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RACING CUPS

1559 to 1850

COURSING CUPS

BY

SIR WALTER GILBEY, Bart.

VINTON & CO., 8 BREAM'S BUILDINGS, CHANCERY LANE, E.C.



1910

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RACING CUPS

GOLD AND SILVER BELLS CUPS AND TANKARDS

1559 to 1850

The earliest prizes given for races in former times took the form of gold or silver bells, most usually the latter

A few specimens of bells are still in existence; the oldest being the two "Horse and Nage (Nag) Bells" belonging to the Corporation of Carlisle, which date back at least to the year 1559, as is proved by the inscription on the smaller, "1559 H.B. M.C." The letters stand for "Henry Baines, Mayor of Carlisle" in that year. The larger of the two bells is about the same age

A silver bell was the prize given by the Corporation of Chester for a race held on the Roodee Racecourse about the year 1600, and a smaller golden bell was given at York in 1607; unfortunately, it is not known whether these old trophies still exist

The Paisley Bells, which were first given to be run for in the year 1620, are still in existence; the "Silver Bells Handicap," with added money, figured on the annual race-card until the meeting was abandoned within the last few years †

The bells thus given as race prizes were usually round, with a slit in the lower part; the largest existing round bell is one of those belonging to the Carlisle Corporation; it is $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter. The inscription on the band round it—

The sweetes * Horse * this * Bel
To * tak * for * mi * Lade * Daker
* sake

has been much discussed

The Lady Daker, or Dacre, referred to has been identified with Elizabeth wife of William Lord Dacre of Gilsland, who was governor of Carlisle in the early years of Queen Elizabeth's reign (1558-1603). If this lady were the original donor of the trophy, it obviously belongs to much the same period as its smaller companion, dated 1559

The two Paisley Bells are pear-shaped. The larger is about 4 inches in length, the

† A meeting under the rules of the "British Racing Association" has been held since the Jockey Club declined to license the course.

smaller one about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches long ; the latter bearing the date " 1620 "

When the Bells were won they were made over by the Corporation, to whom they belong, to the winner who bound himself by deed to restore the trophies within eleven months under penalty of £200

I am informed that the sum of £2,000 has been offered for the Paisley Bells as curios

In old days a bell was so usual a prize for the winner of a race that the phrase " to bear away the bell " became the accepted form of picturesquely describing success, and has lasted till our own time

During the Stuart period bowls or cups began to take the place of bells ; either because it was desired to give prizes of greater value or because the bowl made greater show among the plate on the " cup board " and could be put to practical domestic use

Examples of these earliest race cups are not very common, and I count myself fortunate in possessing the example photograph of which appears on page 19

Tankards as authentic race trophies are also uncommon. Of the word " tankard " it is worth pointing out that it only came into

use to describe a hand drinking-vessel about 1550-1600

The earliest mention of tankards in this connection occurs * in the will of Sir George Heron of Harbottell, which was proved at Durham in the year 1576

Before that time "tankard" was applied to a large vessel of some kind, it might be pail or tub, used for carrying water; thus in the thirteenth century the men who carried water from the conduits in London to the doors of householders were called "tankard bearers"

The example shown on page 21 was, I think, made many years earlier than the date 1738, when it was given as a prize at the Barham Downs Race Meeting

These drinking vessels came into use about the date of the Restoration, 1660, and the domestic tankard of that period was very plain, lacking engraving or other ornamentation

The oldest domestic tankard was sometimes very wide in proportion to its depth, the lid was flat and the massive handle was often fashioned into a whistle by which the user could call a servant in the days before houses were furnished with ordinary bells

* "Old English Plate." By W. T. Cripps (Ninth edition, 1906)

Having regard to the shape and freedom from engraving of the Barham Downs trophy, I venture to suggest that it may be referred to the period 1680-1710; it bears no legible marks by which the exact year of make could be identified

About 1710 or 1720, says Mr. Cripps, a pot with swelling body and dome-shaped lid came into vogue, and this form has continued until the present time

The tankard shown on page 7 is also an old example of plate, but of a very different description. It belongs to a class of work on which much taste and skill were bestowed

Tankards of this description were no doubt used as wine jugs. They are tall, narrow in proportion to their height and richly decorated, whether made in silver or in glass mounted in silver

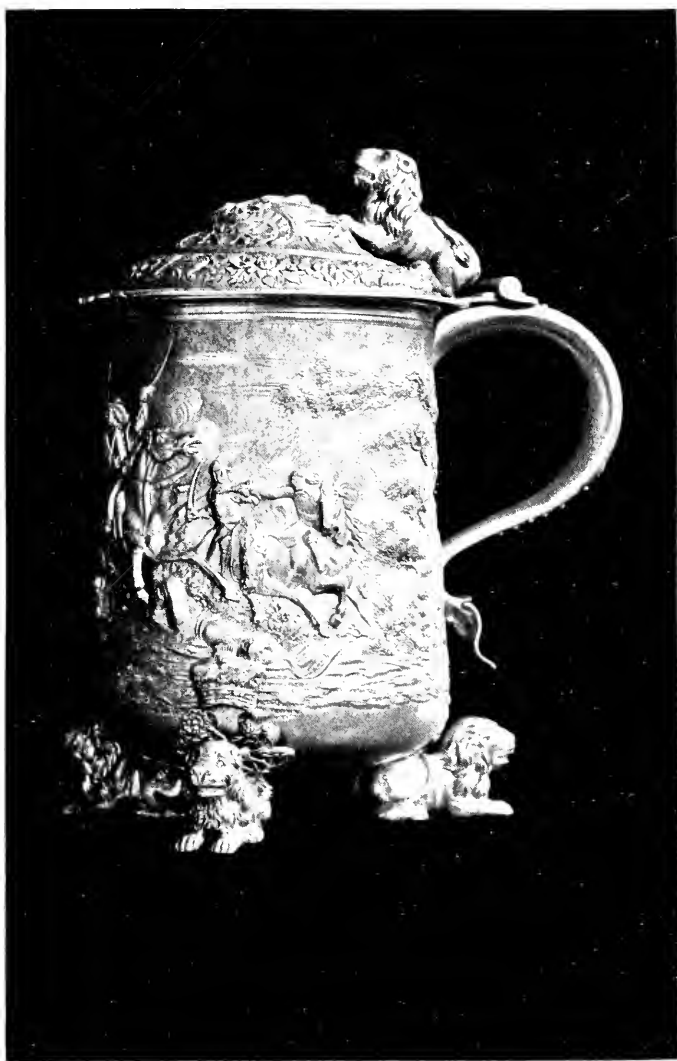
It is to be observed that the work on this cup, representing a fight between Royalists and Roundheads, is of a later date than the vessel itself (1713); this addition of chasing may be attributed to the fashion which grew up during the eighteenth century of having such plate as mentioned above chased or engraved after designs by famous artists and

sculptors. Of this fashion I shall have a few words to say on a later page. These tall, narrow tankards have long ceased to be made

The race cups of the last hundred and fifty years, in their size and value, offer an interesting commentary on the increased importance of the Turf. Usually of silver, but sometimes of silver-gilt, these trophies, widely though they vary in shape, are seldom otherwise than graceful in outline and beautiful in design

The Kildare Hunt Cup of 1757, shown on page 23, is an example of a design peculiar to Irish silversmiths of the last hundred and fifty years. The bowl may vary in its proportions, but the general plan, the two massive and boldly shaped handles, and the loose cover, either domed or more conical, declare the origin of the "posset cup," as a vessel of this kind was called. They were used to serve the hot liquors called "possets"

The curious old piece of Sheffield Plate figured on page 9 is, I am informed by experts, unique. It has a massive border of solid silver on which are engraved racing scenes—"The Start," "Full Speed," and "The Finish." The hall-mark proves it to



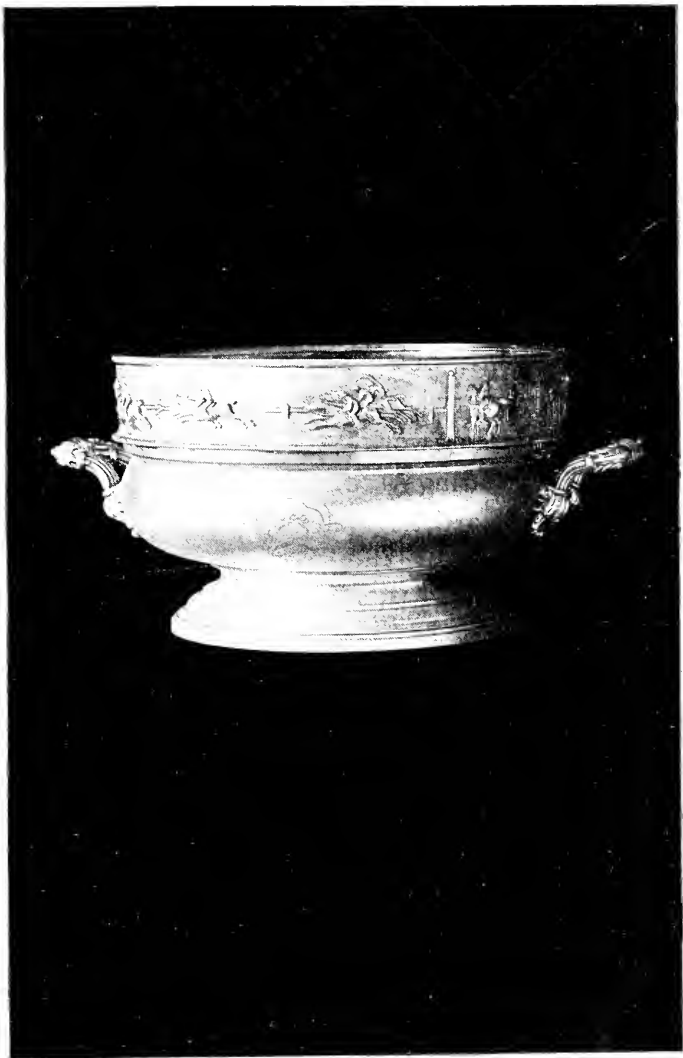
have been made in 1771 ; the bowl bears no inscription, but it was evidently designed as a race prize

