

The Decimal Pointer.

In both France and Germany one-fourth reduced to a decimal is written as 0,25; in England it is written 0.25 (always with the period at the top of the line), and in the United States in this way, 0.25. France and Germany always use the comma, England and the United States the period, the only difference being the manner in which it is placed upon the line. Sir Isaac Newton is given the credit of originating the present English method of using the decimal point, his reason being that by placing it at the top of the line it could be distinguished at a glance from the "full stop" punctuation mark. All English mathematicians use the mark in the way proposed by Newton, and the period as a sign of multiplication.

THE COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION—STATUE OF "THE NORTH."

The main basin, which occupies the center of the Court of Honor at the Columbian Exposition, is decorated by several groups and pieces of statuary which

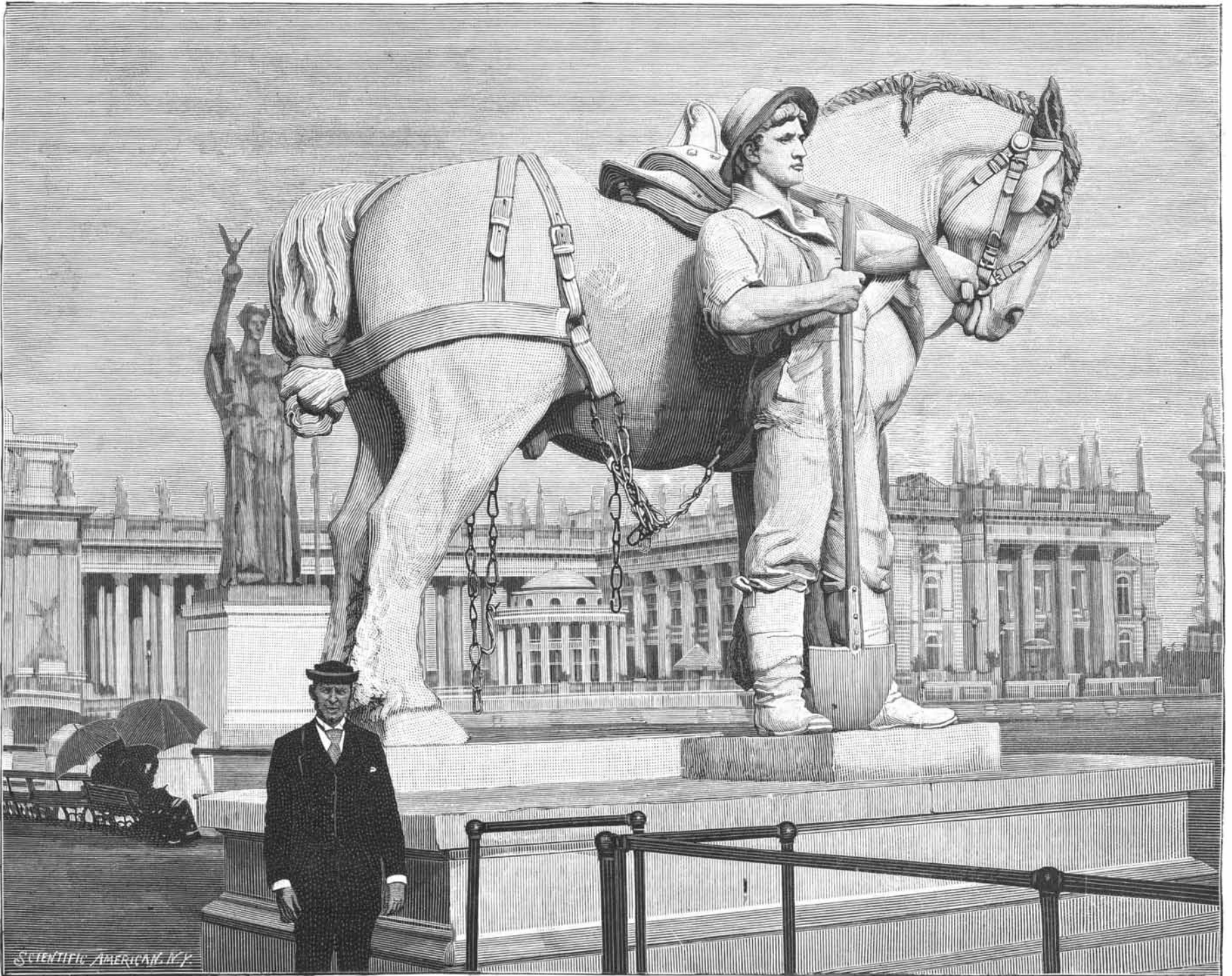
how his record compares with others of like age. Directum has started five times against the watch and five times against competitors. He has proved himself a race horse and not one of the dress parade kind. The slowest mile that he has trotted in public this year is the 2:14½ in his opening performance to the old style sulky at Cleveland the latter part of July. He has lost but three heats, two to Walter E. and one to Pixley, and his fifteen winning heats in his five races were in the average time of 2:09.9. That is, all of Directum's miles are at a faster average than any one either in a race or against time by any 4-year-old up to the beginning of the present season. His fifteen winning heats average nearly a second faster than any other stallion of any age has ever trotted in a race. His twenty heats, in races and against time, are in the average time of 2:09½, which is faster than any 3-year-old trotter or pacer has gone up the present year.

