Village farm track | Three-quarter mile |
| Howard farm track | One-half mile |
| Brier farm track | One-half mile |
| Roos farm track | One-half mile |
| Willett farm track | One-half mile |
| Riverside farm track | One-half mile |
| Border farm track | One-half mile |
| Munn farm track | One-half mile |

ERIE COUNTY STOCK FARMS.

The following complete list of prominent stock farms in the banner county of Erie will give the readers of THE HORSEMAN something of an idea of the breeding interests in the vicinity of Buffalo:

| *Name.* | *Location.* | *No. Horses.* |
|---|---|---|
| Jewett farm | East Aurora | 400 |
| Village farm | East Aurora | 400 |
| Roos farm | Cheektowaga | 125 |
| Lang farm | Buffalo | 125 |
| Brier farm | Looneyville | 100 |
| Howard farm | Buffalo | 100 |
| Chaffee farm | Springville | 75 |
| Conger farm | Gowanda | 75 |
| Munn farm | Alden | 75 |
| Border farm | Marilla | 40 |
| Hatch Farm* | Friendship | 40 |
| Elm Grove farm | Elma | 40 |
| Riverside farm | Tonawanda | 27 |
| Newton farm | Hamburg | 25 |
| Willett farm | East Hamburg | 25 |
| Persons Farm | Grand Island | 25 |
| Wilson farm | Spring Brook | 25 |
| Landon farm | Eden | 25 |

*Owned by a Buffalo horseman, Judge E. W. Hatch.

MEDINA HORSES AND HORSEMEN.

The pretty little city of Medina, in Orleans county, some forty miles northeast of this city, is the home of many horsemen of the old school and considerable young blood. Trotting interests have not been as lively there of late years as way back in the seventies, when all of Western New York had the fever, but the importance and advantage of breeding fine-blooded nags in preference to mongrels is gaining a strong hold there at present, and many a promising youngster may be found eating oats in box-stalls about town that may be heard from some day.

Edward Hanlon's mare lately showed three heats in 2:45, 2:40¼ and 2:44¾. She is a foal of 1884, has raised one colt, now a yearling, and consequently has had but little chance. She was sired by Cayuga Boy, son of Champion.

Thomas Turrell's stock is doing well, and some fast quarters are claimed for his standard-bred entire son of S. C. Wells' bay stallion St. Gothard, 2:27. Bucephalus, also owned by Mr. Turrell, can beat 2:30 whenever it is desired, and he will be heard from in 1889.

Frank Sloat's horse, Cambria Wilkes 4606, has been kept exclusively for the stud this season. He has a world of speed, but has never been handled for a record. His horse Almoneer 3277, by Young Jim, son of George Wilkes, dam by Almont 33, is five years old and is quite a clever fellow. He is a little erratic, but has shown easy trial quarters in 38 seconds.

Major H. M. Starr has two very choice and promising Wilkes fillies, but he is not working them much, preferring to let them grow. Opinions are somewhat divided as to their relative merits, some and perhaps the largest number preferring the bay filly by Sherman 1506, dam Belle, by Black Jack, said to be a thoroughbred. She has shown quarters in 42 seconds and is very handsome. The other three-year-old filly was sired by Raven Wilkes, a son of Wilkie Collins 3901, sire of Balsora Wilkes, 2:17¼, and others. She has shown a mile in 2:56 hitched to a seventy-one pound road-cart, and quarters in 40¼ seconds. Both of these fillies have been worked on Major Starr's stock farm, plowing, etc., all summer. Great is the blood of George Wilkes.

A LITTLE CANADIAN NEWS.

Pardon me if I skip over to Canada. It is so near and handy to Buffalo, you know. W. T. Jenkinson, of Dunnville, has sold his three-year-old chestnut colt to Alexander Langevin, a leading horseman of Montreal, for $1,500. This trotting-bred youngster was sired by Pericles, the son of the great Pancoast, that was trained over the Buffalo track in company with Patron, 2:14¼, in 1885, by Cope Stinson. His first dam was by Clear Grit, sire of Fuller, 2:13¾; second dam by Black George, sire of the dam of Florence, 2:30; third dam by Toronto Chief, sire of Thomas Jefferson, 2:23; fourth dam Moss Rose, a thoroughbred. This breeding is good enough for the most exacting horseman.

My old friend Ben Gould still holds the fort over at Drummondsville. He has a number of good ones in his training stable, and possesses the happy faculty of always winning a few winter oats wherever he goes.

Ed James, of Hamilton, nephew of Simon James, one of the most prominent turfites in the Dominion, trained the horses over the Buffalo track the majority of the past season. He did not cut any of them loose, but he has one or two dark nags that will be heard from in 1889.

