

pathetic stories, nearly all of which have a humorous side, are told of the failures of the first few months of housekeeping, and the sting which these queer mishaps oftentimes leaves is laughed away at the big reunion dinner.

"I have had couples nearing the three-score years and ten mark come to me after the meeting to express their thanks for the event which has seemed to lift the weight of years off their lives. Yes, I think that I can confidently say that from every point my Matrimonial Association has been a decided

success, and I expect these reunions to bear fruit long after I am dead."

Mr. Meese was born in Ohio, where he worked on the Ohio Canal until 1855, when he moved to De Kalb County, Indiana. In 1872 he was elected by the Republican party as sheriff, and in 1874 he was re-elected by that party to the same office. For many years he has been a respected and successful pastor in De Kalb County, and his Matrimonial Society has united him more closely than ever to the people.

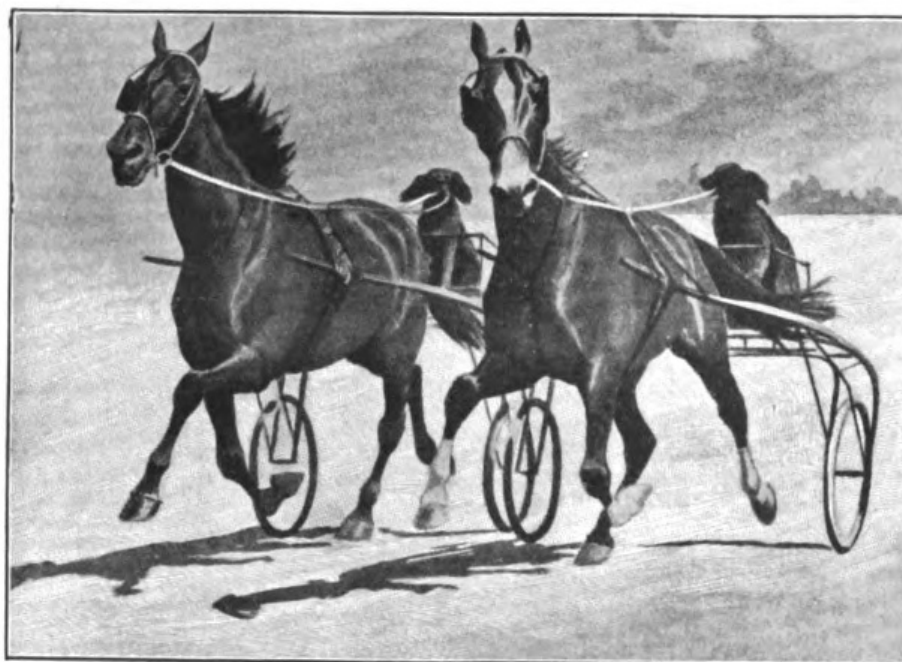
XII.—A NOVELTY ON THE RACE-COURSE.

BY M. F. TOLER.

THE fairs of the United States, large and small, make their exhibitions more attractive by adding special features to the usual racing and agricultural programmes, such as diving elks and horses, trotting dogs and ostriches. The accompanying picture represents two racing mares, Humming Bird and Nan Wilkes, with dog-drivers. This novelty

where the dogs dismount, take the lead-straps with their teeth, and lead their charges back to head-quarters. As the crowds cheer their approval the canine drivers evince an almost human appreciation of the applause, and wag their tails as if thanking the spectators for the ovation.

Nan Wilkes and Humming Bird are



NAN WILKES AND HUMMING-BIRD DRIVEN BY REX AND MAX.
From a Photograph.

appears on the race-course, each horse being led by its respective dog-driver, Rex and Max. Arriving at the stand they mount their sulkies without assistance, and, reins in mouth, proceed to jog back to the starting flag, when, at the sound of the bell, they turn and come down the course in racehorse style. Another tap of the bell brings them back to the stand,

chestnuts in colour, equally matched as to gait and speed, rarely making a mistake, and they finish closely at a high rate of speed. The dogs are brown spaniels, and exceedingly intelligent in every way. The outfit belongs to Mr. Fred Spoerhase, of New Ulm, Minnesota, and is decorated very tastefully, the attendants wearing handsome uniforms.