1935

Good Time Park, Goshen, NY • August 14, 1935 • Purse $30,471

Greyhound: The Trotting King

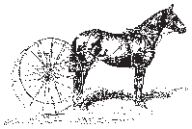
Most spectacular of Hambletonian winners and the greatest to ever capture the victor's laurels at Goshen was the majestic grey gelding, Greyhound. Greyhound was the idol of the harness racing crowds during his star-studded campaigns through the Grand Circuit. As Greyhound grew older, his coat became almost pure white, giving further strength to his apt nickname "The Grey Ghost." To list his world records and phenomenal performances would take pages.

Bred at Almahurst Farm by Henry Knight, Greyhound was Sep Palin's masterpiece. The tall Hoosier horseman and the leggy, gangling youngster developed into a virtually unbeatable team.

The Hambletonian represented his richest triumph. Both miles Palin rated the favorite far back until the five-eighths, then set sail with those tremendous, space-devouring strides to swirl past the field. The first mile in 2:02¼, last half timed better than :59 set a new record for the race, the 2:02¾ second heat making it the fastest race to date. Greyhound was in the headlines steadily from that time on.

To many, the most unforgettable feat of Greyhound's were the team miles he trotted with Rosalind 1:56¾, the World Champion trotting mare and winner of the 1936 Hambletonian. Both victors in America's most coveted harness classic, the fastest and second fastest trotter in the world combined to trot a marvelous mile in 1:58¼, a mark that many thought would never be surpassed.

Greyhound spent his retirement years at the farm of his owner, E.J. Baker in St. Charles, Il.



- One of the greatest horses of all time was also the first gelding winner.
- The only gray to ever win the Hambletonian.
- A $900 yearling purchase at the Indianapolis Speed Sale; about $11,382 in 1999 dollars. The sale average was only $410.
- As an older horse Greyhound set a world record for a trotter of 1:55 1/4 that stood for 32 years (1938 to 1969). At one time he held a total of 14 world records including: "under-saddle" (2:01 3/4) and was paired "team-to-pole" with the 1936 Hambletonian winner Rosalind (1:58 1/4).
- Indicative of the trotting economy of the time, Greyhound earned $38,952 in seven years of racing (1934-1940), earning almost half ($18,804) in the Hambletonian.

GREYHOUND, gr g, by Guy Abbey-Elizabeth by Peter The Great Axworthy
Driver & Trainer: Sep Palin
Owner: E.J. Baker, St. Charles, IL
Breeder: Almahurst Farm (Henry H. Knight), KY
Groom: Pete Mir
Sale Histoy: $900 yearling purchase, Indianapolis Speed Sale . . . 1 1

WARWELL WORTHY, by Peter the Brewer - Alma Lee, by Lee Worthy
Driver: Will Caton
Owner: Henry Warwick . . . 7 2

PEDRO TIPTON, by Peter Volo - Lady Tipton, by Guy Axworthy
Driver: Will Hodson
Owner: Stacey Smith . . . 2 7

LAWRENCE HANOVER, by Peter Volo - Miss Bertha Dillon, by Dillon
Driver: H.M. Parshall
Owner: LaSalle Stables . . . 4 3

TILLY TONKA, by Spencer - Minnetonke by Belwin
Driver: Fred Egan
Owner: C.W. Phellis . . . 3 9

SILVER KING, by Mr. McElwyn - Fay Worthy M, by Favonian
Driver: Ben White
Owner: E.J. Merkle . . . 6 4

Also competed: Volo Arion, 5-5; Calumet Finery, 9-6; Harper Hanover, 8-8.

TIME BY QUARTERS:			
1/4	1/2	3/4	MILE
:31¾	1:02¾	1:32¾	2:02¼
:30	:59¾	1:31¾	2:02¾

No Mutuel Betting. In a $294 auction pool, Greyhound was favored at $200, Lawrence Hanover at $30, Silver King at $20, Warwell Worthy at $15, Tilly Tonka at $14, and the field at $15.

1934

Good Time Park, Goshen, NY • August 15, 1934 • Purse $22,994

Lord Jim: Last of the Guy Axworthys

One of the remarkable attributes of the great progenitors of the standardbred is their ability to sire outstanding performers at an advanced age. The longtime premier of Walnut Hall Farm, Guy Axworthy, outdid them all by siring a Hambletonian winner at the venerable age of twenty-eight. For many years, Guy Axworthy was the undisputed king of stakes sires.

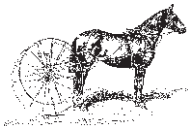
Guy Axworthy had started the ball rolling for the Hambletonian by siring both the winner and runner-up in the first two Hambletonians. Thereafter three others of the get of Guy Axworthy had taken down second honors, but the victory of his son Lord Jim, from his final crop, in 1934, put Guy Axworthy again in the lead for winners, not to be surpassed until 1947 when Scotland sent out his fourth winner.

Lord Jim was owned by E. L. Mefford of Columbus, Ohio, and the reinsman that brought the Guy Axworthy colt to prominence was the youngest thus far to succeed in winning the coveted classic, Dr. Hugh Parshall of Urbana, Ohio. For a period of a dozen years or so "Doc" Parshall was usually the leading race-winning driver in the United States.

Lord Jim was rightly regarded as one of the best juveniles of his season. A winner early, the colt also won at Columbus, Indianapolis and Nashville and wound up by beating Bertha C. Hanover, trotting a final quarter in :29. However, Lord Jim's Hambletonian rating was not high early in the season; the Guy Axworthy colt raced in aged events, cutting only a slight figure.

