

## 1881 National Agricultural Society Spring Show (Nov 2-3-4)

There was a large and interesting collection of exhibits in the class for Stallions calculated to produce hackneys, trotters, and carriage horses, and the first honours were won by Boccaccio, the American trotting stallion, owned by **Mr James A. Roberts**, Middle Brighton (pictured top right); the second place was obtained by Walter Scott, Dr. Weir's American trotting stallion; and third place by Primero, an American trotting stallion imported by **Dr Weir** (pictured bottom right).

Mr. J. S. Hosie's True Briton, a very handsome Welsh pony, was recommended a special prize, and a similar recommendation was made in regard to Mr. H. P. Hayward's Tam O'Shanter, while Mr J. Gidney's Harkaway, by Flying Perfection, was awarded a silver medal. The prize for trotters fell to Boccaccio, with Captain Dearborn second, the latter, when called on, going at a most extraordinary pace, though without much style.

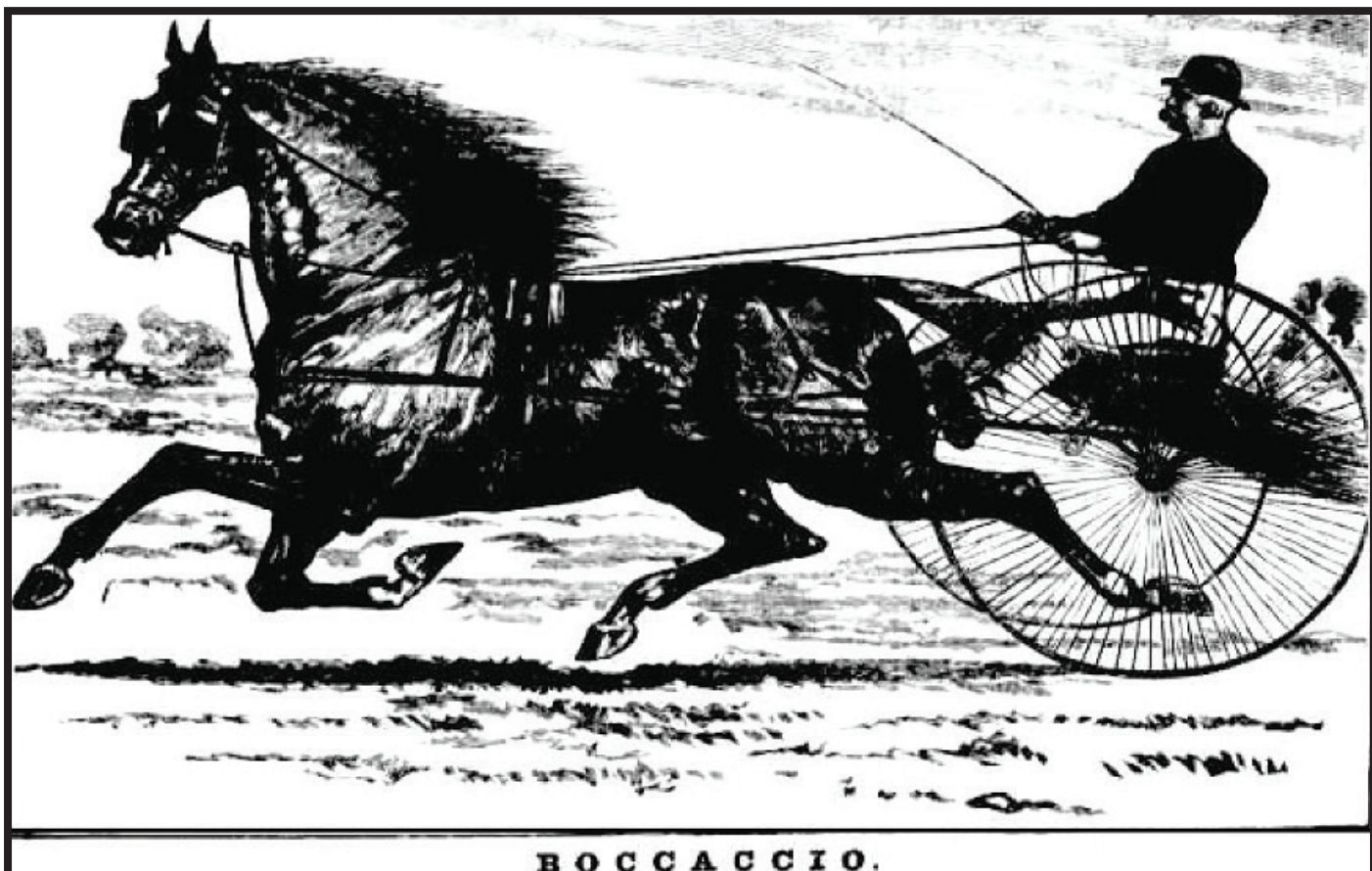
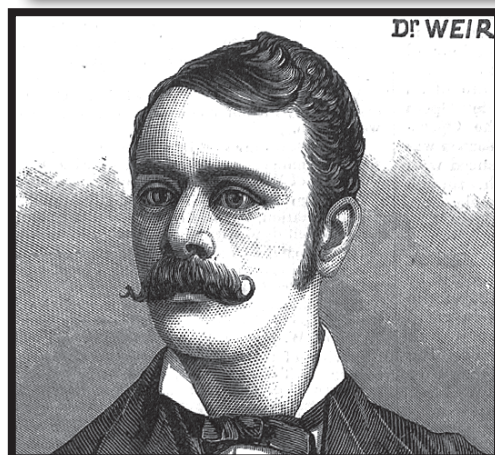
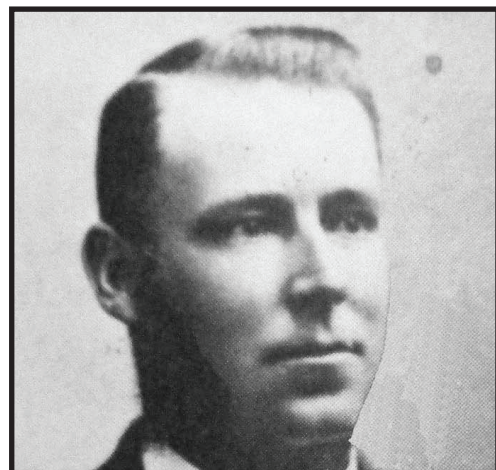
Every department of the exhibition was patronised by numerous visitors, and much interest was taken in the various labour-saving machines which were shown in motion, and in the parades of cattle and draught horses, while the performances of the hunters, lady's hacks, and **trotting horses, seemed to give much pleasure to the majority of spectators.** In the trotting ring the American imported trotters Boccaccio, Tilda C., Walter Scott, Primero, and Crazy Jane attracted much attention, and a great deal of satisfaction was expressed at the splendid work shown by Mr Frank Robbins' Captain Dearborn, by Merry Hawk, dam Lady I Em. While Boccaccio was admitted to be the perfect of form, and to display admirable action. Captain Dearborn was undoubtedly the fastest trotter in the yard.

**Stallion, for getting hackneys, trotters, and carriage horses (First prize, Cup, value £5)** - First, J. A. Roberts, Bronte, Middle Brighton, **BOCCACCIO** (USA); second, Dr. Weir, Melbourne, **WALTER SCOTT** (USA); third, Dr. Weir, Melbourne, **PRIMERO** (USA).

**Special silver medal** - J Gidney, Hotham, **HARKAWAY**

**NOTE:** Specially commended for prizes, J. S. Hosie, Melbourne, **TRUE BRITON** (UK), and H. P. Hayward, Ferntree Gully, **TAM O'SHANTER**.

**Trotting Horse, saddle or harness (£10, with £5 added, the gift of Mr. W. Cumming)** - 1st, J. A. Roberts **BOCCACCIO** (USA); 2nd, F. Robbins, Sandridge, **CAPTAIN DEARBORN**; third, Dr. Weir, **CRAZY JANE** (USA).





## 1882 National Agricultural Society Spring Show (Nov 1-2-3)

In October 1882, one month prior to the Show, the NASV Secretary reported, "that he had visited the grounds on the St. Kilda road with Mr J A Roberts, and found that a new trotting rink could be made nearly half a mile round at a small cost, and he was authorised to carry out the necessary works."

The class of Hackney and Trotting stock was well represented, and was evidently taken a great interest in by the public. In the section for American trotting stallions there were four excellent competitors. Mr. J. A. Roberts, of Bronte, Middle Brighton, entered two, one of which was the well known imported horse Boccaccio, whose grand form, strong flat bone and high quality won for him the first prize. The second prize horse, viz., Mr. C. Colbath's Von Moltke Junior, was a splendidly formed bay by Von Moltke, and Mr Roberts' Len Rose, which obtained third prize was a very pretty steel grey, with fine symmetry, but somewhat small size for a stallion, while the other competitor, Mr. J. J. Miller's Contractor, by Ajax was a bay horse with good size, bone, and quality.

