1945

Good Time Park, Goshen, NY • August 8, 1945 • Purse $51,046.96

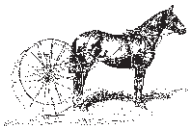
Titan Hanover: The Little Giant

Short in stature but long on power and speed, Arden Homestead Stables' Titan Hanover stood out as champion two- and three-year-old trotter. His mile in 2:00 at Lexington as a two-year-old slashed two full seconds off the juvenile standard, marking a milestone in harness horse history. Trainer Harry Pownall deserved full credit for the career of the "Fightin' Titan" as he was a handful to break and train.

Titan Hanover worked a mile at Roosevelt Raceway in 2:07¼ before going to the races. At Old Orchard, he split heats in his debut, tying for first with the fastest mile in 2:08½. Next he took the National Stake, the Tompkins Memorial at Goshen, the Harriman Challenge Trophy and the Horseman Stake and the Reading Futurity in the mud at Trenton.

In his Lexington race he set a two-heat standard of 2:02¾, 2:02¾, timed better than 2:02 one trip. Then came an assault on the clock, the quarter in :29¼, the half cyclonic in :58¾, three-quarters in 1:29½, the mile achieved in 2:00. Again at three he was unbeaten, winning the Stallion Stake and the Matron Stake with ease. The $51,046.96 Hambletonian was next and Titan Hanover delivered easily according to expectations, though Axomite made it interesting for a few strides nearing home the first trip.

Titan Hanover was an outstanding performer again at four and five, and retired to stud at Hanover Shoe Farm.



- Hometown favorite Titan Hanover was the only horse ever barred in the Hambletonian wagering pools, in spite of the fact that he started as number 12, the fifth horse in the second tier, in the first heat. A total of 19 horses started the first heat, in three tiers scoring seven across. Despite the fact that Titan Hanover prevailed by only half a length in the initial heat, he was still barred in the final.
- The respect was well deserved as "Mighty Titan", by the end of the year, held both the two-year-old and the three-year-old mile as well as half-mile track world records. There were no five-eighths mile tracks in the North America at the time.

TITAN HANOVER, b c, by Calumet Chuck—Tisma Hanover, by Peter the Brewer
Driver & Trainer: Harry Pownall
Owner: Arden Homestead Stable, Goshen, NY
Breeder: Hanover Shoe Farms, Hanover, PA
Groom: Mickey Jackman
Sale History: $3,000 yearling purchase at Standardbred Horse Sale, Harrisburg, PA . . . 1 1

KIMBERLY HANOVER, by Mr. McElwyn—Irene Hanover, by Dillon Axworthy
Driver: Harry Whitney
Owner: Dunbar Bostwick . . . 6 2

AXOMITE, by Spencer—Rilda Axworthy, by Guy Axworthy
Driver: Fenner Hawkins
Owner: Newport Stock Farm . . . 2 6

Also competed: Scottish Girl 7-11, Reyland 14-7, Jenifer Hanover 9-8, Lester Hanover 8-10, Tompkins Hanover 19-9, Earl's Spencer Jane 10-17, Sky Raider 11-12, Agatha Hanover 12-14, Projectile 16-13, Seaforth Lad 13-16, Precision 18-15, Coral Sea 15-18, Karina 17-dr.

MIGHTY NED, by Volomite—Nedda Guy, by Guy Axworthy
Driver: Tom Berry
Owner: Joseph F. Burke . . . 3 3

DR. SPENCER, by Spencer
Driver: Henry Thomas
Owner: E. J. Baker . . . 4 4*

VOLTITE, by Volomite—Ruth's Baby, by Mr. McElwyn
Driver: Sep Palin
Owner: Mrs. J. B. Johnson, Jr. . . . 5 4*
*Dead Heat

TIME BY QUARTERS:

1/4	1/2	3/4	MILE
:31¾	1:03	1:34	2:04¾
:31½	1:03¼	1:34½	2:04

1944

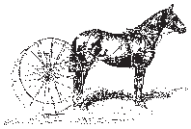
Good Time Park, Goshen, NY • August 9, 1944 • Purse $33,577.12

Yankee Maid: Another for Elizabeth

As a broodmare, Elizabeth, by Peter The Great, was already immortalized by her great gelded son, Greyhound (1:55¼) and in Yankee Maid she had a second Hambletonian winner, sharing that feat with Margaret Arion.

Purchased from Almahurst Farm by owner A. L. Derby of Wichita, Kansas, for a modest sum, Yankee Maid was lightly-raced at two. But she set a world record for two-year-old trotting fillies on a half-mile track of 2:06 3/4 and clinched juvenile honors with a race-off win at Lexington.

Triumphs in the Matron, Stallion Stakes at North Randall and the National Stake, preceded her two-heat win in the Hambletonian, the third for driver-trainer Henry Thomas.



- Yankee Maid was a half-sister to Greyhound (1935).
- Elizabeth, the dam of Yankee Maid and Greyhound, was by Peter The Great who is the leading broodmare sire of Hambletonian winners. By Volomite, Yankee Maid was the 12th of Elizabeth's 16 foals.
- Fillies were 1-2 in the first heat and in the summary. Emily Scot, the second filly, was the dam of 1958 winner Emily's Pride and the granddam of Noble Victory, the favorite in 1965.
- Yankee Maid's caretaker, "Jimtown" Burbage, enjoyed a career association with champions. He also reportedly groomed Dark Rex, a three and five-gaited American Saddlebred champion, and 1933 Kentucky Derby winner Broker's Tip.
- Hollywood star Jimmy Cagney presented the Hambletonian trophy as he had done in 1942. Thomas' son Dick, a respected horsemen in his own right, recalled that his dad trained some horses for Cagney in California, and that Cagney and Broderick Crawford, who were great friends, would come out to the track and join the family in their box at Santa Anita.