The first heat of the Hambletonian found Princess Peg whipping the field from well back. The next mile "Doc" Parshall had Lord Jim on edge and the colt held off Princess Peg in 2:02¾. Muscletone, driven by Daryl Parshall, stole off to a long lead in the third and won in 2:04¼. Lord JIm moved from the three-quarters to win the fourth heat from Muscletone in 2:04¼.

The colt was later sold back to Walnut Hall to emulate, if possible, the speed-siring feats of his sire. However, though a speedy and game colt trotter, Lord Jim did not make the grade in Kentucky, though siring several fast performers.



- The Parshall entry finished "one-two" in a fourth heat race-off (and in the summary placing) for the smallest purse ever ($25,845) in the Hambletonian. The entry earned $17,485.
- The least expensive yearling ever sold at public auction to win the Hambletonian.
- At 34, Parshall was the youngest winning trainer/driver of that time in an era when it was commonly thought a horseman needed to be 50 years of age to be considered capable of handling a trotter. The average age of a winning driver prior to the race moving to the Meadowlands was 50. Parshall had served notice by finishing second in the final heat in 1933.
- Lord Jim was the last winner by Guy Axworthy, conceived when the horse was 28-years-old, the oldest stallion ever to sire a Hambletonian winner. The mare Selka was 16 when Lord Jim was foaled.
- Parshall's brother, Daryl, finished second with Muscletone in the final (after winning the controversial third heat). Muscletone would later become a great champion in European trotting, winning both the 1935 and 1937 editions of the Prix d'Amerique.

LORD JIM, b c, by Guy Axworthy-Selka, by Peter the Great
Driver & Trainer: H.M. "Doc" Parshall
Owner: E.L.Mefford & J.F.Davies
Breeder: Walnut Hall Farm (Ogden Edwards), KY
Groom: Bob Pace
Sale History: $575 yearling purchase, Old Glory Sale, New York, NY
. . . 4 1 2 1

MUSCLETONE, by Mr. McElwyn-Ruth M. Chenault, by Peter Chenault
Driver: Daryl Parshall
Owner: Coldstream Stud . . . 3 3 1 2

PRINCESS PEG, by Volomite-Margaret Arion, by Guy Axworthy
Driver: Sep Palin
Owner: Fred Egan . . . 1 2 4 3

VITAMINE, by Volomite - Ollie Wood M, by Bingen
Driver: Will Caton
Owner: Martin B. Dodd . . . 2 4 5 ro

EMILY STOKES, by Spencer - Minetonka, by Belwin
Driver: Harry Stokes
Owner: C. W. Phellis. . . 7 6 3 ro

REYNOLDA, by The Laurel Hall - Guy Rosa, by Guy Axworthy
Driver: Marvin Childs
Owner: Henry H. Knight. . . 6 5 6 ro

Also competed: Bertha C. Hanover, 5-8-7-ro; Ella Brewer, 8-7-8-ro

No Mutuel Betting.

TIME BY QUARTERS:

1/4	1/2	3/4	MILE
:31	1:00½	1:32	2:03½
:30	1:00¼	1:32	2:02¾
:31¾	1:02¾	1:33	2:04¼
:31¼	1:01¼	1:32½	2:04¼

1933

Good Time Park, Goshen, NY • August 16, 1933 • Purse $37,612

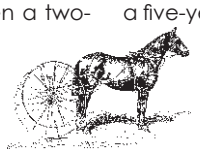
Mary Reynolds: Up From the Sunny South

William N. Reynolds of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, was one of the leading breeders and owners in harness racing until his death in 1951. Chairman of the Board of Reynolds Tobacco, Reynolds sent his homebred filly Mary Reynolds to the care of trainer Ben White as a yearling.

The filly was campaigned lightly at two and wound up the year by winning a heat of the Kentucky Futurity, which was then a two-year-old event.

Her three-year-old season set her up as a contender for the Hambo, with several stakes wins and placings to her credit. With a pair of wins and a second on Hambletonian Day, she became the third filly in just eight years to take that classic.

Mary Reynolds was unraced at four, but came back to race as a five-year-old before beginning her broodmare career. She was the



- Brown Berry, winner of the second heat and favorite in the final heat, was in the lead and fell to his knees just yards from the finish line. The turf journals of the day recounted it as the "$25,000 stumble." Fred Egan, the trainer/driver of Brown Berry was unseated, but managed to straddle the sulky, his elbow over one shaft, his knees across the other, and finished 11th in the race salvaging second money under the placing system (2-1-11).
- Mary Reynolds became the only winner that traces her paternal line to Peter The Brewer, a son of Peter The Great and a great-great-grandson of Hambletonian 10.
- Possibly the first newsreel coverage of the Hambletonian.

