

CHAPTER ELEVEN

THE EARLY CHAMPIONS

As mentioned in the previous chapter, speed was equated with champion in measuring the status of performers in the formative years. Hence many of the champions listed below have already been introduced in the previous chapter. Many of these early champions competed in match races for purses and side bets. These were run over distances between one and five miles, often with three or five heats run on the same day until a race winner was declared. When one horse was obviously superior to the opposition it was difficult to attract competitors. This resulted in many races against time with accompanying incentive purses and side bets.

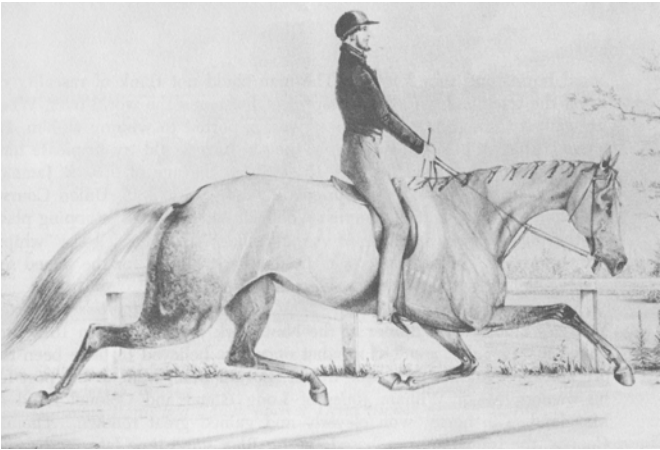
Foundation Era trotters

The Grand Circuit was established in 1873 with the first ever race going to the stallion Mambrino Gift. There were no races for pacers in the first year. The great races of the nineteenth century that continued into the new century were The Kentucky Futurity and the Lexington, both for two and three year old trotters. For older horses it was the Charter Oak for trotters and the Tennessee Pace. The ten greatest trotters chosen from the Foundation Era are listed in Table 11.1 in chronological order. George Wilkes and Axtell are not included but were fine performers whose stories have already been recounted in chapter seven.

TABLE 11.1 GREATEST FOUNDATION TROTTERS

Lady Suffolk (1833)
Flora Temple (1845)
Goldsmith Maid (1857)
Dexter (1858)
Maud S (1874)
Sunol (1886)
Nancy Hanks (1886)
Alix (1888)
Directum (1889)
Joe Patchen (1889)

Lady Suffolk

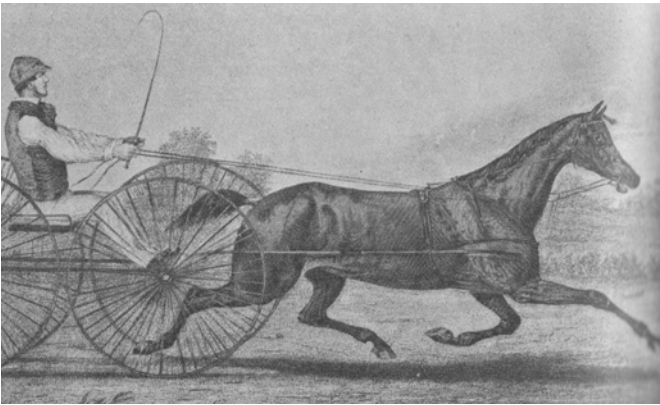


Engineer II 3 1820 - U1297	Engineer (thor) 1802 -	Messenger (thor) 1780 -
		-
Jenny (thor) 1816 - U898	Dam of Engineer 3 (thor) 18-- - U1297	Plato (thor) 18-- - U1297 12 - U1297
	Don Quixote (thor) 180- -	Potomac (thor) 1796 -
		-
	Grandam of Lady Suffolk 181- - U898	Rainbow (thor) 18-- - U898 1951 - U898

Early races were under saddle in the style of the thoroughbreds and the first to gain public acclaim was Lady Suffolk (T2:29½) in 1845. Referred to at the time as “The Old Gray Mare”, she was from a thoroughbred dam and inbred 3x4 to Messenger.

Used originally to pull a butcher’s cart she showed enough speed to be raced under saddle as a four year old and became a winner in three minutes. She continued to race for sixteen years during which time she won eighty nine of one hundred and sixty races contested and was unplaced on only nine occasions. She had no progeny. Lady Suffolk became a USTA Hall of Fame Immortal in 1967.

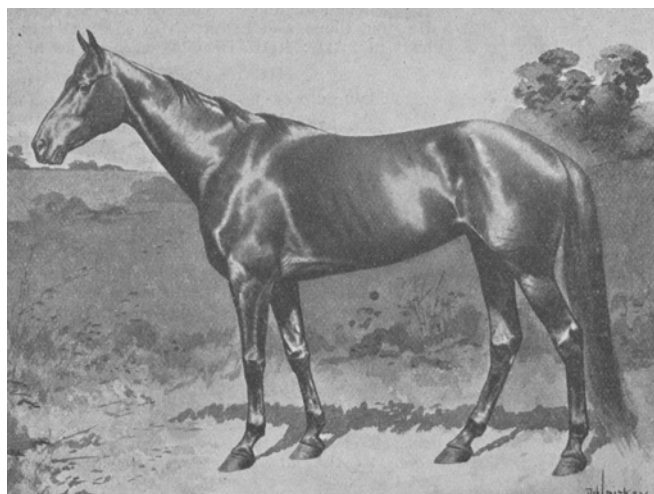
Flora Temple



Bogus Hunter 1840 -	Old Kentucky Hunter (thor) 18-- -	Watkins Highlander (thor) 18-- -
		-
Madam Temple 1840 - U546	Dam of Bogus Hunter (thor) 18-- -	Bogus (thor) 18-- -
		-
	Terry Horse (Arab) 18-- -	-
		-
	U546 2258 - U546	-
		-

With wagons being the order of the day, racing soon followed the same fashion. Succeeding Lady Suffolk as world champion was another mainly thoroughbred mare Flora Temple (T2:19¾), the *Bob Tailed Nag* referred to in Stephen Foster's popular song of the day. Her career saw her win ninety nine heats in under 2:30 and ninety five of one hundred and twelve races. She was unplaced only twice in her career. In 1853 she equaled the world record of 2:27, became the first to trot in under 2:25 in 1856 and in 1859 the first to trot in under 2:20. Flora Temple became a USTA Hall of Fame Immortal in 1955.

Goldsmith Maid



Abdallah 15 1852 - U904	Hambletonian 10 1849 - U900	Abdallah 1 1823 - U916
		Charles Kent Mare 1834 - U900
Old Ab 18-- - U680	Katy Darling (NS) 1846 - U904	Bay Roman (thor) 18-- -
		Dam of Katy Darling (NS) 18-- - U904
	Abdallah 1 1823 - U916	Morris' Mambrino (thor) 1807 -
		Amazonia 1810 - U916
	U680 1596 - U680	-
		-

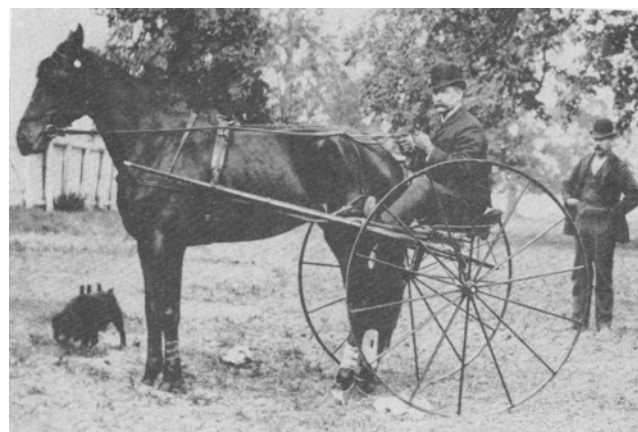
Goldsmith Maid was possibly the greatest of the nineteenth century champions. She competed in three hundred and thirty two heats and won ninety

five of her one hundred and nineteen races, being unplaced only once. In addition she made a number of appearances against time. Her portrait adorned many walls and she drew adoring crowds wherever she appeared.

She did not commence her career until she was eight years of age and in 1874, when seventeen years of age, she reduced her world record five times before taking her final mark of T2:14¾. Her earnings of \$360,200 remained the record by a standardbred or thoroughbred until 1931.

Goldsmith Maid was inbred 3x2 to Abdallah 1 and after retiring to stud at twenty one years of age she produced one daughter and one son, Stranger, who sired nineteen classic horses. Neither of her progeny bred on. Goldsmith Maid became a USTA Hall of Fame Immortal in the first intake of 1953.

Nancy Hanks



Happy Medium 400 1863 - U911	Hambletonian 10 1849 - U900	Abdallah 1 1823 - U916
		Charles Kent Mare 1834 - U900
Nancy Lee 1878 - U31	Princess 1846 - U911	Hambletonian (Andrus -NS) 1840 - U1299
		Isaiah Wilcox Mare 18-- - U911
	Dictator 113 1863 - U121	Hambletonian 10 1849 - U900
		Clara 1848 - U121
	Sophy 1868 - U31	Edwin Forrest 49 1851 - U933
		Sophonria 1858 - U31

Named after the mother of President Abraham Lincoln, Nancy Hanks was the second grand daughter of Hambletonian 10 to become world champion.