In the section for English trotting stallions there was only one entry, viz, Mr. D. Syme's Young Alonzo, an imported Welsh trotting cob, but he was well calculated to take a place in keen contest, being a very handsome compact horse, with good limbs and bone, and showing fine quality. Young Alonzo, of course, obtained the prize. There were four entries of colonial trotting stallions, and the Bronte Stables were again successful, winning first place with Prince Patchen by San Jose Patchen (imp), dam Miss Pringle. The second place in this section was awarded to Mr. J. W. Fleming, Brunswick, for Young Merryhawk by Old Merryhawk, dam Belle Brandon.

The class for trotting horses in harness was a very interesting one, three very able competitors coming forward. Here the Bronte Stables were again to the front. Len Rose, by A. W. Richmond who has been already referred to, obtained first prize, his fast and free action being generally admired. The same owner's Boccaccio was second, being evidently not in racing trim, and Mr. J. J. Miller's Contractor, who had many admirers was placed third. Official Results:-

**American Trotting Stallion** - First, J. A. Roberts, Bronte, Middle Brighton, BOCCACCIO (USA); second, C. Colbath, Fitzroy, VON MOLTKE JUNIOR (USA); third, J. A. Roberts, Bronte, Middle Brighton, LEN ROSE (USA). Certificate - J. J. Miller, Melbourne, CONTRACTOR (USA).

**English Trotting or Roadster Stallion** - First, D. Syme, Melbourne, YOUNG ALONZO.

**Colonial bred Trotting or Roadster Stallion** - First, J. A. Roberts, Bronte, Middle Brighton, PRINCE PATCHEN; second, J. W. Fleming, Brunswick, YOUNG MERRYHAWK.

**Trotting Horse (Harness) (First prize gift of Mr. F. Peppin)** - First, J. A. Roberts, Bronte, Middle Brighton, LEN ROSE (USA), second; J. A. Roberts, Bronte, Middle Brighton, BOCCACCIO (USA); third, J. J. Miller, Melbourne, CONTRACTOR (USA)

**Special Prizes (The Gift of Mr. C. Colbath) (Best Trotting Colt or Filly, 2 yrs old)** - First, F. E. Colbath, Fitzroy, bay filly; second, R. W. Carrick, Sandridge, MERRY THOUGHT; third, S. Strettle, Melbourne, Lysterfield





# Searching For A New Home For The Melbourne Show

## November 5, 1881 - Spring Show Luncheon

Nearly all of the speakers at the luncheon referred to the unsatisfactory delay which had taken place in granting the society a site for a permanent show ground and a plan was exhibits in the office showing the handsome bailings which the society is prepared to constructed suitable piece of land is granted.

The plan provided for a large and ornamental exhibition building of iron and glass, grandstand, machinery sheds stables, and attractive front entrance gates. The grounds are also to be planted with trees and laid out into show rings, trotting course, ladies lawn and provided with everything calculate to make the exhibitions of the Nations Agricultural Society pleasing and attractive.

## December 13, 1881 - NASV Committee Meeting

The meeting then discussed the proposal of the Government to grant a site for the show-yards near the Flemington racecourse, in lieu of that on the St. Kilda road. The discussion lasted some time, but the majority were not in favour of accepting the site.

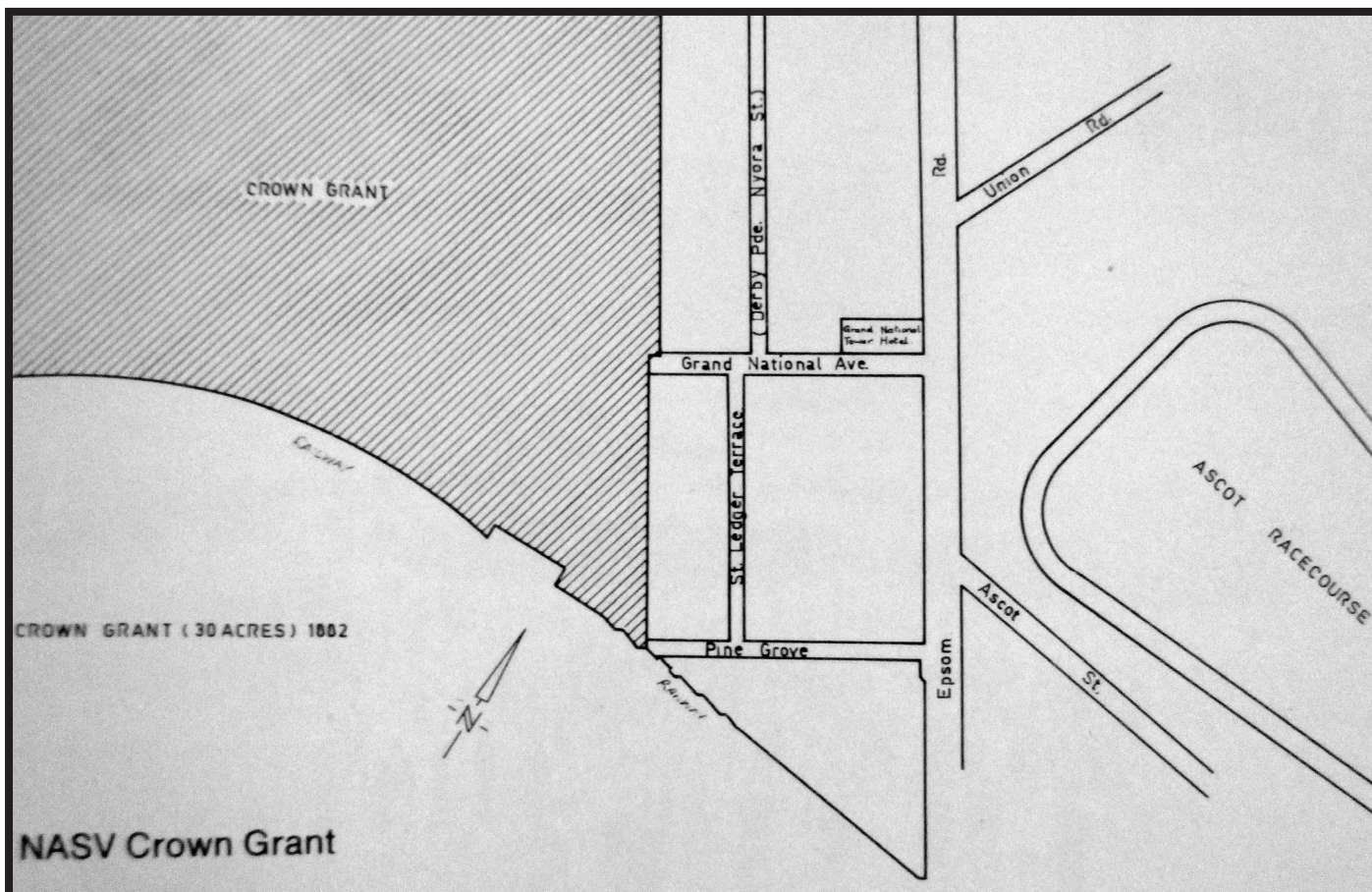
## January 25, 1882 - Deputation with Minister of Lands

The president and members of the council of the National Agricultural Society waited upon the Minister of Lands on Wednesday in reference to the site selected for their showgrounds. They pointed out that the allotment near the Flemington racecourse would not be at all suitable for the purposes of the institution, and urged that the area in the Royal Park, previously refused, might be given them.

Mr. Madden replied that it was to be regretted that the society was not satisfied with the site decided upon as most suitable on a previous occasion. It was not at all likely that the Government would consent to any alienation for the occupation of the Society in the Royal Park, but he would remit the whole question again to the consideration of the Government. He intimated that the allotment on the St Kilda road now in their possession would be required by the department in a few weeks.

## March 3, 1882 - Deputation with Minister of Lands

A deputation from the National Agricultural Society, introduced by Mr. Cook, M.L.A., waited upon the Minister of Lands (Mr. Madden) yesterday They said that the council had decided to accept the offer of the Government of an allotment near the Flemington Racecourse for their new showground. They desired that the Government should afford them some assistance in fencing the property, a work which it was estimated would cost £3,000. Mr. Madden promised to consult his colleagues, with a view of affording the assistance applied for.





## 1883 National Agricultural Society Spring Show (Nov 8-9-10)

The new show grounds of the National Agricultural Society of Victoria (see etching below) were opened to the public yesterday for the first time, when, considering the unfavourable weather, there was a good attendance of visitors.

