

Broad Street Station

Philadelphia

Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> 1900

Dear Patterson,

No, I haven't taken rooms in New York, but the company has established an office downtown for stock transfers and where he can make business appointments. I believe you told me that when you were in the newspaper that you insisted on accuracy even in unimportant matters. I should think that a good line to follow, and that a paper pursuing it would make a success of it.

It seems Steele bred Baradrissa [?] one of your names by Bredor [?] to the [?]. I am glad to know the produce is so satisfactory- I made a mistake in selling Bredor [?] - but the first two of this year of his get show an certain proportion of bad legs- legs looked all right till the strain of training and now the ankles went Bredor [?] as you will remember was one of the [?] that would win at Islington as a hunter sire.

Is there anything in this talk about "doping" a horse to make him win. I never heard of it in my racing days, but when I referred to it derivisely the other evening at dinner one of the Jockey Club stewards, I was surprised to find that he took it all very seriously and actually insisted that electric spurs, electric saddles, and electric whips had been used, and cocaine injections to make horses run better and successfully. I didn't believe a word of it. Ask some of your Canadian trainers. They are said to be a little "slicker" than the Yankees [?] I always thought the Americans were against such practices was in evidence of the inexperience of the men at the head of turf affairs here- but supposed they had acquired a little practical knowledge by this time- Doping a horse to lose, yes, and even then it may not always be successful. Huggins used to tell a story of a Western trainer who said when this subject was being discussed- "They say water will stop a horse, but I want to know how much. I've tried a bucket."

The Duke of Magusta" I think it was, had such a [?] attack of colic the night before the Travis stakes at Saratoga that Waldon had to dose him with laudanum to the extent of stupefaction and he was like a dead horse the next day Waldon advised George [?] that it was positively useless to start him.



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But as [?] kindly had backed him [?] heavily in the pools at [?] in the evening,  
he said we must ...a breath of air ...for this morning. The jockey said he would  
hardly kick the Duke rant to the post, and when the flag fell the hors was [?]  
under him, which as my [?] worn th a lot in hand. But I would like to know  
whether this is anything.

[no signature]

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