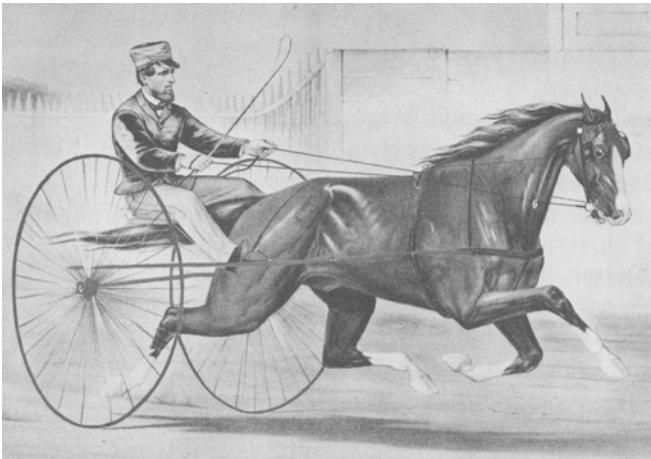
She was actually inbred 2x3 to the great progenitor. Her 1893 time trial in T2:04¾ secured her place in history as the first trotter to better 2:05. She was

also the first trotter to cover a quarter mile in better than thirty seconds.

Retired to stud early, Nancy Hanks produced eleven foals, ten of which took records or produced record performers. She became the only really successful matron among the early champions. Her sons Admiral Dewey and Lord Roberts were the two fastest sons of the century from a single mare, while another son Malcolm Forbes was the broodmare sire of champion Billy Direct.

Her descendants, now spread throughout North America, Australia, New Zealand and Europe, include one hundred and fifty classic winners. The most recent is French millionaire mare Qualita Bourbon, winner of ten classic races including the 2008 European Derby. Nancy Hanks became a USTA Hall of Fame Immortal in 1955.

Dexter



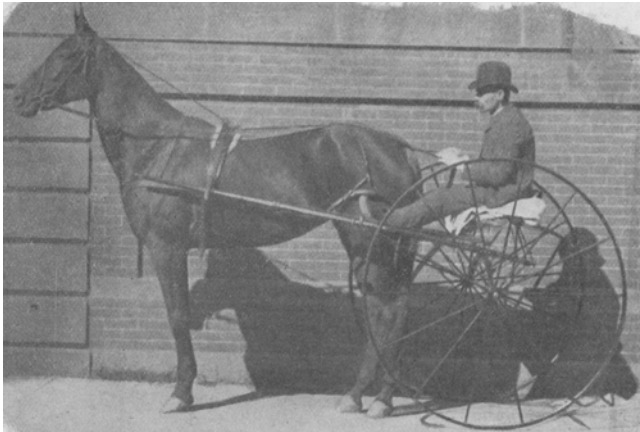
Hambletonian 10 1849 - U900	Abdallah 1 1823 - U916	Morris' Mambrino (thor) 1807 -
		Amazonia 1810 - U916
	Charles Kent Mare 1834 - U900	Jarys Bellfounder (Norfolk Tro 1816 -
Clara 1848 - U121		One Eye (thor) 1815 - U900
	American Star 14 1837 - U906	Stockholms American Star (thor 1822 - U1299
		Sally Slouch (thor) 1820 - U906
	McKinstry Mare 1840 - U121	Untraced sire (USA) 18** -
		U121 535 - U121

The first world champion with strong breeding was the gelding Dexter (T2:17¼) a son of Hambletonian 10 from an American Star mare. Dexter started in just fifty races winning forty six of them and took his

world record in 1867. Some of these were grueling three heat races over three miles each.

His dam Clara created a maternal family that continues today. It has produced thirty two classic winners. Dexter became a USTA Hall of Fame Immortal in 1956.

Maud S

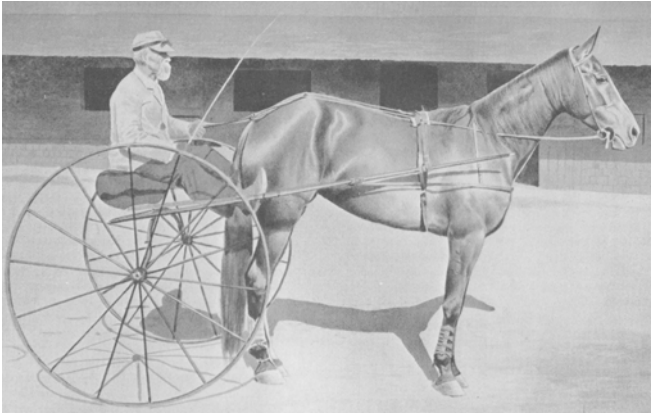


Harold 413 1864 - U404	Hambletonian 10 1849 - U900	Abdallah 1 1823 - U916
		Charles Kent Mare 1834 - U900
	Enchantress 185- - U404	Abdallah 1 1823 - U916
		Dam of Enchantress (thor) 18-- - U404
Miss Russell 1865 - U170	Pilot Jr 12 1844 - U909	Old Pilot (NS) 1826 - U1160
		Nancy Pope 183- - U909
	Sally Russell (thor) 18-- - U170	Boston (thor) 1833 -
		Maria Russell (thor) 18-- - U170

Yet another mare to prove better than the racing males of her day was Maud S, the first to break the world record of Goldsmith Maid. In 1884, she became the first trotter to better the 2:10 mark with her T2:09¾ and later reduced this to T2:08¾ in a time trial.

She was royally bred, being one of the first record performers by a son of Hambletonian 10. Her dam was a Pilot Jr. mare whose descendants boast nine classic winners and included the famous sire Nutwood 600. Maud S was made a USTA Hall of Fame Immortal in 1955.

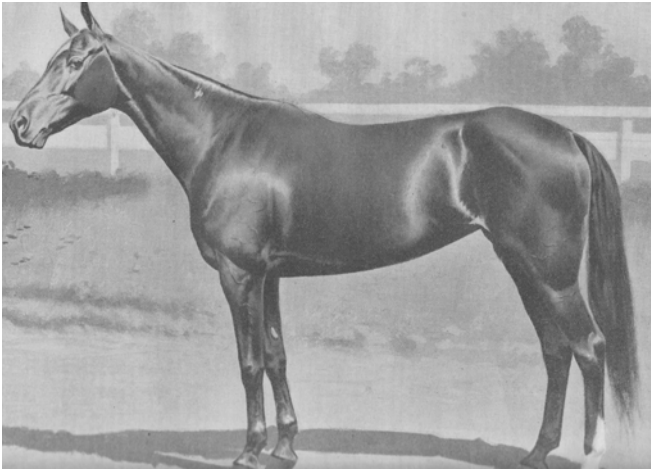
Sunol



Electioneer 125 1868 - U201	Hambletonian 10 1849 - U900	Abdallah 1 1823 - U916
		Charles Kent Mare 1834 - U900
	Green Mountain Maid 1862 - U201	Harry Clay 45 1853 - U918 Shanghai Mary 1847 - U201
Waxana 1878 - U655	General Benton 1755 1868 - U938	Jim Scott 836 1858 - U1297 Lady Benton 1857 - U938
	Waxy 18-- - U655	Lexington (thor) 1850 - U542 U655 1583 - U655

It was sheer speed that made Sunol so famous. She began with a two year old world record that equalled that previously established by three year olds. She commenced a strong rivalry with the colt Axtell the following year but could never defeat him. Sunol did have the last say by lowering Axtel’s world record after his retirement to stud. She was the last horse to hold a world record to the high wheel sulky. Sunol was replaced as “Queen of the Track” by Nancy Hanks. Sunol became a Hall of Fame Immortal in 1957.

Alix



Patronage 4143 1880 - U775	Pancoast 1439 1877 - U191	Woodford Mambrino 345 1863 - U218 Bicara 1871 - U191
	Beatrice 1875 - U775	Cuyler 100 1868 - U930 Mary Mambrino 1870 - U775
Atlanta 1883 - U595	Attorney 1005 1877 - U313	Harold 413 1864 - U404 Maud 1861 - U313
	Flirt 1873 - U595	General Hatch 139 1860 - U1297 Dolly 1861 - U595

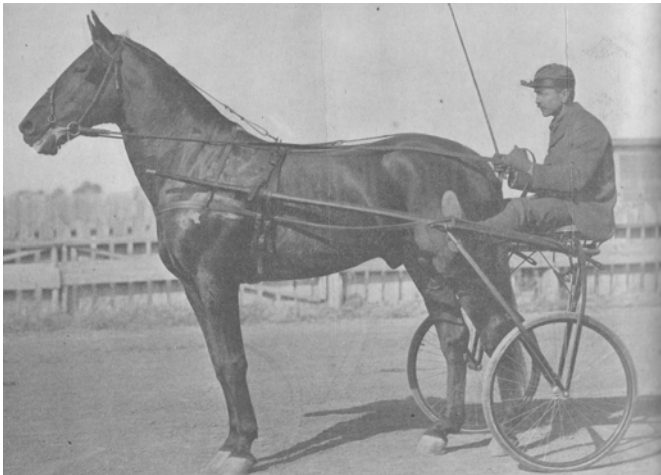
With the exception of Maud S, Alix held the world record for trotters for a longer period than any other trotter of the nineteenth century. She won her first race as a two year old and finished the season with five wins from ten starts and a record of T2: 30.

Alix won six of thirteen races at three then three from seven at four. Her five year old campaign began poorly but finished in glory when she won a grueling and controversial nine heat race at the Worlds Fair in Chicago before lowering the world mile record to T2:07¾. Unfortunately for her, rival Directum lowered it almost immediately to T2:05¼.