It was anticipated that the change of site, while giving so many advantages in other respects, would have the effect of largely decreasing the patronage usually accorded to the show, for this year at least that so for this has not proved the case. The opening day has never been a popular one with the public, and remembering this the society had no reason to complain that their work was not properly appreciated the manner in which the society has come into possession of this ground is worth relating.

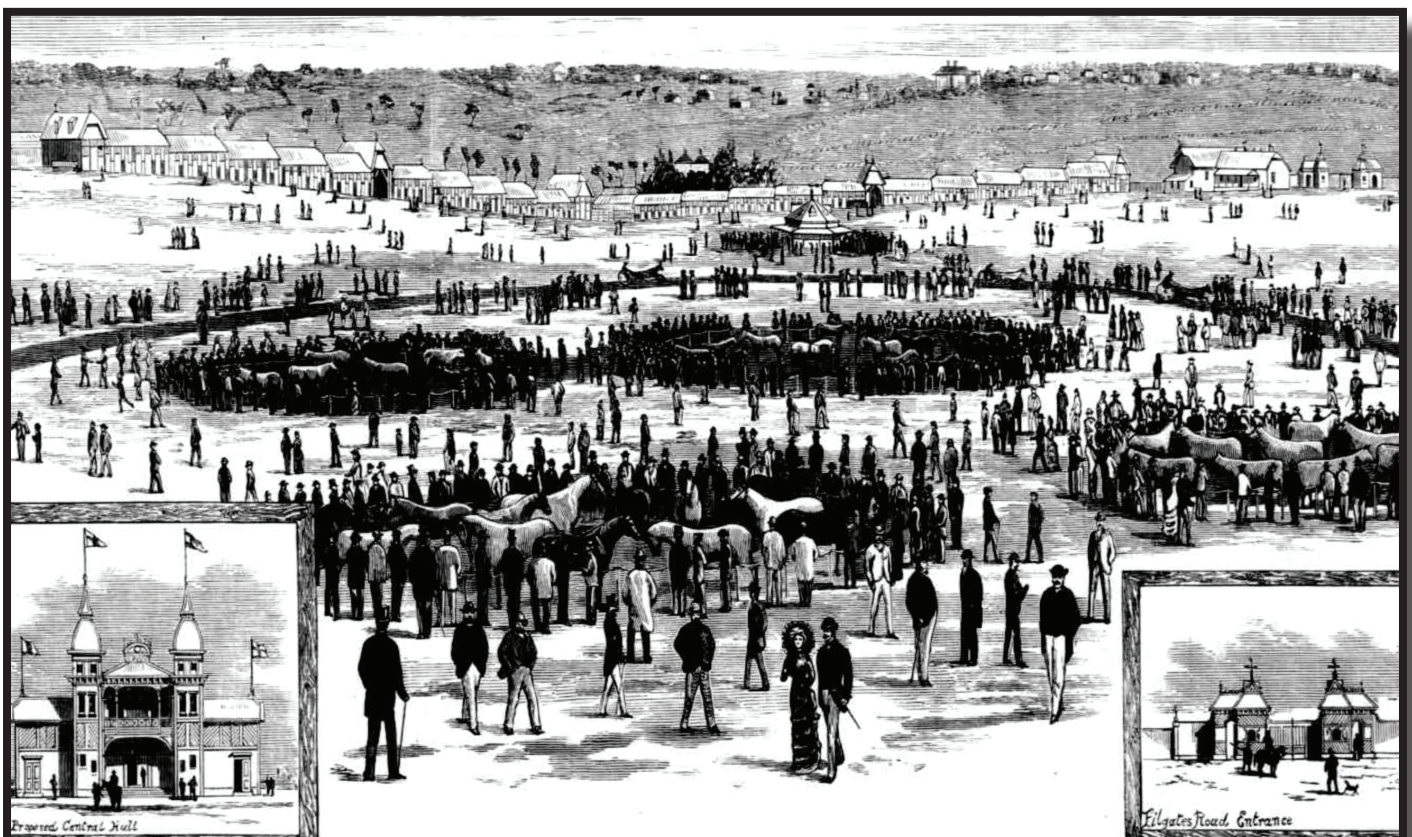
At rule in occupation of the show ground on the St Kilda road, the Society were always receiving from the Government notice to quit. Feeling the insecurity of their position the society made application for a portion of the Royal Park. This application would have been granted but for the strenuous opposition of the Hotham municipality, who were determined that the park should not be cut up if they could help it. About this time Mr. Byron Moore the secretary of the Victoria Racing Club, was endeavouring to purchase a piece of land at the back of the Flemington racecourse in order to enlarge the hill.

The agent of the proprietor would not subdivide the block, and in order to secure the land wanted Mr Moore purchased the whole block at £10,000. He sold to the V.R.C. committee what land was wanted for the hill at cost price and of the remainder, named Bagot Mile, he offered a block of 10 acres to the Government as a site for the National Agricultural Society. The hon Jas. MacLaren, who was the Minister representing the Government in the transaction accepted the offer, and Mr. Moore furnished him with a letter, in which he offered to take back the land again should there be any strong opposition to the transaction in Parliament. Now that the cards have been fairly established there can be no doubt as to their suitability.

The site is elevated and picturesque, a beautiful view being obtainable in all directions and if only on the score of health a visit to the ground cannot prove otherwise than beneficial. There was very little difficulty in getting the exhibits into their proper positions, notwithstanding the change of situation and the necessity for an entirely new disposition of things.

The several new rings, in which different kinds of stock were judged at the same time, were a distinct improvement on the old order of things, and the labours of judges and stewards were expedited greatly by the change of system there was none of the confusion of a first occupation, and everything went smoothly and pleasantly.

The fine collection of machinery, all in motion, was a large and rare resting feature in the show. Altogether, there is every prospect of the show being a decided success.





## 1883 National Agricultural Society Spring Show (cont'd)

The entries of trotting horses and roadsters would seem to indicate a growing interest in these classes of stock. The prize offered for American trotters brought out seven candidates for the judges favour. Mr. J. A. Roberts, of Bronte, Middle Brighton was successful in winning the first prize with his well known and grandly shaped horse Boccaccio USA, second place was secured by Mr. J. J. Miller, Melbourne, with his handsomely formed trotter Honesty USA, the other competing horses being Mr. Roberts' Len Rose USA and Pioneer USA, Mr. J. Robertson's Granger USA, Mr. J. H. Colbath's Von Moltke Junior USA and Mr. J. J. Miller's Contractor USA.

There were only two English trotting or roadster stallions viz. Mr. David Syme's handsome Welsh trotting cob Young Alonzo, which was awarded first prize and Mr. Joseph Bell's Sir Richard (UK), who obtained second. The colonial trotting stallions were not numerous. Mr. J. W. Fleming's Young Merryhawk, by Merryhawk, obtained first prize, and Mr. F. Robbins' Powhattan by Potomac, second.

Mr. J. A. Roberts' Len Rose was first in trotters in harness, Mr. F. E. Colbath's Von Moltke Junior second, and Mr. J. J. Miller's Honesty third. Trotting colts and fillies were fairly well represented. In the contest for champion prize, Mr. J. A. Roberts' Boccaccio was the winner, but it is important to note that the judges were bound to consider "trotting stallions" only, so that roadsters were at a disadvantage. Official results were:-

### TROTTERS AND ROADSTERS (Judges - W. Harris, John Wagner and R. Orr)

**American Trotting Stallion** - First, J. A. Roberts, Brighton, BOCCACCIO (USA)

**English Trotting or roadster Stallion** - First, David Syme, Kew, YOUNG ALONZO (UK); second, J. Bell, Bolton, Brighton Beach, SIR RICHARD.