YANKEE MAID, b f, by Volomite—Elizabeth, by Peter the Great
Driver & Trainer: Henry Thomas
Owner: A. L. Derby, Wichita, KS
Breeder: Almahurst Farm (Henry H. Knight), KY
Groom: "Jimtown" Burbage
Sale History: $1,500 yearling purchase at Tattersalls Sale . . . 1 1

EMILY SCOTT, by Scotland - May Spencer, by Spencer
Driver: Fred Egan
Owner: C. W. Phellis . . . 2 4

ENAC, by Scotland - Hollyrood Phyllis, by Hollyrood Prince
Driver: Harry Whitney
Owner: W. H. Cane . . . 11 2

Also competed: Foster Hanover 6-8, Rose Dean 9-6, Betsy Babcock 7-11, Princess Juliana 8-10, Eva's Boy 10-9.

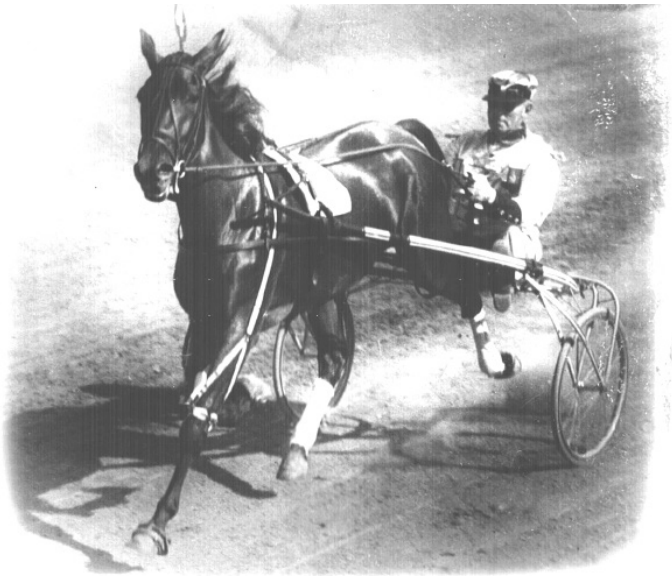
RUTH'S DAY, by Guy Day - Ruth M. Chenault, by Peter Chenault
Driver: Paul Vineyard
Owner: A. F. Williams . . . 5 3

RAPID HANOVER, by Dean Hanover - Lady Zombelle, by Peter Volo
Driver: Sep Palin
Owner: Mrs. J. B. Johnson, Jr. . . . 3 7

FIGHTING SCOT, by Scotland - Alena Guy, by Guy Axworthy
Driver: Tom Berry
Owner: Joseph F. Burke . . . 4 5

TIME BY QUARTERS:

1/4	1/2	3/4	MILE
:32	1:03½	1:34½	2:05
:31¾	1:02½	1:34	2:04



1943

Empire City Track, Yonkers, NY • August 11, 1943 • Purse $42,298.03

Volo Song: 1-2-3 Finish for the Volomites

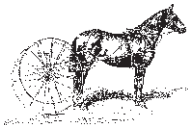
Volo Song, the champion at two, was favored in the classics at three.

The big, brown colt by Volomite out of the mare, Evensong (who had six 2:00 offspring), was a $5,000 yearling purchase by William H. Strang and was turned over to Ben White to drive and train.

The 1943 Hambletonian was contested at the slow Empire City running track because of wartime travel restrictions. Volo Song, who had won the Matron, American Stake and Hambletonian Test, broke in the first heat of the Hambletonian and finished third, with Worthy Boy winning the race. But Volo Song rebounded to win the next two, giving Ben White his fourth Hambletonian victory.

When Worthy Boy and Phonograph were second and third, respectively, in the summaries, and Gordon Gray was fifth, sons of Volomite finished 1-2-3 and had four of the six purse awards.

Sold to E. J. Baker the next season, and campaigned by Harry Fitzpatrick, Volo Song had his career and life cut short when he suffered a broken leg in a race at Elkhorn, WI.



- The Hambletonian was moved to the Empire City Track (then a Thoroughbred track, now Yonkers Raceway) because of wartime gas rationing in World War II. The Kentucky Futurity was canceled from 1942 to 1945.
- W. H. Strang Jr. was the second owner (along with his trainer/driver Ben White) to win back-to-back Hambletonians.
- Ben White, 70, won his fourth Hambletonian as a driver with a horse considered by many as one of the best of all time. It was also a record fifth training win for the White Stable.
- The second consecutive year the saletopper at the Walnut Hall Farm won the Hambletonian.
- The opening heat, won by Worthy Boy in track record time of 2:02 1/2, saw Volo Song trot what many witnesses at the time called the greatest heat ever by a 3-year-old. Volo Song made a break at the start, then rallied to finish a close third, timed around 2:00. Worthy Boy was the first Standardbred acquired by Frances Dodge Johnson (later Frances Dodge Van Lennep) who purchased Castleton Farm in July of 1945.
- Volomite sired the first three money winners (as well as the fifth money winner).