Her final season at six years of age saw Alix equal the world race record with Directum and this was to remain in place for almost a decade. Alix also reduced the world mare’s record of Nancy Hanks to 2:03¾ and this remained intact until the arrival of Lou Dillon in 1903. Alix became a Hall of Fame Immortal in 1993.

Directum

Directum’s sire Director, one of the leading performers of the seventies, won America’s oldest three year old classic, the Kentucky Stakes in 1880 then the Charter Oak at four.



Director 1989 1877 - U360	Dictator 113 1863 - U121	Hambletonian 10 1849 - U900
		Clara 1848 - U121
	Dolly 1861 - U360	Mambrino Chief 11 1844 - U908
Stemwinder 1880 - U721		Fanny 1855 - U360
	Venture 320 1864 - U1298	Williamsons Belmont (thor) 1847 - U56
		Miss Mostyn 185- - U1298
	Kate 18+? - U721	Bennetts St Lawrence (NS) 185- - U1299
		Quien Sabe 186- - U721

His son Direct from his first crop, became a world champion pacer and leading sire whose career has already been discussed earlier. Directum, however, was his best trotting son.

Directum was the leading three year old trotter of his day and won the Kentucky Futurity. At four he took the world record from Alix with his race mile of T2:05¼. He finished his career on a sour note when matched against Alix while he was in poor health. He was well beaten in both heats. He failed to flatter at stud with his most outstanding being the mare Ethel's Pride, who won the Transylvania in 1905. Directum became a USTA Hall of Fame Immortal in 1956.

Foundation Era pacers

Although Aggie Down had beaten the 2:30 mark a year before Lady Suffolk and Pet had beaten the 2:20 mark seven years before Flora Temple, the better performers were an exception. Overall the pacing gait was slower than that of the trotter and considered unreliable and clumsy. It was widely believed that the pacer would follow the way of the Narranganset and disappear completely as a breed.

Indeed many natural pacers were converted to the trot by the use of heavy shoes and toe weights. Despite these practices, the pacer defied the odds and eventually prevailed.

When a purse of five thousand dollars was offered for the 'Pacing Championship of America' in 1875 there was a sense of incredulity among harness racing supporters. The main reason appears to be an attempt to 'cash in' on the popular 'Trotting Championship of America' concept that had been introduced in the preceding year. The public response to the first running was one of derision, but two years later the highly competitive 1878 Grand Circuit races between the 'big four' pacers of the day; Rowdy Boy

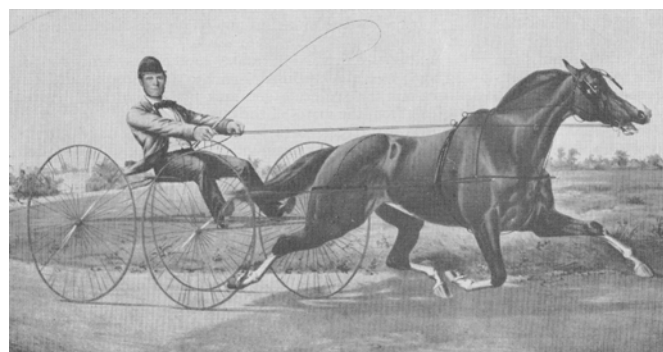
(2:15), Mattie Hunter (2:12¾) Sleepy Tom (2:12¼) and Lucy (2:14) attracted massive crowds. Public euphoria continued with the arrival of Little Brown Jug the following year.

These champion pacers had little known breeding, except for Mattie Hunter whose family later descended to Adios Vic and Australian three year old of the year Manifold Bay.

TABLE 11.2 GREATEST FOUNDATION PACERS

Pocahontas (1847)
Sleepy Tom (1868)
Little Brown Jug (1875)
Johnston (1877)
Hal Pointer (1884)
Direct (1885)
Robert J (1888)
John R Gentry (1889)
Joe Patchen (1889)
Star Pointer (1889)

Pocahontas



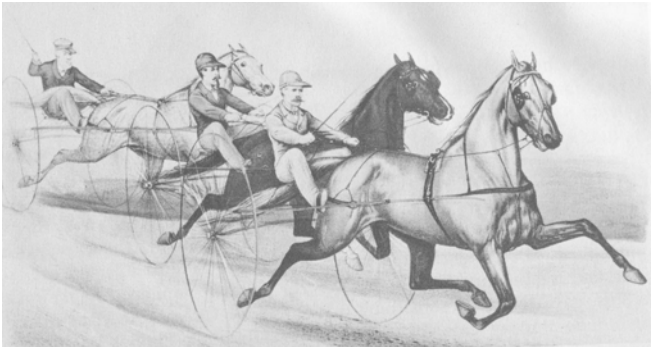
Irons Cadmus (NS) 1835 - U1296	Beachs Cadmus (thor) 1825 -	American Eclipse (thor) 1814 -
		Die Vernon (thor) 1818 -
	Dam of Irons Cadmus 182- - U1296	Brunswick (thor) 1826 -
Dam of Pocahontas (thor) 18-- - U566		Grandam of Irons Cadmus 181- - U1296
	Big Shakespeare (thor) 18-- -	Shakespeare (thor) 18-- -
	U566 2231 - U566	-

The first pacer to beat the 2:20 mark, Pocahontas paced free legged and in 1855 set her mark of 2:17½ to four wheel wagon. Her record was unchallenged for twenty four years. While she had no great competition on the track her trail blazing performance warrants her place as the foundation champion of the pacing breed. Pocahontas was inducted as a USTA Hall of Fame Immortal in 1990.

Sleepy Tom

Tom Rolfe 306 1854 - U566	Pughs Aratus (thor) 18-- - U1299	Aratus (thor) 1820 - U1299 18 - U1299
	Pocahontas 1847 - U566	Irons Cadmus (NS) 1835 - U1296
U899 1944 - U899		Dam of Pocahontas (thor) 18-- - U566
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-

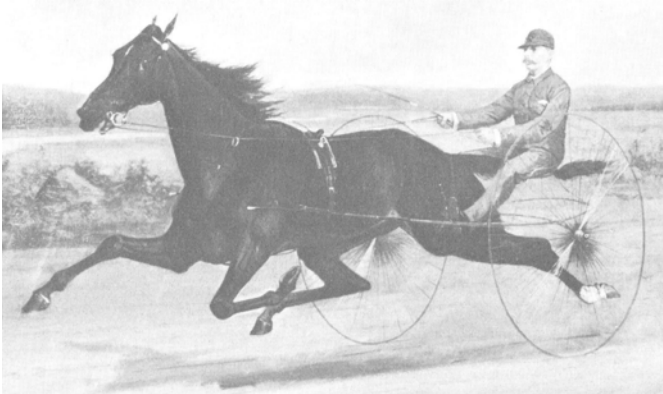
As already mentioned the 1878 Grand Circuit saw the beginning of ferocious rivalry between four pacers that drew a fevered admiration from the public due to the closeness of the races. This rivalry continued for five years. All four had their followers but in the end one was to prove slightly superior to the others.



SKETCH OF BIG FOUR

Sleepy Tom was sired by Tom Rolfe, a son of Pocahontas from an unknown mare. He was also blind, an affliction that added to the admiration of the public toward his performances. He became world champion in 1879 and his 2:12¼ record was established in 1879, at the age of eleven. Sleepy Tom became a USTA Hall of Fame Immortal in 1992.

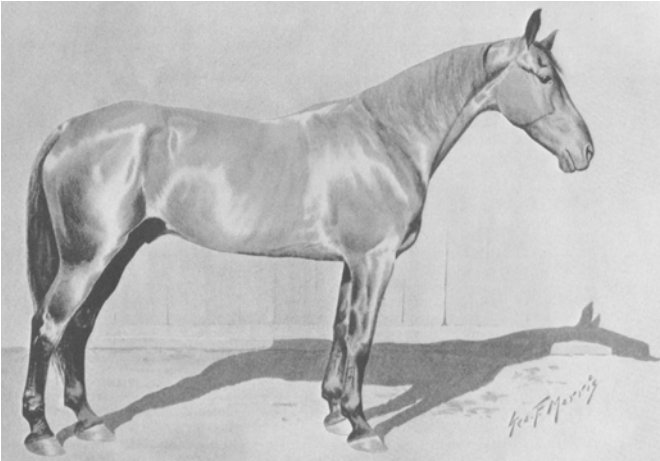
Little Brown Jug



It was the deeds of Little Brown Jug that enhanced the admiration and respect of the public for the pacer. Although roughly treated as a general workhorse in

his early years, he graduated to the racetrack at six years of age winning nine consecutive races before competing against two of the ‘big four’ pacers, Mattie Hunter and Lucy. He won easily and lowered the world record of Sleepy Tom to 2:11¾ in the process. This was considered a marvel for a novice among such seasoned competitors. Little Brown Jug became a USTA Hall of Fame Immortal in 1975 and the world’s premium pacing event is named in his honour.

Johnston



Joe Bassett 13867 1874 - U1298	Brown Dick 78 1867 - U1297	Hambletonian 10 1849 - U900
	Zephyr 186+ - U1298	Dam of Brown Dick 78 18-- - U1297
Cary mare 187- - U898	Ned Forrest 231 1861 - U1297	Champion Goldust 18-- - U1299
	U898 1951 - U898	U1298 400 - U1298
		George M Patchen 30 1849 - U921
		Dam of Ned Forrest 231 185- - U1297
		-
		-

As sensational as his career was, the tenure of Little Brown Jug was brief, his crown taken by the gelding Johnston. Also commencing his career at the age of six, this great grandson of Hambletonian 10, burst onto the scene with three effortless race wins.