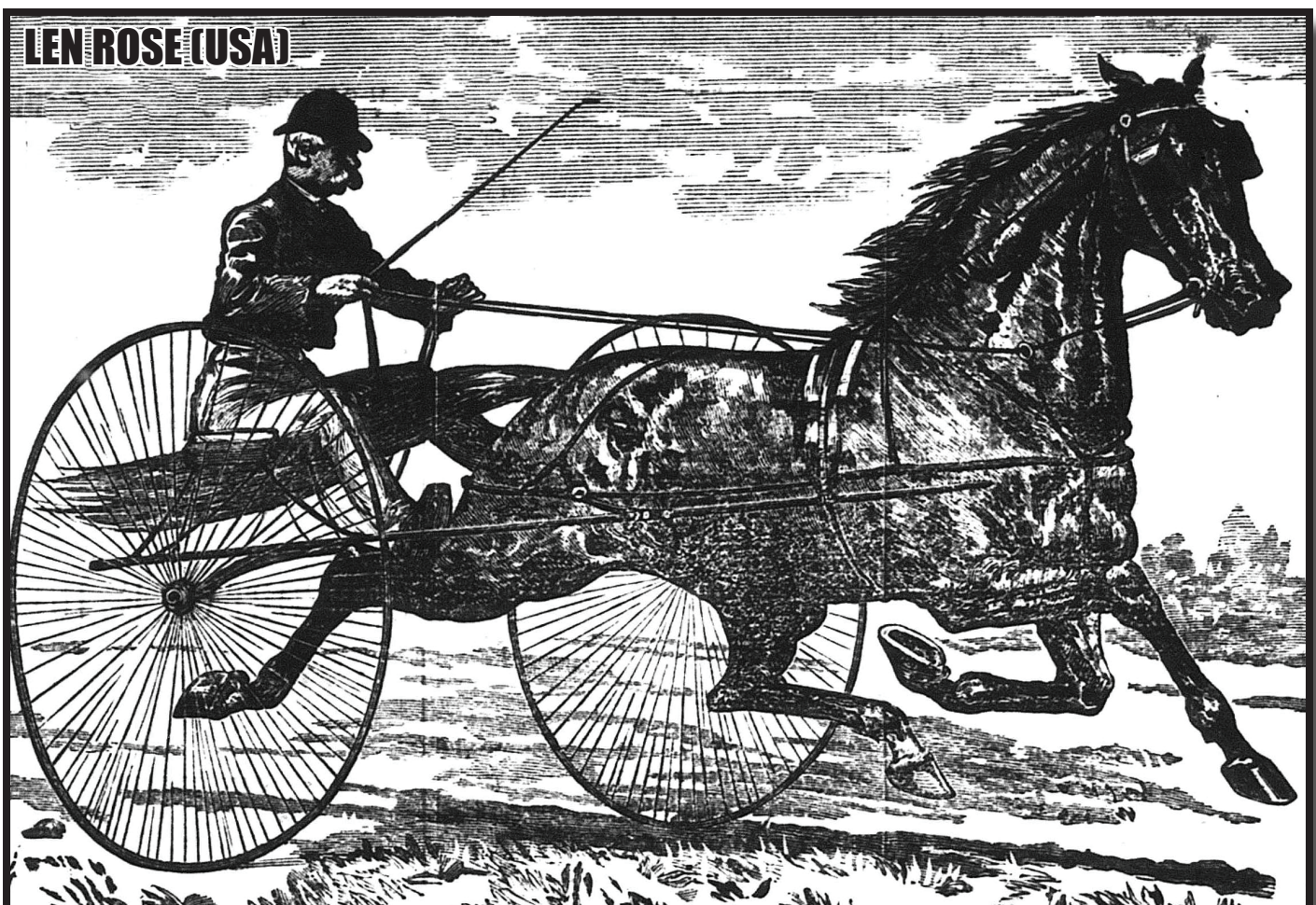
**Colonial bred Trotting or Roadster Stallion** - First, W. Fleming, Brunswick, YOUNG MERRYHAWK; second, Frank Robbins, Sandridge, MANHATTAN; third, Frank Robbins, Sandridge, POWHATTAN.

**Trotting Horse, harness** - First, J. A. Roberts, Brighton, LEN ROSE (USA); second, F.E. Colbath, Fitzroy, VON MOLTKE JUNIOR (USA); third, J. J. Miller, Melbourne. CONTRACTOR (USA).

**Trotting Colt or Filly, three years old or over (shown in harness) the progeny of any trotting Stallion** - First, F.E. Colbath, Fitzroy, MIGNONETTE; second, Malcolm Ritchie, Aucholzie, Tullamarine, TOMMY.

**Trotting Colt or Filly, under three years old or over (shown in harness) the progeny of any trotting Stallion** - Wm. Rose, Brunswick, TROUBADOUR; second, J. A. Roberts, Brighton, QUEEN OF BRONTE; third, J. A. Roberts, Brighton, BRONTE BOY.

**Trotting Colt or filly under two years old (shown in harness)** - First, F. E. Colbath, Fitzroy, GARFIELD; second, Charles Colbath, Fitzroy, ANNIE W; third, J. J. Miller, Melbourne, THE BUILDER





# 1884 National Agricultural Society Spring Show (Aug. 27-28-29-30)

## TROTTERS AND ROADSTERS

The trotting roadster classes were very well represented, good entries being received in almost every section, while the quality of the exhibits was undeniable. Among the American trotting stallions, Granger (USA), a powerfully built horse, more of the Cleveland stamp than of the American trotter, took first prize, Mr. Aitken's new purchase, Len Rose (USA), being second, and Pioneer (USA) third.

Only three entered the lists for the English roadster competition, the best of them being Merrylegs, a compact brown or black horse, with plenty of life in him, belonging to Mr. Gidney; Sir Richard again taking second place, while Flying Scotchman, who comes from South Australia, was third.

A good deal of interest was taken in the competition for the place of honor among the colonial bred roadsters, for which there were originally nine candidates, although only seven entered the ring. In this, Beverley, owned by Mr. D. Syme, took first prize; the second and third horses being Mr. Fleming's Young Merryhawk and Mr. Robbins's Merrythought. Beverley, the winner, is a bay horse with black points, standing about 16 hands, his sire being Dnke of Cleveland, who was imported by Mr. Horwood, of Bridgewater, and who also bred the winner.

The class for trotting horses in harness evoked some competition between Len Rose (USA), Brown Hawk and Von Moltke Junior (USA), but the contest eventually was decided in favor of the handsome little grey, the other two being placed in the order named. Troubadour, a handsome looking son of Boccaccio, owned by Mr. W. Rose, had no difficulty in taking first honors in the class for three-year-old trotters; Patchen Chief, a well shaped golden chestnut, rather on the small side, being second.

A considerable amount of interest was taken in the contest for the trotting stallion championship, for which Granger, Troubadour, Len Rose (USA), Merrylegs (UK), Von Moltke Junior (USA), and Beverley, the prize winners in their respective sections, competed, All the horses were in fine condition, and the judges found that it was a matter of some difficulty to place them. Eventually, after a lengthy consideration of their points, the championship was awarded to Beverley, who had taken the prize for the best colonial bred trotting and roadster stallion; the championship for trotting mares being awarded to Mr. J. A. Roberts's Sylph (USA)

## TROTTERS AND BUGGY AND CARRIAGE HORSES (Judges - Messrs J. McLaughlan, Sydney; Mr. A. Crawford, Beechworth; Dr. Lempriere, South Yarra)

**American Trotting Stallion (First prize society's gold medal)** - First, J. Robertson, 89 Lonsdale street, GRANGER (USA); second, T. Aitken, East Melbourne, LEN ROSE (USA); third, J. A. Roberts Middle Brighton, PIONEER (USA).

**English Trotting or Roadster Stallion (First prize society's gold medal)** - First, J. Gidney, Hotham, MERRYLEGS (UK); second, J. Bell, Brighton, SIR RICHARD; third, J. Bradshaw, Glenlyon, FLYING SCOTCHMAN.

**Colonial bred Trotting or Roadster Stallion (First Prize £5 5s, the gift of Messrs Kilpatrick and Co)** - First and champion, D. Syme Kew, BEVERLEY; second, J. W. Fleming, Brunswick, YOUNG MERRY HAWK; third, F. Robbins Sandridge, MERRYTHOUGHT.

**Trotting Horse, harness** - First, T. Aitken LEN ROSE (USA); second, F Robbins, BROWNHAWK; third, F. E. Colbath, Fitzroy, VON MOLTKE JUNIOR (USA)

**Champion Trotting Mare** - J. A. Roberts, Middle Brighton, SYLPH (USA)

**Trotting Horse (Saddle)** - First, E. W. Harrison, Simpson's road, ALBION.

**Trotting Colt or Filly 36 months old or under** - First, W. Rose, Brunswick, TROUBADOUR; second, W. K. Thomson, Brighton, PATCHEN CHIEF; third, J. A. Roberts, Middle Brighton, KING OF BRONTE.

## THE TIME TEST

Those who visited the grounds on Saturday were almost precluded from enjoying themselves by the furious wind - which, it may be remarked, showed that its exposed position is the weak point of the show yards site— but nevertheless the exhibits were examined with interest, and there was a good muster to see the final trials of the trotters for the 15 guinea Time Test prize.

The conditions were that each competitor should trot twice round the track, which is half a mile in circumference, on each day under a time test, this prize to be given to the horse which made the best average time.