VOLO SONG, br c, by Volomite—Evensong, by Nelson Dillon
Driver & Trainer: Ben White
Owner: W. H. Strang, Jr, Brooklyn, NY
Breeder: Walnut Hall Farm (Mr. & Mrs. Ogden Edwards), KY
Groom: Bill Roland
Sale History: $5,000 yearling purchase at Walnut Hall Sale. . . . 3 1 1

WORTHY BOY, by Volomite—Warwell Worthy, by Peter the Brewer
Driver: Sep Palin
Owner: Mrs. J. B. Johnson, Jr. . . . 1 3 7

PHONOGRAPH, by Volomite - Symphonia, by Guy Axworthy
Driver: Tom Berry
Owner: Joseph F. Burke . . . 4 2 2

DARNLEY, by Scotland - Fionne, by High Noon
Driver: Harry Whitney
Owner: A. F. Williams . . . 2 10 4

GORDON GRAY, by Volomite - Nathalie Gray, by Mr. McEloyn
Driver: Gib White
Owner: W. N. Reynolds . . . 6 5 3

HESTER HANOVER, by Mr. McElwyn - Patricia Hanover, by Bunter
Driver: Harry Pownall
Owner: W. N. Reynolds . . . 8 4 5

Also competed: Barbara Babcock 5-11-9, Mighty Margaret 9-6-6, The Nutcracker 11-7-8, Austin Hanover 10-8-10, Duchess Hanover 7-9-dr.

TIME BY QUARTERS:

1/4	1/2	3/4	MILE
:31½	1:01	1:33	2:02½
:32	1:02	1:33¾	2:02½
:32	1:04	1:36	2:06

1942

Good Time Park, Goshen, NY • August 12, 1942 • Purse $37,254.48

The Ambassador: A Surprise Package

By all the laws of breeding, The Ambassador should have been one of the most highly regarded of Hambletonian candidates. By the mighty Scotland, sire of two previous winners and champions in Rosalind and Spencer Scott, his dam was Margaret Arion whose previous performers included the champion Protector, the Hambletonian winner The Marchioness, and His Excellency, a heat winner in the Hambletonian. Further, he was trained by the most famed of all developers, Ben White. Nevertheless, the high-going colt owned by the popular Bill Strang of Brooklyn, NY, was given little consideration by either the experts or the public.

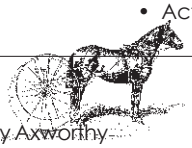
A few weeks before, The Ambassador had won the first heat of his life in an overnight event at Old Orchard, but it was a major effort for him to trot in 2:06½ over the kite track. The erratic but phenomenally fast Colby Hanover still retained a firm grip on the favorite role, however, for the forthcoming Goshen battle.

The 1942 Hambletonian will go down as one of the genuinely wild and woolly struggles, with excitement at its peak as the various participants strutted their stuff in scorching finishes. A combination of bad starting luck and a subsequent exhibition of bad manners eliminated Colby Hanover from all contention, throwing the race wide open. Follow Me, Green Diamond, The Ambassador and Scotland's Comet were all in the bunch massed at the head of the lane as the final drive began. The sixteenth was a thrilling spectacle as five horses charged to the finish. The photo showed that canny Lee Smith had saved enough ground with Pay Up to get up by inches over Scotland's Comet on the extreme outside.

The second heat again saw little backing for The Ambassador though the Scotland colt had been only a half a length back at the wire. Ben White handled him confidently, going to the top nearing the half and holding sway to the end to win by a length. The pay-off of $68.20 on The Ambassador was the highest odds ever quoted on a winner to that time.

The final showed that the second heat was no fluke, as The Ambassador was cleverly rated until turning for home, catching Scotland's Comet that had led from the five-eighths to win by two lengths in 2:04. The Ambassador never lived up to his great race again, though a contender in many other stakes. Retired to Peninsula Farm after taking a mark of 2:02, his first crop included a pair of 2:05 three-year-old trotters, but his sale to Sweden ended his American stud career.

- One of the longest shots to win the Hambletonian, The Ambassador was 33-1 when he won the second heat. At $3.40 on the dollar in the third heat, he was then the third longest priced winner in the final. Only The Intruder ($4.45 in 1956) and Nuclear Kosmos' dollar odds ($3.50 in 1986) were higher.
- The Ambassador was a half-brother to 1932 winner The Marchioness.
- He was the first winner who had not started as a 2-year-old and had only won the first heat of his career a few weeks earlier.
- Pay Up won the first heat in 2:06 for the same connections as Bill Gallon, the previous year's winner.
- Actor Jimmy Cagney presented the trophy.



THE AMBASSADOR, b c, by Scotland—Margaret Arion, by Guy Axworthy
Driver & Trainer: Ben White
Owner: William H. Strang, Jr., Brooklyn, NY
Breeder: Walnut Hall Farm (Mr. & Mrs. Ogden Edwards), KY
Groom: Arthur Lewis
Sale History: A sale topping $5,000 yearling purchase at Walnut Hall.
. . . . 5 1 1

PAY UP, by Follow Up—Charming Daughter, by Etawah
Driver: Lee Smith
Owner: R. H. Johnston. . . . 1 2 4

SCOTLAND'S COMET, by Scotland - Iosola's Worthy, by Guy Axworthy
Driver: Rupert Parker
Owner: Thomas Thomas . . . 2 10 2

