

PREFACE

MOST of the racing stories I have read had more to do with showing how some otherwise uninteresting person, who lived upon the precarious product of his cunning, had performed a great coup in the betting, and often by methods somewhat irregular, to say the least. The merits of the great race-horses seem of secondary importance. The leading turfmen and legislators are ignored to show the acuteness of some individual whose only title to distinction is his recklessness with money he never earned.

Whoever expects to find this a volume of that description will be disappointed. Betting will be treated as an incident of racing—not as its object. The great races and the great race-horses, the leading owners, trainers, and jockeys of the past forty years afford ample material of general interest with which to fill a volume without going into the details of their betting, which is a personal matter and concerns them alone.

The object of this volume is to record the career of