Mr. T. Aitken's handsome imported American trotter LEN ROSE (USA) was first, his time for the 6 rounds — 3 miles — being 8 min. 7 2-5ths secs. Len Rose is the well known grey until recently owned by Mr. J. A. Roberts, of Bronte. Mr. F. E. Colbath, of Brunswick-street, was second with VON MOLTKE JUNIOR (USA), whose record was 8 min. 14 4-5ths secs; and Mr. Robbins, of Sandridge was third with BROWN HAWK - time, 8 min, 15 1/2 secs. The fastest time for the two rounds was done by the winner, it being 2 min. 41 2-5ths secs.

The timekeeping was in charge of Mr. Gaunt and his assistants.



# 1885 National Agricultural Society Spring Show (Aug. 19-20-21-22)

The National Agricultural Society celebrated the granting of a half day holiday for the Show.

The class for trotters and roadsters did not attract so much attention as they usually do. Mr. J. J. Miller's imported American horse Contractor was placed first, the handsome Len Rose and Von Moltke Junior filling the other places. The only English roadster shown was Mr. M. Power's Young Snowstorm. There were five competitors in the class for colonial trotting stallions. Merrythought by Merryhawk - Alice, a very taking chesnut was awarded first prize; Young Merryhawk also by Merryhawk, a very shapely bay horse was second, the third prize being awarded to Troubadour, by Boccaccio.

In the class for trotting horses shown in harness Len Rose earned off first honours, Von Moltke Junior again being placed behind him. Mascotte, a colt by Von Moltke Junior was placed first for trotting horse under saddle. The class for trotting colts was an irregular one some of the exhibits being little more than foals. Mr. Beaumont's Sir John was given first prize. The champion prize for trotting stallions was given to Mr. Miller's Contractor and for trotting mare to Mr Beaumont's Olivette, by Sussex- Alice May.

## TROTTERS AND ROADSTERS (Judges - Messrs. F. B. Clapp, E. M. Bond and Stratford Strettle)

**American Trotting Stallion** - First, J. J. Miller, Melbourne, CONTRACTOR (USA); second, Joseph Beaumont, Ivanhoe, LEN ROSE (USA); third, C. Colbath, Fitzroy, VON MOLTKE JUNIOR (USA)

**English Trotting or Roadster Stallion** - First, M. Power, YOUNG SNOWSTORM

**Colonial bred Trotting or Roadster Stallion** - First, Frank Robbins, Port Melbourne, MERRYTHOUGHT; second, J. W. Fleming, Brunswick, YOUNG MERRYHAWK; third, William Rose, Brunswick, TROUBADOUR.

**Trotting Horse (harness)** - First, Joseph Beaumont, Ivanhoe, LEN ROSE (USA); second, C. Colbath, VON MOLTKE JUNIOR (USA); third, Frank Robbins, Port Melbourne, MERRYTHOUGHT

**Trotting Horse (saddle)** - First, Joseph Beaumont, Ivanhoe, MASCOTTE.

**Trotting Colt or filly, 3 years old or under** - First, Joseph Beaumont, Ivanhoe, SIR JOHN

**Champion Trotting Stallion** - J. J. Miller, Melbourne, CONTRACTOR (USA)

**Champion Trotting Mare** - Joseph Beaumont, Ivanhoe, OLIVETTE.

## TIME TEST: First Day (twice round - one mile)

C. Colbath's VON MOLTKE JUNIOR (USA) (F. Mulholland) TT2m 49s

F. Robbins' DEFIANCE (USA) (F. Robbins) TT2m 46s

## Second Day (twice round) - second day

C. Colbath's VON MOLTKE JUNIOR (USA) (F. Mulholland) TT2m 44s

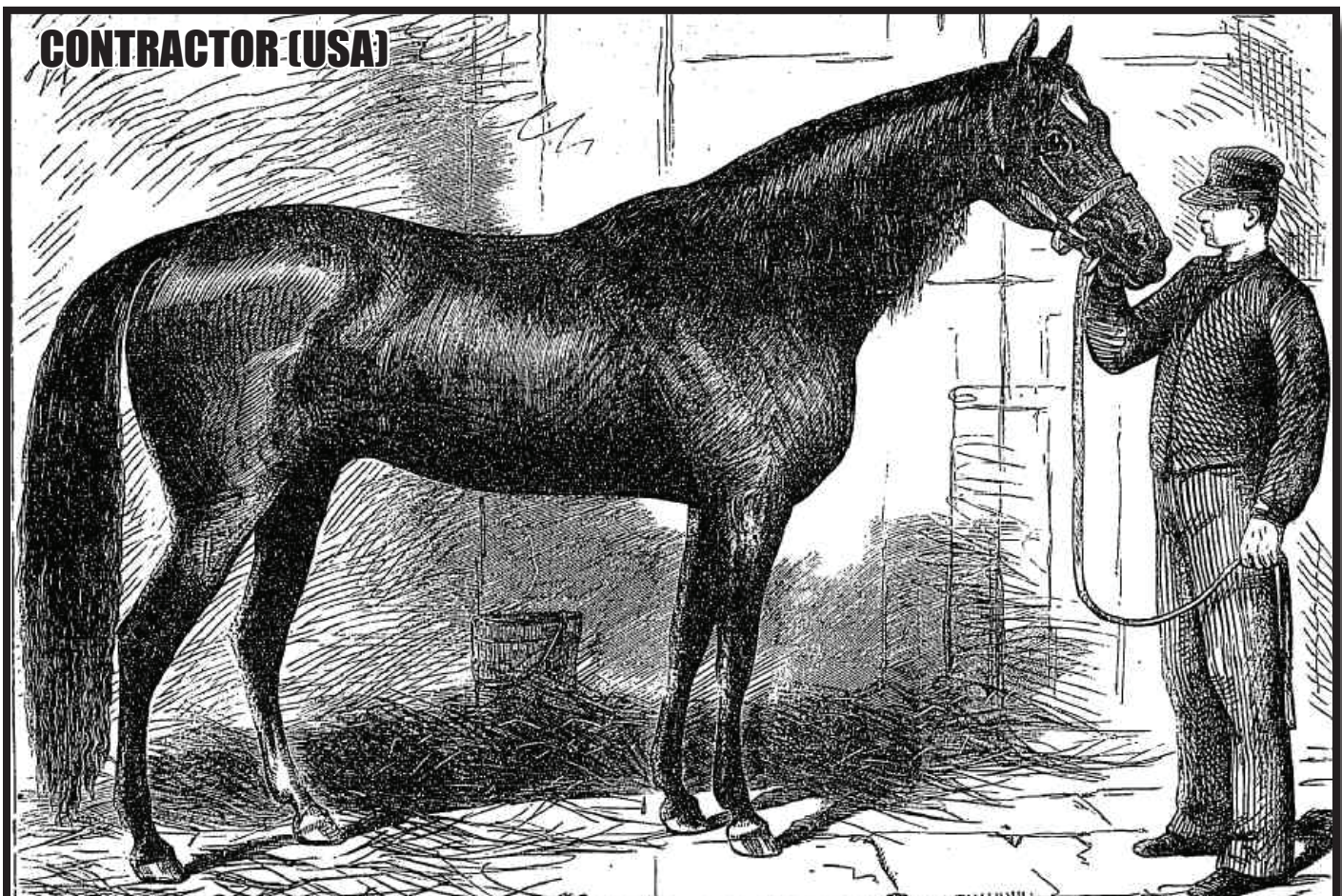
F. Robbins' DEFIANCE (USA) (F. Robbins) TT2m 48s

## Third Day (twice round) - third day

C. Colbath's VON MOLTKE JUNIOR (USA) (F. Mulholland) TT2m 57s

F. Robbins' DEFIANCE (USA) (F. Robbins) TT2m 40 3/4s

**AVERAGE: First, DEFIANCE (USA) - 2m 49.9s**





# 1886 National Agricultural Society Spring Show (Aug. 25-26-27-28)

From the number of trotters shown it is evident that the fancy for coaching and trotting horses is spreading. In the imported stallion class there was a good muster but the animals were of two classes, and the judges from their awards were evidently in favour of size. The first prize was given to a red roan horse named Quicksilver, shown by Mr. J. Bradshaw, of Glenlyon. He is an immensely powerful horse and gives one the idea that he could draw a ton easily. With all his power he is very active and has a good carriage. He also received the champion for trotting stallion. Mr. J. Gidney's Merrylegs, a powerful black horse was placed second, with Mr. A. McWhinnie's The Trimmer (UK), a very taking animal of the large sort was placed third. Mr. J. J. Miller's Contractor (USA) was much admired but he was of a very different class from the placed horses. Mr. W. Dewar of Essendon showed a very nice horse in Strideaway (USA).