Somewhat similar to the Kildare Cup at first sight, but showing marked differences when more closely examined, is the cup on page 31, given at Exeter Races. The sides of the bowl are straight, the handles are less massive, and are carried down to the base of the bowl ; the cover differs essentially from that of the Irish Cup

In the Monaghan Cup, page 33, we have the "posset cup" bowl in a more ornate form ; the handles are fanciful, each consisting of a human hand holding a heavy jockey whip. The statuette which crowns the cover would seem to be an addition to the cup as originally made, but this is a mere conjecture

The Irish Cup, facing page 10, is an example of a more florid style of silver ware ; it bears no inscription, but there can be little doubt that it was the prize given at some old race meeting in the time of George III

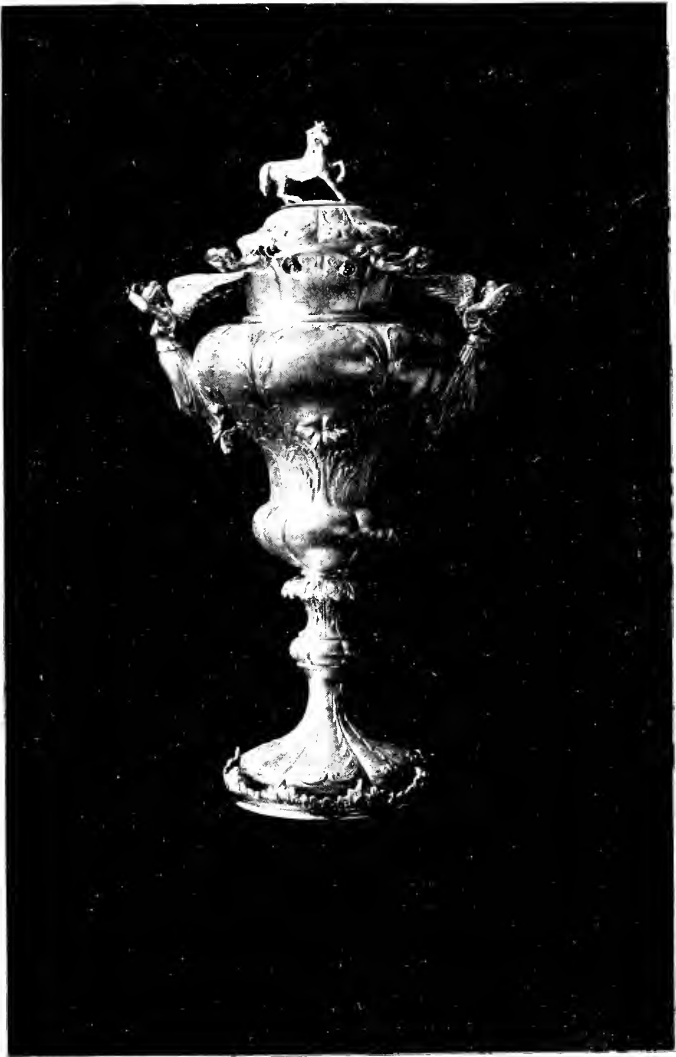
There is great solidity in the design of the Cup won by Jack Spigot in 1821 ; this trophy is characteristic of the plate of the time in England—massive and richly chased



Mr. Cripps observes that "no special form or fashions can be identified with any particular period" from about 1750 onwards, "if we except the oval pointed cups, sometimes fluted but more often ornamented with hanging festoons, sometimes carried over medallions." These hanging festoons, not necessarily carried over medallions, were sometimes made distinct from the cup they were to adorn, being secured to the bowl by rivets or otherwise.

Goldsmiths' work was at its best in England during 1700-1800; the general standard of artistic merit is held by experts to have reached a higher level during that period than it had done before or has done since. The greatest among those artists who confined themselves strictly to goldsmiths' work was Paul Lamerie, whose name first appears on the records of the Goldsmiths' Hall in 1712.

Lamerie was a Frenchman and, there is reason to believe, one of the many Huguenots compelled to leave his native country by the Edict of Nantes. His work was of great artistic merit, showing marked individuality, and his example exercised much influence upon his contemporaries. Lamerie died in 1749.



Another goldsmith artist who stood head and shoulders above his fellows was Paul Storr; his name first appears in the Goldsmiths' Hall books in 1792, and he worked in London until 1834. Storr's productions had the same qualities as those of Lamerie; they were original and individual

I am told that an expert can recognise at a glance a cup or other piece of work by either Lamerie or Storr. The latter was largely employed by Rundell and Bridge, the Royal goldsmiths. Another name famous in the annals of the goldsmiths' craft was that of George Niche, who founded the well-known firm of Garrards in 1721

Among the lesser lights of the eighteenth century, Peter Archambo and David Willaume deserve mention; both were clever engravers who did much excellent work, but they do not stand on the same level with Lamerie and Storr

During a long period the goldsmiths' calling was somewhat exclusive; any prominent member of the craft combined in himself the skill of highly-trained mechanic with the talent of the true artist, and sought aid from none outside his own guild; but during the later years of George III the goldsmiths

and silversmiths were moved to further endeavour in seeking to raise the artistic standard of their best pieces of work, and, looking beyond their own comparatively limited circle, employed artists and sculptors of the highest eminence to furnish designs

This was due to the influence of Flaxman (1755-1826) and his school. The beauty of the ornamentation of porcelain and similar ware, inspired the goldsmiths with ambition to improve the decoration of their plate

Flaxman himself was employed by Messrs. Rundell and Bridge to make designs for cups, etc., and some fine examples of plate made by Rundell and Bridge, after Flaxman's designs, are among the royal collection at Windsor Castle and elsewhere

This endeavour to improve the decorative work appears in racing plates of the period. The cup given at the Louth Coursing Meeting (page 71) has interest inasmuch as the design—two greyhounds running a hare—was sketched by George Garrard, A.R.A., a famous animal painter* and sculptor of George III's time

The dogs represented are Czarina and

* See "Animals Painters" (Vol. I) By Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart. Garrard died in 1826

Maria, two very celebrated greyhounds of Lord Orford's strain; some account of them may be found in Daniel's *Rural Sports*

The "H. H." Cup (page 47) arrests attention by reason of its somewhat unusual but graceful design; both in form and style of adornment this is a particularly handsome cup

It has not been possible to trace in every instance the circumstances under which the cups shown in the following pages were won. In such cases we may safely conclude that the meeting was of strictly local interest, the races being informal and run under no official rules

The little gold cup facing this page is of German workmanship, and was made about the seventeenth century, at a period when Continental goldsmiths had attained to a very high level of artistic excellence. The photograph shows well the clearness and firmness of the relief work. The nature of the scene portrayed suggests that it may have formed a prize in some old-time sporting competition



RACING CUPS

The Bowl bears the inscription :—

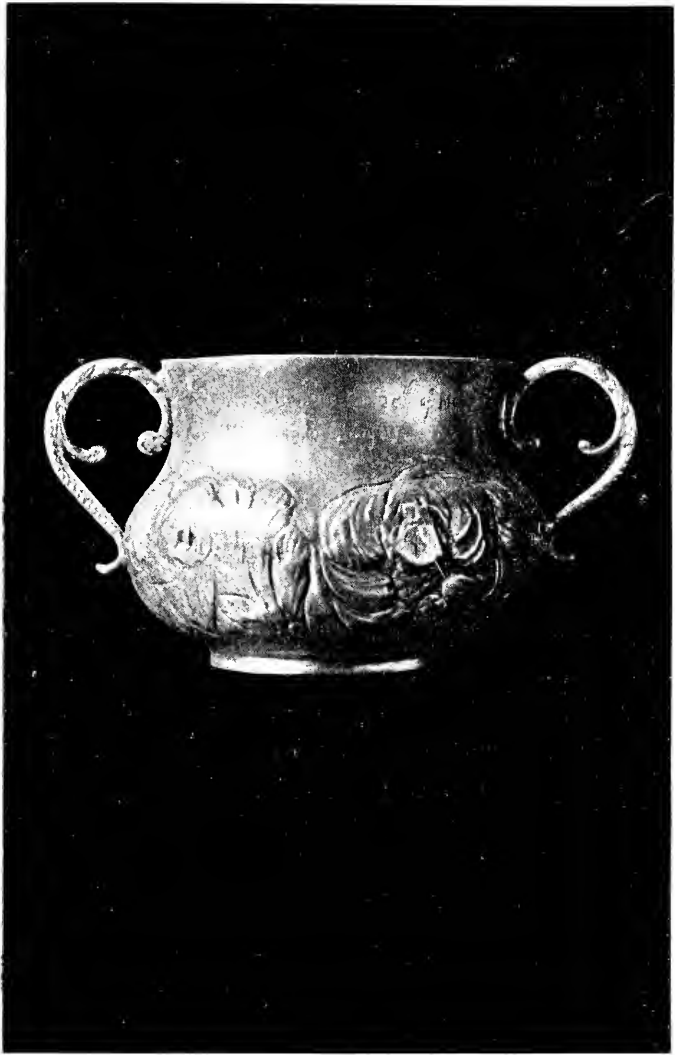
BRAMPTON MOORE COURSE

the 25th March, 1666

Sir Richard Sandford, Howgill Castle

Nothing can be found concerning the races which in former days were held on Brampton Moor. The Meeting was one of the numerous local gatherings which were held in all parts of England in Stuart times, and of which no records were kept

Brampton Moor, some four or five miles from Howgill in Westmorland, is not to be confused with Brampton in Cumberland. The Sandford family is very ancient. Sir Richard Sandford succeeded as second baronet in the year 1660; he was murdered in 1675



The Tankard bears the inscription :—

BARHAM DOWNS
PLATE

Won by Grasshopper, 1738

On the handle $\begin{matrix} L \\ I * R \end{matrix}$

This is a relic of the long-forgotten race meeting which in former times was held on Barham Downs, near Canterbury. John Cheney's *List of Horse Matches Run*, for the year 1738, shows that Grasshopper was the property of Edward Thompson, Esq.