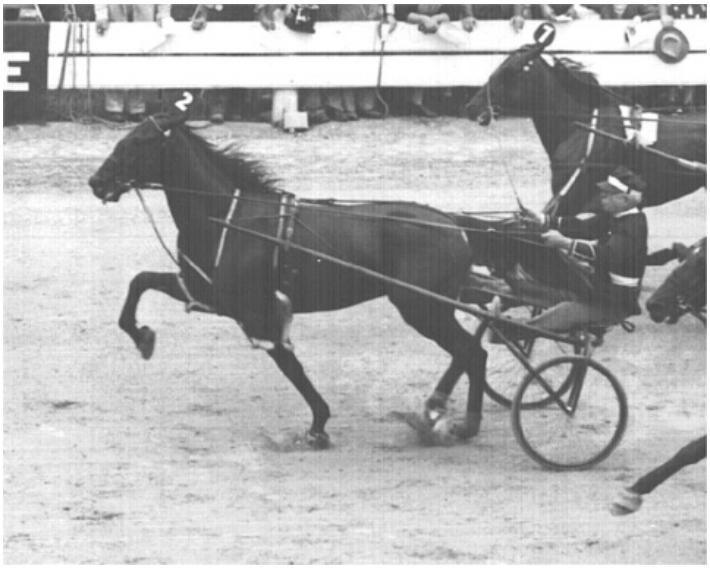
SEVEN UP, by Follow Up - Debutante, by Mr. McElwyn
Driver: Harry Pownall
Owner: E. T. Gerry, Sr. . . . 11 2 3

FOLLOW ME, by Follow Up - Mimzy, by The Senator
Driver: Eddie Havens
Owner: G. L. Hampt . . . 11 2 3

GREEN DIAMOND, by Athlone Guy - Anna Bradford's Flaxey, by Guy Axworthy
Driver: Tom Berry
Owner: Leo C. McNamara . . . 3 4 7

TIME BY QUARTERS:			
1/4	1/2	3/4	MILE
:33	1:04	1:35	2:06
:31½	1:03¼	1:33¾	2:06
:31½	1:02	1:33	2:04

Also competed: Mabel Hanover 10-5-4, Paxton Hanover 7-6-8, Cannon Ball 6-9-9, William E. 9-8-11, Colby Hanover 8-11-10.



Good Time Park, Goshen, NY • August 6, 1941 • Purse $37,029.86

Bill Gallon: The Tarheel Terror

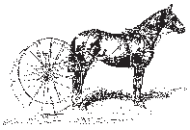
A relative newcomer to the sport, R. Horace Johnston of Charlotte, N.C. made a very astute and economical buy at the first Standardbred Sale in Harrisburg in 1939, purchasing the Sandy Flash colt, Ashley Hanover, for $1,800. His new owner, a textile manufacturer, changed the colt's name to Bill Gallon in honor of a friend and turned him over to the soft-spoken Lee Smith for development.

Bill Gallon was a top juvenile trotter. Among his wins were the Tompkin Memorial and the Horseman Stake.

Bill Gallon was off to a rather slow start at three, sickness and slight lameness halting his progress. In his tune-up start in the Hambletonian Test at Old Orchard, the handsome colt was twice second to Volstadt and then took the third heat in 2:04, beating His Excellency.

The Hambletonian of 1941 was a slow race as practically every participant had been ill or off form slightly during the preceding weeks. Added to this, an atrocious barrier start cost Bill Gallon all chances the first heat, His Excellency coasting in with a 2:07¼ clocking. Bill Gallon came back to win the next by a neck from His Excellency with a nicely-timed drive in 2:05 and won the final by open lengths in 2:05½.

Retired to stud at his owner's Whitehall Farm, Bill Gallon had limited opportunities as he was not situated in a busy breeding area. Later moved to Hanover Shoe Farms, he sired one of the outstanding two-year-old trotting fillies of all time, Stenographer.



- In a field considered by most, "…weakened by a rash of illness and off form," the first heat, won by His Excellency, a maiden, in 2:07 1/4, was the slowest ever – other than a raceoff.
- The era of modern nighttime pari-mutuel harness racing began with the opening of Roosevelt Raceway on September 2.

BILL GALLON, br c, by Sandy Flash— Calumet Aristocrat, by Belwin
Driver & Trainer: Lee Smith
Owner: R. Horace Johnston, Charlotte, NC
Breeder: Hanover Shoe Farms, Hanover, PA
Groom: Thornton
Sale History: Originally named Ashley Hanover; sold for $1,800 as a yearling at the first Standardbred Horse Sale.. . . . 6 1 1

HIS EXCELLENCY, by Volomite—Margaret Arion, by Guy Axworthy
Driver: Ben White
Owner: W. H. Strang, Jr. . . . 1 2 2

MERWYNNA, by Scotland - Lady Ethelwyn, by Guy Axworthy
Driver: Vic Fleming
Owner: Sullivan and Mawhinney . . . 2 6 7

FAST TRAIN, by Guy Day, Lookaway Express, by Atlantic Express
Driver: Harry Whitney
Owner: E. T. Gerry Sr. . . 3 3 4

FLORIMEL, by Spencer - Carolyn, by Mr. McElwyn
Driver: Harry Pownall
Owner: Arden Homestead . . . 5 4 3

HOLLYROOD ANNA, by Hollyrood Hermes - Hollyrood Lydia, by Spencer
Driver: Dunbar Bostwick
Owner: Dunbar Bostwick . . . 4 8 8

Also competed: Perpetual 8-5-6, Lucy Hanover 7-7-5, Double

TIME BY QUARTERS:			
1/4	**1/2**	**3/4**	**MILE**
:31¼	1:03½	1:35¾	2:07¼
:31¾	1:03¾	1:35¼	2:05½
:32	1:03	1:33¼	2:05

1940

Good Time Park, Goshen, NY • August 14, 1940 • Purse $41,958.44

Spencer Scott: Worth Waiting for

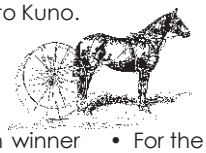
The 1940 Hambletonian was a very popular one among the Grand Circuit regulars and close followers of the sport, as no one deserved a victory more than Charles W. Phellis of Greenwich, Connecticut, and his trainer-driver, Fred Egan. Phellis' home bred Grand Circuit campaigners had raced to this time with limited success. In this instance, he was racing the handsome black colt, Spencer Scott.

