and red wheels think they can do up everything round here. I've heerd 'em talking round Stelle's place till I'm sick of 'em, and I'm rigged up now just to take the conceit out of 'em. You know Boncoeur can go; he's an old friend of yours. He's been laying low for some time, but now he's going to take a new start, make up for lost time, and come in first best, with colors flying, and his real friends sticking by him the whole way on to glory.

"'Good for Boncoeur! He's safe to win!'"

"'You're right, there, Palethorp; you've won a few thousands on him, time past, and you can add a few hundred to-day—just as easy! But mum's the word; here they come.' Slowly and carefully old Powers undid Boncoeur's rope halter, and then as slowly climbed into the old wagon, and watching his opportunity, crossed the road just as yellow wheels made a dash, to lead the others.

"'Get out o' the way there with your old clamcart,' shouted the driver of yellow wheels.

"'Oh, don't you be in such a hurry! I've heerd tell on a tortoise as beat a hare.'"

"'Prehaps,' said yellow wheels, with a derisive smile, 'you're the tortoise as is going to beat me, the hare?'

"'Prehaps I is!' answered old Powers.

"'Ha, ha, ha! Well, if that ain't rich! Ole feller, I'll give yer half a mile start, and bet you four to one I beat you in ten rods. Will you go it?'

"'I don't want none of yer money. I ain't no swindler! I'll start even, and bet even, coz that hoss of yourn ain't no bottom no more'n so much pie-crust, an' I don't want ter beat yer too bad! This here ole hoss ov mine can travel if he don't draw a yeller wagon to his tail, an' ain't spangled all over with silver buckles.'

"These allusions angered yellow wheels right up to high concert pitch; and he right off offered to trot his horse for any amount against old Clamcart's horse, or anything he could fetch on.

"Old Powers, after some more bantering with all hands, got yellow wheels to agree to a trot, and I being old Powers' standby, became his stakeholder. At first he couldn't get the fancy to bet at all, they were so convulsed with laughter at the idea of his attempting to trot against yellow wheels. But before long they came in, giving old Powers fearful odds. I held at one time a cool thousand in my fist, all of which I knew I should hand over to Powers as soon as the race was over, but abstained from betting myself, except a bottle of champagne with Ben Wilson. At the start, yellow wheels shot ahead like a rocket, but before he had gone three rods—presto! change! Boncoeur woke up! It was beautiful to see him pass yellow wheels, so fast and yet so easily, so much grace in every movement, and such strength and vigor. You should have seen the way Ben Wilson opened his eyes! If you had watched the surprise, amazement, almost terror, depicted on the faces of the fancy, as they saw that 'old clamcart' vanishing like an express engine!

"Boncoeur won the race by half a dozen lengths, and old Powers pocketed the rocks, and silenced for that season the voice of the fancy. Once or twice after the race they essayed to speak, but a gentle rejoinder that if they didn't 'close up' there'd be another 'clamcart' after them, compelled them to silence.

"And that's why I say I would add to the proverb, 'old horses to race with,'" said Mr. Palethorp, in finishing.

Noticeable Articles.

The third-year class, who have just listened to my lecture on Scott and novel-reading, will read with interest, whenever it shall appear in full, a lecture by that excellent critic, Leslie Stephen, on Sir Walter, recently delivered in Toynbee Hall, and of which the Pall Mall Budget for December 8th gives a pretty full report. Toynbee Hall is a building erected among the poor in the East End of London, to the memory of an excellent young philanthropist and economist of that name, an Oxford graduate, who devoted his short life chiefly to work among them; erected for the purpose of carrying out the philanthropic and educational work in which he was engaged. "All men of sense," says Mr. Stephen, "love novels. Even Darwin soothed his nerves after his scientific labors with the most in-