Every winter they have a grand series of ice races at Ottawa, Hamilton, and, in fact, all over the Dominion. Over the border these races are looked upon as the great trotting features of the year. It is understood that special inducements will be offered the coming winter, and that many a "Yankee" trotter will respond to the word go.

Mr. J. Gregory, of London, Ont., has purchased of H. Croxton, of Paris, Ky., the chestnut colt St. Blaise, one year old, sired by Post Boy, dam by Bourbon Wilkes; price said to be $2,000. The colt is a very fine one, and has shown his ability to stop the ticker in 2:40 with only five weeks' training.

LAST RACES OF THE SEASON.

The last races of the season over the Buffalo Driving Park, October 23, were not very well attended, owing to the drizzling rain. The judges wers Messrs. Henry Smith, Charles B. Cook, and David W. Burt. The summaries will suffice:

BUFFALO DRIVING PARK, October 23, 1888.—2:28 class, trotting; purse $25.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Forest Mambrino, ch s; Ed James | 1 | 1 | |
| Little Ben, blk g; William A. Garlick | 2 | 2 | |

Time, 2:33, 2:29¾.

Same Day—2:34 class, trotting; purse $25.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Prince Imperial, b s; Ed James | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Hartford, blk s; H. L. Corder | 0 | 2 | 2 |

Time, 2:30, 2:36, 2:36¼.

The dead heat in the 2:34 class gives Prince Imperial, owned in Canada, and the black stallion Hartford, bred at Village Stock Farm, a record of 2:30, while Forest Mambrino, also owned in Canada, obtained a mark of 2:29¾. Considering the very unfavorable condition of the track, the performances were very creditable. Hartford was sired by Peacock, a son of Almont, Jr., dam Kate Patchen, dam of Globe, 2:21½, by Hamlin Patchen; second dam Dictator Maid, by Dictator; third dam the dam of General Stanton. This promising young stallion had been sold by C. J. Hamlin to H. L. Corder, of Noblesville, Indiana, where it is understood he will stand at the head of a stock farm. Hartford is also the first grandson of Almont, Jr. 1829, to enter the 2:30 list, which adds more credit to the stock farm interests of Erie county.

BACK FROM KANSAS.

Mr. Henry C. Jewett and William B. McDonald have returned from Kansas, where they have been for some time visiting the great five-thousand-acre ranch. They brought back with them the favorite Wilkes stallion Patchen Wilkes 3550, black horse, foaled 1882, 16 hands high, sired by George Wilkes 519, first dam by Mambrino Patchen 58; second dam Betty Brown (dam of Wilkes Boy, 2:24¼, and Anglin, 2:27), by Mambrino Patchen 58; third dam by Mambrino Chief 11; fourth dam by Bellfounder. "Here is royal breeding," remarked Hon. John Kraus, of Clarence, who also just returned from the Kansas farm. "I think he is the handsomest horse I have ever seen, Mambrino King not even being excepted." They also brought back Erie Wilkes 3610, foaled 1882, by George Wilkes 519, dam by Confederate Chief 423. Both are very speedy, and will probably be given a fast record another year. Besides these horses they shipped a dozen young brood mares and promising trotters back to East Aurora. In speaking of the farm Hon. John Kraus continued: "It is a most delightful spot, as level as a biliard table, while the atmosphere is just perfect. I never saw so many genuine little trotting stars, and such splendid grass in the pastures. The horses run out freely nine months in the year, and as a natural consequence can be raised to maturity much cheeper than here in Western New York, where the gales from old Lake Erie turns the hair toward their ears. I believe that Henry C. Jewett is destined to become the stock-farm king of the world. He does not believe in driving the life out of youngsters, but prefers to wait until they are ripe and able to stand the strain of a campaign before cutting them loose. William B. McDonald, the old campaigner, is highly delighted with the outlook at the Jewett Farm, and when he gets ready to start down through the Grand Circuit with a string of new ones, you will then be convinced that the still pig eats the most swill. Wouldn't it be fun to see him bring out old Buffalo Girl, 2:12½, the pacing queen of the turf, after she drops her foal to Jerome Eddy, 2:16½, next spring, and clean out the side-wheelers again as in the days gone by? The Girl has had a long rest, and who knows but what she might be faster than ever?"

ECHOES FROM ORCHARD PARK.

The handsome village of Orchard Park, ten miles south of this city, is perhaps the prettiest suburban resort in Erie county. The village, composed of some five hundred inhabitants, is situated on an eminence overlooking the Queen City and the surrounding country as far as the eye can reach. The village enjoys the proud distinction of having had three names, and like a woman thrice married and thrice divorced, is not satisfied yet. In the beginning it was called Potter's Corners, in honor of the first settlers in that vicinity. Then it was rechristened East Hamburg, when the old town of Hamburg was cut in twain. This created considerable trouble, as there were more Hamburgs in close proximity than you could shake a stick at, and the mail and express packages frequently went astray. Something must be done. Everybody suggested a name, and everybody else was dissatisfied. An old lady went to sleep one night and during her peaceful dreams the name of Orchard Park was suggested to her by some power —perhaps the devil—for the devil has been to pay ever since! This was first considered a lucky omen, and everybody joined in with the old woman and the name of the Post-office was changed in less time than it takes to tell it. So much for the village. You now know enough about it, if not go out and buy a building lot. You can get some of the "wild cats" for twenty-five cents on a dollar, now that the natives are getting cooled off from the old woman's happy dream and the railroad boom.