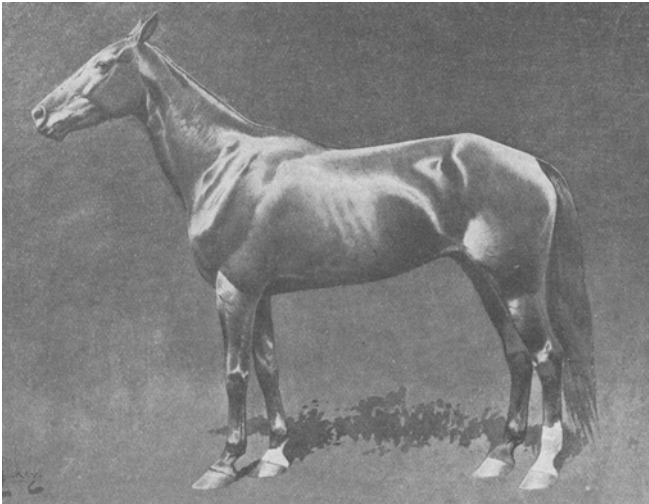
Again, it was difficult to find anybody willing to match their horses against him so he headed for the Grand Circuit where he again won easily.

Lack of racing opportunity saw him taken to exhibitions and races against time. His success here was also immediate. He became the world’s first 2:10 standardbred in 1883 then lowered the world record to 2:06¼, a full three seconds faster than the trotting record of Maud S.

Johnston returned to the Grand Circuit at the age of fourteen and defeated reigning world champion Hal Pointer. He won a series of race and established further world records for aged pacers.

Johnston was so superior to all other horses that nobody would race against him. He remained King of the Track until the arrival of, Hal Pointer (2:04½), the leading pacer of 1891.

Hal Pointer



Tom Hal Jr 16934 1860 - U953	Tom Hal (Kittrells) 1856 - U1299	Bald Stockings 183- - U1297 U1299 18 - U1299
	Julia Johnson 184- - U953	Stump The Dealer (Adams) 183- - Julia 184- - U953
Sweepstakes 1871 - U719	Knights Snowwheels (thor) 18-- -	Tom Hal (Knights) 18-- - U1299 Dam of Snowwheels (thor) 18-- -
	Kit 186*- - U719	Traveller (McMeans) (thor) 184- - U1299 U719 1638 - U719

The breeding of Hal Pointer is worthy of closer consideration. He is by the same sire as Little Brown Jug, his dam Sweepstakes was later to produce Star Pointer, the first two minute pacer and his pedigree shows he is inbred 2x4 to Tom Hal.

Hal Pointer dominated the Grand circuit of 1890 then became the first pacer to better 2:10 in a race before becoming world champion with a time trial of 2:04½. To date, neither Hal Pointer nor Johnston have been inducted into the USTA Hall of Fame as Immortals, an honour that both would appear to have earned.

Direct

Director 1989 1877 - U360	Dictator 113 1863 - U121	Hambletonian 10 1849 - U900 Clara 1848 - U121
	Dolly 1861 - U360	Mambrino Chief 11 1844 - U908 Fanny 1855 - U360
Echora 1872 - U679	Echo 462 1866 - U949	Hambletonian 10 1849 - U900 Fanny Felter 18-- - U949
	Young Mare 18-- - U679	Jack Hawkins (thor) 18-- - U679 1597 - U679

Originally raced as a trotter and taking a mark of T2:18½ at age four, Direct was changed to the pacing gait due to soreness caused by the weight of the shoes required to keep him trotting. In 1891 he entered the Grand Circuit as a six year old and won a host of races before lowering Hal Pointer’s world record to 2:08 in a race and to 2:06 in a time trial.

An immediate series of thee heat match races was scheduled between Direct and Hal Pointer. The old champion took the first race but Direct rallied to take the next two over subsequent weeks. Direct then went on to make twenty one exhibition races against the clock before breaking down. He returned the following season to lower his record to 2:05½, using the new pneumatic sulky, before retiring to stud.

In the breeding barn he founded the sire line that led to Billy Direct and Tar Heel. His most famous progeny were world champion Directly, the unbeaten three year old Direct Hal who won thirteen consecutive races, and unbeaten four year old Directum Kelly.

Direct was inducted into the USTA Hall of Fame as an immortal in 1955.

Robert J



Hartford 3574 1880 - U1298	Harold 413 1864 - U404	Hambletonian 10 1849 - U900
		Enchantress 185- - U404
	Judith 187- - U1298	Mambrino Chief 11 1844 - U908
		U1298 400 - U1298
Geraldine 187- - U898	Jay Gould 197 1864 - U931	Hambletonian 10 1849 - U900
		Lady Sanford 1845 - U931
	Nancy Claggert 18-- - U898	Manns Senator (thor) 18-- -
		U898 1951 - U898

At the close of the Foundation Era, and prior to the introduction of hobbles, a great rivalry developed between four pacers; John R. Gentry, Joe Patchen, Star Pointer and Robert J. The latter, and oldest of the four, initially took control and became the wealthiest pacer of 1894. That year he became the only pacer to ever lower the world record four times in the one year. The following year his mantle was taken, in succession, by each of his three rivals.

John R Gentry



Ashland Wilkes 2291 1882 - U1196	Red Wilkes 1749 1874 - U903	George Wilkes 519 1856 - U901
		Queen Dido 186- - U903
	Daisy B 1876 - U1196	Administrator 357 1863 - U932
		Dam of Daisy B 186- - U1196
Dame Wood 1884 - U678	Wedgewood 692 1871 - U218	Belmont 64 1864 - U191
		Woodbine 1855 - U218
	Fancy 1870 - U678	Untraced sire (USA) 18** -
		U678 1598 - U678

Unbeaten as a three year old, John R Gentry did not return to the track until five when he debuted on the Grand Circuit. A strong rivalry with Joe Patchen followed with each winning six of their twelve

encounters. The following season he defeated Star Pointer on both occasions that they met, with each being in world record time. By career end Joe Patchen and John R Gentry had met twenty eight times with each victorious fourteen times. Star Pointer defeated John R Gentry only once in their four encounters.

Joe Patchen

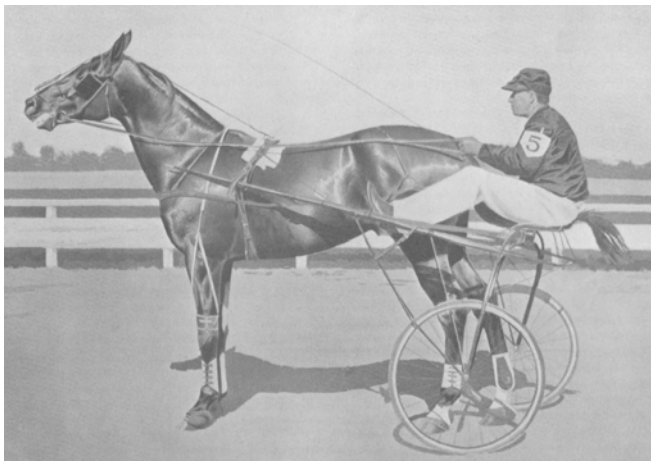


Patchen Wilkes 3550 1882 - U43	George Wilkes 519 1856 - U901	Hambletonian 10 1849 - U900
		Dolly Spanker 1847 - U901
	Kitty Patchen 1874 - U43	<i>Mambrino Patchen 58</i> <i>1862 - U902</i>
		Betty Brown 1866 - U43
Josephine Young 1885 - U984	Joe Young 2530 1876 - U1087	Star Of The West 666 1860 - U1068
		Lady Gregory 18-- - U1087
	U984 2042 - U984	-
		-

Known as the 'iron horse' in his racing days, Joe Patchen was involved in close rivalry with Robert J, John R Gentry and Star Pointer on the Grand Circuit of the nineties and was regarded as the champion of the half mile tracks. He succeeded Robert J as the wealthiest stake earner of 1895 and was among the first hundred pacers on both the 2:10 and 2:05 list. He was inaugurated as a Hall of Fame Immortal in 1954. His only real success at stud was as sire of Dan Patch, the greatest pacer of the New Century Era.

Star Pointer

In 1897, Star Pointer achieved one of the great milestones in the history of the standardbred when he became the first horse to enter the two minute list. He was also a tough campaigner winning twenty two of his thirty two races.



Brown Hal 16935 1879 - U502	Tom Hal Jr 16934 1860 - U953	<i>Tom Hal (Kittrells)</i> 1856 - U1299 Julia Johnson 184- - U953
	Lizzie 1863 - U502	John Netherland 186- - U1299 Blackie 185- - U502
Sweepstakes 1871 - U719	Knights Snowwheels (thor) 18-- -	Tom Hal (Knights) 18-- - U1299 Dam of Snowwheels (thor) 18-- -
	Kit 186* - U719	Traveler (thor) 184- - U1299 U719 1638 - U719

His dam, Sweepstakes became the first mare to produce two world champions as another son, Hal Pointer, had set a world mark some six years earlier. Although producing six classic horses, her maternal family was extinct by 1930. As discussed above the Star Pointer sire line met the same fate.