MARY REYNOLDS, b f, by Peter the Brewer-Aileen Guy, by Guy Axworthy
Driver: Ben White
Owner/Breeder: W. N. Reynolds, Winston-Salem, NC
Groom: Bob Davis . . .1 2 1

BROWN BERRY, by Peter Volo-Royal Belle, by Royal Watts
Driver: Fred Egan
Owner: J. I. & E. T. Lyle . . .2 1 11

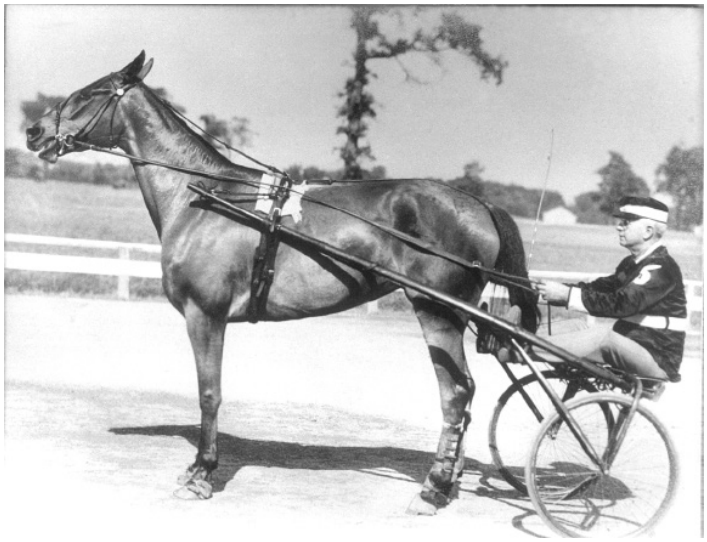
MEURICE, br c, by Bunter - La Petite, by Lee Axworthy
Driver: H. M. Parshall
Owner: William Hughes . . . 3 7 2

HOLLYROOD PORTA, by Peter the Brewer - Hollyrood Nimble, by Joe Dodge
Driver: John L. Dodge
Owner: John L. Dodge . . . 9 3 3

PRINCE HALL, by The Laurel Hall - Princess Etawah, by Etawah
Driver: Earl Pitman
Owner: Thomas Ashworth . . . 4 6 4

POPLAR HILL, by Spencer - Rose Scott, by Peter Scott
Driver: Harry Stokes
Owner: Henry Oliver . . . 5 4 5

Also competed: Sir Raleigh, 6-5-6; Atlantic Volo, 8-11-7; Mary Sunshine, 7-12-10; Spencer McElwyn, 11-8-9; King Ben, 10-10-8; Captain Hanover, 12-9-dr.



TIME BY QUARTERS:

1/4	1/2	3/4	MILE
:31	1:03	1:34	2:03¾
:31¾	1:01½	1:33¾	2:03¾
:32	1:03½	1:35¾	2:05¾

No mutuel betting. In a $445 auction pool, Mary Reynolds sold at $200, Brown Berry at $70, King Ben at $40, Poplar Hill at $30, Prince Hall at $25, Meurice and Spencer McElwyn at $20 each, and the field at $40.

1932

Good Time Park, Goshen, NY • August 17, 1932 • Purse $48,339

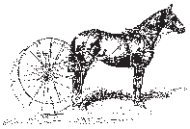
The Marchioness: A Sister's Revenge

Will Caton, the trainer of 1932 Hambletonian winner The Marchioness, first came to prominence as a trainer and driver in Czarist Russia. For many years prior to World War I and the 1917 Bolshevik revolution, Caton was the tops on that scene. However, his life's work was swept away in the revolution and he returned to his native United States to ply his trade.

Caton had great success in the early thirties with the trotter Protector, who won virtually every stake except the Hambletonian, to which he had not been kept eligible. He promptly set about a course to win the 1932 Hambletonian with Protector's full sister, The Marchioness, who was kept eligible to the big race.

A top filly from the start of her career, The Marchioness, given the chance her brother never had, won a four heat struggle to take the Hambletonian trophy.

Purchased that fall by Count Orsi Mangelli of Italy, she never produced a foal that could duplicate her speed or stamina.



- First race-off in which the three different heat winners had to contest a fourth heat to determine a winner.
- Although he did not win the day, Hollyrood Dennis (Will Crozier) won the second heat in a new stake record of 2:01 1/4. That record would stand for 15 years.
- Prior to the Russian revolution, Caton had been the leading trainer and driver of the Czarist empire. His American methods and imports of American horses completely changed the Russian trotting scene.
- As a charitable endeavor, the 1932 Grand Circuit meeting at Good Time Park benefited the Goshen Hospital.
- 25,000 people in attendance.

THE MARCHIONESS, b f, by Peter Volo-Margaret Arion, by Guy Axworthy
Driver & Trainer: Will Caton
Owner: Mrs. Ralph R. Keeler
Breeder: Walnut Hall Farm (Mr. & Mrs. Ogden Edwards), KY
Groom: Chichester
Sale History: $3,000 yearling purchase at Old Glory Sale, NY
. . . 1 2 4 1

INVADER, by Guy Axworthy-Hilda Fletcher by Peter the Great
Driver: Lyman Brusie
Owner: Holsappe-Farnum . . .2 3 1 3

HOLLYROOD DENNIS, by Hollyrood Harkaway-Jane Dillon, by Dillon Axworthy
Driver: Will Crozier
Owner: John Dodge . . . 7 1 6 2

TIME BY QUARTERS:			
1/4	1/2	3/4	MILE
:31	1:03½	1:35¼	2:04½
:31¼	1:01¼	1:31¾	2:01¼
:30¼	1:01¼	1:34	2:04¼
:32½	1:05½	1:37	2:05½

No Mutuel Betting. In a $370 auction pool,
The Marchioness sold favorite at $200, Hollyrood Dennis at $65,
Calumet Chuck at $60, Brevere at $25, and the field at $20.