There was a good muster of colonial bred trotting horses. The first prize was given to Mr. F. Robbins' Merrythought by Merryhawk, a very attractive and powerful chestnut horse upstanding and with good carriage. Mr. D. Syme of Kew exhibited a couple of very powerful young horses. One of them, a rich bay bred by Mr. Joel Horwood, was awarded the second prize. Mr. J. J. Millers Sauerkraut by Von Moltke Junior, is of a lighter description than the others but is of excellent quality. He was awarded third prize. Mr. J. Skehill of Pastoria exhibited an immense two year old colt and Mr. Ross Watt's colt by Highflyer is also a very large three year old. The taste in roadster stallions is evidently in favour of strong powerful horses with great bone and substance. In the class for trotting horses driven Mr. Miller's Contractor was far away the best of the lot for both style and pace. Granger was placed second and Mr. F. Robbins' Manhattan third.

The class for trotters in saddle brought out only two competitors. Mr. Lovelock's Albion showed great freedom and action in the ring but when taken outside to show his pace the rider lost his head. At first the judges declined to award a prize but eventually gave Albion first prize and a stout cream coloured horse shown by Dr. La Mert the second prize.

There was a good show of trotting colts and fillies three years old and under. Mr. C. Hoyt's John Brown, a very powerful son of Von Moltke Junior with all the appearance of speed gained first prize. Mr. S. Strettle's Wildfire, by Fireball a very neat 2-year-old bay filly was awarded second prize but she must have been closely run by Mr. J. J. Miller's 2-year old bay colt Architect, by Contractor, a very well proportioned youngster who takes much after his sire, but promises to develop into a larger horse. Mr. P. Bailey's exhibit had an enlarged foot and Mr. S. Strettle's Grandeur by Paragon shows great size but is as yet rather loosely made. **There was no Time Test for the Trotters.**

**Trotting Stallion** - First, Jos. Bradshaw, Glenlyon, QUICKSILVER; second, J. Gidney, Hotham, MERRYLEGS; third, Mr. A. McWhinnie, Kirks Bazaar, THE TRIMMER (UK)

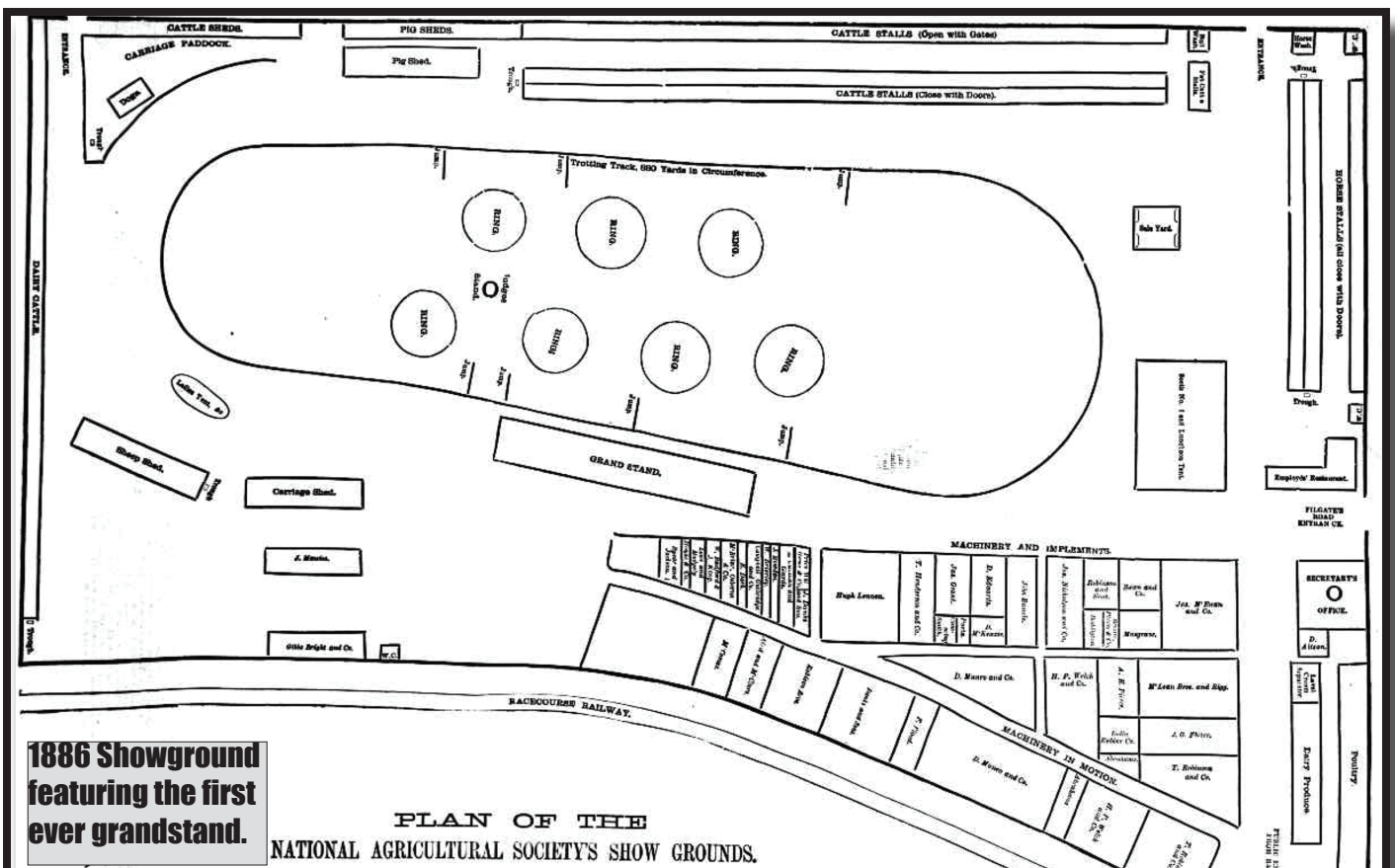
**Colonial bred Trotting Stallion** - First, F. Robbins, Port Melbourne, MERRYTHOUGHT; second, David Syme, Kew, BEVERLEY; third, Jas Miller, Melbourne, SAUERKRAUT

**Trotting Horse** - First, J. J. Miller, Melbourne, CONTRACTOR (USA); second, John Robertson, Melbourne, GRANGER (USA); Granger, third, F. Robbins, Port Melbourne, MANHATTAN

**Trotting Horse (saddle)** - First, F. Lovelock, Melbourne, ALBION; second, Dr. La Mert, St Kilda, SIR WALTER SCOTT

**Trotting Colt or Filly** - First, C. Hoyt, Melbourne, JOHN BROWN; second, Stratford Strettle, Berwick, WILDFIRE; third, J. J. Miller's ARCHITECT.

**Grand Champion Prize** - F. Robbins, Port Melbourne, MERRYTHOUGHT





# 1887 National Agricultural Society Spring Show (Aug. 23-24-25-26)

## TROTTERS AND ROADSTERS

Owing to an alteration in the class for trotting stallions Mr. J. Bradshaw's roan horse Quicksilver, who has taken prizes all over the country was disqualified his not being in his proper class. What makes this case all the harder is that Quicksilver won the prize last year.

Of the four horses left in the contest Mr. J. J. Miller's Contractor was undoubtedly the most attractive, and he had by a long way the best action. He was full of life and health, and the muscles of his thighs and quarters were splendidly developed. The judges awarded him the first prize and he was afterwards taken the grand champion prize as a trotting stallion. The second prize was given to Mr. D. Syme's Gentleman George, not yet three years old. This is the finest specimen of a Cleveland Bay that has yet been imported to Australia. He is splendidly formed, has a well shaped kindly head, round barrel, remarkably good quarters, and will furnish into a very fine stallion. He well deserved the second prize awarded to him. Mr. R. Dewer's Strideaway USA did not compare favourably with the first and second prize takers, but the judges preferred him to Granger, whose hollow back told against him.

In the class for colonial bred trotting stallions, Mr. F. Robbins brought out Merrythought in rare condition, with an amount of trappings that one does not often see in a show yard, and he was rewarded by getting first prize. Mr. R. Fleming's Young Merryhawk looked remarkably well; he is a handsome topped horse but would be the better of a little more bone below the knee. Romeo, a very powerful large-framed young horse, shown by Mr. D. Syme, gained third prize. The other exhibits were Mr. W. Rose's Troubadour, by Boccaccio, and Mr. J. Robertson's Ranger, by Granger.