The new century, however was witnessed the demise of all other sire lines with the complete domination of Hambletonian 10. He is the subject of the next chapter.

New Century trotters

This era witnessed the move from the grinding five and seven heat races down to three heat affairs, due mainly to the arrival of three year olds that were just as fast as the free for all horses but lacked their endurance. The 1914 Kentucky Futurity that Peter Volo won in three straight heats was the last of the five heat races for that event and most other races fell into line soon after. The Transylvania, the premier event for free for all horses, was reduced from seven heats to three in 1918 and finally to one dash in 1947.

Further innovations that increased speed records during the final years of the era were the introduction of ball bearings into sulkies and the mobile starting

barrier. Unfortunately there were also problems caused by the Great Depression then the Second World War.

Despite these difficult economic years, there were a host of champion trotters whose careers spanned the first fifty years of the twentieth century. Table 11.3 lists ten whose race track achievements place them above others of the era. Unlike the Foundation Era, where the selection was biased toward speed, the performers on this list represent not only the fastest horses but the ones that consistently defeated all comers in each year that they raced. As there are so many whose number of wins are almost equal, preference has been given to those that performed consistently over a number of seasons, who won the classic races and set the world records. All of them won more than half of the races in which they started.

Ten is a very small number for such a long time period and of course there are many worthy performers that did not make the list. Lee Axworthy, for example, was the first two minute trotting stallion and his record stood for twenty five years. The Harvester lost only one race in three years and became a world champion while Belwin was undefeated after missing his two and three year old seasons due to lameness. Three year old colts that warranted consideration include Guy McKinney, who won the inaugural Hambletonian along with the Kentucky Futurity among his eleven wins from nineteen starts, and Mr McElwyn whose twenty one wins from thirty two races included the Kentucky Futurity and a number of world records.



THE UNDEFEATED BELWIN

Another to win a Hambletonian and Kentucky Futurity double were Hall of Fame Immortal Hoot Mon, who could reasonably have been selected ahead of his nemesis Rodney. Nibble Hanover also won more than half of his sixty seven races with thirteen classic wins including three wins in the Messenger.

Among the mares, early champions include Sweet Marie, who won thirty one of her forty one races between 1903 and 1906, Mabel Trask and Volga E, who were both faster and wealthier than all the colts that they regularly defeated, and World Champion Hanover's Bertha, who beat the boys in both the Hambletonian and Kentucky Futurity. There were also two gruelling campaigners that won more than half of their numerous races. May E Grattan was successful in one hundred and forty five of her two hundred starts and Proximity won ninety eight of her one hundred and ninety four races.

Greyhound, who was voted the greatest trotter of the nineteenth century, would probably be the first choice of most harness fans as the greatest ever trotter but Table 11.3 lists the ten greatest in chronological order.

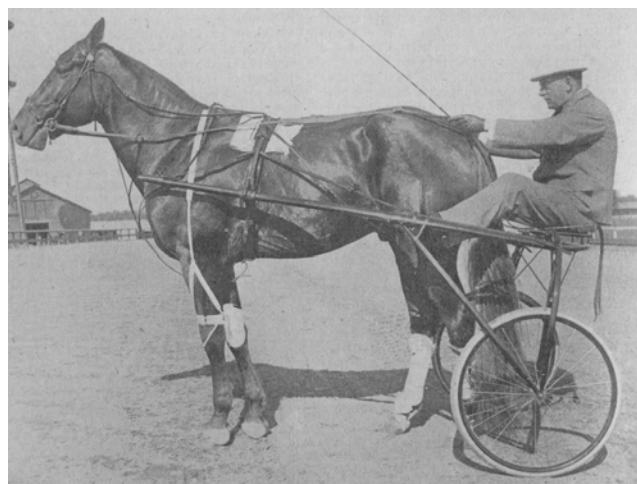
TABLE 11.3 GREATEST NEW CENTURY TROTTERS

	Classic wins		Win ratio
Cresceus (1894)			NA
Lou Dillon (1898)	1		NA
Uhlan (1904)	2	15/16	.94
Peter Volo (1911)	10		NA
Peter Manning (1916)	6	32/34	.94
Greyhound (1932)	16	71/82	.87
Rosalind (1933)	14	46/74	.62
Volo Song (1940)	13	28/41	.68
Titan Hanover (1942)	12	25/34	.74
Rodney (1944)	15	47/69	.68

Cresceus

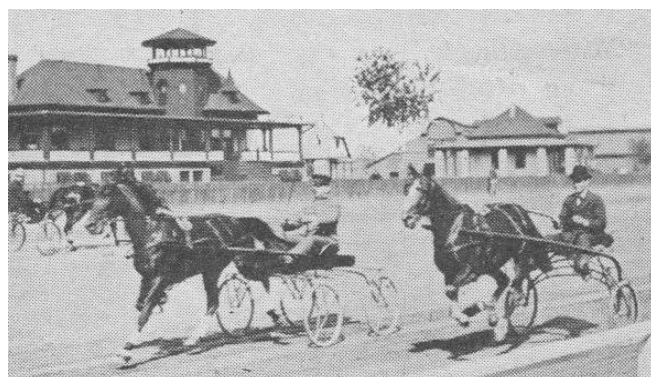
Cresceus began his career as the fastest three year old of the year in 1897, and earned a reputation for toughness by defeating aged horses in a seven heat race. It was in the first years of the new century, however, that his greatest achievements were made, being the fastest trotter of the year on three separate occasions. He took his record T2:02¼ in 1901, just two years before Lou Dillon set her historic mark. He

was not only the wealthiest trotter of 1900 and 1901 but completed his career as an eight year old by claiming the fastest time of the year again in 1902.



Robert McGregor 647 1871 - U907	Major Edsall 211 1859 - U1297	Abdallah 15 1852 - U904 Dam of Major Edsall 18-- - U1297
	Nancy Whitman 1860 - U907	American Star 14 1837 - U906 Nance 185* - U907
Mabel 1880 - U33	Mambrino Howard 1858 - U898	Mambrino Chief 11 1844 - U908 Belle 18++ - U796
	Contention 18-- - U33	Allie West 745 1870 - U968 U33 1320 - U33

At this stage Cresceus held seventeen world records. Like his sire Robert McGregor, he became the leading free for all stallion of his day and campaigned in many states. For six years he was almost unbeatable and his earnings exceeded one hundred thousand dollars.



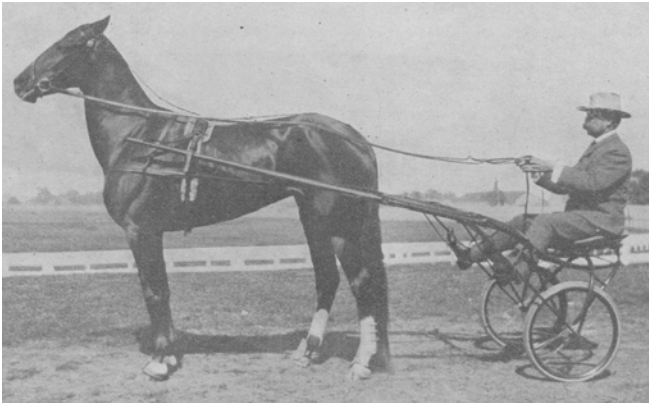
CRESCEUS DEFEATS THE ABBOT

Cresceus was the first stallion to be world champion and claimed another seventeen world records in that year. He held numerous track records across America and was noted for his toughness setting records for five, seven and eight heat encounters. In 1901 he

lost his world record to the gelding The Abbot, but soundly defeated him in a match race to regain the title. This was the only occasion that two world champions had ever been involved in a match race.

Cresceus had poor fertility and was exported to Europe. His only descendant to win a classic race appeared seven generations later on the maternal side of 1993 Czech Derby winner Roxy.

Lou Dillon



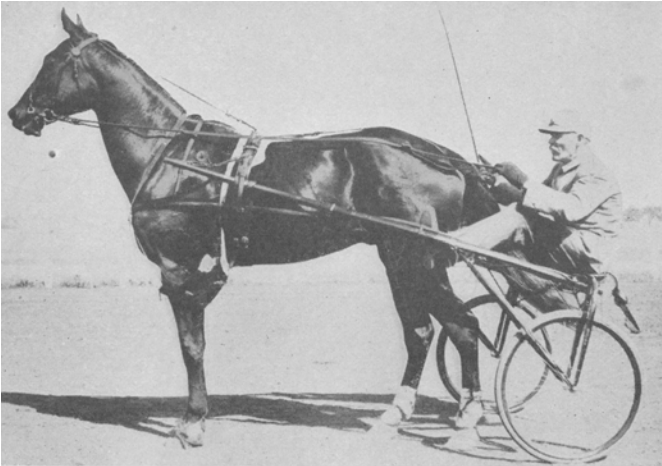
Sidney Dillon 23157 1892 - U920	Sidney 4770 1881 - U553	Santa Claus 2000 1874 - U301
		Sweetness 1871 - U553
	Venus 187-- - U920	Captain Webster 10173 186* - U1299
Lou Milton 1880 - U132		Katie 187-- - U920
	Milton Medium 4782 1871 - U1298	Happy Medium 400 1863 - U911
		Fan 18** - U1298
	Fly 1868 - U132	Black Flying Cloud 378 1851 - U1107
		Dam of Fly 18-- - U132

Her grandsire Sidney, considered a sire of extreme early speed, was bred 3x3 to Hambletonian 10 while the sire of her dam was inbred 2x3 to the great progenitor. Lou Dillon herself was not raced until four when she surprised all by easily defeating free for all champions Prince Alert and The Abbott on the training track. Still unraced at age five, she was matched against the watch and reduced the world record for trotting mares. Three weeks later she time trialled again and became the first trotter to better the magical two minute barrier.