Sickness and temporary lameness handicapped the colt at two, but when he attained his form, he was second only to the 1939 champion, Kuno. After a couple of races in which he was a contender, Spencer Scott whipped all the contenders, including Kuno, in the Noyes Stake at Syracuse in 2:05. He won a heat and second money in the rich Horseman Stake and was again a close runner-up to Kuno.

At three, Spencer Scott was the king of the crop and won every stake engagement but one in impressive fashion.

Spencer Scott was clearly the best in the Hambletonian. Masterfully driven by Fred Egan, the superb black colt set his own pace and held off the stretch drives of Remus and Kuno to win in 2:02 and 2:03, making Phellis, breeder David Look and Fred Egan a happy trio.

Retired to Hanover Shoe Farms with earnings of $52,742.66, the young stallion accomplished much before his untimely death at thirteen. His phenomenal son, Rodney 2, 2:02, 1:57^{2}, came within a fraction of dethroning his sire, and retired in 1949 as the leading money-winning trotting stallion.



- The first winner whose dam was sired by a Hambletonian winner (Spencer, 1928).
- Phellis convinced David M. Look, owner of Castleton Farm, to breed his mare May Spencer to Scotland (third to Spencer in 1928) by offering to purchase the resulting foal, the future Hambletonian winner Spencer Scott.
- For the 15th consecutive year, a Kentucky stallion sired the winner.
- The last year that bookmakers were permitted at Goshen as pari-mutuel wagering was about to be legalized in New York State.

SPENCER SCOTT, br c, by Scotland—May Spencer, by Spencer
Driver & Trainer: Fred Egan
Owner: C. W. Phellis, Greenwich, CT
Breeder: Castleton Farm (David M. Look), KY
Groom: Phil Lascarbo
Sale History: Private purchase as a weanling. . . . 1 1

REMUS, by Protector - Symphonia, by Guy Axworthy
Driver: Harry Short
Owner: Short-Dickerson-Bowser . . . 2 2

KUNO, by Guy Day - Princess Gay, by Chestnut Peter
Driver: Harry Whitney
Owner: Dunbar Bostwick . . . 3 3

Aso competed: Earl's Moody Guy 5-8, Steward 7-6, Sister Hanover 8-9.

QUEEN VICTORIA, by Peter Volo - Margaret Anion, by Guy Axworthy
Driver: Ben White
Owner: W. H. Strang, Jr. . . . 4 7

PRINCESS PERT, by Volomite - Princess Nadena, by Justice Brooke
Driver: Vic Fleming
Owner: Mrs. Edith Mix . . . 9 4

MILESTONE, by Volomite - Pearl Xavier, by Guy Axworthy
Driver: Wayne Smart
Owner: Joe Neville . . . 6 5

TIME BY QUARTERS:

1/4	1/2	3/4	MILE
:30¾	1:01¾	1:32	2:02
:32	1:02¾	1:33	2:03

1939

Good Time Park, Goshen, NY • August 9, 1939 • Purse $38,802.46

Peter Astra: The Doctor's Dream

Dr. L. M. Guilinger of Andover, Ohio, owner of the 1939 Hambletonian winner, was a country doctor who, in the early years of his practice, always had a fast-stepping road horse to carry him to the bedside of the suffering. Even with the advent of the automobile Dr. Guilinger kept his horses, but when the automobile became a real necessity switched his interest to owning harness horses for the track.

He entrusted a couple to "Doc" Parshall. and the doctor decided to take a flyer in the stakes field, though with some misgivings as to what his many patients would think of the wisdom of paying the $3,250 that Peter Astra cost as a yearling. As it turned out he need not have worried.

In the hands of Parshall, the Peter Volo colt was a crack juvenile. What was even more pleasing to the Doctor and his circle of friends was that Peter Astra, in his second start won at North Randall, Ohio, before a home town crowd. At Historic Track Peter Astra won the Harriman Challenge Trophy and was a contender and money winner in the American Stake, National Stake and Tompkins Memorial. He also won the Review Futurity and the Horseman Stake.

Peter Astra had a veritable victory parade at three. With Nibble Hanover sidelined by sickness, the Peter Volo colt turned on his sweeping long stride whenever needed to win every engagement. The Hambletonian was won with complete ease, much to the pleasure of his owner. The colt then won at Springfield, Syracuse, and Lexington, winning more Grand Circuit stakes than any other three-year-old had ever done.

