

THE TELEPHONE-REGISTER

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CALIFORNIA BROOD MARES Some Facts in the History of the Trotting Horse on This Coast.

Not very many years ago in the history of trotting horse breeding there was a current opinion that still exists to some extent, that the dam of a horse had very little to do with the excellence of that horse.

The order of things has been materially changed in the last decade, and now the intelligent breeders are paying quite as much attention to the selection of their brood mares as they pay to the sire and they strive to get in here the best combinations of blood lines.

California has become one of the most famous of states as the producer of trotters, and her sires have been lauded to the skies, but with one or two exceptions, the great brood mares of the state, to whom much of the honor is due, have been allowed to go unused.

When the question of brood mares comes up, the first name that suggests itself is that of Green Mountain Maid, aptly called the "Mother of Trotters."

There are mares here in California that are as near as any others living to the reputation of Green Mountain Maid and if long life is given to them, there may be graves in this state over which monuments will be raised.

Beautiful Bells was the first of the foals of Minnehaha to be trained. She was foaled in 1872, and in 1878 got a record at Sacramento of 2:29.

The colts command phenomenal prices. Bell Boy was the first trotting stallion to bring \$50,000, and his owners had an offer of \$102,000 for him not more than a week before he was to be sold.

have seen Palo Alto say that if there is any horse in the country likely to break the trotting record, it is he. Palo Alto is a great horse and as peculiarly bred as he is great.

It is a curious fact that of all the mares mentioned in this article as the best producers of speed, only two—Elaine, 2:30, and Beautiful Bells, 2:29—were in the 2:30 list themselves, and only three others—Mayflower 2:30; Addie Lee, 2:30; and Addie, 2:30—have ever made any records at all.

The battle was on at the blue and the gray were at each other's throats. It was at Gainsville, and the federals were getting the worst of the fight, so writes Wallace P. Reed.

Before he was purchased by Kentucky parties and put in the stud there he had two of them in California that have gone into the list. Antevolo has gone the way of all good horses also, and is in the stud on the other side of the mountains, and the people who bought him thought enough of him to pay \$18,000 for him and he has since been sold for a great deal more than that.

Grechen, by Mambrino Pilot, dam by Canada Chief, is another one that assisted L. J. Rose to found the Rosemeade stud, and she has brought fame to that establishment by giving birth to Romeo, 2:19, by A. W. Richmond; Del Sur, 2:24, by the Moor; and Inca 2:27, by Woodford Mambrino.

Alma Mater, a Kentucky bred mare now feeds on the rich grasses of the Hobart ranch, in the harem of Stamboul, is the one that cost \$15,000. She is worth it. While in the stud over in Kentucky, she gave being to Alcantara, 2:25, by George Wilkes; Aleyone, 2:27, by the same sire; Almatier, 2:29, by Mambrino; and Archer, 2:30, by admiral.

Mayflower, by St. Clair, dam untraced, occupies rather a peculiar place in the great stable of brood mares. She has two in the list, both by Electioneer, and both of them have held the trotting records for their ages.

Manzanita, 2:16, the present four-year-old record. She is the only mare in the list who can boast as much. She is also the dam of Maralia, 2:24, which entitles her to still more consideration.

But two California mares, besides Minnehaha, Beautiful Bells and Alma Mater, have had four of their get to go into the list. They are Maid of Clay, by Henry Clay, dam by Dey's Messenger, and Black Flora by Black Prince, dam untraced. The former is the dam of Carrie C., 2:24, by Electioneer; Clay, 2:25, brown gelding, by St. Clair, and Captain Smith, 2:25, by Locomotive.

When it comes to dams with two that have beaten 2:30, there are many, but some of them are famous, because one of the two is a famous horse. It is so with Addie, 2:30, by Hambletonian Chief, out of an untraced mare, who is the dam of Woodnut, 2:16, by Nutwood, and of Manon, 2:21, by the same sire.

Of the mothers that are the dams of two of no especial prominence in the 2:30 list, there are Lady Washington, the dam of Ewing and Kate Ewing, both with records of 2:21; Sontag Dixie, dam of Sonnet, 2:24, and Del Mar, 2:29; Lady Babcock, dam of Elector, 2:21, and Soudan, 2:27; Young Martha, dam of Crown Point, 2:24, and Hancock, 2:29; Brown Jenny, dam of Mary Lou, 2:25; and Ned Winslow, pace, 2:17; Lady Hubbard, dam of Pansy, 2:24 and Thapsin, 2:21; Irene, dam of Ira, 2:22; and Stanford, 2:30; Lady Day, dam of Mista, 2:29 at two years, and Dube, 2:28, dam of Balkan, 2:29; and Molly Drew, 2:27; Claribel, dam of Clifton Belle, 2:24; and dam of the dams of Rexford, 2:24, and Don Marvin, 2:29.

dam of Sunol, known the country over just because her daughter trotted in 2:10 when three. Another one that is sharing the honors with one favored foal is Lou, the dam of Axtell. Elaine the dam of Norlaine, who holds the yearling record of 2:31, is another, and Sable Wilkes; Flight, the dam of Fleet who has a two-year old mark of 2:24, are others of the same class.

As the ranks of blue, shattered and shaken by the shower of shot and shell, slowly rolled back, a Federal colonel waved his sword over his head in the vain attempt to rally his men, and then staggered and fell on the blood stained grass.

In another moment his face brightened. "Bob," he shouted. "Bob, don't you know me?" General Toombs, riding at the head of his brigade heard the familiar voice. He rode up to the tree, and glanced at the speaker.

In an instant Toombs was kneeling by the colonel's side. He placed the helpless man in a more comfortable position, and gave him water from a canteen.

"He is my old friend," he said to a staff officer, "poor Fletcher Webster—Daniel Webster's son—stay here with him—I must go to the front."

"My wound is mortal," said Webster, sadly. "God bless you, old friend, for your kindness. Gentlemen, I thank you. War is a bad thing."

"Never!" replied Toombs. "Daniel's son must always be my friend. Just now we must fight out our differences, but there are happier days ahead for both."

"A true soldier and a brave man," said General Toombs that night as he wiped away a tear. "Let us send him through the lines with the honors of war."

Memorial day brought to mind a story told by a post office attaché: There was received at the post office on the morning of one memorial day a wreath of flowers which had come by mail some distance. The tag bore the requisite amount of postage stamps and the address: To the grave of John Smith, Bowers, N. Y. It is a very unusual thing to receive a parcel addressed to a dead man or his grave, and the officials naturally were puzzled to know what to do with the wreath.

Dahomey is alleged once to have had a population of 8,000,000 souls. Its present population is estimated at 900,000. The decrease is due mainly to the enormous waste of lives in the annual grand ceremonies, which are a sort of religious festival lasting two months, and during which human sacrifices are offered by the hundreds at once.

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