Her racing debut saw her take the Memphis Gold Cup followed by a series of world records to wagon and sulky culminating in her 1:58½TT record that stood for nine years until lowered by Uhlan. Her record for mares lasted for nineteen years. Lou Dillon finally succumbed to illness and never regained her dazzling speed, instead resorting to exhibition runs as far

afield as Europe. Her timed quarter in 25¾ (a mile rate of 1:43) pulling a four wheel wagon could not be matched by many Modern Era trotters.

Uhlan



Bingen 29567 1893 - U24	May King 10272 1886 - U1112	Electioneer 125 1868 - U201
		May Queen 1868 - U1112
Blondella 1891 - U84	Young Miss 1889 - U24	Young Jim 2009 1874 - U895
		Miss Mambrino 1884 - U24
	Sir Walter Jr 7800 1882 - U213	Sir Walter 2001 1873 - U1965
	Brunette 188* - U84	Kate Clark 18-- - U213
		Black Eagle (Saddle) 1869 - U1298
		Flora Temple 187- - U84

The first decade of the new century witnessed a brief rivalry between the mare Hamburg Belle (T2:01¼) and the gelding Uhlan. The mare was the first to gain prominence, winning the Charter Oak at six and establishing a world record at seven. Among the beaten contingent in the Charter Oak was Uhlan who was then undefeated for the remainder of the season.

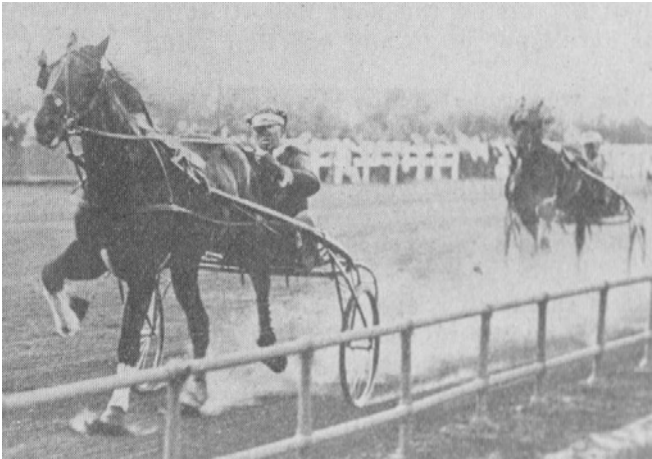
The pair met twice in the following season with one victory each before the mare died tragically. Uhlan had no pretenders to his crown and was never again beaten. He lowered the world record set by Lou Dillon to T1:58 but most of his outings were as exhibitions. These included a trip to Russia and a series of world team records prior to his retirement.

Peter Volo

Although establishing a world record as a yearling, Peter Volo did not race debut until two. He was the fastest trotter of his year at both two and three winning the Kentucky Futurity in both years. At four he became world champion for the fourth year in

succession. He retired as one of the wealthiest trotters of all time and lost only one race.

Peter The Great 28955 1895 - U212	Pilot Medium 1597 1879 - U279	Happy Medium 400 1863 - U911 Tackey 1859 - U279
	Santos 1887 - U212	Grand Sentinel 865 1873 - U1031 Shadow 1870 - U212
	Nervolo 1896 - U803	Colbert 9958 1888 - U1229 Nelly D 1886 - U803
Nervolo Belle 1906 - U3	Josephine Knight 1894 - U3	Betterton 8022 1880 - U676 Mambrino Beauty 1881 - U3



PETER VOLO WINS THE KENTUCKY FUTURITY

Peter Manning

Azoff 50354 1908 - U1875	Peter The Great 28955 1895 - U212	Pilot Medium 1597 1879 - U279 Santos 1887 - U212
	Dolly Worthy 189- - U1875	Axworthy 24845 1892 - U146 Dolly Phoebe 188- - U1875
Glendora G 1906 - U545	Emmett Grattan 1901 - U331	Grattan 15460 1887 - U940 Maggie McGregor 1879 - U331
	Wallie Moore 1891 - U545	Gambetta Wilkes 4659 1881 - U844 Bellfield 1882 - U545

There were no obvious successors to Uhlan and Lee Axworthy until the twenties. The gelding Peter Manning not only lowered the record of Uhlan to T1:56¼TT but completed his career with only two losses among his thirty four races. His superiority was such that, like Uhlan before him, his remaining outings were exhibitions and he became a celebrity. His image was used by marketers in much the same manner as Dan Patch. The image below was taken from a cigar advertisement of the time. His world record remained unchallenged for fifteen years.



PETER MANNING CIGAR LABEL

Greyhound



Guy Abbey 1925 - U4	Guy Axworthy 37501 1902 - U338	Axworthy 24845 1892 - U146 Lillian Wilkes 1886 - U338
	Abbacy 1918 - U4	The Abbe 33486 1903 - U437 Regal McKinney 1907 - U4
Elizabeth 1923 - U18	Peter The Great 28955 1895 - U212	Pilot Medium 1597 1879 - U279 Santos 1887 - U212
	Zombrewer 1905 - U18	Zombro 28029 1892 - U559 Mary Bales 1894 - U18

On almost every list of champions assembled, the name of Greyhound is positioned at the pinnacle. If the stature of the champions on this list was measured by the length of their reign as world champion, then Greyhound would surpasses them all.

Gelded during the hard economic years of the Great Depression, he commenced his racing career at two winning twelve of eighteen starts and establishing a T2:04¼ world record for geldings of his age. At three his eighteen wins from twenty starts included both the Hambletonian and Horseman Futurity and a world champion mile of T2:00. He was also the highest stake earner of the year.

His career was far from finished however and at four, he again lost only two of his races from seventeen

starts and easily won the prestige Transylvania. At five he won the USA Trotting Derby and also reduced the fifteen year old world record of Peter Manning. The peak of his success came at six year when he lowered the world record to T1:55¼TT, a record that remained on the books for thirty one years.

His career record saw him win a massive sixteen classic races and seventy one of his eighty two races. He also established twenty five world records.



Rosalind



Scotland 1925 - U4	Peter Scott 1909 - U559	<i>Peter The Great 28955 1895 - U212</i>
		Jenny Scott 1897 - U559
	Roya McKinney 1911 - U4	McKinney 8818 1887 - U711
Alma Lee 1925 - U3		Princess Royal 1890 - U4
	Lee Worthy 1919 - U170	Lee Axworthy 1911 - U5
		Emma Smith 1913 - U170
	Jane Revere 1920 - U3	<i>Guy Axworthy 37501 1902 - U338</i>
		Volga E 1913 - U3

While Greyhound was the undisputed King of the Track during the thirties, a mare one year his junior was Queen of the Track. Unbeatable at two and three, she trotted the fastest ever third heat of a race in T1:59¼.

Her five year career saw her win twenty four of her thirty two races without ever missing a place while her career included fourteen classic race victories and earnings of sixty nine thousand dollars.

Rosalind matched the performance of Greyhound in winning the Hambletonian and Transylvania. She was

also only a shade behind Greyhound in speed with her T1:56¾TT mile lowering the sixteen year old record of Nedda and remaining intact for thirty six years. At six she was hitched to pole with Greyhound and the pair set two world record heats of T1:59 and T1:58½.

Her breeding was impeccable, being by Scotland with her grand dam and third dam being Kentucky Futurity winners and the fastest two year olds of their year.



Volo Song



Volomite 1926 - U11	Peter Volo 1911 - U3	<i>Peter The Great 28955 1895 - U212</i>
		Nervolo Belle 1906 - U3
Evensong 1925 - U17	Cita Frisco 1921 - U11	San Francisco 49173 1903 - U701
		Mendocita 1899 - U11
	Nelson Dillon 1918 - U2	Dillon Axworthy 1910 - U108
		Miss Pierette 1912 - U2
	Taffolet 1920 - U17	Guy Axworthy 37501 1902 - U338
		Taffeta Silk 1915 - U17

Without doubt the most tragic trotting story of the era is that of Volo Song. Bred in the purple, by the leading sire of the day from a mare that produced six two minute performers, he was unplaced at his first start before winning the next six, including four classics.

At three he was even more dominant, winning all but one of his races including the Hambeltonian. He was also the leading stake earning trotter of the year.

His four year old season saw him take two more classics with his T1:57¾ making him the fastest trotter of the year. Just as he was being hailed as the next world champion stallion he shattered his leg and

had to be destroyed. His career, tally including heats, was twenty eight wins from forty one starts.

Titan Hanover



Calumet Chuck 1929 - U5	Truax 1921 - U14	Guy Axworthy 37501 1902 - U338 Hollyrood Nimble 1911 - U14
	Sumatra 1922 - U5	Belwin 1910 - U10 Sienna 1909 - U5
	Peter The Brewer 1918 - U18	Peter The Great 28955 1895 - U212 Zombrewer 1905 - U18
Tisma Hanover 1934 - U12	Justissima 1915 - U12	Justice Brooke 1908 - U12 Clarie Toddington 1910 - U12

Virtually unbeatable at two, his seven successive race wins included six classics. He not only lowered the world race record but closed his season with a time trial in two minutes to lower the fifteen year old record of Hanover’s Bertha. In doing this he also became the first two year old in history to travel the mile in even time and his achievement received similar publicity as that of Lou Dillon in breaking the two minute barrier for the first time some forty one years earlier.

