

OPENING SPORTS FOR AUTUMN

A Shift from the Ball Field to the Gridiron.

HALCYON DAYS FOR GUNNER AND FISHER

The National League Race—The Long-Haired Athletes—The Boxers—The Horses—Rod and Gun and Sports of All Kinds.

Two weeks from today the National League pennant race will come to an end, and notwithstanding the fact that Baltimore now holds a comfortable lead, Boston still has a chance. With no further material disaster to the Beaneaters they will have a chance to show just how they compare with the Orioles in the final series of five games, which opens up in Baltimore next Friday. These will be the greatest contests of the year and may decide the championship. Never before in the history of the National League has the situation narrowed down to two teams as it has this season. When Baltimore went to Boston early last month the leadership depended on the games to be played there. Boston gathered in two out of three, and jumped into the van to the mad delight of thousands and thousands of crazy fans. But this has come since then to the cultured Hub and the gay birds from down the Chesapeake again displaced them and have led the procession ever since. That they will win the race I haven't the shadow of a doubt, but they will not be so sure yet. Still, aside from their present vantage, they have, and always have had a better chance to win—the wind up of the season comes on in the Washington city where they have a better corps of pitchers than Boston. Of course, both teams will save their best men for the final sport. If Baltimore can get out Monday to rest, which is ample time to recover from an afternoon's strain. When Nichols faced Baltimore the last time he was quite rested. He will not be used very much from this out, until the team opens in Baltimore. With Nichols pitching two of the Baltimore games and the other three by the team, the odds chance to win the pennant. To encourage Seale's band a crowd of nearly 19,000 Boston cranks will go down to the Monumental City to root for him. The game will be a rather close one, and in third position, and Cincinnati will be the leader of the western aggregation. One feature in the race this season is the position of Chicago, Louisville, Pittsburg and Cleveland. It has been a long time since the Senators have been so far up in the list. The pitchers that have won most of their games this season, Mercer and Molanes, compare favorably with the best in the league, and had these two been backed up with a little more stink work the team would certainly have been higher up in the race. In Louisville, too, has been showing this season. The team is not far behind Philadelphia and Pittsburg. For such a great collection of strikers the Phillies are doing remarkably well. The internal disorder in the team this season, and the fact that they may be assigned for their poor work. Pittsburg is among the poorest of the bunch. The team is not doing well, and is not at the bottom of the list. Cleveland has gone back from last season, which was expected. When the Spiders were east the last trip to New York they were able to beat Baltimore. He showed what the team was capable of in the first two games in Baltimore, and after that they finished out the trip in a rather better way, apparently losing to the teams it would benefit the most. For one, I want to see Baltimore win. While the team undoubtedly contains a number of players who are not doing as well as they should, they are, on the whole, pretty well with the rest of them, and victory for Baltimore means more for the game generally than victory for Boston would.

Western horses and especially candidates from Omaha and this state, will figure quite prominently in the great fall harness races, beginning on September 5 to 16. Acknowledgments to Secretary Wilson for one of the souvenir programs are hereby tendered. It is the intention of the State Fair in stakes and purses. On the first day the great Futurity is decided; \$20,000 will be hung up, and on the last day \$20,000 will be presented to the winner. The horse who will attend are W. A. Paxton, Jr., Clinton Briggs, Oscar Plead and one or two others.

The card: First Day—Kentucky Futurity, for 3-year-olds, \$10,000; the Tennessee, for 2 1/2 year-olds, \$2,000; 2 1/2 class, trotting, purse \$1,000; Second Day—The Wilson, for 2 1/2 year-olds, \$2,000; special, to be announced later, the Futurity, trotting, for 2-year-olds, \$2,000.

Third Day—The Transylvania, for 2-year-olds, \$5,000; 2 1/2 class, trotting, purse \$1,000; 2 1/2 class, pacing, purse \$1,000.

Fourth Day—Futurity, for 2-year-olds, \$1,000; 2 1/2 class, trotting, purse \$1,000; 2 1/2 class, pacing, purse \$1,000.

Fifth Day—The Ashland, for 2 1/2 trotters, \$4,000; 2 1/2 class, trotting, purse \$1,000; 2 1/2 class, trotting, purse \$1,000.