Directum has trotted 10 miles this season at an average a trifle lower than 2:07½, which is faster than any other stallion has ever trotted a single mile under any

ed, where all winds, except the west and northwest, bring the surcharged atmosphere from other manufacturing districts, producing at any season of the year, if the wind happens to be slight, a sky ranging from dull lead to dark brown. For four years in succession it has occurred at the writer's works that on June 21, the longest day, the gas in every room, amounting to nearly 7,500 jets, has had to be lighted by eleven o'clock in the morning, and remained lighted until work ceased; and this has occurred also in other towns, in weather that ought to have secured abundant sunshine. To such an extent does gloom prevail, that in clear weather the effect of bright sunlight becomes even distressing to the eyesight, simply from the rarity of the contrast.

One Million Pounds of Sugar in One Week.

Mr. L. Godchaux's Elm Hall refinery barreled up 1,000,000 pounds of sugar recently, the production of seven days' grinding. About 900 tons of cane per day passes through the rollers, 40,000 pounds of granu-



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possess real merit, as the sculptors have taken subjects which find their motives in American life. The statue of "The North," which is in front of the Manufactures building and near Mr. French's effective statue of the Republic, is a good example of one of these groups. The farm hand holds the powerful horse by the bit with one hand, while with the other he holds a spade. The man and the horse are of heroic size, and the group, when viewed either from the land or the basin, is very effective. At the extreme right one of the six rostral columns will be noticed. These columns are emblematic of victory, the projections in the sides representing the prows of captured triremes. The columns are surmounted by statues of Neptune.

Directum, 2:05¼.

In a general way it is understood that Directum is the greatest 4-year-old, the fastest stallion and the best race horse the trotting turf has ever seen. But how completely he surpassed all previous trotters of his age can only be appreciated by a careful review of all of his performances during the present season. Such a review will not be attempted at this time, further than to outline what the California colt has accomplished, and

condition. And so his superlative qualities could be enumerated almost without limit.—*Inter-Ocean.*

Lancashire Smoke.

Although Lancashire coal has a number of excellent qualities, yet it is one that makes the most smoke of any. A large portion of the Lancashire manufacturing industries, great and small, date from a number of years back, when smoke-consuming and smoke-preventing apparatus had not yet been devised; and many of the factories are working at the present day under pretty much the same conditions as when they started. Hence the atmosphere in all manufacturing towns in Lancashire is heavily charged with unconsumed carbon, producing an excess of cloud and fog, which, while inducing an excess of rain, acts also as a screen against the rays of the sun, and thus does a double injury to the neighboring agriculturist, the producer of the country's native wealth. A circle of thirty miles radius around Manchester is said to include a larger population than an equal circle around any other place in the world; and within this circle, about twelve miles northwest of Manchester, lies Bolton, the town with which the author is best acquainted.

lated sugar falls from the vacuum pans every six hours, and under the skillful management of Mr. Eddie Godchaux there is no let-up in this vast aggregation of machinery, not for a minute; with 500 men under his supervision, not one hesitates, but all know their duty and do it by some kind of instinct, as it were.

During the day a hundred wagons feed the maw of this monster mill with cane, and at night 500 cars are pulled in with a thousand tons of cane to appease the ever-crying call for more cane. About eight miles of railway are required to handle this vasterop. A Baldwin locomotive, with Mr. Clarke at the throttle, will take the place of mule propulsion in a few days; yet with all this immense acreage and all this cane to handle the indomitable enterprise of the manager has led to the incorporation of about 300 acres more of new land, and even now can be heard the terrible blasts of dynamite operating with fatal effects on the stumps that block the progress of the plow. If any one were to mention the fact that this country was now in the throes of a great financial panic (that is, in this section), he would be sent to an asylum for safe keeping. Times were never better, and altogether prosperity is on top, and everybody is happy.—*N. O. Times-Democrat.*