CALUMET CRUSADER, by Truax - Petrella, by Peter the Great
Driver: W. K. Dickerson
Owner: Arden Homestead . . . 6 5 2 ro

BREVERE, by Peter the Brewer - Jane Revere, by Guy Axworthy
Driver: Fred Egan
Owner: W. N. Reynolds . . . 3 7 3 ro

CALUMET CHUCK, by Truax - Sumatra, by Belwin
Driver: Tom Berry
Owner: Hanover Shoe Farms . . . 4 4 5 ro

THE LAD, by Truax - Rose Scott, by Peter Scott
Driver: Ben White
Owner: Henry Oliver . . . 5 6 7 ro

1931

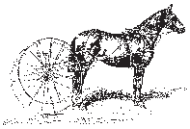
Good Time Park, Goshen, NY • August 14, 1931 • Purse $48,071.39

Calumet Butler: The Irony of Fate

The storied Calumet Farm is recognized as one of the premier thoroughbred breeding farms of modern times. However, it started as a standardbred nursery when it was founded by baking powder magnate William M. Wright.

Mr. Wright's homebred Calumet Butler was an unremarkable two-year-old, going the year without a single win. Sadly, over that winter, Mr. Wright suffered a stroke and slipped into a coma, never to see his horses race again.

At three, Calumet Butler, with a pair of heat victories after a third place finish in the first heat, became the first maiden ever to win the Hambletonian. Mr. Wright died later that year, never knowing the glory of a Hambletonian win. His son and heir, Warren Wright, converted the farm to a thoroughbred nursery.



- In an emotional victory for trainer and farm manager Dick McMahon and the Wright family, the Calumet homebred won as owner & farm founder William Monroe Wright lay in a coma on his deathbed. Wright was one of the founding directors of the Hambletonian Society, and one of its first presidents (1926 - 1931).
- The smallest field (6) in Hambletonian history.
- The first of two maidens ever to win the Hambletonian, and those two heats remained the only victories of his career. McLin (1938) won a heat, but never a race prior to the Hambletonian.
- Calumet is one of only three farms to breed both a Hambletonian winner and a Kentucky Derby winner; the Lexington, KY. farm has bred nine Derby winners, itself a record. In addition, Almahurst and Stoner Creek [Stud], or their owners, have bred winners of both classics.
- Nedda Guy, the favorite owned by William H. Cane, was fifth the first heat and second the next. When scratched before the third heat, her backers in the auction pools objected so strongly that the filly had to be led out in front of the stands to prove her lameness. Her contribution to the sport came later as the granddam of the world champion pacer Good Time.

CALUMET BUTLER, b c, by Truax-Justissima, by Justice Broke
Driver & Trainer: Dick McMahon
Owner & Breeder: Calumet Farm (W. Wright), Lexington, KY
Groom: Tommy White. . . 3 1 1

KENO, by Chestnut Peter-Georgia Axworthy, by Axworthy
Driver: Fred Egan
Owner: John Berry . . . 1 3 2

CALUMET BELRICKA, by The Great Volo - Helen Scott, by Peter Scott
Driver: Will Hodson
Owner: J. McAllister . . . 2 4 4

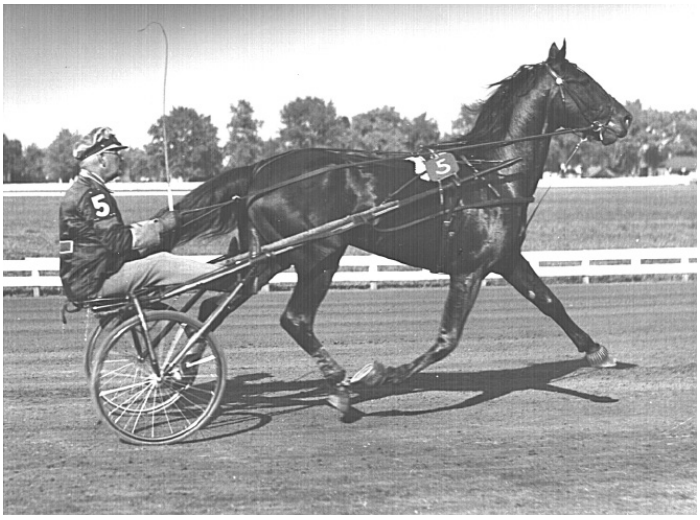
CHARLOTTE HANOVER, by Peter Volo - Miss Bertha Dillon, by Dillon Axworthy
Driver: Tom Berry
Owner: Hanover Shoe Farms . . . 4 5 3

NEDDA GUY, by Guy Axworthy - Nedda, by Atlantic Express
Driver: Harry Stokes
Owner: Wm. H. Cane . . . 5 2 dr

CALUMET BUSH, by Peter Pluto - Sumatra, by Belwin
Driver: Marvin Childs
Owner: W. H. Davis . . . 6 dis

No Mutuel Betting. In $172 auction pools, Nedda Guy sold favorite at $100, Keno at $35, Charlotte Hanover at $22, and the field at $15.

TIME BY QUARTERS:			
1/4	1/2	3/4	MILE
:33	1:04	1:35¼	2:04¼
:30¾	1:01¼	1:32¼	2:03¼
:33½	1:05	1:35½	2:05¼



1930

Good Time Park, Goshen, NY • August 27, 1930 • Purse $54,009.84

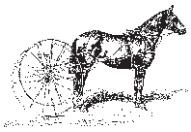
Hanover's Bertha: A Triumph of Breeding

The foundation for the filly who won the 1930 Hambletonian was laid down at the time of the inaugural Hambo in 1926. It was that year that Lawrence B. Sheppard and C. N. Meyers purchased the entire horse population and farm that made up Hanover Shoe Farm in South Central Pennsylvania from Alexander B. Coxe.