Four horses competed for the prize for trotting in harness. The imported horse Granger here showed to better advantage than when led into the ring. His pace and action gained him the good opinion of all the spectators and the first prize. Mr. Rose's Troubadour also improved when driven. He showed very close form, and was fairly entitled to the second prize given to him. The two other competitors were of a very inferior stamp. The third prize was given to a bay horse shown by Mr. H. Cadman, who looked as if he had been given a holiday from his dairy cab work to do to the show. His action was eccentric, as it there was some flaw in the machinery by which his hind legs moved. Mr. F. Robbins fairly won the prize for trotting mare with Linda by Wollamai, Mr. A. McWinnie's Lizzie was second

Only two competitors contested the prize for best colt or filly in harness but it is seldom such a couple are seen in a Victorian show ring. Mr. D. G. Clark's Richmond Belle, 2 years 11 months, by Childe Harold - Countess, showed remarkably well, considering that Mr. R. Glasscock had her in hand only nine days. She has size, good shape and the action that will develop into a great trotter. This fine young mare was bred by Mr. A. Town. The judges awarded her the first prize, and she afterwards gained the grand champion prize for trotting mare. The other competitor was Mr. J. J. Miller's Architect, by Contractor, 3 years. He is neater in shape than the filly, but owing to excitement or some other cause would not show his pace, although he is known to have very fine action .

## TROTTING HORSE AWARDS

**Imported Trotting Stallion** - First, J. J. Miller, Little Collins Street east, CONTRACTOR (USA); second, Mr. D. Syme, Lilydale, GENTLEMAN GEORGE (UK); third, Robert Dewer, Lindenow, STRIDEAWAY (USA)

**Colonial bred Stallion** - First, F. Robbins, Port Melbourne, MERRYTHOUGHT; second, Robt. Fleming, Brunswick, YOUNG MERRYHWAK; third, D. Syme, Lilydale, ROMEO

**Trotting Horse or Gelding, driven in a buggy or sulky** - First, John Robertson, Lonsdale street, GRANGER (USA); second, Wm. Rose, Brunswick, TROUBADOUR; third, Henry Cadman, Brunswick, TOMMY.

**Trotting Mare driven in a sulky or buggy** - First, F. Robbins, Port Melbourne, LINDA (by Wollamai); second, A. McWinnie, Newmarket, LIZZIE

**Trotting Colt or Filly, three years or under, driven in sulky or buggy** - First, D. G. Clark, Richmond, RICHMOND BELLE (Childe Harold USA - Countess); second, J. J. Miller, Little Collins Street east, ARCHITECT (Contractor USA - Constance Howe)

**Champion Trotting Stallion** - J. J. Miller, Little Collins Street east, CONTRACTOR (USA)

**Champion Trotting Mare** - D. G. Clark, Richmond, RICHMOND BELLE.

## TIME TEST (two laps of 880 yard circuit)

### First day

G. Robertson's brh GRANGER (USA) TT3m 5 3/4s  
Rev. Ralph Brown's bh ALBION TT3m 29 3/4s

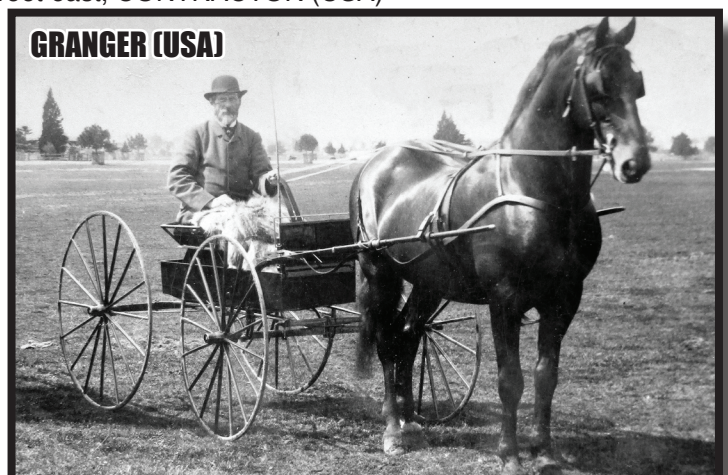
### Second day

G. Robertson's brh GRANGER (USA) TT3m 1 1/2s  
Rev. Ralph Brown's bh ALBION TT3m 53s

### Third day

G. Robertson's brh GRANGER (USA) TT3m 7s  
Rev. Ralph Brown's bh ALBION TT3m 36 1/2s

**AVERAGE: First - GRANGER (USA) 3m 4 3/4s**





# 1888 National Agricultural Society Show (Aug. 28-29-30-31; Sep. 1)

## TROTTERS AND ROADSTERS

This is one of the most attractive classes on the ground. The competition was keen in most of the sections and the judging was watched with keen interest by the spectators each of them having their own fancy as regards pace and action. For imported trotting stallions E. Colbath, Collingwood, secured the premier award with Von Moltke Junior. This horse, although a trifle sore, still retains his pace and will be seen in advantage during the week, when the time tests come on for decision. D. Syme's Gentleman George was placed second.

In the class for colonial bred trotting stallion eight competitors entered the ring. The pride of place eventually fell to Mr. J. J. Miller for his handsome four year old The Architect by Contractor (USA). This colt has furnished well, and for action and style was undoubtedly the pick of the lot. W. Rose, Brunswick, got second prize for a handsome brown, Troubadour, by Boccaccio. Robert Fleming, Brunswick, filling this place with Young Merryhawk. A great number of the onlookers thought that the old favourite Merrythought belonging to the veteran sportsman F. Robbins should have been placed, his style and action being as good as ever.

For trotting horse or gelding driven in harness, Rose's Troubadour secured the first prize, James McDougall, Collins street west filling second place with a taking brown Wildfire, by Fireball, while A. Burrows, Footscray, got third for Tim, by Sydney Tim. The imported horse Von Moltke Junior was not placed.

For trotting mares D. G. Clark, Richmond, showed one of the handsomest animals that ever graced a show ring, for symmetry, action pace and apparently temper, her equal would be hard to find. J. J. Miller's Clara M was next in order of merit and, in the section to three years old and under, Mr. J. J. Miller was to the fore, taking first with Probitus and second with Honestus; both these horses were bred by the exhibitor by the imported trotting stallion Honesty.

**Trotting stallion** - C. Colbath's VON MOLTKE JUNIOR (USA); second, D. Syme's GENTLEMAN GEORGE (UK)

**Colonial bred Trotting Stallion and champion** - J. J. Miller's THE ARCHITECT; second, W. Rose's TROUBADOUR; third, R. Fleming's YOUNG MERRYHAWK

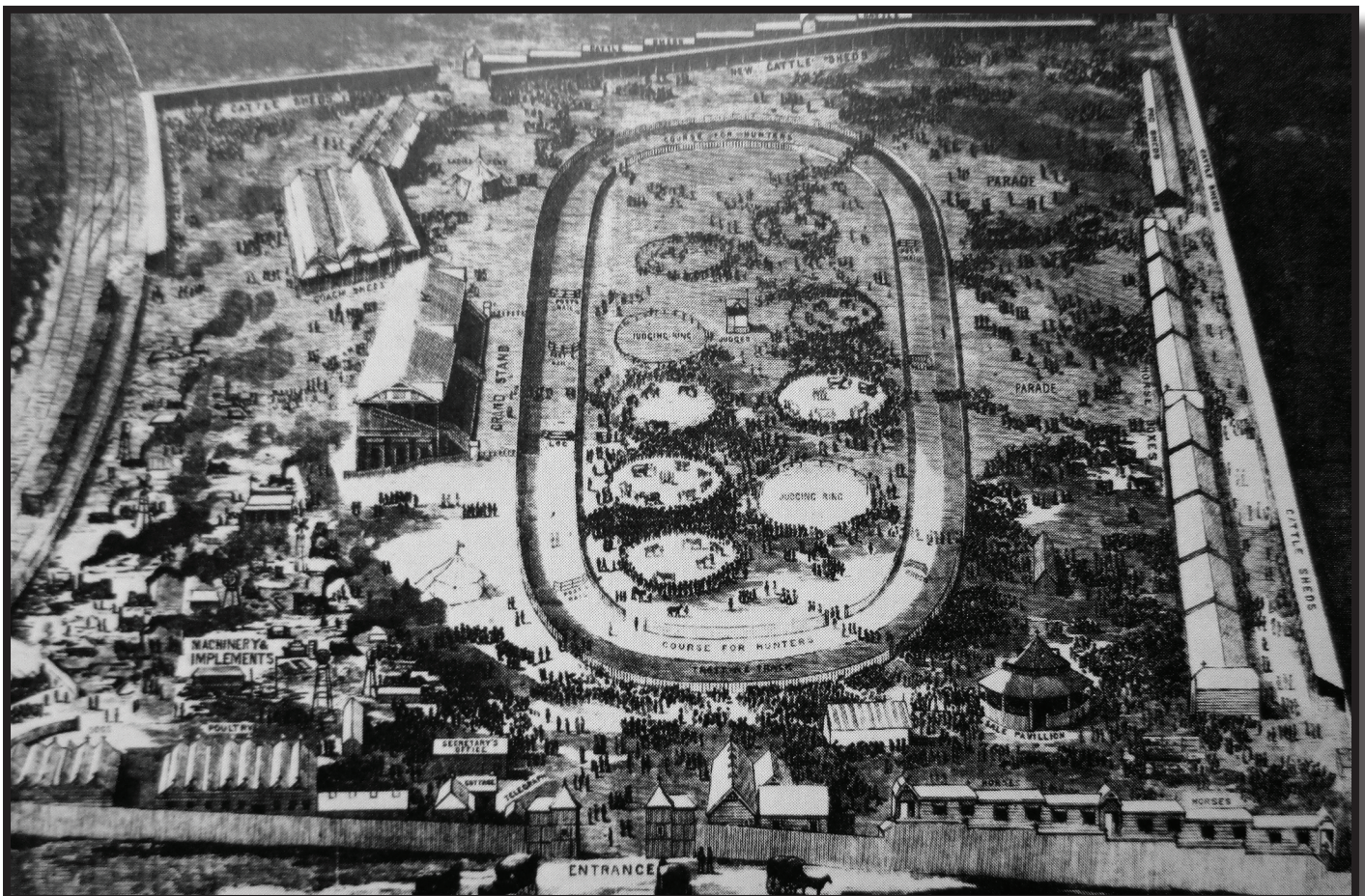
**Trotting Horse or Gelding** - W. Rose's TROUBADOUR; second, James McDougall's WILDFIRE; third, A. Burrows' TIM.