- Peter Astra's margin of victory in the deciding heat was reported to be a then Hambletonian record of "a half dozen lengths" in an era before the photo finish and official charting.
- Prior to 1939 individual trophies were presented. The present Hambletonian trophy, a 19-inch Revere Bowl on a tiered pedestal, was created in 1939 by the Park Avenue (New York) firm of Warren D. Perry. The trophy used to go to the winning owner for the year (see 1954), but because of its value (last appraised at approximately $60,000) and high insurance costs, the trophy now stays in the trophy case on the clubhouse level of the Meadowlands. It is displayed during the Hambletonian festivities. Replicas are provided for the winning connections by the racetrack.
- Retired to stud at Gainesway Farm, Peter Astra sired 2:05 performers at both gaits, but never came close to sending out his successor for the classic contests.
- Upon the $3,250 purchase of Peter Astra, Dr. Gullinger made a special request to the correspondent from The Harness Horse, "I just bought a colt and I wish you would keep my name out of The Harness Horse as owner until I advise you otherwise. If the people back home would know what I paid, they would conclude that I was either out of my mind or had saved up enough money that I did not need any more, consequently some of my patients might think it unnecessary to pay for services rendered."
- The product of a May-December equine mating, Peter Astra was from the 21st and last full crop of foals of the 24-year-old stallion Peter Volo. The cross of the venerable Walnut Hall patriarch Peter Volo and three-year-old Astra produced a Hambletonian winner.
- Vic Fleming drove Gauntlet (2-2). It was the second time he reined the runner-up in the summary. Fleming never won a Hambletonian, though he was second in five of the 27 heats he contested.

PETER ASTRA, b c, by Peter Volo-Astra, by San Francisco
Driver & Trainer: Hugh M. Parshall
Owner: Dr. L.M. Guilinger, Andover, Ohio
Breeder: Walnut Hall Farm (Mr. & Mrs. Ogden Edwards), KY
Groom: Knute Gardner
Sale History: $3,250 yearling at the Old Glory Sale, NY . . . 1 1

GAUNTLET, b c, by Spencer - Galeta, by Etawah
Driver: Vic Fleming
Owner: C.W. Phellis . . . 2 2

SIR WALTER, b g, by Volomite - Thyra Varrick
Driver: Tom Berry
Owner: J.J. McIntyre . . . 5 3

BAGPIPER, b c, by Guy Abbey - Blue Heather, by Peter Volo
Driver: Harry Pownall
Owner: Arden Homestead . . . 3 9

THE ABBOT, ch c, by Guy Abbey - Progressive, by Belwin
Driver: Harry Whitney
Owner: Strang-Mooney-White . . . 4 4

VOLTINA, br f, by Volomite - Kahla Dillon, by Dillon Axworthy
Driver: Ben White
Owner: Jacob G. Lang . . . 9 5

TIME BY QUARTERS:

1/4	1/2	3/4	MILE
:30½	1:04	1:35¼	2:05¼
:31¼	1:02¼	1:34¼	2:04¼

Also competed: Spud Hanover, 7-6; Cherry Hanover, 6-8; Ned Abbey, 8-7; Leemite, 10-10.

No Mutuel Betting. In $150 auction pools, Peter Astra sold as the favorite at $100, Gauntlet at $20, Cherry Hanover at $10, and the field at $20.

1938

Good Time Park, Goshen, NY • August 10, 1938 • Purse $36,262.37

Mc Lin (Hanover): Two in a Row

Hanover Shoe Farms was back in the winner's circle again at Goshen in 1938 as the newly purchased McLin Hanover shut out the field in straight heats. He brought honors for the second straight year to his owners, driver Henry Thomas and his sire, Mr. McElwyn, also at Hanover.

The 1938 winner was bred by William H. Cane, Master of Good Time Park and was out of Ethelinda, the three-year-old champion of her day. McLin, as he was called before his purchase, proved a bitter disappointment at two, wild breaks putting him far back in his few starts. However, he was kept up in the stakes as he had demonstrated extreme speed.

At Agawam, Mass., the colt skyrocketed to prominence in the American Stake. In the second heat over a slow track he came from far back at a speedy clip, swept past the favored Long Key only to make a break with victory in his grasp. The final mile Carl Dill handled McLin with kid gloves, bringing him out in the middle of the track to sprint home. Lawrence Sheppard then stepped in and bought the colt for $25,000 from Mr. Cane, having already been impressed by his remarkable speed flights in training.

The same schooling process that had been employed with Shirley Hanover was next used on McLin at Goshen. The colt learned to take off like a bullet and keep his feet on the sprint for the first turn. Though his supporters were nervous, the Hambletonian proved anti-climactic. Henry Thomas used the unbeatable formula of getting away on top and improving his position and the colt was never threatened, winning both heats by open lengths.

McLin Hanover was sold to Italy that fall and proved to be an outstanding sire.

- Hanover Shoe Farms (Lawrence B. Sheppard et al) won back-to-back Hambletonians, becoming the first ownership to do so. Sheppard purchased McLin (later renamed McLin Hanover) a week before the race from William H. Cane for a reported $20,000, (his earnings for the day: $19,944.30) with an additional $5,000 due if the colt won the Hambletonian Stake. During that era of heat racing McLin had won only one heat in his career, and had yet to win a race.
- Henry Thomas was also the first trainer/driver to win two consecutive Hambletonians.
- McLin was the fifth and last winner sired by a Calumet stallion.
- The Dutchess, owned by Italian Count Paolo Mangelli (the father of Orsi Mangelli) and driven by Will Caton, became the first European-owned horse to start in the Hambletonian. She finished 4-10 in the two heats.