His three year old season was just as sensational as he went undefeated, including an effortless win in the largest field ever assembled for the Hambletonian. Records continued to tumble as he lowered Dean Hanover’s three year old world record to 1:58. He was touted as the ‘next Greyhound’ but failed to regain his form at four and five and was retired to stud. Despite his disappointing final campaigns he finished with twenty five wins from his thirty four starts.

Despite the opportunities given to him by Hanover Shoe Farms, his stud career was disappointing with his only outstanding progeny being Hambletonian winner Hickory Smoke.

Rodney



RODNEY LEADS 1948 KENTUCKY FUTURITY PARADE WITH SULKY USED FOR WORLD RECORD BY RARUS IN 1878

Spencer Scott 1937 - U9	Scotland 1925 - U4	Peter Scott 1909 - U559 Roya McKinney 1911 - U4
	May Spencer 1931 - U9	Spencer 1925 - U10 Guyellen 1920 - U9
	Protector 1928 - U6	Peter Volo 1911 - U3 Margaret Arion 1923 - U6
Earls Princess Martha 1935 - U37	Mignon 1919 - U37	Lee Axworthy 1911 - U5 Mary Thomas S 1907 - U37

There was a fierce rivalry again between Rodney and Hoot Mon. A strong case can be made for Hoot Mon claiming the final spot on this list for he defeated Rodney in the 1947 Hambletonian. However, it was Rodney that became the fastest trotter in America and Harness Horse of the Year the following year. In the process he joined the elite first one hundred standardbreds to earn in excess of one hundred thousand dollars in career earnings.

Their rivalry continued into the siring barn where Rodney sired just one hundred and seventy classic progeny compared with the two hundred and six by Hoot Mon, with both siring thirty eight classic winners. However, Rodney again bettered his rival in longevity. While the Hoot Mon line lasted but one generation, the line from Rodney has descended through Valley Victory to the current leading stallion in Muscles Yankee. At his death Rodney was the leading sire of hundred thousand dollar earners with a total of thirteen.

New Century pacers

As for the New Century trotters, the selection of ten pacing greats is not an easy task and those in Table 11.4 have all proven almost unbeatable on the track throughout their careers. Many others are also worthy of mention including the speedy Minor Heir who took world champion honours from Star Pointer but won only nineteen of his forty seven starts. Miss Harris M had the distinction of being the first pacing mare to win a race in better than two minutes but met her match in Single G, while Margaret Dillon won a massive one hundred and thirty races from two hundred and fifty nine starts but only two classics. Her son was exported to New Zealand where he became the leading sire of pacers on eight consecutive occasions. In the thirties the dual gaited Chief Abbedale also had a high win ratio with fifty two victories from sixty nine starts. He went on to sire Little Brown Jug winner Forbes Chief among his fifty eight classic progeny.

As the era closed, two other champions in Adios and King's Counsel met each other sixty seven times with the honours almost even. Had either of them raced without the presence of the other then they too would have made the list. Only ten of the losses among the eighty seven race starts of Adios were not to Kings Counsel, while the latter would have won one hundred and twenty two from one hundred and forty nine if Adios had not been present.

TABLE 11.4 GREATEST NEW CENTURY PACERS

	Classic wins		Win ratio	
Dan Patch (1896)	1	54/56	.96	
The Abbe (1903)	6		NA	
Directum I (1907)	3	88/125	.70	
Napoleon Direct (1909)	2	66/95	.70	
Single G (1910)	2	262/434	.60	
Grattan Bars (1923)	1	37/39	.95	
Little Pat (1933)	3	173/269	.64	
Billy Direct (1934)	4	47/55	.85	
Good Time (1948)	22	78/112	.70	

Dan Patch

Considered by many to be the greatest pacer in the history of the sport, Dan Patch had an almost perfect record on the track. Winner of all nineteen of his races, he was only beaten twice in the fifty six heats

in which he competed. It was his speed, however, that earned him his fame.



Joe Patchen 30239 1889 - U984	Patchen Wilkes 3550 1882 - U43	George Wilkes 519 1856 - U901
		Kitty Patchen 1874 - U43
	Josephine Young 1885 - U984	Joe Young 2530 1876 - U1087 U984 2042 - U984
Zelica 1891 - U716	Wilkesberry 1888 - U2036	Young Jim 2009 1874 - U895
		Madam Adams 1874 - U2036
	Abdallah Belle 18-- - U716	Pacing Abdallah 6038 1861 - U1039 Fanny 187_ - U716

He began his career in 1900 at the age of four with twelve successive wins then won his only classic race, The Tennessee Pace at five. His speed was so superior to others of his day that he could not find competitors and for the last four years of his career he ran exhibition races against time across the entire country, drawing immense crowds. His reputation was shamelessly promoted to endorse all manner of products such as the following example shows.

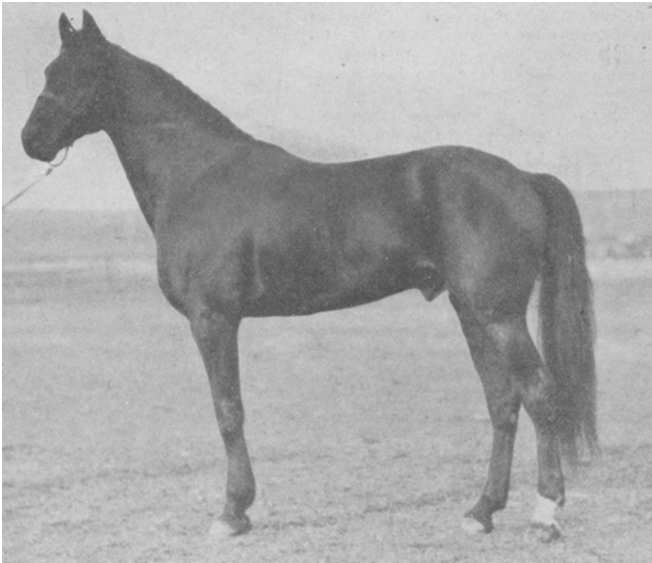


DAN PATCH ADVERTISING

 [DAN PATCH](#)

Dan Patch entered the two minute list in 1902 then lowered Star Pointer’s world record to 1:59.0TT the following year. He successively lowered the world record until his historic 1:55¼ time trial in 1905 at the age of nine. This record became the longest standing in the history of harness racing, remaining intact for thirty three years. He raced against the clock on seventy three occasions at an average of 1:59½ yet, during this time, only two other horses bettered two minutes.

The Abbe



Chimes 5348 1884 - U2	Electioneer 125 1868 - U201	Hambletonian 10 1849 - U900
		Green Mountain Maid 1862 - U201
Nettie King 1887 - U437	Beautiful Bells 1872 - U2	The Moor 870 1867 - U969
		Minnehaha 1868 - U2
	Mambrino King 1279 1872 - U490	Mambrino Patchen 58 1862 - U902
		Belle Thornton 186- - U490
	Nettie Murphy 188- - U437	Hamlin Patchen 3519 1863 - U962
		Dam of Nettie Murphy (thor) 18-- - U437

Great things were expected of The Abbe from the beginning. He was royally bred with his full brother, The Abbot (T2:03¼), a world champion who had lowered the record of Alix and was the fastest trotter in the land in both 1899 and 1900.

At three, The Abbe was also the fastest trotter in America and considered unlucky to lose the Kentucky Futurity to Siliko after an unjust decision by the judges. He retired from racing but reappeared at age seven as a pacer and was undefeated for the year. He won eleven races in succession, including the top

events of the Grand Circuit, and was the highest stake earner of the year.

At stud, his success was instant with his first crop including twenty eight winners. His greatest legacy was his son Abbedale who founded one of the two Modern Era pacing sire lines. His daughter Abbacy was the dam of Guy Abbey who went on to sire probably the greatest trotter of all time, Greyhound.

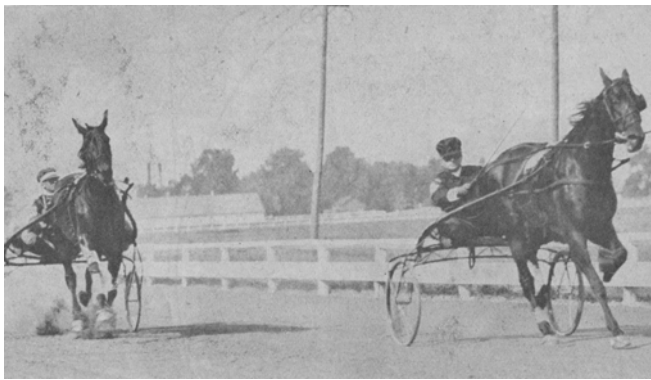
Directum I



Directum Kelly 31364 1894 - U81	Direct 24113 1885 - U679	Director 1989 1877 - U360
		Echora 1872 - U679
Izetta R 1899 - U801	Rosa Ludwig 188- - U81	Anteeo 7868 1875 - U963
		Rosa (thor) 187+ - U81
	Pactolus 1887 - U1036	Patronage 4143 1880 - U775
		Buda 18-- - U1036
	Shademie 1892 - U801	Shadeland Onward 6010 1883 - U509
		Amie 1882 - U801

Champion of the Grand Circuit in 1913 and 1914, Directum I won thirty of his forty one races, eighty eight of his one hundred and twenty five heats, became world champion in 1914 and remained the fastest pacer in America until 1916.