The Cup bears the inscription :—

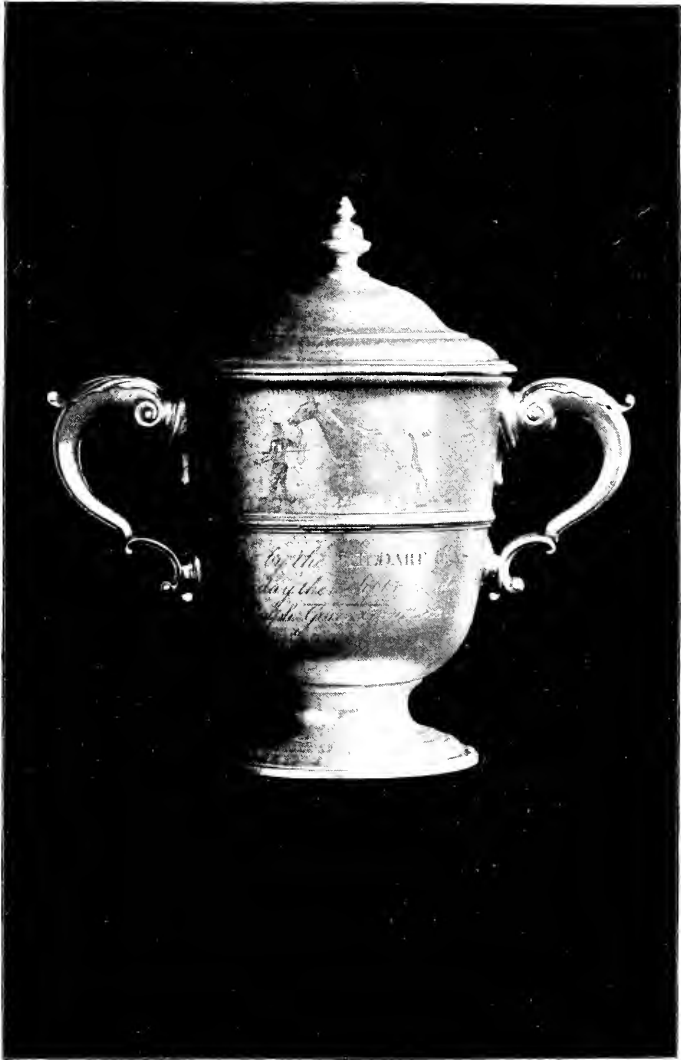
Given by the KILDARE HUNT on
Tuesday, the 13th September, 1757, and
won by
Sir Ralph Gore's Grey Horse Spot

— — — —

The Curragh of Kildare Meeting of 1757 was held on 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th and 17th September. The race was for £50, weight for age, run in three heats, distance not mentioned. Eight horses ran. Sir Ralph Gore's Spot was fifth in the first heat and won the second and third heats

Spot ran in the King's 100 Guineas at the Curragh on 27th April, 1758, carrying 10 stone, and was beaten by Mr. French's chestnut horse Nabob. He also ran at the Trim Meeting on 12th June, 1758, and was placed third to Mr. Brown's Tamerline

A curious example of the manner in which old race meetings were conducted in former days occurred at the Curragh Meeting of April, 1758, above mentioned: "The King's 100 Guineas for four-year-old mares could not be determined, as several of the mares started at different times, which occasioned a Law Suit that was not ended when this [*Heber's Calendar* for 1758] went to the Press"



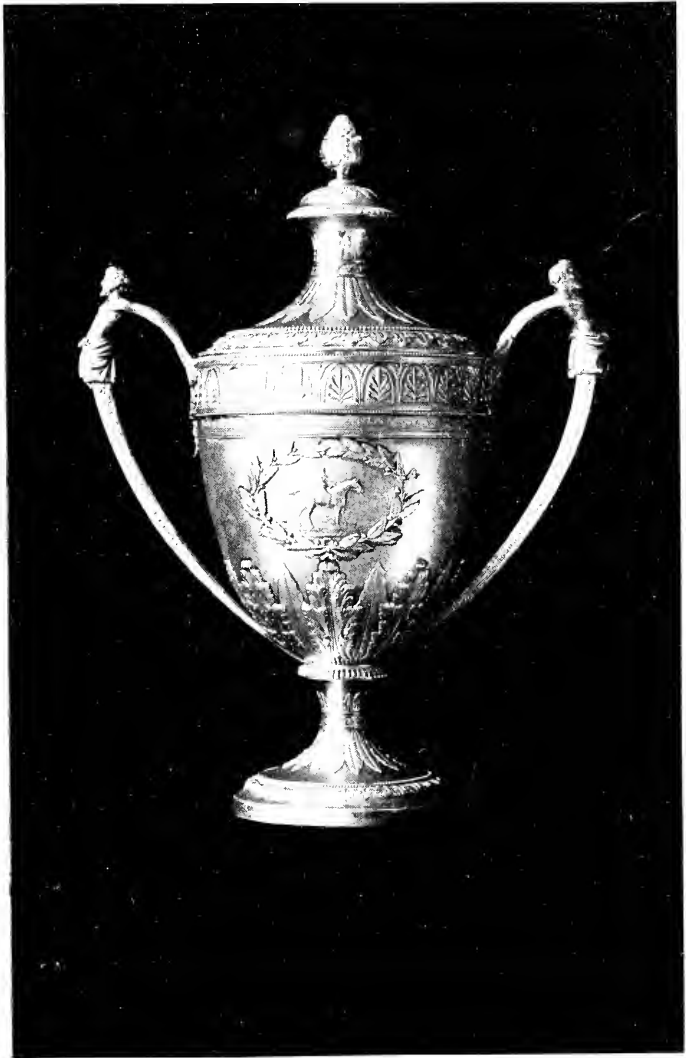
SILVER. Height, $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches

The inscription engraved on the Band round the Cup reads : —

THE DONCASTER CUP

Won by Stamford at Doncaster, 1797.
The property of Sir F. Standish,
Sir Thomas Pilkington and Sir
Rowland Winn, Baronets, Stewards

The Gold Cup, value 100 guineas, for all ages ;
three-year-olds, 5 stone 10 lbs. ; four-year-olds,
7 st. 7 lbs. ; five-year-olds, 8 st. 3 lbs. ; six-year-olds,
8 st. 12 lbs. ; and aged, 9 stone. Four miles.
Stamford, a brown colt, by Sir Peter, beat five others



SILVER GILT. Height, 22 inches

The Cup is inscribed :—

BEVERLEY RACES

6th June, 1810, Gold Cup

won by

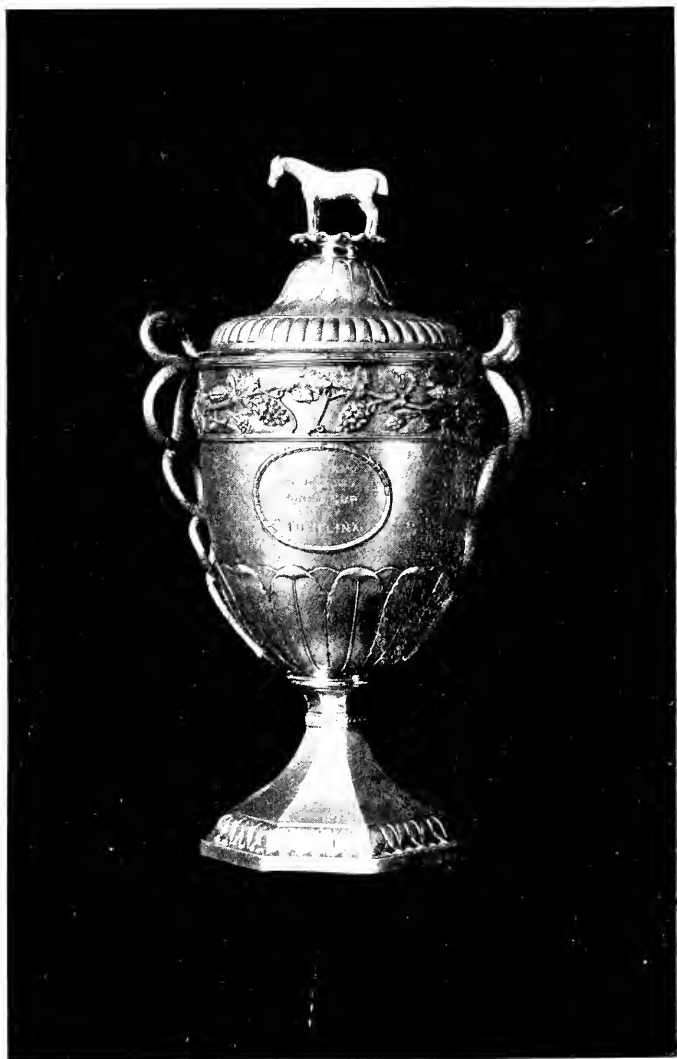
“TUTELINA”

The Beverley Meeting of 1810 lasted from 6th to 8th June, inclusive. The race for the Cup took place on Thursday, 7th June. Described as “The Gold Cup by 10 subscriptions of 10 guineas each, for all ages ; 4 miles”

Mr. Richardson's five-year-old bay mare Tutelina, by Stamford, walked over. On the following day Tutelina, carrying 8 st. 5 lbs., won a £50 Plate for all ages, 3-mile heats, beating Restless and Negro Lass. She ran three other races—two at Preston and one at York—before she won again. On 11th September she won a £50 Plate for all ages, 2½-mile heats, beating three others ; on 21st September, at Pontefract, she won the 70 Guineas Plate for all ages, 2-mile heats, beating two others ; on 25th

September, at Doncaster, she won the Corporation Plate of £50, 4-mile heats, beating four others.

As a three-year-old Tutelina ran five races, of which she won three, walked over in one and was beaten once. In her four-year-old season she ran only once: namely, at Lincoln on 20th September, 1809, in the Royal Plate of 100 Guineas for four- and five-year-old mares, 2 mile heats. She won, beating three others.