Sixth Day—The Walnut Hill Farm, for 2 1/2 trotters, \$5,000 (\$200 offered by T. Y. Hankins); 2 1/2 class, trotting, purse \$1,000; 2 1/2 class, pacing, purse \$1,000.

Seventh Day—2 1/2 class, pacing, purse \$1,000; 2 1/2 class, trotting, purse \$1,000; 2 1/2 class, pacing, purse \$1,000.

Eighth Day—The Kentucky, for 3-year-olds, \$2,000; 2 1/2 class, trotting, purse \$1,000; 2 1/2 class, pacing, purse \$1,000.

Ninth Day—2 1/2 class, trotting, purse \$1,000; 2 1/2 class, pacing, purse \$1,000; 2 1/2 class, trotting, purse \$1,000.

Tenth Day—The Bluegrass, for 2 1/2 trotters, \$2,000; the Johnson, for 2 1/2 trotters, \$2,000; Stock Farm purse, for 2-year-old trotters, \$5,000.

A five-mile match race has been arranged between Ernest H. Haver and the professional ranks, and G. B. Tinsler, the Irish flyer. The race will take place at Ambrose Park, Brooklyn, on the 23rd of September. It is under the leadership of Prof. Haver, and the whole idea of the training being to harden the muscles gradually and eliminate the danger of rupturing them, which would exist if the men were forced into a game without having taken the proper exercise to prepare themselves for it. Foot ball is surely a rough game, and no person should be allowed to go into a contest without his body being properly conditioned, then the chance of injury is very small. For the last four years the University of Pennsylvania team has been in such good condition upon the opening of the season that not a single man has had to leave the field as a result of any injury in any of their games. Locally, foot ball is on the move. The High school boys are out practicing every evening, and under the leadership of Prof. Haver, their coach, will develop rapidly. Frank Crawford has not returned from his home in the east, and C. L. Thomas is managing the

bicycle boys on the circuit, but as soon as these two coaches return they will start foot ball in earnest here, and each will have a large contingent of players for fall and boosting the great game along. They will probably manage rival teams.

Recalling the defeats of the Omaha cricket team during the late St. Paul tournament, a member of the local club remarked out at a difficult figure. A goodly number of runs and what our team is weak in several particulars, notably in their miserable judgment in calling runs out at the bat. The Omaha club would probably score two runs on a hard forward stroke to the outfield, while our men rarely, if ever, counted more than one run on a similar play. And the Omaha club would probably score two runs from anywhere from twenty to fifty such strokes are made in an inning, the total loss to our side in the course of a match is difficult to figure. A goodly number of runs and scores frequently on infield strokes that our men never think of calling. Their ability to score more runs from the same strokes as we have made. They will meet early in November before one of San Francisco's clubs, and the contest will certainly be the most interesting and important of the season. It will be held at Carson City on the 17th of last March. I think there is a very general concurrence in the opinion that the Michigan ring has been broken up. Walcott has just been known, barring none, as the greatest horseman in the world. Walcott is naturally a well-to-do man, he has also given abundant evidence of his ability as a horseman. He is a well-to-do man, he has also given abundant evidence of his ability as a horseman. He is a well-to-do man, he has also given abundant evidence of his ability as a horseman.

The announcement that Fantasy, 2:06, the fastest trotter from New York state, has been sold to the late owner of the horse, was received with regret by all lovers of great harness horses. Early in 1896 Fantasy ran away from her groom and was killed by the driver, who was killed by her breast. From this she never fully recovered, and though she raced last season with great success the work did not help her. It was thought that she would ultimately recover, it was decided to ship her home. Fantasy has had a most wonderful racing career, she has won more money than any other mare in the world. She has won more money than any other mare in the world. She has won more money than any other mare in the world.

It seems that horsemen will never grow weary of talking about Star Pointer, the king of the light harness brigade, and in response to a request for a brief history of the illustrious horse, I will say that his career has been an eventful one. He was bred by Capt. Henry P. Colton of Springfield, Tenn., and if ever a horse was bred for a pacing record breaker it was he, as his sire, Brown Hal, 2:12 1/2, was in the world, while his dam, Sweepstakes, of Knight's Snowshoes, also produced the famous Hal Pointer, who won the world's record of the grand circuit, and in 1892, reduced the world's harness record from 2:06 to 2:05 1/2 over the Washington Park track, and in 1894 later placed in 2:04 1/2 at Nashville, Tenn.