One of the mares that changed hands in that transaction was Miss Bertha Dillon. In 1927, Miss Bertha Dillon foaled the little bay filly named Hanover's Bertha that terrorized the trotting ranks in 1929 and 1930.

Already a champion at two, Hanover's Bertha and her trainer Tom Berry were unbeatable at three until a team effort by competing horsemen forced her into a break in the first heat of the Hambo. She romped in the two remaining heats, leaving no doubt of her prowess over colts and fillies Her feat is even more amazing because without a mobile starting gate, it took 16 attempts to get her winning second heat under way.

With her daughter, Shirley Hanover, winning the 1937 Hambo, Hanover's Bertha became the first winner, regardless of gender to produce another winner of that race.



- The Hambletonian moved to William H. Cane's three-cornered track, Good Time Park in Goshen New York. That remained its home until 1956.
- The race went three heats for the first time.
- The infamous start of the second heat was delayed 43 minutes with 26 recalls, as drivers employed a common tactic of the day, purposely scoring ahead of the "pole horse" (post position #1) to intentionally cause a recall and unsettle the other trotters, or get the advantage on the field at the start. Because of the delay, the Columbia Broadcasting Company could only do the second heat on their radio broadcast and were off the air by the time the horses came out for the third and final heat.
- The Geers Stake, named for Edward "Pop" Geers, one of the sport's great horsemen, began as the 3-year-old pacing division of the Hambletonian with a guaranteed purse of $5,000. According to a booklet of eligibles published by the Hambletonian Society, "It was recognized that regardless of how highly they may be bred, nature has failed to endow a percentage of colts and fillies with real futurity trotting ability." Horses paid up on January 1, 1929 to the 1930 Hambletonian were eligible to compete in either race. The 1930 winner was Guy Britton (driven by Nat Ray), who also won the 3-year-old pacing division of the Kentucky Futurity.
- Today, though still owned by the Society but no longer a part of the Hambletonian, the Geers consists of four separate divisions for both colt and filly pacers as two and three-year-olds and, along with the Tompkins Memorials for trotters.

HANOVER'S BERTHA, b f, by Peter Volo-Miss Bertha Dillon, by Dillon Axworthy
Driver & Trainer: Tom Berry
Owner: Hanover Shoe Farms,Hanover, PA
Breeder: Alexander B. Coxe
Sale History: While in foal, Miss Bertha Dillon was purchased by Hanover as part a large group of mares from Coxe's estate for a total of $150,000 . . . 5 1 1

LARKSPUR, by Guy Axworthy-Busy's Lassie, by Peter The Great
Driver: Townsend Ackerman
Owner: Mrs. Chas. F. Adams . . . 1 6 8

GUY DAY, by Guy Axworthy - Dorothy Day, by Peter the Great
Driver: Walter Cox
Owner: William Loftus . . . 3 2 4

POLA MCELWYN, by Mr. McElwyn - Molly Knight, by General Watts
Driver: Harry Stokes
Owner: W. H. L. McCourtie . . .2 5 5

BROTHER HANOVER, by Peter Volo - Sister Bertha, by Dillon Axworthy
Driver: Fred Egan
Owner: Hanover Shoe Farms . . . 9 8 2

LEGALITY, by Lawful - Rhein Lass, by Bingen
Driver: H. M. Parshall
Owner: Coldstream Stud . . . 4 3 3

Also competed: Main McElwyn, 10-4-7; Calumet Annette, 6-7-6; Jessamine 7-dis.; Senator Madden, 8-dis.

No Mutuel Betting. In $580 auction pools, Hanover's Bertha sold the favorite at $300, Main McElwyn at $115, Guy Day and Brother Hanover at $40 each, Legality at $35, and the field at $50.

TIME BY QUARTERS:

1/4	1/2	3/4	MILE
:31	1:02¼	1:33¾	2:03¾
:30	1:00½	1:31½	2:03
:32	1:02¼	1:33	2:03

1929

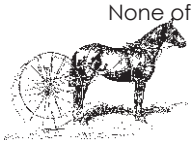
The Red Mile, Lexington, Kentucky • October 8, 1929 • Purse $56,859.84

Walter Dear: Goshen's Pride

With a head of steam built up during a championship two-year-old season, the Hambletonian was all but conceded to Walter Dear in 1929.

He won all six of his starts leading up to the big day in Lexington, the second year in which the Hambletonian was held at the historic oval. In two trips to the post on Hambletonian Day, Walter Dear was the best both times, and thus the coveted trophy was his. Walter Dear's owner, William Cane, also owned the fourth place finishing filly, Miss Woerner.

After the Hambo, Walter Dear was sold at a big price to stand in Germany. He won the 1934 Prix d'Amerique and later disappeared when the Russian Army swept through Germany during World War II. There is no definitive word on what became of Walter Dear, though popular theories include him being smuggled back to the Soviet Union to improve the breeding stock. Others think the horse was secreted away to protect him, and may have died before the war was over. None of the theories have ever been proven.