SILVER GILT. Height, 15 inches

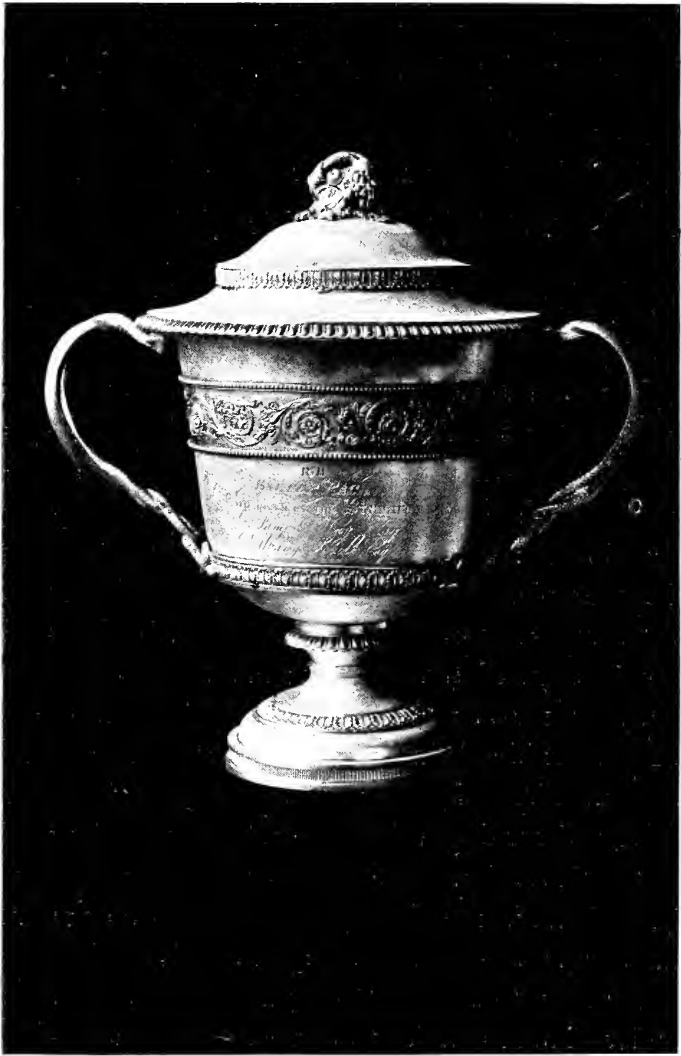
The inscription reads :—

1811

EXETER RACES

Cup given by the Stewards,
James Hay, Esq.
Albany Savile, Esq.

The Exeter Meeting of 1811 was held on 21st and 22nd August, three races being run on each day. The race for which this cup was given was the first on the second day, viz., the Gold Cup, 100 Guineas, given by the Stewards. Four-year-olds, 8 st. ; six-year olds, 9 st. 2 lbs. ; aged, 9 st. 4 lbs. Two-mile heats. Won by Mr. Farquharson's six-year-old Wood Dæmon at two heats, beating four others

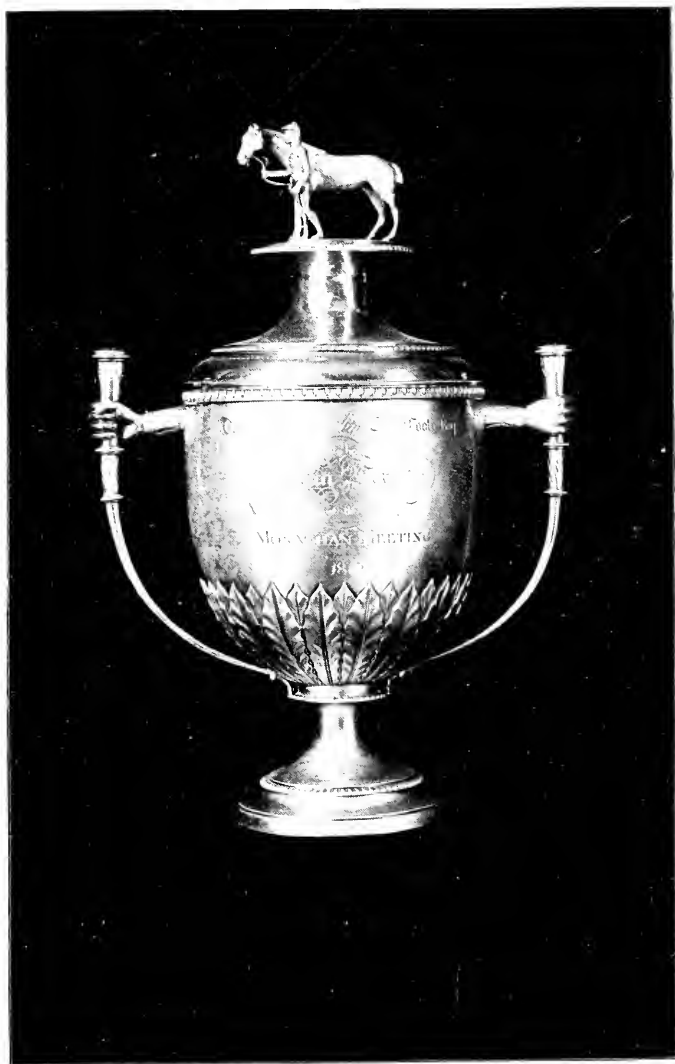


SILVER; PART SILVER GILT. Height, $13\frac{1}{2}$ inches

The inscription reads :—

THIS CUP
Given by CHARLES COOTE, Esq.
to be
run for at the
MONAGHAN MEETING
1813

It would seem probable that the Meeting was never held ; the *Irish Racing Calendar* contains no mention of races at Monaghan in 1813, and we must conclude that the projected Meeting was abandoned for some reason or reasons not now discoverable. Mr. Charles Coote, the donor, was a generous supporter of racing in Ulster in the earlier days of the century ; his name appears in the year 1810 as the giver of a “ Transferable and Challengeable ” Cup at long-forgotten meetings held at Finae, in his native county Cavan. This was a “ Silver Cup, value £50, added to a Sweepstake of 10 Sovereigns each, for horses the property of freeholders in the County Cavan, being four months in their possession to the day of running.” We need not doubt that the Monaghan Cup was offered under similar conditions framed to encourage local horse-owners.



SILVER. Height, 15 inches

The Cup bears on one side the inscription :—

PASSAGE RACES

July Meeting

1817

On the other :—

Won by

Dandy,

The Property of

Maurice Jones, Esq.

I am unable to obtain any information about this Meeting, held at Passage, in Co. Cork, and conclude that it was one of the small Meetings of purely local interest which obtained no official record



SILVER. Height, $6\frac{3}{4}$ inches

This Cup bears the inscription :—

GREAT ST. LEGER

1821

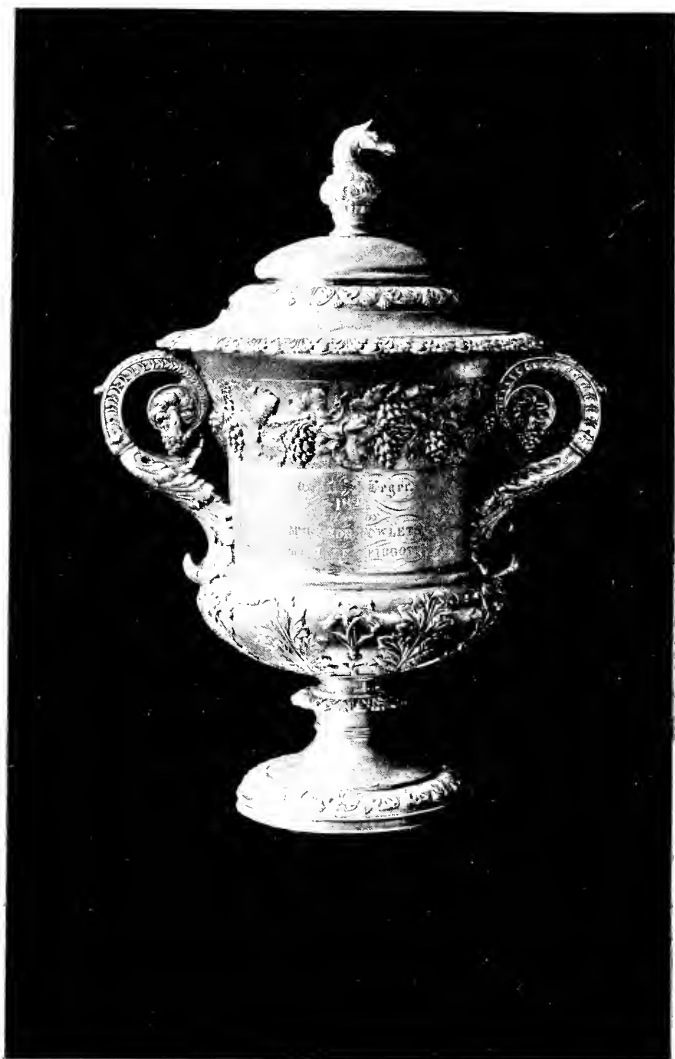
Won by

MR. T. ORDE POWLETT'S

Br C Jack Spiggott*

The Doncaster St. Leger Stakes of 1821 was run on Monday, 17th September; 25 guineas each for three-year-olds. Colts, 8 st. 2 lbs.; fillies, 8 st; 49 subs. Jack Spiggott, by Ardrossan, out of a sister to Bourbon, beat twelve others. On Wednesday, 19th September, he won the Foal Stakes of 100 Guineas, beating Mr. R. Milne's My Lady. At Newcastle, on 17th July, 1822, he won the Convivial Stakes of 50 Guineas, beating four others. At Preston Guild, on 5th September, 1822, he won the Gold Cup of 100 Guineas for all aged horses, three miles and a distance, beating Reveller and Dr. Syntax