Star Pointer was foaled in 1889, and in consequence of age, he was sold to J. W. Tinsler, a Pennsylvania horseman, and was first raced as a 2-year-old, when he showed nothing remarkable, but in 1891 he was sold to J. W. Tinsler, a Pennsylvania horseman, and was first raced as a 2-year-old, when he showed nothing remarkable, but in 1891 he was sold to J. W. Tinsler, a Pennsylvania horseman, and was first raced as a 2-year-old, when he showed nothing remarkable.

His new owner placed him in the hands of David McClary, a young man totally unknown to fame, and his future did not look very bright, when in his first start in 1896 he won the first race he entered. He was then owned by John R. Gentry, who repeated the feat. But all this time his people were merely getting the hang of him and finding out what was his class. He was then owned by John R. Gentry, who repeated the feat. But all this time his people were merely getting the hang of him and finding out what was his class.

The State fair races open up tomorrow afternoon, and with an immense field of something like 100 entries, it will afford us some of the best sport offered here in a good many years. The track has been covered with spectators, and the excitement is now about as perfect as human industry and ingenuity can make it, and with fair weather throughout the week some very fine racing is to be expected. It is a good deal of a good deal of preliminary work that has to be done tomorrow, there are but two races to be run, and the 2 1/2 class, trotting, for 2-year-olds, and the 2 1/2 class, pacing, for 2-year-olds. There are six entries for the first, all Nebraska bred horses, and one, Charles Taylor's chestnut colt, from Cameron, Mo. The Nebraska candidates are C. E. Colton's Lewis Wilks, Syracuse; C. E. Holland's Cleveland, and J. B. Robinson's Fleet Foot, Scribner, and W. A. Paxton's Bishop. These are a fine lot of youngsters and they will doubtless make a good race. In the pace will be a fine lot of youngsters and they will doubtless make a good race.

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New Rules and Methods to Preserve Game—High Grade Guns, Magazine Shotguns and Smokeless Powder.

"I don't know whether returning prosperity has anything to do with the case or not; but it is a matter of general jubilation among sportsmen that the present hunting season promises to be one of the best in many years. From every section of the country comes reports that game, small and big, are met with in satisfying quantities. Moose are so plenty in the northwest that the state authorities of Minnesota have allowed five days of open moose and caribou shooting. Nearer home, woodcock and partridge are reported plentiful, the conditions of the spring and summer having been favorable to their northward migration. Along the coast one hears of the noble promise of all kinds of duck; and on many private preserves the shooting of imported English

tray over are experimenting and importing from abroad. English and the Mongolian pheasant have been brought over in large quantities, and an opportunity will be given to our climate. The English pheasant is a most desirable game bird, but his rearing requires care and considerable discrimination in the matter of feeding.

"QUAIL BY THE CRATELOAD."

Quail, too, are being carried north to crated loads from the southern states, where they swarm. In the matter of duck breeding some wealthy clubs with property along the coast have recently been devoting much time to the duck in his various manifestations. Some very curious cross breeds have been produced. A mixture of the mallard and black duck has resulted in a type singular enough to look at, but excellent from the standpoint of the gunner. The great majority of the ducks thus bred are destined for use as live decoys. The first joint of the wings are clipped while they are still fledglings, which effectually prevents them from straying. As decoys they are anchored on the water's surface, and an ingenious device has been evolved for their comfort, to remain forcibly stationary in the water. It is composed primarily of a small stand of table, upon which the body of the anchored live decoy rests.

"But it is when one reaches the implements of war—the game rifle, shells, etc., that the real extent of the revolution in game shooting strikes one. A hunter of twenty years ago would be all at sea in an end-of-the-century gunroom without some sportsman dearest to instruct him.

"One most notable change is the cheapness of the gun. The weapon which used to cost fifty dollars is now purchased for twenty-five for \$25 to \$30. And yet the grade of

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