

OPENING OF THE BIG FAIR

NEARLY TEN THOUSAND PERSONS AT ALLENTOWN.

New Rule of the National Trotting Association Was Put Into Effect Concerning the Manner of Conducting Races—Shows of All Kinds on the Ground for All Kinds of People—Between the Heats of the Races a Vaudeville Show Was Given—Summary of Events.

From a Staff Correspondent. Allentown, Pa., Sept. 23.—The fifty-first annual fair of the Lehigh County Agricultural association began in this city today and will continue tomorrow, Thursday and Friday.

Those who have visited the "Great Allentown Fair" know that it is excelled by no other fair in the state of Pennsylvania, and those Scrantonnians who have never been on its grounds, but are interested in vaudeville, have a treat in store for them when they go there. Thursday will unquestionably be the "big day" of the fair, when Cresceus, the king of the trotting world, will undertake to make a new world's record for a half-mile track, 3,025 feet, being the present one, held by him, for a purse of \$3,000.

There were three races this afternoon and they were disposed of in one-two-three order. There were no entries in either of these races from the northeastern Pennsylvania. The starter was Frank Smith, of Buffalo, whose stentorian tones many Scrantonnians have heard at Bloomsburg, where he is usually the starter.

A new rule of the National Trotting association was put into effect here for the first time this afternoon, and it proved to be a wise provision. Instead of finishing one race before starting the third one, a heat was trotted in each race on the programme before the second heat in the first race was called. In that way, every horse got a good breathing spell, the spectators were not kept waiting, and the three races were disposed of in two and three-quarter hours.

FAIR GROUNDS LARGE.

The fair grounds are very ample and the crowd of 8,000 to 10,000 persons on it today had lots of room. There are all sorts of legitimate games, shows and pastimes open in the hundreds of tents and "shacks" that form the "midway." Even if a stranger did nothing but look at the contents of all these much-touted amusements he would pass the three days of the fair in making many new discoveries.

On entering the grounds and passing down the first row of canvas struts, the first building in sight is Horticultural Hall, a substantial frame structure, about 100x30, and filled with choice blooming flowers, palms, ferns and other plants. Next in line is Machinery Hall, where displays of flour, prepared cereals and farm machinery are arranged tastefully.

The main exhibition building is behind Machinery Hall, and exhibits in it are bewildering in their profusion. Thousands upon thousands of pieces of art needlework fill two sides of a center aisle, planned so close and overlapping each other so freely that the slightest effort to get a good view cannot be seen. To the right another aisle is adorned with hundreds of soft cushions of every conceivable design, and on other aisles are sewing machines, clothing, millinery, china, paintings, shoes and sundries of all kinds.

REBELS STOP SHIPPING.

Atlas Liner Unable to Load at Santa Marta, Colombia—Still Fighting. Kingston, Jamaica, Sept. 23.—The Atlas line steamship Adirondack, which sailed from New York on Sept. 6 for Cape Hatteras, N. C., direct from Santa Marta, Colombia. She reports continued fighting between the government forces and revolutionists in that neighborhood.

DEATH OF MAJOR POWELL.

The Noted Geologist Passes Away at His Home in Maine. Haven, Me., Sept. 23.—Major J. W. Powell, director of the bureau of ethnology at the Smithsonian institution at Washington, died at 6 o'clock tonight at his summer home here. He had been critically ill here for some days.

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BRITISH CRUISER SAILS.

Report of Difficulty at Venezuela Awakens Interest at Halifax. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Halifax, N. S., Sept. 23.—The report from London of the strained relations between Great Britain and Venezuela has caused some uneasiness in this city, particularly in naval circles. The British North Atlantic squadron, on station here, comprises eight cruisers and three torpedo boat destroyers. The cruisers Arion, Charybdis and Alert are at Newfoundland and the Tribuna, Retriever and Rocket are at Bermuda.

FOOT BALL LEAGUE IS ORGANIZED.

Schedule of Games Completed at Meeting Held Yesterday in Philadelphia. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Philadelphia, Pa., Sept. 23.—The directors of the National Football league today held a meeting in this city and completed the schedule and took action on applications for franchises in New York and from the Homestead Athletic club at Pittsburgh. It was decided to begin the prefall season on October 4, and to close on Dec. 6. The Homestead Athletic club was unanimously elected a member of the league, with the understanding that it would begin the playing season next fall, owing to the inability of the club to secure a sufficiently strong team to represent them this season.

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