McLIN (HANOVER), b c, by Mr. McElwyn-Ethelinda, by Peter the Great
Driver & Trainer: Henry Thomas
Owner: Hanover Shoe Farms, Hanover, PA
Breeder: W.H. Cane (Good Time Stable), NY
Sale History: $25,000 private purchase as a three-year-old.. . . 1 1

EARL'S PRINCESS MARTHA, by Protector - Mignon, by Lee Axworthy
Driver: Spec Erskine
Owner: Spears-Stropshire-Weathers-Gund . . . 2 7

CHAMPLAIN, by Volomite - Eva Taurda, by Guy Axworthy
Driver: Vic Fleming
Owner: Wm. Hughes . . . 10 2

ROYAL SPENCER, by Spencer - Hollyrood Susan, by Peter Velo
Driver: Charley Lacey
Owner: H.D. Bierey . . . 3 3

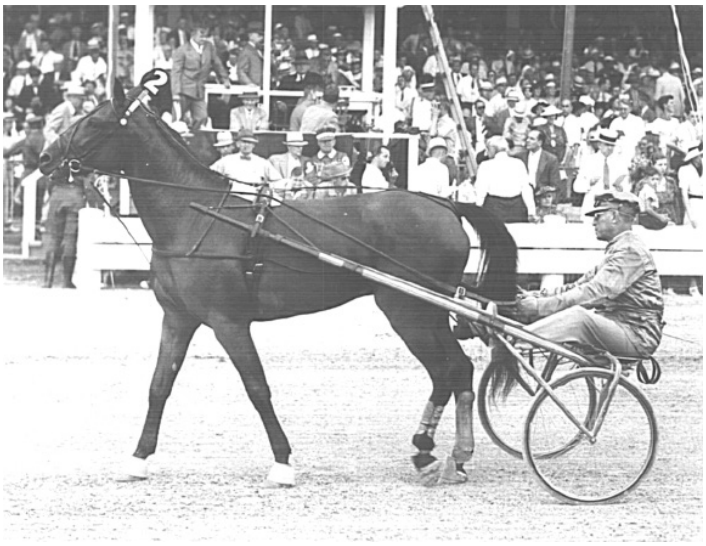
LONG KEY, by Peter Volo - Iosola's Worthy, by Guy Axworthy
Driver: Ben White
Owner: E.J. Merkle . . . 8 4

THE DUCHESS, by Peter Volo - Margaret Arion, by Guy Axworthy
Driver: Will Caton
Owner: Count Orsi Mangelli . . . 4 10

Also competed: Professor, 6-2; Dale Hanover, 5-6; Prohibitor, 7-9; Earl's Mr. Will, 9-8.

TIME BY QUARTERS:			
1/4	1/2	3/4	MILE
:30½	1:01¼	1:32¼	2:02¼
:31	1:01¼	1:32¼	2:02¾

No Mutuel Betting. In a $415 auction pool, Long Key was the favorite at $200, McLin Hanover at $105, Champlain at $25, Earl's Mr. Will and Professor at $20, The Duchess at $15, Dale Hanover and Royal Spencer at $10, and the field for $10.



1937

Good Time Park, Goshen, NY • August 12, 1937 • Purse $36,212.59

Shirley Hanover: When the Chips Were Down

Shirley Hanover was bred to be a champion. Her dam was two-time World Champion Hanover's Bertha, Hanover Shoe Farms' first Hambletonian winner, and her sire, Mr. McElwyn, was himself three-time World Champion. She inherited the speed of her parents, but was handicapped throughout her career with bad manners.

In the hands of Henry Thomas, Shirley Hanover was one of the fastest youngsters in the Hanover string. Among her victories were the Review and Horseman Futurities. Her manners showed in the American Stake when she reared at the start and went down, knocking her wind out.

Carefully schooled for the big stakes at Goshen, Hambletonian Day found Shirley in perfect stakes form and she carried the orange and blue colors to an upset victory in record time.

That moment of glory was to be her last start. As a broodmare, Shirley Hanover produced the double-gaited Hava Hanover and Reine Hanover, but never foaled a performer comparable to herself.

- The only winner whose dam, Hanover's Bertha (1930), was also a Hambletonian winner. Shirley Hanover's granddam was Miss Bertha Dillon, considered the foundation mare of Hanover Shoe Farms.
- After twenty minutes and six recalls in the first heat, starter Steve Phillips ordered Dunbar Bostwick on Hollyrood Audrey 2nd and H. M. Parshall on Delphia Hanover to replace themselves with other drivers. The violation: scoring ahead of the pole horse. Harry Whitney replaced Bostwick and Charlie Lacey took the place of Parshall, though Lacey was taken off for Leo Fleisch in the second heat. The first heat got away on the tenth score.
- Eight of the twelve starters, or two-thirds of the field, were fillies, the highest proportion ever in a Hambletonian. Fifty percent or more of the field has been fillies in seven different years; all prior to 1937. A record eight fillies were also entered in the 1949 edition.
- First post-race saliva test in a Hambletonian.

SHIRLEY HANOVER, b f, by Mr. McElwyn-Hanover's Bertha, by Peter Volo
Driver & Trainer: Henry Thomas
Owner& Breeder: Hanover Shoe Farms, Hanover, PA
Groom: Paul Wright . . . 1 1

DeSOTA, by Peter Volo - Symphonia, by Guy Axworthy
Driver: Tom Berry
Owner: Paul Bowser . . . 4 2

FARR, by Truax - Charm, by Belwin
Driver: Harry Pownall
Owner: Arden Homestead . . .2 4*

ALICE HANOVER, by Sandy Flash
Driver: Vic Fleming
Owner: Hannover Shoe Farms . . . 4 11

Also competed: Southlaud, 7-6, Athlone Iosola Guy, 8-7; Earl's Spencerian, 12-8; Delphia Hanover, 9-12; Europa, 10-10

TIME BY QUARTERS:			
1/4	1/2	3/4	MILE
:30½	1:02	1:32¼	2:01½
:30½	1:01½	1:32¼	2:01¾

HOLLYROOD AUDREY II, by Hollyrood Harkaway - Hollyrood Kate, by Joe Dodge
Driver: Dunbar Bostwick
Owner: Dunbar Bostwick . . . 6 3

SCHNAPPS, by Mr. McElwyn - Station Belle, by Belwin
Driver: Will Caton
Owner: W. N. Reynolds . . . 3 9

TWILIGHT SONG, by Peter Volo - Even Song, by Nelson Dillon
Driver: Ben White
Owner: W. H. Strang, Jr . . . 11 5**

*Split 2nd and 3rd money. **Split 6th money.
No Mutuel Betting. In a $219 auction pool, DeSota was favored at $100, Schnapps at $34, Twilight Song at $24, Shirley Hanover at $20, Alice Hanover at $16, and the field at $25.