- The Hambletonian was postponed because of weather for the second time in three years and relocated to Lexington. The race date of October 8 is the latest the race has ever been contested.
- In an unparalleled accomplishment, horses prepared by Walter Cox (but dispersed to other barns because of the rules of the Lexington meeting) captured the first four monies in the summary placing: Walter Dear (Cox, 1-1); Volomite (Bill Leese, 2-2); Sir Guy Mac (Will Crozier, 3-7); and Miss Woerner (Harry Stokes, 8-3). The track rule allowed multiple entries from a trainer/driver's stable to race uncoupled for wagering, but empowered the judges to designate the drivers on the other horses in the entry. Cox obviously wanted to name his own drivers, and the press and the public, from the accounts of the events, clearly understood that they were still Cox's horses.
- The prior week, October 1, Cox's "army" also took three of the first four monies in the Kentucky Futurity: Walter Dear (Cox, 1-1); Miss Woerner (Stokes, 2-2); and Volomite (Leese, 4-4).
- Walter Dear was the only winner that traced his paternal line to The Laurel Hall, a son of Peter The Great and a great great grandson of Hambletonian 10. He was also the first of the Peter The Great line in an era dominated by the Axworthy.

WALTER DEAR, br c, by The Laurel Hall-Blitzie, by Walnut Hall
Driver: Walter Cox
Owner & Breeder: William H. Cane, Goshen, NY . . .1 1

VOLOMITE, by Peter Bolo - Cita Frisco, by San Francisco
Driver: W. H. Leese
Owner: Thos. D. Taggart . . 2 2

SIR GUY MAC, by McGregor the Great - Azurea, Guy Axworthy
Driver: Will Cozier
Owner: W. H. Bradford . . . 3 7

MISS WOERNER, by The Laurel Hall - Mary Coburn, by Mahrico B.
Driver: Harry Stokes
Owner: W. H. Cane . . . 8 3

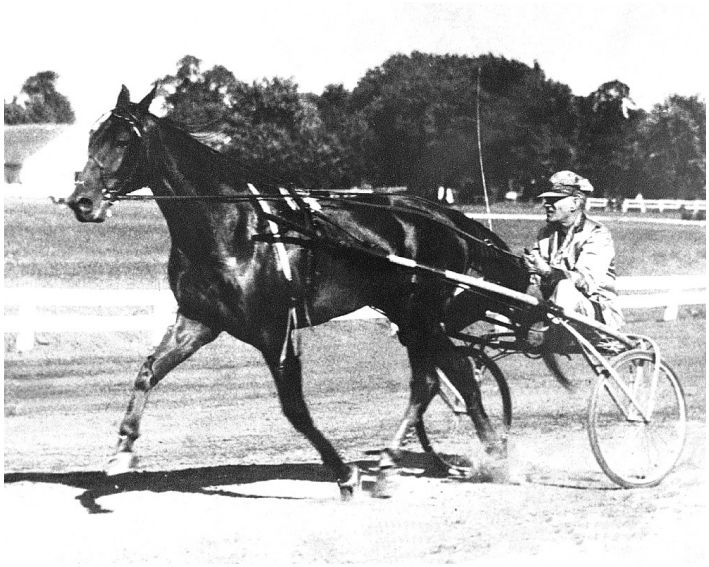
CRUSADER, by Arion Guy
Driver: Marvin Childs
Owner: H. Devereaux . . . 4 5

EGAN, by Bogalusa - Great Minnie, by Peter the Great
Driver: Fred Egan
Owner: Walter Candler . . . 6 4

TIME BY QUARTERS:			
1/4	**1/2**	**3/4**	**MILE**
:31¼	1:02½	1:33¼	2:02¾
:30½	1:01¼	1:33½	2:02¾

Also competed: Miss Hanover 5-8, Hollyrood Harrier 7-6.

No Mutuel Betting. In $815 auction pools, Walter Dear sold favorite at $600, Miss Woerner at $100, Volomite at $70, and the field at $45.



1928

New York State Fair Grounds, Syracuse, NY
August 27, 1928 • Purse $60,928.16

Spencer: Lord of Castleton

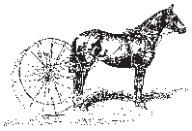
The year 1928 marked the first year that the name Castleton Farm appeared in the Hambletonian annals. The farm, outside Lexington, Kentucky, was owned by David Look at the time, and it would go on to become a leading breeder and owner of Hambletonian winners.

The bay colt Spencer chased the best as a two-year-old; while he won a few stakes, it was Fireglow who was the top trotter among the juveniles.

As three-year-olds, the two were again frequent foes until a frightful pile-up was caused by Fireglow in a race near Cleveland, Ohio. While Spencer quickly recovered from his injuries, Fireglow died two days afterward.

Spencer prepped for the Hambletonian with a win and a second place finish in the Horse Review Stakes at Goshen before heading upstate to Syracuse for the big test. It was to be the high-headed, pure gaited Spencer's shining day as he took both heats of the Hambletonian in stakes winning time.

Spencer lived out his days as the premier stallion at Castleton Farm.



- First of six Hambletonian winners bred by Castleton Farm. Castleton-owned fillies have won the Oaks four times, including three in four years (1971, 1973 and 1974). David Look, owner of Castleton, became the first breeder to raise and own a Hambletonian winner.
- New stake record in the opening heat of 2:02 1/2.
- Fireglow, pronounced by Walter Cox the greatest trotter he had ever trained, had been all but conceded the trophy when he died two weeks before the race from a mysterious poisoning following the frightful spill at North Randall Park outside of Cleveland. Some observers held Cox responsible for the accident in that race and suspected retribution for it was behind the horse's death.
- Spencer, a champion two-year-old of 1927, struggled in his return to the races the following year. His first start was the aforementioned Rainy Day Stake, which ended in a wreck. Though he won a heat of the Review at Goshen, he went into the Hambletonian winless in his sophomore year.
- Also sidelined due to injuries in that spill at North Randall was Spencer's trainer/driver Lon MacDonald, who engaged Bill Leese to drive the eventual winner. With only one start (1929) to his credit, MacDonald would never drive in another Hambletonian. He died two years later.