* "Spigot" is the spelling now usually adopted



SILVER. Height, 17 inches

The Cup bears the inscription ;—

1822

WINCHESTER

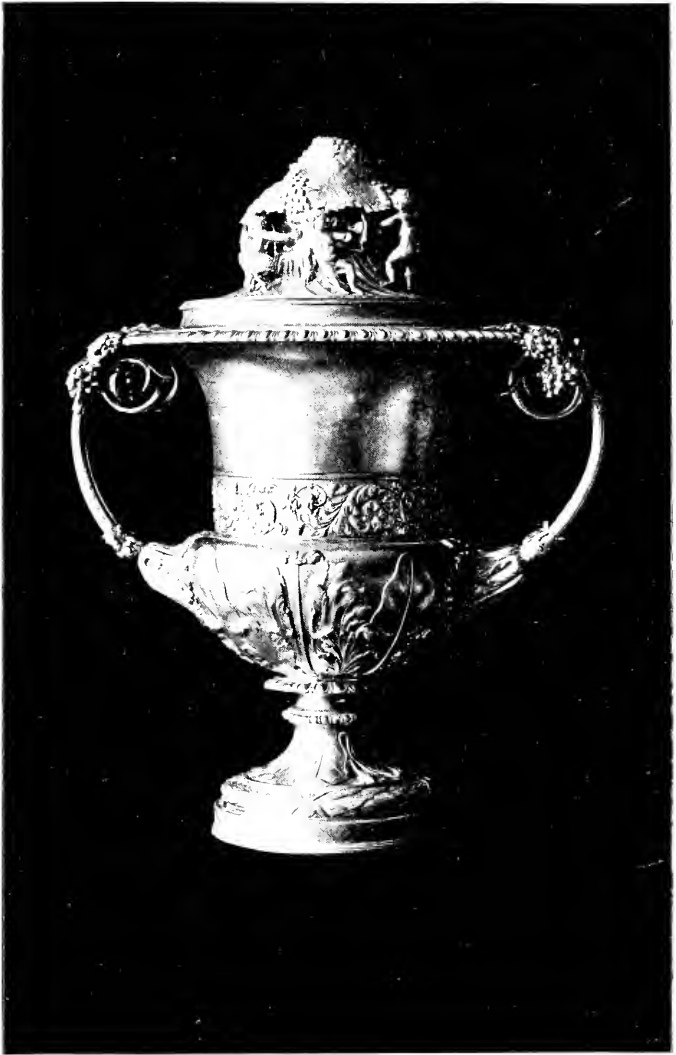
His Majesty's Plate

“ Incantator ”

Described in the *Calendar* as “ His Majesty's Plate of 100 Guineas, for four-year-olds, 10 st. 4 lbs. ; five-year-olds, 11 st. 6 lbs. ; six-year-olds, 12 st. ; and aged, 12 st. 2 lbs. Four-mile heats.” Won by Mr. Whiteside's four-year-old brown colt Incantator, by Sorcerer, beating four others. Incantator won the first and second heats. His success was the more noteworthy as he had that day—Wednesday, 24th July—run one race, a Five Guineas Sweep-stake, with £25 added, over the “new straight mile,” in which he was placed third to Mr. Fellowes' bay filly Escape

Incantator had not a very successful career. As a three-year-old, carrying Lord Rous' colours, he won the Woodcot Green Stakes at the Newmarket Craven Meeting ; and ran third to the Duke of Grafton's Reginald in the Two Thousand. In

Lord Stradbroke's colours the same season he won the Ladies' Plate, £50, two-mile heats, at Swaffham his only opponent being Mr. Rogers' bay colt by Blucher; and the Town Plate at the Newmarket First October Meeting, beating four others over the Ditch In course. He was unplaced in the Oatlands Stakes at the Second October Meeting, and ran second to Sir J. Shelley's Ivanhoe in a Handicap Sweepstakes over the T.Y.C. at the Houghton Meeting



SILVER GILT. Height, 18 inches

The Cup bears on Lid and Pedestal the following inscriptions :—

LAMBTON PARK
RACES

Presented by the Honble. Edwd. Petre

1822

1822

Won by Tom Paine

1823

Purchased by the Lambton Racing Club,
and won by
Lord Normanby's Whynot

The Lambton Park Race Meeting in County Durham was held by the Lambton Racing Club, and with few exceptions the races were open to gentlemen riders only. The Meeting was held in October and occupied four days; the programme was a lengthy one, usually consisting of twelve or fourteen races and from twelve to twenty of the matches which were so popular at that time

The Cup is thus described in 1822: "A Gold Cup, value 100 Guineas, given by the Hon. E.

Petre, added to a Handicap Sweepstake of 5 Guineas each, for horses not Thoroughbred. D.C. 21 subscribers "

In 1822 Mr. D. Rowley's four-year-old brown gelding Tom Paine, by Prime Minister, ridden by Mr. T. Sykes, 11 st. 7 lbs., beat thirteen others

In 1823, as the inscription shows, the trophy had been acquired by the Club; the conditions of the race in that year were as follows: "The Gold Cup, value 100 Guineas, added by the Lambton Racing Club to a Handicap Sweepstake of 5 Guineas each, for horses, etc., not Thoroughbred, *bona-fide* the property of a member of a Racing or Fox-hunting Club. D.C. 25 subscribers "

In 1823 Lord Normanby's aged brown horse Whynot, by Ossian, ridden by Lord Wilton, 11 st. 7 lbs., beat ten others



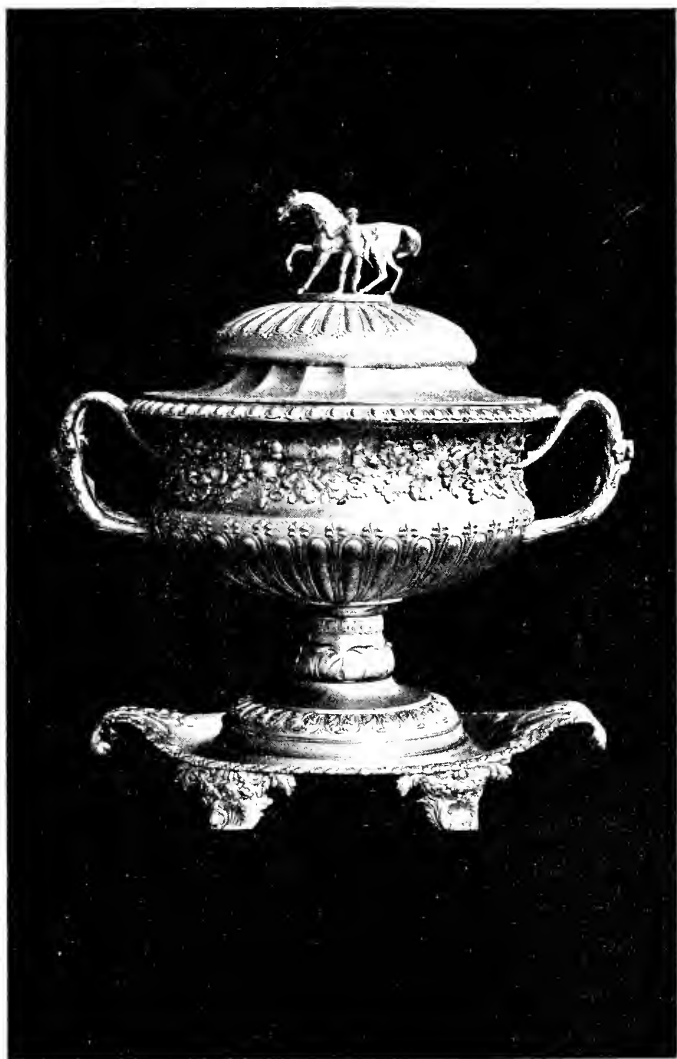
SILVER. Height, 15 inches ; on SILVER GILT
STAND $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height

The inscription on the Plate on which the Cup stands reads :—

Won by Mr. Thompson's Brown Horse
Dominichino on Wednesday, 23rd April,
1823, beating Mr. Villebois's Bay Horse
Shuttlecock, Honble. W. Sage's Chestnut
Mare Olivia, and Capt. Shirreff's Brown
Gelding Contract

The Hampshire Hunt, still known as the "H. H.," held races, not recorded in the *Calendar*, from the year 1803; the horses run in the race for the Hunt Club Cup were the property of members of the Club, but professional jockeys were employed. In 1823 the race was run at Winchester; it was in four heats, and "some of the first jockeys were up for the occasion, including John and Sam Day and Dockery."

It is interesting to notice that Contract, the property of Captain Shirreff, R.N., placed fourth in this race, won the Hunters Stakes at the Hambledon Hunt Meeting on the 1st May following (12 st. each, three heats), ridden by the celebrated writer C. J. Apperley ("Nimrod"), beating nine others. After passing the winning post Contract came into collision with a cart-horse and gave his rider a heavy fall



SILVER GILT Height, 17 inches ; width, 16 inches

The inscription on the Cup reads :—

NORTHAMPTON

RACES

Thos. Phillips Maunsell, Esq.,

Sir Geo. Robinson, Bart., M.P.,

Colonel W. L. Maberley, M.P.

STEWARDS

1828

The Northampton Meeting of 1828 took place on 10th and 11th September, three races being run on each day

The first event on the second day was The Gold Cup, 100 Guineas, surplus in specie, subscription 10 guineas each, for horses of all ages, distance about three miles. It was won by Mr. Payne's three-year-old chestnut colt Oppidan, by Rubens (6 st. 12 lbs.), who beat his only competitor, Lord Mountcharles' four-year-old bay colt Maresfield (8 st. 7 lbs.)