He had a great rivalry with William, three years his junior, who had been the undefeated and fastest three year old pacer in America in 1913. William then became the first harness horse to better two minutes in a race and was defeated only once by Directum I. William also defeated Single G twice.



WILLIAM WINS FIRST TWO MINUTE RACE 1914

In a series of match races that followed this defeat, William was the match of Directum I in all but sheer speed. In his first match race against William in 1914 Directum I established a world race record of 1:58. This record stood until 1937 before it was equalled by Billy Direct. Directum subsequently time trialled in 1:56¾, a time that also stood for thirty three years until lowered, again by none other than Billy Direct. Both William and Directum I paced free legged. Neither of them had any success at stud.

Napoleon Direct



Walter Direct 1900 - U880	Direct Hal 01151 1896 - U816	Direct 24113 1885 - U679
	Ella Brown 1885 - U880	Bessie Hal 188- - U816
Lady Erectress 189- - U706	Tom Kendall 18-- - U1298	Prince Pulaski Jr (NS) 1875 - U936
	Nelly Zarro 188- - U706	Fanny Brown 18-- - U880
		Erector 14992 1888 - U1298
		Winnie Davis 18-- - U1298
		Hal Pizarro 189- - U1299
		Nellie Hal 187* - U706

One of the few horses that iron horse Single G was unable to beat was Napoleon Direct, who defeated him on eight of the nine occasions that the two met. He began his career as a five year old, winning his

first race and finishing his debut season with ten wins from fourteen races. Most of these were gruelling five heat events. His second and final season saw him win twenty one of twenty three starts including the five heat Tennessee Pace. He then took his record 1:59¾ in a time trial. Napoleon Direct won sixty six of his ninety five starts, the same win ratio as Directum I, but his career was unfortunately shortened due to injury. He was considered the greatest living pacer of his time. At stud he became the leading sire of pacers before gaining further fame as the sire of Billy Direct.

Napoleon Direct 2:00¾

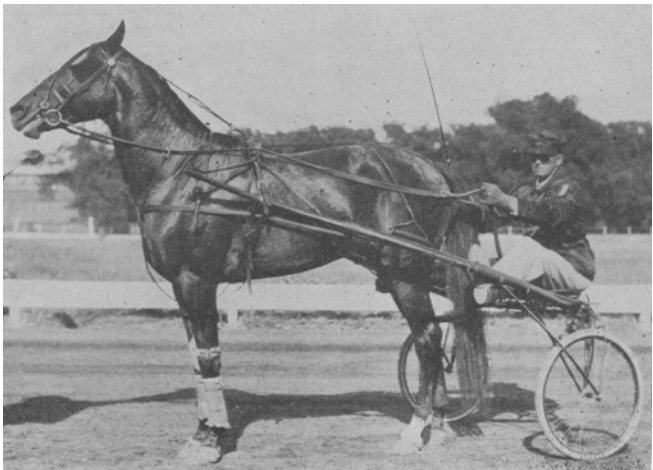
Unbeaten in 1915.....Winner in Five Races

Paced two consecutive heats in 2:00¾, 2:00¾.
Winner of ten races, two seconds, in 1914. Earned \$14,750.

Will Be Allowed Twelve Approved Mares at \$50 at Time of Breeding

FIRST STUD ADVERTISEMENT FOR NAPOLEON DIRECT

Single G



Anderson Wilkes 4197 1884 - U94	Onward 1411 1875 - U360	George Wilkes 519 1856 - U901
	Magnet 1876 - U94	Dolly 1861 - U360
Little Gyp 1888 - U710	Shoo Fly Gyp (NS) 18-- - U1298	Strathmore 408 1866 - U905
	Maude 188- - U710	Miss Kirksey 1868 - U94
		Shoo Fly (thor) 18-- -
		Fast Pacing Mare 18-- - U1298
		Clifton Boy 5745 1877 - U1298
		Goldie 187- - U710

Many consider Single G to be the most competitive pacer of all time. At three he was no match for William but at four won eleven of his fifteen races then dominated the track for the next twelve years. He retired at sixteen having won ninety eight of his one hundred and fifty six races and, including heats, some two hundred and sixty two of his four hundred

and thirty four starts. He became the first horse to win more than one hundred thousand dollars in stake money. He bettered two minutes in twelve races and 2:05 in one hundred and thirty five of them. His record of 1:58½ was taken when he was thirteen years of age.



SINGLE G WINS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE STAKES

Grattan Bars



Grattan Royal 1908 - U704	Grattan 15460 1887 - U940	Wilkes Boy 3803 1880 - U43
		Annie Almont 1882 - U940
	Mona 1887 - U704	Robert McGregor 647 1871 - U907
Polly Bars 1911 - U668	Monbars 1889 - U623	Jenny Bryan 18-- - U704
		Easel Bird 188- - U506
	Ottoman Maid 1891 - U668	Lady Maud 1867 - U623
		Ottoman 9203 1886 - U1951
		Butterfly 18-- - U668

Hardly a household name and quickly forgotten by most, Grattan Bars enjoyed a brief but highly successful two year career. Unfashionably bred, he was by the Canadian sire Grattan Royal from an

obscure maternal family with little to recommend it. Nobody mentioned this to Grattan Bars however, and he proved an extremely tough competitor on the track.

His career was cut short through injury but not before he had won thirty seven of his thirty nine races, including the American Pacing Derby and the two richest races of 1928, both with stakes money of twenty five thousand dollars. He earned more in three weeks than any other pacer earned for the season. His record of 1:59½ and earnings of almost fifty thousand dollars are not a true measure of his toughness and ability. Neither did his stud career match that of the track.

Little Pat

Hollyrood Bob 1915 - U58	Peter The Great 28955 1895 - U212	Pilot Medium 1597 1879 - U279
		Santos 1887 - U212
	Fanny Stanton 1907 - U58	Bingen 29567 1893 - U24
Lottie Direct 1923 - U525		Redinda 1892 - U58
	Jimmy Direct 19-- - U1299	Walter Direct 1900 - U880
		U1299 18 - U1299
	Lottie D 19-- - U525	Doctor Q 12074 1889 - U1298
		Nelly C 19-- - U525

The most remarkably consistent and popular of all New Century Era pacers was probably the gelding Little Pat. He began his career as the fastest two year old gelding of his year and suffered just one loss. At three he was again the fastest gelding of his year and again lost just one of ten races, with three being classics. He continued to campaign until the age of ten. He held world records at two and three and as an aged pacer, winning seventy three of one hundred and three races and missing the money only eleven times. He bettered 2:05 one hundred and six times.

Billy Direct

While it was fitting to commence this section with the deeds of Dan Patch, it is equally as fitting to conclude with those of Billy Direct. They were surely the greatest two pacers of the New Century Era and most certainly the fastest and most inspiring.

In his three year old season the free legged Billy Direct began on the Grand Circuit with two classic wins and a world record 1:58 race win that lowered

the twenty three year old record of Directum and was not itself lowered for another fourteen years.



Napoleon Direct 1909 - U706	Walter Direct 1900 - U880	Direct Hal 01151 1896 - U816
		Ella Brown 1885 - U880
	Lady Erectress 189- - U706	Tom Kendall 18-- - U1298
Gay Forbes 1916 - U298		Nelly Zarro 188- - U706
	Malcolm Forbes 1904 - U31	Bingen 29567 1893 - U24
		Nancy Hanks 1886 - U31
	Gay Girl Chimes 1911 - U298	Berkshire Chimes 31615 189- - U443
		Miss Gay Girl 1904 - U298

At age four, Billy Direct continued his dominance and finished his career with just eight losses from fifty five starts. One of these, his last race, was due to official bungling and was followed by a requested time trial. This fortuitous event resulted in Billy Direct lowering the thirty three year old record of Dan Patch with a 1:55 mile. During this thirty three year period only two horses had paced in less than 1:58. As nobody was prepared to race against him he was retired to stud following a few exhibition runs against time.

Good Time



Hal Dale 1926 - U296	Abbedale 1917 - U702	The Abbe 33486 1903 - U437
		Daisydale D 1908 - U702
	Margaret Hal 1914 - U296	Argot Hal 1903 - U719
On Time 1938 - U10		Margaret Polk 1906 - U296
	Volomite 1926 - U11	Peter Volo 1911 - U3
		Cita Frisco 1921 - U11
	Nedda Guy 1928 - U10	Guy Axworthy 37501 1902 - U338
		Nedda 1915 - U10

The first standardbred to be voted Horse of the Year twice, Good Time retired as the leading money winning harness horse in history. His five season career saw him win seventy eight of one hundred and twelve races including twenty two classics. These included the Fox Stakes at two, The Little Brown Jug at three and the National Pacing Derby at both four and six years of age.

He was the fastest pacer of the year at both two and three and Harness Horse of the Year at both three and six. He was also one of the first hundred harness horses to win in excess of one hundred thousand dollars with earning of more than three hundred thousand. He set a number of world records with his 1:57.4 being set at the opening of the Modern Era. He was the last great champion of the New Century Era and his final world record was not beaten until the 1:55 set by Adios Harry in 1955.

He had a strong pedigree, being another of the stars by Hal Dale while his broodmare sires were the leading ones of their day. He produced three champion sons in Best of All, Columbia George and Race Time.