**Trotting Mare and champion** - D. G. Clark's RICHMOND BELLE (by Childe Harold USA); second, J. J. Miller's CLARA M (by Contractor USA); third, W. Rose's BESS (by Flying Morgan UK).

**Trotting Colt or filly** - J. J. Miller's PROBITUS (by Honesty USA); second, J. J. Miller's HONESTUS (by Honesty USA); third, J. J. Tomlin's RADEX (by Von Moltke Junior USA). Highly commended, J. J. Miller's AEQUITAS (by Honesty USA); commended, J. McDougall's PIONEER II (by Pioneer USA)

**TIME TEST (Two laps of 880yd track on each of three days - Winner decided by average time)**

1. D. G. Clark's RICHMOND BELLE - TT2m 49s - TT2m 49 1/2s - TT2m 49 3/4s
2. J. J. Miller's CLARA M - TT3min - TT3m 1 1/2s - TT2m 57 1/2s
3. F. Mallett's CAPTAIN - TT3m 3 1/2s - TTm 2 1/2s - TT3m 4 1/4s





## 1889 National Agricultural Society Show (Aug. 28-29-30-31; Sep. 1-2)

Mr. J. J. Miller's imported American horse Red Wind was almost unanimously selected as the champion among the trotting stallions long before the award of the judges was announced. He is a beautifully compact horse, 6 years old, by the famous and fashionable sire Red Wilkes, whose stock have recently been wonderfully successful in America, and when extended on the track showed action that might almost be likened to "the poetry of motion". So much is the Red Wilkes blood in demand just now in America that Mr. Miller has a standing offer for Red Wind at a substantial profit, upon the price paid for him in California whenever he chooses to re-deliver him in San Francisco, but it is hardly likely that he will return to his native land. Young Merryhawk was well entitled to the second prize awaited him, and Mr. Miller secured third with Honestus, by Honesty, a clipping looking colt of his own breeding.

Only three of the five trotting mares catalogued faced the judges, who had no easy task in deciding between the American mare Lucretia, imported with Red Wind by Mr. Miller, and Mr. D. G. Clark's spanking mare Richmond Belle, who last year outclassed everything opposed to her. After a protracted consideration the first prize was awarded to Lucretia, whose beautifully even way of covering the ground, together with her general appearance and conformation, entitled her to the honor; but Richmond Belle, though defeated, was far from being disgraced. She was unfairly handicapped by the colonial bred arid imported stock being thrown into one class, and it was highly creditable to her breeder that a mare bred in Australia should so closely run one which had been specially selected and purchased in "the home of the trotting horse", for exportation to Australia by one of the best judges of trotting stock in the United States. Third prize was awarded to Maud H., a daughter of Sir Walter Soott, but she was in company far above her in quality.

In the class for 3-year-old colts and fillies. Mr. Kendall's Viscount, by Von Moltke Junior, beat Mr. Miller's K. K. by Contractor, and no 2-year-olds were shown. Final award results were as follows:-

**Stallion, ridden or driven (not necessarily, for. speed)** - 1st, James. J. Miller, Fern Tree Gully, RED WIND (USA); 2nd, J. W. Fleming, Brunswick, YOUNG MERRYHAWK; 3rd, James J. Miller, Fern Tree Gully, HONESTUS.

**Mare, driven in sulky or buggy** - 1st, E. G. Brodribb, St. Kilda, LUCRETIA (USA) ; 2nd, D. G. Clark, Carrajung, RICHMOND BELLE; 3rd, E. B. Green, Brighton, MAUD H.

**Colt or Filly, 3 years old, driven in sulky or buggy** - 1st W: T. Kendall, Fitzroy, VISCOUNT (by Von Moltke Junior); 2nd, James J. Miller, Fern Tree Gully, K.K. (by Contractor).

**Grand Champion Trotting stallion, 2 years old or over** - J. J. Miller, Fern Tree Gully, CONTRACTOR (USA)

**Grand Champion Trotting mare or filly, 2 years old or over** - E. G. Brodribb, St. Kilda, LUCRETIA (USA).

### TIME TEST

The trotting contest excited a good deal of interest. The competition started at 10.30 a.m. in the presence of a fair number of spectators, which considerably increased as the morning wore on.

The conditions were as follows:- Three special prizes, as under, will be awarded to the fastest trotting horses, mares or geldings (saddle or harness) to trot round the course each day at the direction of the stewards, under a time test; the prize to be awarded to the horses which make the best average time during the four days. The first prize will be £26 5s; the second prize, £10 10s and the third prize, £5 5s. '

There were nine competitors altogether, and each horse had to be ridden or driven around the ring twice, the distance of each round being about half a mile.

The first to go was Tommy, a bay horse, owned by Henry Cadman, of Hope Street, Brunswick, who showed a bit of speed. but had anything but an attractive style. He did the distance in 3min 12 1/2s, breaking four times.

The second competitor was a bay pony named Kitty, owned by Walter S. Munro of Middle Brighton, who showed plenty of style, but was rather handicapped as to size as she was only 13 1/2 hands high, She did the mile in 3min. 11 1/4s, also breaking four times.

Phoenix. a neat bay, entered by Herbert K. Hussey, of Brunswick, covered the journey in 2min. 56 3/4s.

The next competitor was an old friend in Sir John, who had been seen on many occasions on the Elsternwick Park course. He was entered by E. M. Row of Scoresby, and was ridden by Mr Alf. Watson, the well-known starter, and son of Mr George Watson, of that ilk. The chesnut did not take kindly to his work at first; but when once he settled down he made a lot of pace. He broke slightly in the last round, but lost very little ground by the mishap, owing to the skilfulness of his rider. He did the journey in the fast time of 2min. 34 1/2secs, going great guns at the finish.

Richmond Belle, lust year's winner, was the next competitor. She was entered by Mr. D. G. Clark, of Carrajung, and was driven in a light buggy by Mr. Bob Glasscock. Her time was 2min. 54 1/2secs.

Ruby, a brown pony, 12 1/2 hands high, who took first prize yesterday in the class for single buggy ponies between 12 and 14 hands, next trotted around the ring, She was driven in a sulky, and showed good style, but broke several times. The pony is only four years old, and is a beautiful looking animal, but of course had no show with the bigger horses. Her time was 3min. 30 3/4secs. The pony hails from Traralgon and is owned by Mr. C. R Wilkes.

Maud H, a chestnut sired by Sir Walter Scott and owned by Mr E. B. Green, of Brighton, started off at a great bat. She was ridden by Le Fevre, and her action was much admired. Towards the finish, however, she tired, and when the time went up everybody was surprised to find that she had taken 2min. 43 1/4ses to cover the distance.

Harry, a black pony, 14 hands high, sired by Tarn o'Shanter. was nominated by E. B. Green, of Brighton. He made good time for a pony, viz.. 2min. 46 1/4secs.

The last to go was Essendon, who is owned by George Hazzard, of Brunswick. He was ridden, but his action was too "jumpy" although he coveredl a lot of ground. The time was 2min. 45 3/4secs.

**FINAL TOTALS:** First - E. M. Row (Stamford Park, Scoresby) SIR JOHN (7min 58 3/4secs); second, George Hazzard (Brunswick) ESSENDON (8min 11 1/4secs); third, E. B. Green (Brighton) HARRY (8min 27 1/4secs)