Oppidan, ridden by R. Stephenson, won the Five Sovereigns Sweepstakes, once round and a distance, on the second day, beating two others (w.o. second heat)



SILVER GILT. Height, 12 inches

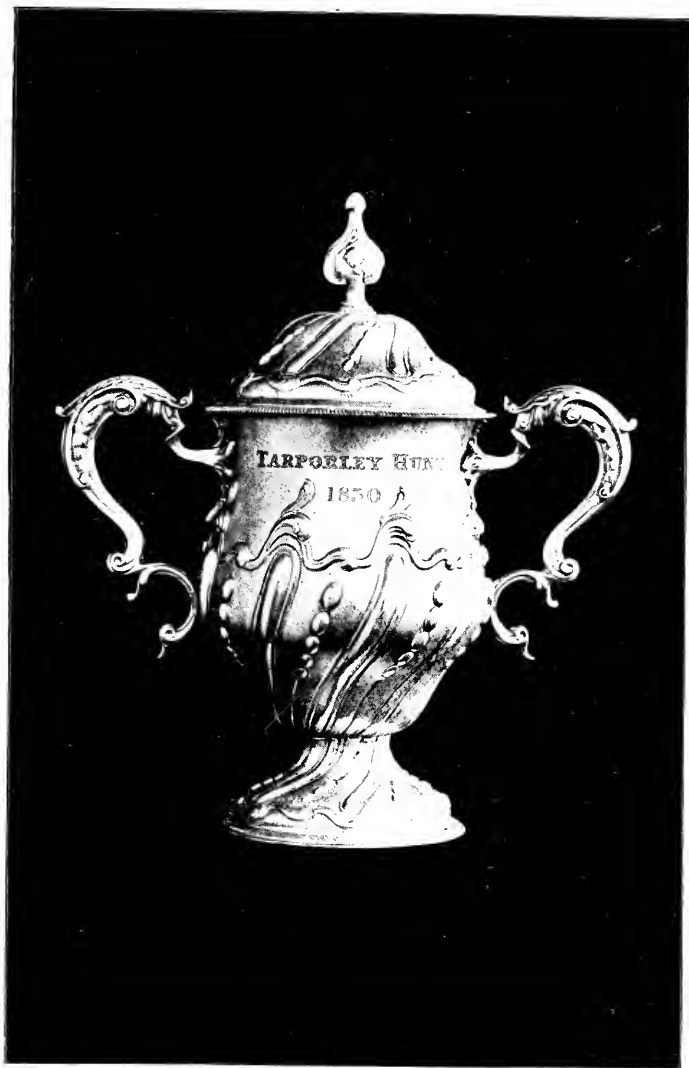
The inscription reads :—

TARPORLEY HUNT

1830

This is the Tarporley Hunt Cup given by the Club to be run for by the farmers at the annual Tarporley Race Meeting. It was won in 1830 by Mr. Turner's five-year-old brown horse Olympus, ridden by Spring (8 st. 7 lbs.) Tarporley, a village in the centre of the Cheshire County, gives its name to the Hunt Club which still flourishes

The hall-mark shows 1766 to have been the date when the Cup was made. Another Cup in the Elsenham Collection, dated 1765, was designed by the same artist



SILVER. Height, 13 inches

The inscription on the Cup reads :—

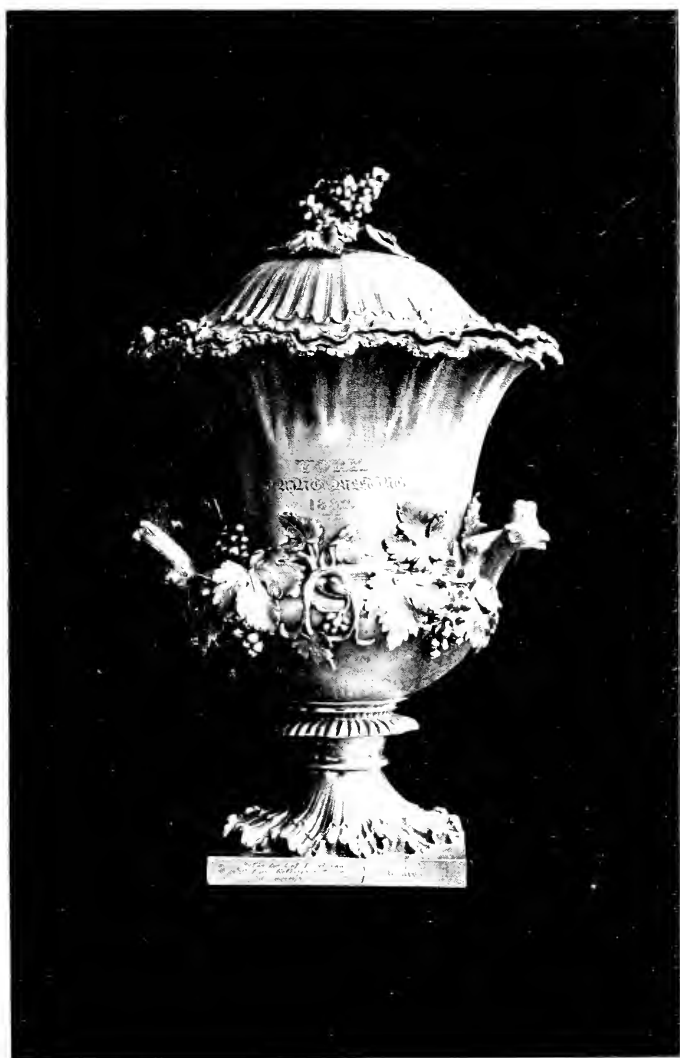
YORK
Spring Meeting
1832

The Pedestal is inscribed :—

The Earl of Scarborough
Lord Kelburne
R. D. Gascoigne, Esq. } Stewards

The Hundred Guinea Gold Cup from the Fund, added to a Handicap Sweepstake of 25 Sovereigns each (11 subs.) Two miles

Mr. F. Richardson's four-year-old bay filly Lady Elizabeth by Lottery (Conolly, 7 st. 13 lbs.) won, beating four others, on Tuesday, 29th September. On the same day Lady Elizabeth had previously won the Claret Stakes of 200 Sovereigns (Conolly, 8 st. 2 lbs.), two miles, beating Boubilliac



SILVER GILT. Height, 16 inches

This Cup is inscribed on one side :—

THE SECOND
DECCAN CUP

Value One Hundred Guineas

On the other :—

Won December, 1833

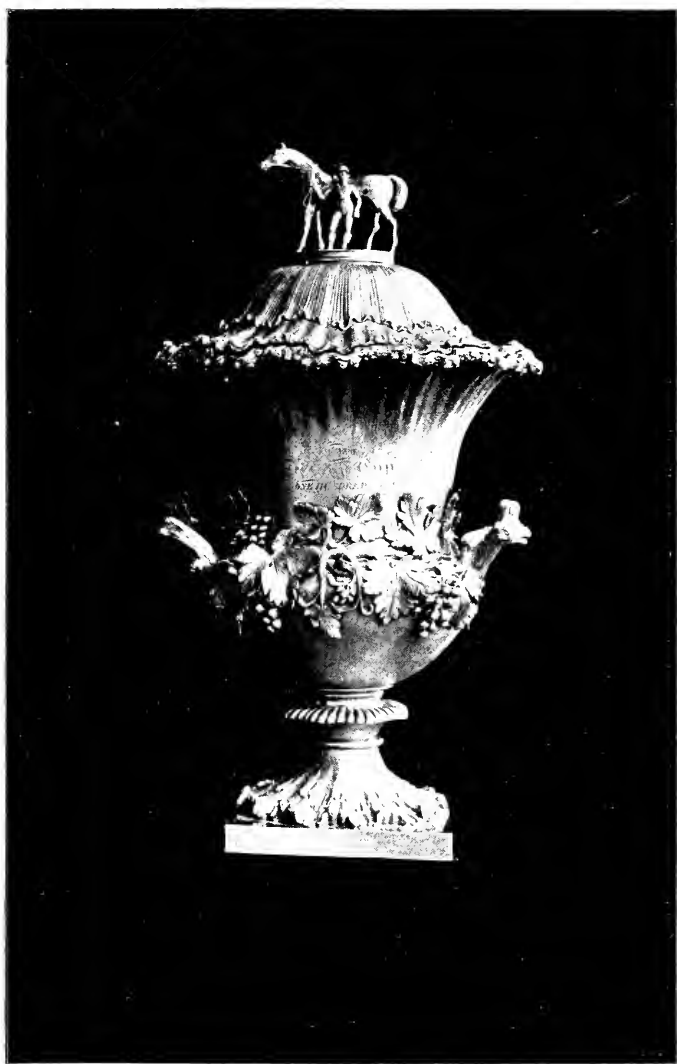
By Lieut. J. S. Grant, Royal Engineers

Nothing can be discovered relating to this Cup, but it was evidently the trophy given by the long defunct Deccan Tent Club to the winner of the greatest number of “first spears” at its Hog-hunting Meeting of December, 1833. Mr. John Schank Grant, R.E., was at that time in the Hon. East India Company’s Service as Assistant Inspecting Engineer of the Deccan district

Bare mention of former existence of this Club occurs in Captain R. S. S. Baden-Powell’s work “Pig-sticking”

The competitors in these hunts are despatched in pairs by the Captain of the Meet when the quarry is sighted ; he who first draws blood, however little, claims “first spear” and wins the heat

The resemblance of this Cup to that given at the York Spring Meeting will be noticed ; the two were evidently designed by the same hand



SILVER GILT. Height, 16 inches

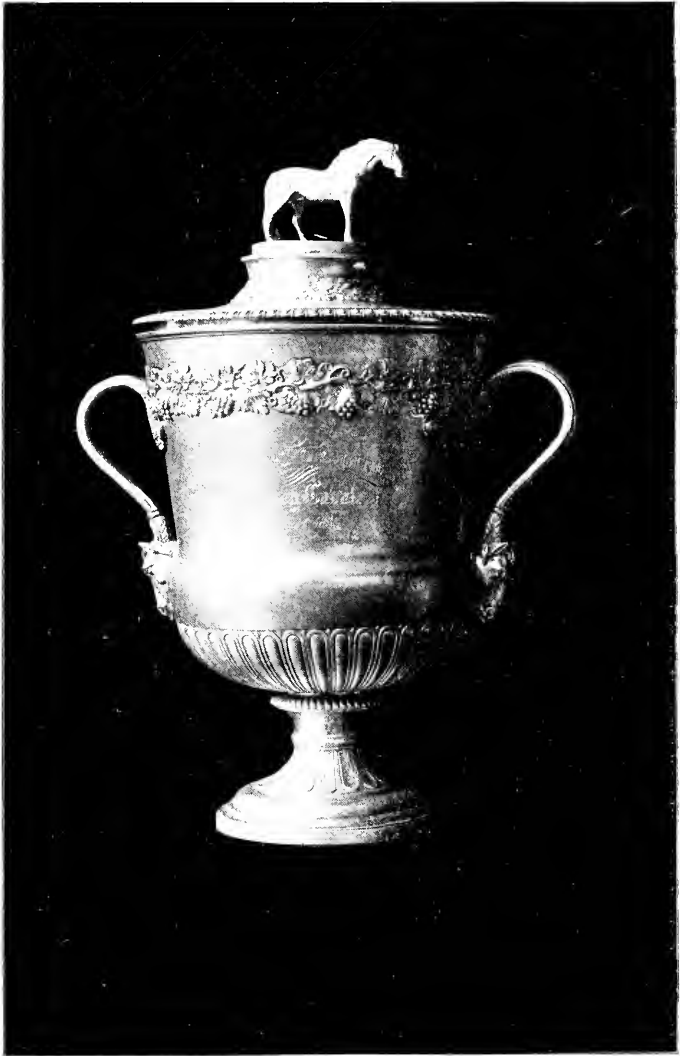
The inscription reads :—

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
YEOMANRY CAVALRY

24th August, 1836

The Northampton Meeting of 1836 occupied two days, three races being run on each ; a Royal Plate of 100 Guineas being the principal event