Horses! That's what I intended to write about, and I'll get there, too, if you'll give me time. The oldest and most highly respected citizens in town have caught the fever as well as the kids, and don't forget that they have some good ones, too.

Mr. Elihu Johnson is the happy owner of three standard-bred youngsters sired by H. C. Jewett's Sherman 1506, a son of the great George Wilkes, dam by Mambrino Howard 3656. The youngsters are certainly very promising and do credit to their breeding. Mr. Johnson has reached a ripe old age in life, but is patiently waiting to hold the ribbons behind a 2:30 span.

Mr. Henry Pettibone is a great admirer of both the trotter and pacer. He has a wonderful good yearling sired by Coronet 1035, and two spanking roadsters by a son of Mambrino King, out of a well-bred pacing mare called Mary, 2:32. This mare is now in foal to Ayer's Eddy.

Thomas Wasson "reins" triumphant behind a 2:40 nag, and seldom gets left.

Jasper N. Clark owns several good ones, including a gray nag that is generally found in the front ranks with the gentlemen roadsters about town.

E. J. Ayer is one of the most enthusiastic breeders of trotting stock in town. His leading brood mare is Mabel A., 2:40, sired by Kimble Jackson, Jr., son of Kimble Jackson, he by old Andrew Jackson, dam a thoroughbred mare bred in Virginia. This mare has produced four foals—one five-year-old by Almont, Jr., 2:26; one by Coronet 1035; two by Jerome Eddy, 2:16½—and is now in foal to Sherman 1506. He has christened the three-year-old stallion by Jerome Eddy, Ayer's Eddy. This colt is certainly deserving more than a passing notice. He is a solid bay with black points, as handsome as a picture, and is a trotter from the word go. He will be trained another year.

Sam Willett, of the Mile Strip, a short distance northeast of the village, is the same old Sam. He has held the ribbons behind a host of nags in his day, including such old campaigners as B. F. Bruce, Ethel Y., Springville Chief, Flora, Jack Hican, Sorrel Frank, Joe Warren, Frank Root and scores of others. He owns a splendid farm, has a good half-mile track and a number of youngsters in training.

Although a few miles away, horse news from Hamburg, which town is noted the world over for its celebrated Hamburg cheese, would not be complete if we did not take a peep in at the old reliable Fred Thompson. Fred's locks are now silvery white, but he is in good condition all the same, and can trot faster and stay longer than many of the younger lads in the profession. Among the horses which he has piloted to victory on many occasions are the celebrated old Cattaraugus Chief, Lillie Pierce, Frank Kernan, Mollie Newton and hundreds of others. Mr. Thompson is a great conditioner of horses, and his training stable is always full.

TIPS FROM THE TRACK AND TURF.

The winter trotting carnival on Delaware avenue promises to be far merrier than in the halcyon seasons of yore.

William Berryman, of this city, owns a full sister to Versailles Girl, 2:25½, and the boys want to look out for him when the bells begin to tinkle on the avenue.

Report has it that the bay stallion Huon, by Almont, Jr., dam by Hamlin's Patchen, recently made a record of 2:19 in Australia. It will be remembered that this horse was sold to Dr. Slater, of the antipodes, in 1885, and taken there by F. B. Baldwin, now of California, but formerly of this city. This is the fastest record by several seconds ever made in Australia.

Frank Peek, of Eden Center, a few miles south of this city, has sold his five-year-old gelding by Speedaway, a son of Stephen A. Douglas, to a Buffalo horseman for $500. A. C. Michael, of North Collins, had him in training a short time during the past season, and he frequently showed his ability to trot in 2:40. Mr. Michael has also been handling Horace Landon's four-year-old mare Fannie Wilkes, by H. C. Jewett's Coronet, dam by Stephen A. Douglas, and they do say that she is a regular hummer.

S. B. Thomson, of Springville, owner of the favorite son of Almont 33, Almonarch, 2:24¾, has returned from his Iowa trip. He has the Western fever a little, but now that Almonarch stock is on the boom here at present it is a doubtful question whether it would not be rather foolish for him to pull up stakes and go away just as fortune is now smiling in upon him, and his bunkers are being rapidly filled with glittering gold. Mr. Thomson writes me that his son Cicero, who is a genuine young horseman and a dear old chum of mine in the happy days gone by, is looking, feeling and doing well at Valentine, Neb. When Cicero used to drive horses in county races hereabout some ten or twelve years ago, he was nicknamed "Budd Doble," and had he continued in this vocation I have no doubt but what to-day he would have been classed among the champion knights of the American turf.

