

NORMAN TAYLOR

The Veteran Pedestrian Whose Performances Are A Wonder



NORMAN TAYLOR, THE "PIE-EATER," CHAMPION TWELVE-HOUR-PER-DAY RUNNER.

Norman Taylor, champion 12 hour per day six day runner of Boston, was born in Plymouth, Vt., May 22, 1830, and is therefore in his fifty-seventh year. He stands 5 feet 9 inches, and scales 142 pounds in condition. Taylor is a farmer, and until he was forty-two years of age did not realize that he was a runner. When he was forty-eight years of age he held the twenty-mile running championship of America, but lost the title to Paddy Fitzgerald in 1879.

Taylor's best records from 880 yards to twenty miles are as follows: 880 yards, 2m.26s.; one mile, 5m.4s.; two miles, 10m.12s.; three miles, 16m.30s.; five miles, 27m.51½s.; six miles, 31m.; ten miles, 50m.6s.; fifteen miles, 1h. 19m.2s.; twenty miles, 2h.3m.5s.; twenty-five miles, 2h.58m.

At Woods' Athletic grounds, Williamsburg, N. Y., Dec. 25, 1882, he won a 12-hour race, covering 78¼ miles, receiving \$75. Taylor ran 49 miles without a break, and finished the distance without stopping.

Nov. 25, 1883, he won a 12-hour race at Philadelphia against seven competitors.

In April, 1884, he won a four-hour per night six-night race at Paterson, N. J., scoring 175 miles, and defeating Peter Hegelman, Peter Golden, White Eagle and others.

In August, 1885, at Little Coney Island, Paterson, N. J., he took second with 268 miles in a 12-hour per day six-day race,

and secured second in a similar race, covering 320 miles at the same place the following month.

In December, 1885, at the same place, he was first with a score of 332 miles in a 12-hour per day six-day race.

He subsequently competed in long distance races at Courtland, Binghamton, N. Y., and Scranton. Pa., against C.A. Harriman, Dan Herty, Frank Hart, Peter Golden, Dan Burns and others, and secured a place in each.

He entered in two races the first two weeks in August. The first week was a 12-hour per day six-day race, and he took fourth position. The second week he was first in a six-hour per night six nights race with a score of 253 miles.

At Paterson. N. J., in September last, he won first place over Noremac, Elson, Hegelman, Golden and others in a 12-hour per day six-day race, covering 386 miles.

Taylor's last race was at New Bedford, Mass., Oct. 4-9, when he won first with a score of 400 miles 3 laps in a 12-hour per day six-day race, defeating Hegelman, Noremac, Burns, Hart and others.

Taylor is a wonderful pedestrian—the world's wonder, considering his age. He has never trained, but is always in good condition, and has never used tobacco or stimulants.

Extracted and transcribed by P.S. Marshall, from an article in the *Police News*, December, 1886.

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