The “Yeomanry Cup,” subs. two sovereigns each, was given by the noblemen and gentlemen of the county, and brought 23 subscriptions. Once round. Three horses started. The race was won at two heats by Mr. Fletcher’s five-year-old bay gelding by Woful (carrying 11 st. 7 lbs.), beating two others



SILVER GILT. Height, 15½ inches

Inscribed :—

CHESTERFIELD CUP

Goodwood, July, 1842

WON BY

MAJOR HAY'S 6-YEAR-OLD CHESTNUT HORSE

“ RETRIEVER ”

Carrying 7 st. 9 lbs.

1 Mile

The particulars given on the pedestal plate may be supplemented by a few more details

The value of the Cup was advertised as 300 Guineas, the rest in specie by subscription of 15 sovereigns each, for horses of all ages, two-year-olds excepted; handicap; over the Craven Course, 1 mile (38 subs.) Major Hay's Retriever was ridden by Murphy and beat thirteen others



SILVER. Height, 14 inches

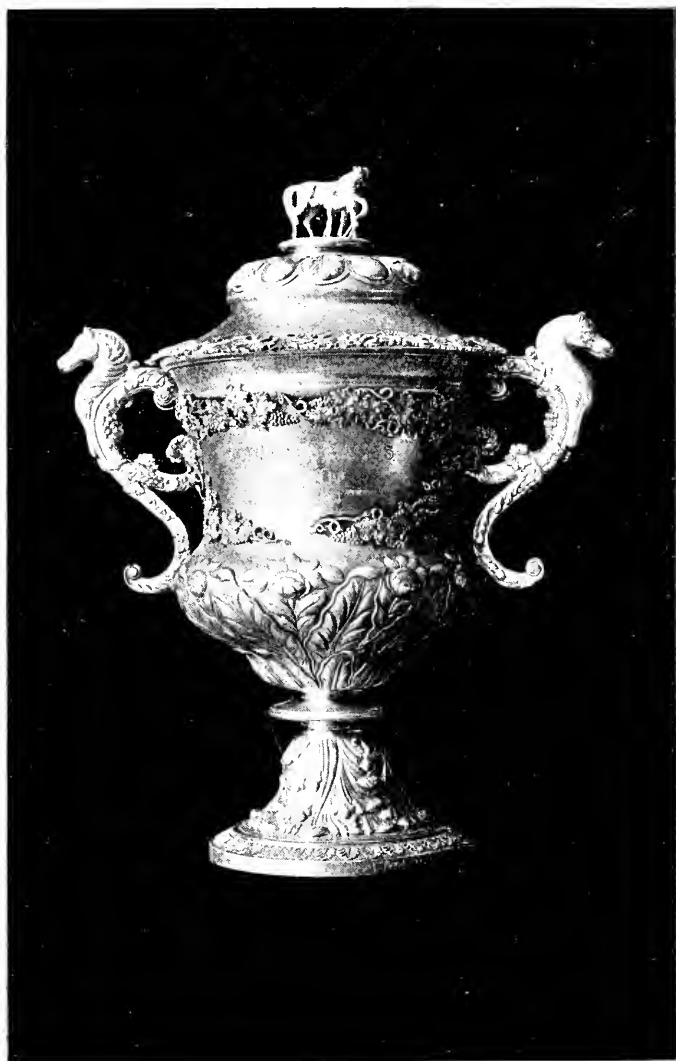
Inscribed :—

ROCHDALE RACES
MILITARY CUP

James Dearden, Esq. |
John Smith Entwistle, Esq. | Stewards

1845

The Rochdale (Lancashire) Meeting of 1845 was held on 20th and 21st August. It was a small and poorly supported affair, and the *Calendar* makes no mention of the "Military Cup." It is probable that this was an independent race confined to the Yeomanry and other arms of the service



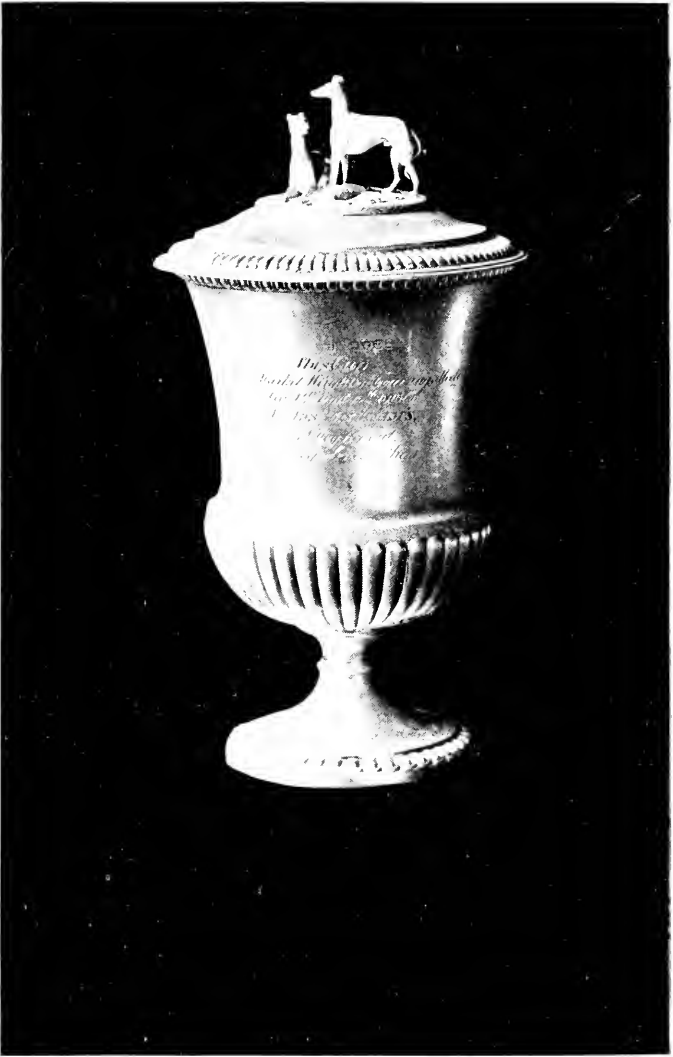
SILVER GILT Height, 18 inches

COURSING CUPS

The inscription reads :—

This Cup
Won at the MARKET WEIGHTON COURSING
MEETING, February 14th and 15th, 1815
By Mr. JOS. INGRAM'S
White Dog Regent
beating several others

I have been unable to discover any particulars of this Meeting. "Regent" is not mentioned among the dogs whose names are given in the two volumes of Thomas Goodlake's *Courser's Manual* (1828 and 1833), nor is the Market Weighton Meeting among those described in the *Sporting Magazine* of 1815



SILVER. Height, 10 inches

The Jug bears the inscription :—

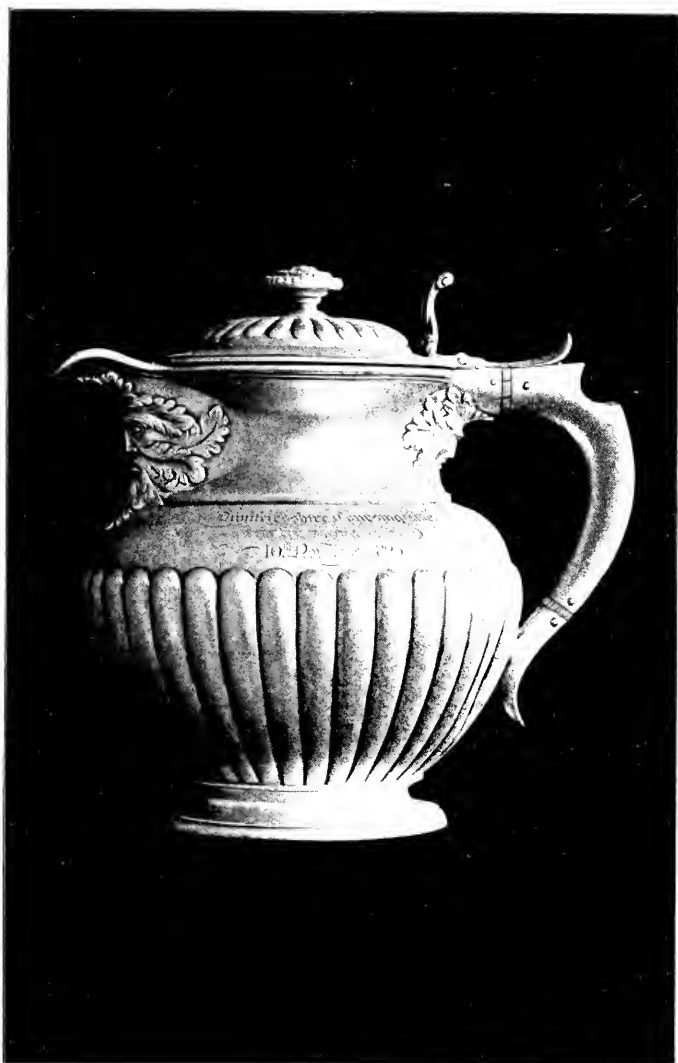
DUMFRIESSHIRE COURSING CLUB

Won by Flora McIvor,
10th November, 1823

The Jug was the prize given in a thirty-two dog stake. In the first round Mr. Crichton's Flora McIvor beat an opponent whose name is not given in the *Sporting Magazine's* account of the Meeting. In the first ties she beat Captain Graham's The Caddie ; in the second Mr. Murray's Spill ; in the third Mr. Babington's Homer ; and in the deciding course Mr. Menteith's Spring

Flora McIvor ran in excellent style, but at the Club Dinner, held on the day after the Meeting, Lord Queensberry, Mr. Wyndham and others offered large bets that Mr. Murray's dog Spill, whom she had defeated in the second ties, would beat her. There is nothing to show whether a match was made, or, if made, how it resulted.