George Van Campen, formerly a leading horseman of Olean, is now a full-fledged Buffalonian. Among his most promising nags is the bay gelding Minot, 2:26¼, sired by H. C. Jewett's chestnut stallion Rochester, dam by Mambrino Patchen. It is said that he can beat his record considerably.

And still they come. Mr. F. B. Dean, of Smithport, Pa., and a genuine horseman, has removed to Buffalo and located at 401 Franklin street. He is the happy owner of the old trotter J. D. Conkling. This horse was purchased of Dan Mace several years ago by Alex Sloan, of this city, and some say his real name is Bay, foaled 1868, sired by Gideon 145, dam Julia, by General Knox 140, bred by Charles B. Gilman, of Waterville, Me., and made a record of 2:27½ at Springfield, Mass., September 6, 1876.

The chestnut stallion Rochester, by Aberdeen, dam by C. J. Wells, is receiving quite a boom in this section. His colts are beginning to come to the front thick and fast. For the past four seasons he has been kept in Kentucky, but will be brought back after another year to the Jewett Stock Farm. The bay stallion John Gilpin, by Strader's C. M. Clay, dam by Indian Chief, which has been in the hands of Smith Feek, has made a large season in the central part of the State, and will remain there another year.

F. G. S.

## OUR ENGLISH LETTER.

[*From Our Own Correspondent.*]

ENGLAND, October 18, 1888.

ED. HORSEMAN:—When Friar's Balsam was unexpectedly beaten in the Two Thousand Guineas in the spring very few people doubted that he would at some future time show the running to be wrong. Admittedly the best two-year-old of his year by the greatest of trials, actual contest with all the other cracks, no wonder that he started such a hot favorite. How he was defeated by Ayrshire is well known. Through the whole of the summer he never once appeared in public, missing engagements which he could not have lost if in anything like condition, but the cause of his first defeat—abcess in the jaw—was troublesome, and even when he did appear once again there were signs that everything was not right. Under these circumstances he met Seabreeze and Ayrshire at Manchester, and was beaten off, but there were extenuating circumstances which were not lost sight of. The cannon, which occurred half way up the straight, knocked all the steam out of the Kingsclerc champion, and when the finish occurred he was minus the power to get to the front. It is a great pity that he could not have a fair chance in his three-year-old career. What has happened since last I communicated is in words a superlative performance. He has beaten Minting at 9 pounds. The credit of this victory can be better appreciated on a reference to the handicap for the Cambridgeshire, wherein Mr. Vyner's mighty horse had to give the Friar 24 pounds, and Minting was deemed to have so good a chance that 10 to 1 was taken at one time that he won. The race wherein the overthrow of the last heroic son of Lord Lyon was accomplished was aptly the Champion Stake. Inaugurated in 1877 by Springfield, one of the fastest milers going, winning for Mr. Houldsworth, year after year, has seen good horses and true win. Thus Jannette, Rayon d'Or, Robert the Devil, Bend Or, Tristan, which ran dead heats with Thebais in 1882, and Lucerne in 1884, and won outright in 1883. Paradox, Ormonde, Bendigo, and Friar's Balsam represent the highest type of winners of any description of race. Singularly only two of this lot, Bend Or and Ormonde, won the Derby. Minting can lay claim to be unlucky, inasmuch as he met in Ormonde a horse which we could never find out the bottom of. The Jubilee Handicap, at Kempton, was won in the most ridiculous ease by Minting, this performance. with 10-0 up, beiug one of the best handicap feats (if not the best, a point difficult to decide) upon record. Naturally, then, it was expected that he would have no difficulty in giving Friar's Balsam 9 pounds over a mile and a quarter. For a day or two before the race as much as 40 to 1 was laid against his winning the Cambridgeshire, and after Friar's Balsam had beaten him he was at once struck out. Minting has left Newmarket for York, and will start stud life next season at Fairfield Stud Farm. As regards the race the runners included Minting, 9-0; Mamia, 8-11; Friar's Balsam and Benburb, 8-5; Zanzibar and Love in Idleness, 8-2. 100 to 60 was laid on the top weight, 5 to 2 against Friar's Balsam, 12 to 1 Mamia, and 20 to 1 Zanzibar and Love in Idleness. Mamia was favorite for the Cambridgeshire, and much interest was centered in her show. Benburb made the running with the second and first favorites in attendance until fairly on their way, when Barrett sent Friar's Balsam in front, Minting being a bare length behind. On to the