1936

Good Time Park, Goshen, NY • August 12, 1936 • Purse $33,943.83

Rosalind: A Family Affair

Rosalind, the sturdy daughter of Scotland and Alma Lee, represented the culmination of Ben White's career as a trainer and driver. The soft-spoken Canadian with the magic feather touch on the reins brought out many champions and scored his second Hambletonian win with Rosalind, making him the first driver to score twice.

Not only did Ben White train and drive this fabulous filly, he bred her as well and gave her to his son, Gibson, as an incentive to recover from a serious illness. There is no question that the medicine worked, as Gibson White later became his father's assistant trainer and a winning driver in Grand Circuit competition.

Victorious in six of her 10 starts at two, Rosalind clinched the two-year-old title decisively when she triumphed in the Junior Kentucky Futurity in a sparkling 2:03. The next year Rosalind won seven of her eight stakes engagements, her sole loss being to a stable mate.

In the Hambletonian it was strictly a case of Rosalind first, and the rest nowhere, as Ben White moved his son's filly right to the top and held sway thereafter, the best mile in 2:01¾, a stake mark. Gib White smilingly joined his father in the winner's circle with the crowd wildly cheering the popular victory. The story of filly's victory and Gib's recovery are recounted in the Marguerite Henry classic, Born to Trot.

- Ben White became the first and only breeder to also train and drive the winner. Mal Burroughs drove but did not train his homebred Malabar Man in 1997. Stanley Dancer was co-breeder of Egyptian Candor (1965), a horse he trained but did not drive. Trainer/driver Howard Beissinger's wife, Ann, was the breeder of record on Speedy Crown (1971).
- Ben White gave the filly to his son "Gib" who was ill with tuberculosis and the boy's enthusiastic interest in the filly was credited in part with his eventual recovery. The story of Rosalind and her young owner later became the subject of Marguerite Henry's book Born To Trot.
- Attendance reported at nearly 45,000 may have been the largest crowd ever for a Hambletonian.

ROSALIND, b f, by Scotland-Alma Lee, by Lee Worthy
Driver/Trainer/Breeder: Ben White
Owner: Gibson White, Lexington, KY
Groom: Charley Drein
Sale History: Private transfer from Ben White to Gibson White . . . 1 1

BROWNIE HANOVER, by Truax - Hanovers Bertha, by Peter Volo
Driver: Henry Thomas
Owner: Hanover Shoe Farms . . . 2 4

ED LASATER, by Gaylworthy - Ella Burnett, by Etawah
Driver: Sep Palin
Owner: W.N. Reynolds . . . 6 2

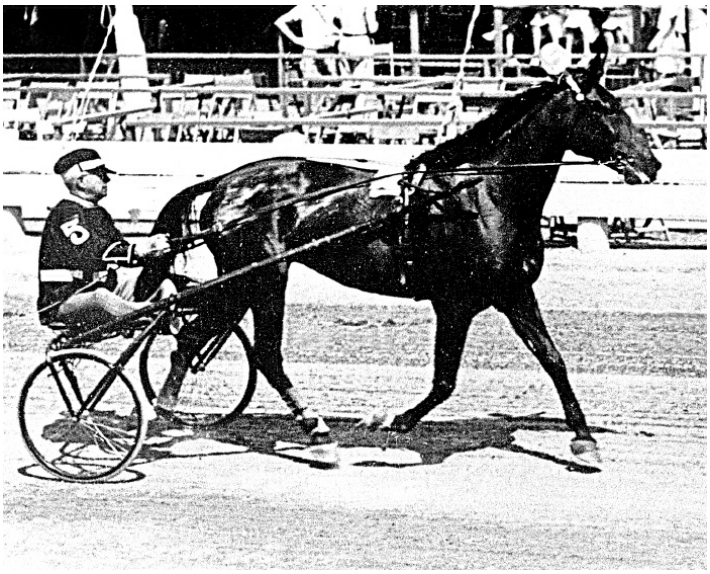
PINERO, by Guy Day - Pongee Silk, by Siliko
Driver: Harry Whitney
Owner: Thomas I. Havens . . . 3 7

RUTH M. MAC, by Mr. McElwyn - Ruth M. Chenault, by Peter Chenault
Driver: Tom Berry
Owner: Coldstream Stud . . . 8 3

CLOVA, by Peter Volo - Dancing Spirit, by Moko
Driver: H.M. Parshall
Owner: Wm. Hughes . . . 4 6

Also competed: Peter Song, 7-5; Recovery, 5-10; Hollyrood Hermes, 10-8; Gaiety Mite, 9-9.

TIME BY QUARTERS:

1/4	1/2	3/4	MILE
:30½	1:00¾	1:32	2:01¾
:31	1:02¼	1:33	2:02¼

No Mutuel Betting. In a $260 auction pool, Rosalind and Ed Lasater sold at $100 each, Brownie Hanover, Clova and Ruth M Mac at $20 each, and the field at $20.