It is interesting to read the names of the coursing men in Dumfriesshire nearly ninety years ago. The county then, as since, was a stronghold of the sport, and many of the leading men in the South of Scotland bore part in it



SILVER. Height, 9 inches

This Cup is inscribed :—

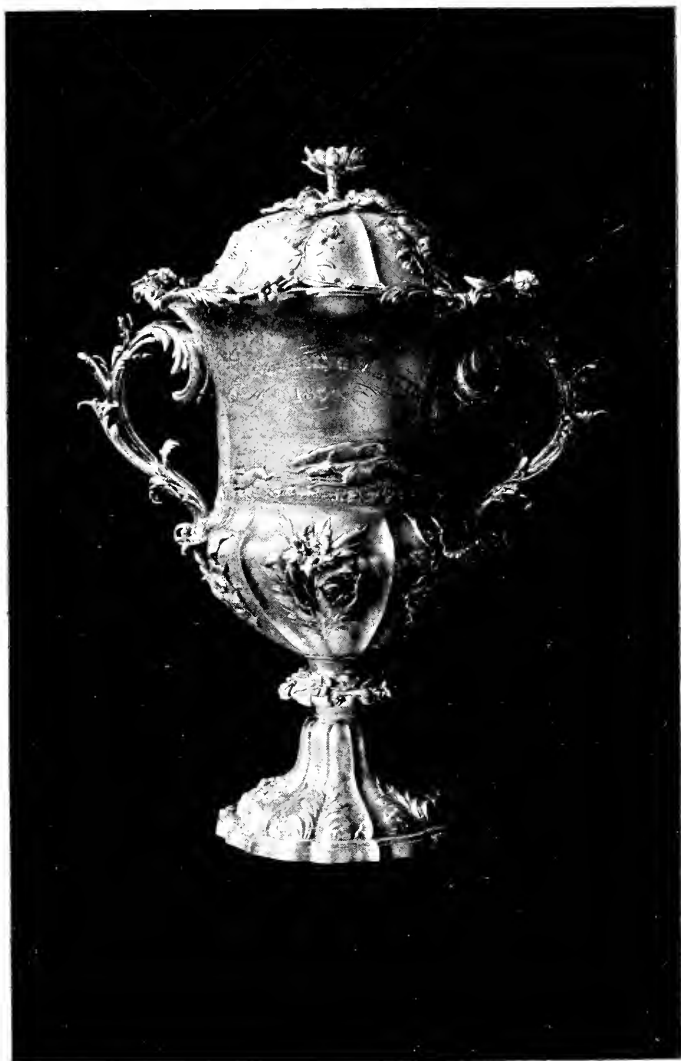
LOUTH COURSING MEETING

1834

This Meeting, the programme of which comprised thirteen stakes and one match, was held on the lands of Mr. Dawson during the last week of November. The trophy is described as “The Cup with 10 sovereigns added, a 16-dog stake.” It was won by Mr. Bartholomew’s black-and-white dog Baron, who beat in the final Mr. Hassall’s black bitch Harmonicon. Baron won the same prize at the Meeting of 1833 “in a fair and decisive manner;” but his success in 1834 was considered more meritorious, as “he had to contend with some first-rate greyhounds”

The Meeting of 1834 was marred by a curiously injudicious proceeding on the part of Mr. Dawson. Having been assured by certain persons that the judge had given unfair decisions, Mr. Dawson warned that official off his land, thinking to render

a service to the members of the Coursing Club. The members, however, felt bound to support the judge they themselves had appointed, and decided to finish the courses for the Cup elsewhere. As no suitable land could be found, it seemed inevitable that the Meeting must be abandoned, but the difficulty was solved by Mr. Dawson's letter of explanation and apology, in which he begged the members to resume sport on his lands. His motive for warning off the judge was taken into account, the apology accepted and the Meeting brought to a satisfactory conclusion



SILVER. Height, 15 inches

The Cup is inscribed :—

LUDLOW MEETING

1835

James Ackers, Esq.
Steward

I have been unable to discover any particulars of
this Coursing Meeting

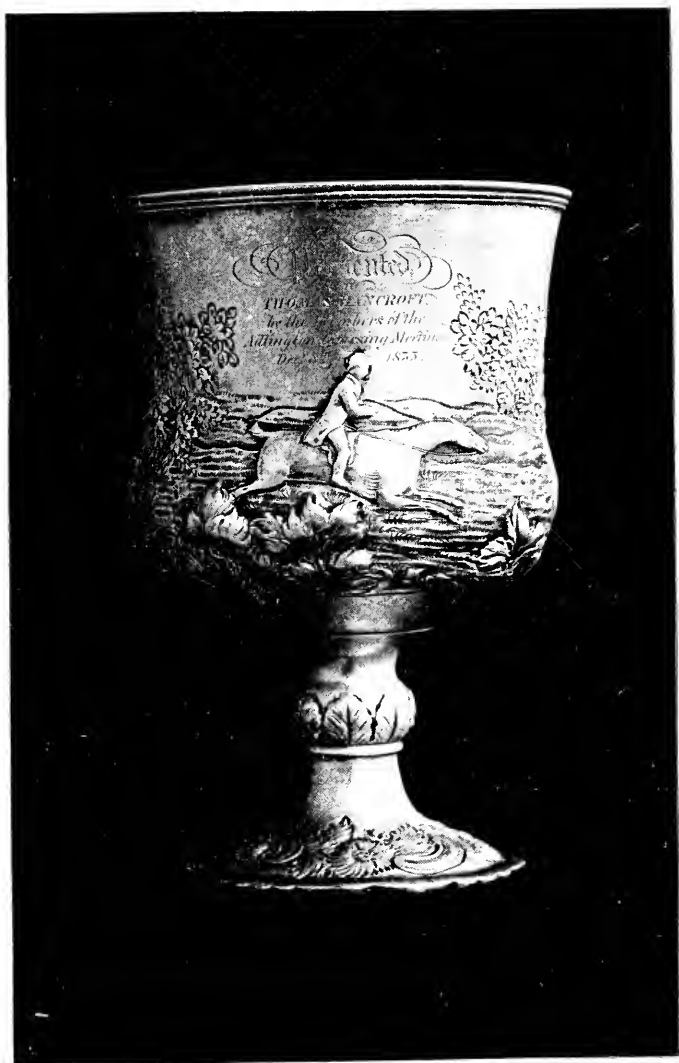


SILVER. Height, 12½ inches

Inscribed :—

PRESENTED
to
Thomas Bancroft
by the Members of the
ADLINGTON COURSING MEETING
December 8th, 1835

Nothing discoverable ; apparently the Cup was given by the members as a testimonial to Mr. Bancroft

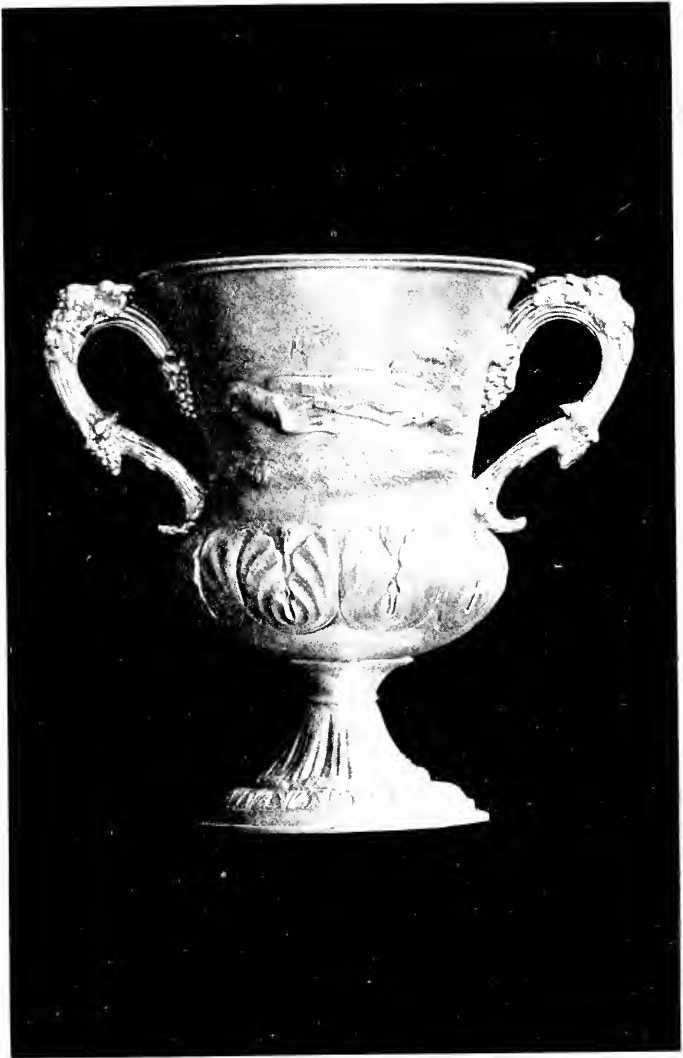


SILVER. Height, 7 inches

Inscribed :—

Won at Coston by
Holyhock,
The property of
Mr. Thomas Hill,
at Hampton House
Warley, Essex

No record of this Coursing Meeting can be
found



SILVER. Height, $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches

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