SPENCER, b c, by Lee Tide-Petrex, by Peter the Great
Driver & Trainer: William H. Leese
Owner & Breeder: David M. Look, Lexington, KY . . . 1 1

GUY ABBEY, by Guy Axworthy - Abbacy, by The Abbe
Driver: Vic Fleming
Owner: Calumet Farm . . . 5 2

SCOTLAND, by Peter Scott - Roya McKinney, by McKinney
Driver: Ben White
Owner: H. M. Oliver . . . 2 7

GAYLWORTHY, by Guy Axworthy - Dorothy Day, by Peter the Great
Driver: Harry Stokes
Owner: W. N. Reynolds . . . 3 6

RED AUBREY, by Guy Axworthy - Ida Aubrey, by Captain Aubrey
Driver: Marvin Childs
Owner: Henry Knight . . . 9 3

ETTA VOLO, by Peter Volo - Etta Guy, by Guy Axworthy
Driver: W. K. Dickerson
Owner: Arden Homestead . . . 7 4

Also competed: Coburn 4-9; Otzinachson, 6-5; The Virginia Senator, 8-8; Bogalusa the Great, 10-10.

TIME BY QUARTERS:

1/4	1/2	3/4	MILE
:29½	1:00½	1:31½	2:02½
:31¾	1:01½	1:32¾	2:04

No Mutuel Betting. In the $160 auction pool, Red Aubrey sold Favorite at $50, Spencer at $40, Gaylworthy and Guy Abbey at $20 each, Scotland and Coburn at $10 each, and the field at $10.

1927

The Red Mile, Lexington, Kentucky • September 27, 1927 • Purse $54,194

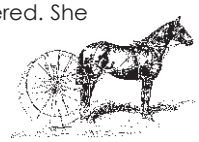
Iosola's Worthy: The Speed Fountain

Hambletonian lore is rife with tales of horses that enter the race in anonymity and are bedded down that night as immortals. Iosola's Worthy is a mare of just that description.

A June foal, Iosola's Worthy was brought along slowly by Ben White as a two-year-old. Her lone victory came in a small stake at the Lexington Trots. She was sold over that winter by her breeder Fred Field of Brockton, Massachussetts, to E. J. Merkle of Columbus, Ohio.

Spring came, and with it, steady improvement by Iosola's Worthy, who placed progressively better in each race she entered. She outlasted all the contenders in a four heat Horse Review Futurity and several other races leading up to the Hambo. The first filly to win the Hambletonian, Iosola's Worthy handled that task in straight heats and her $56,538 in career earnings made her the leading female money earner until 1930.

Sold that fall to Walnut Hall Farm for $10,700, she became the sole mare of her era to produce 2:00 performers by three different stallions.



- After five days of rain at Syracuse, Hambletonian No. 2, which was originally scheduled for August 29, was moved to Lexington and raced the second week of the Grand Circuit meeting on September 27.
- Iosola's Worthy was the first filly to win the Hambletonian. Six fillies won the Hambletonian in the first twelve editions.
- New stake record in the second and final heat of 2:03 3/4.
- Childs drove the winner for trainer Ben White. White drove the filly Kashmir, probably the favorite had the race been contested at Syracuse as scheduled. A month later, when the race was staged at The Red Mile she was not a factor because of "bad manners," finishing last in the placing (7-7). White would have to wait six more years to win his first of four Hambletonians.
- In the initial two years of the Hambletonian, the Walnut Hall stallion Guy Axworthy sired the first two money winners in the summary (as well as third money winner in 1927).
- The brother of the winning driver Marvin Childs, Frank Childs trained the winner of the 1959 Kentucky winner, Tomy Lee.
- The trophy for the 1927 race, a 3-foot tall urn, was among $70,000 worth of silver stolen in a burglary in 1979 in Granville, Ohio. A few months later the stolen silver was recovered in the Ohio River. The trophy is now in the collection of Merkle's grandchildren.
- Heavy rain in Syracuse forced the organizers to move the event to Lexington.

IOSOLA'S WORTHY, b f, by Guy Axworthy-Iosola Great by Peter the Great
Driver: Marvin Childs
Breeder: Fred F Field
Owner: E. J. Merkle
Sale History: Private purchase for $15,000 prior to her 3-year-old season. . . 1 1

NESCOPEC, by Guy Axworthy - Busy's Lassie, by Peter the Great
Driver: Walter Cox
Owner: Barton Pardee . . . 2 2

BENELWYN, by Guy Axworthy - Widow Maggie, by Peter the Great
Driver: Vic Fleming
Owner: W. H. L. McCourtie . . . 4 3

GREY BREWER, by David Guy
Driver: Will Crozier
Owner: J.D. Roquemore . . . 3 5

HOLLYROOD HIGHBOY, by Peter Volo - Jane Dillon - by Dillon Axworthy
Driver: George Loomis
Owner: R. B. Whiteside . . . 6 4

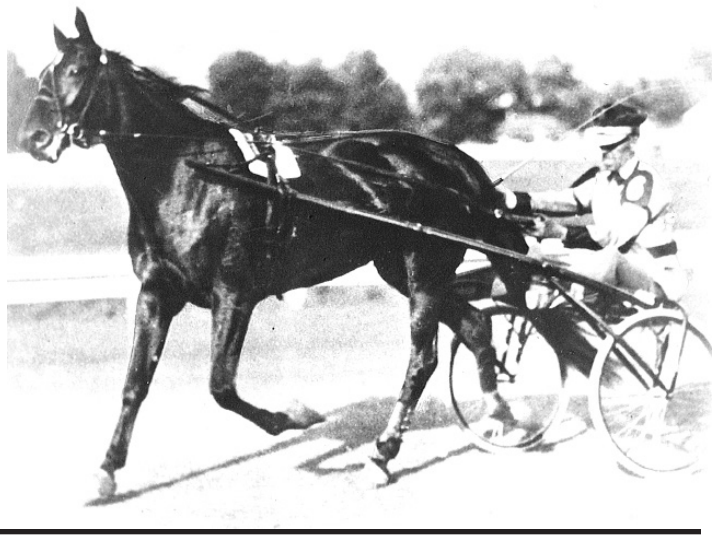
HOT PLUTO, by Peter Pluto
Driver: Lon McDonald
Owner: W. H. Davis . . . 5 6

KASHMIR, by Belwin - Sienna, by Peter the Great
Driver: Ben White
Owner: J. J. Mooney & John H. O'Brien . . . 7 7

No Mutuel Betting. In auction pools, Iosola's Worthy sold as the favorite at $200, Kashmir at $80, Benelwyn, Hot Pluto and Hollyrood Highboy at $10 each, and the field at $8.

TIME BY QUARTERS:

1/4	1/2	3/4	MILE
:32½	1:04¼	1:36	2:06¼
:31¾	1:02¼	1:33	2:03¾



1926

New York State Fairgrounds, Syracuse, NY
August 30, 1926 • Purse $73,451

Guy Mc Kinney: The Last Shall be First

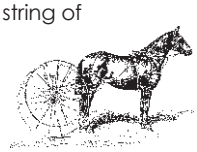
Horse owners are renowned for their optimism and in the case of Guy McKinney, it was owner Harry B. Rea's optimism that carved him a unique niche in the annals of harness racing, that of the very first horse to win the Hambletonian.

A $925 yearling, Guy McKinney developed a critical illness shortly after his purchase. He recovered and trained for a two-year-old career with only three starts in which he never figured.

Harry B. Rea ignored the colt's past futility on the racetrack and made the January 1, 1926 nominating payment. The colt responded to this show of faith with flair — he put together an unbeaten string of wins to carry him to the Hambo.

On Hambletonian Day, Guy McKinney continued that skein with a straight heat victory. From there, he won several other stakes, including the Kentucky Futurity, amassing $68,742 in single season earnings, a mark that stood until 1949.

Guy McKinney changed hands at auction in the fall of 1926, with the fledgling Hanover Shoe Farm the winning bidder at $12,000. He was turned over to trainer Tom Berry for the specific purpose of breaking the 1:59½ record. On Thanksgiving Day in 1930, Guy McKinney set a new standard of 1:58¾ in Phoenix, Arizona, which stood until 1938.



- By offering to add $8,000 to the purse, Syracuse, New York won the bidding to host the inaugural Hambletonian over Kalamazoo, Michigan and Atlanta, Georgia. Kalamazoo bid $5,000; Atlanta offered $3,000.
- Winless in five starts as a 2-year-old (40-1 in the winter book), Guy McKinney came into the race undefeated at three and was the post time favorite at 3-2 in the pools.
- The trophy for the first three years was the Onondaga Hotel Cup. Legendary New York Mayor Jimmy Walker presented the cup for the inaugural race, and noting Ray's green jacket said, "Well, you've got the right colors anyway."
- The purse for Hambletonian No. 1 was $73,451.32, equivalent to $668,114 in 1999 dollars. That was a record purse until 1950. The New York State Fair added $8,000. In comparison, The Meadowlands added $569,987 to the 1998 Hambletonian.

GUY McKINNEY, b c, by Guy Axworthy-Queenly McKInney, by McKinney
Driver: Nat Ray
Owner: Henry B. Rea
Breeder: R.L. Nash
Sale History: $950 yearling purchase, Kentucky Sale Co., Lexington, KY . . . 1 1

CHARM, by Belwin - Axcharm, by Axworthy
Driver: Ben White
Owner: Henry Schlesinger . . . 3 4

GUY DEAN, by Guy Axworthy - Jenny Dean, by Prince Ingomar
Driver: Walter Cox
Owner: Montour Farm . . . 2 2

FULL WORTHY, by Axworthy - Worthy Spirit, by Axworthy
Driver: Tommy Murphy
Owner: H. W. Hanon . . . 5 5

ELLIE TRABUE, by Peter Volo - Myra Hunter, by The Harvester
Driver: Charles Valentine
Owner: Estate of Gates Strawn . . .4 3

STATION BELLE, by Belwin - Sienna, by Peter the Great
Driver: Tommy Berry
Owner: E. J. Merkle . . . 10 6

Also competed: San Juan 6-11; Cinema, 9-7; First Choice, 7-9; Petrena Harvester, 8-8; Bronx, 12-10; General Walker, 11-13; Hollyrood Susan, 13-12; Josephine Volo, 14-dr.

TIME BY QUARTERS:			
1/4	**1/2**	**3/4**	**MILE**
:31¼	1:04	1:36	2:05½
:31½	1:04	1:35¼	2:04¾

No Mutuel Betting. In $250 auction pools, Guy McKinney sold favorite at $100. The Ben White entry of Charm, Bronx, Station Belle and San Juan sold second choice.