

SPORTS GAMES & PASTIMES

Mr. Thomas Ellison.

In choosing from the athletic world an initial illustration for our athletic column, we could hardly have pitched upon a better subject than Mr. Thomas Ellison. As a bicyclist, oarsman, cricketer, and, more than all, captain of the football team whose victories in New South Wales and Queensland placed our footballers in the premier position in Australasia, he is well and favourably known throughout New Zealand. Mr. Ellison is evidently a firm believer in the adage *Mens Sana in corpore Sano*; and although he works his brain steadily in the pursuit of his profession as a lawyer, the major portion of his leisure is devoted to physical exercise, so that he is almost always in a condition that in sporting parlance would be termed "fit." Strong muscles, a healthy appetite, and a clear head are marvellous aids to physical and mental happiness, and the subject of our illustration should certainly enjoy his fair share, if it is to be experienced in New Zealand.

In rowing matters, the members of the Star Rowing Club are, perhaps, more enthusiastic than usual. This is probably due to the ventilating of grievances at the last annual meeting. Having cleared the air and put the two "sides" of the Club on a good footing again, it would be as well to remind the few remaining grumblers that now they have got new blood on the Committee, it would be as well to let matters rest for awhile and encourage the new officers to carry out their duties in a way calculated to bring the Club to the front in whatever it undertakes.

It is announced that the same senior crew that represented the Star Rowing Club last year will do so this year. It is to be hoped that this is not the case, as it

means leaving better men on the skids. Such men as M'Lean, Strange, Pownall, and O'Morra must not be lost sight of. The first and last named are rowing well, and Strange, who has done good work for one of the Southern Clubs, is certainly shaping well here.

In future issues our readers will find these columns containing straight opinions of the rowing men of the City of Welling-

be taken in good part, as our only desire is to help all to attain the legitimate goal of becoming competent scientific oarsmen.

The New Zealand Cup will be run next Tuesday, and the field will probably number about 17 starters. Response is carrying a lot of stable money, and Mr. O'Brien (the owner) has any amount of faith in the mare. Boulanger has a strong following, and is being heavily backed. Notwithstanding the present attitude of the betting market, and the various commissions about, our avourite is Prime Warden, and, barring accidents, the "Cup" should result as follows:—

Prime Warden	1
Response	2
Boulanger... ..	3

Amongst the dark horses who may prove troublesome are Pegasus and Hipponenes, and the former will be well up in the van at the finish.

A rumour has reached Wellington from Christchurch that Clan Ronald will not go to the starting post. Whether this be true or not, the future will show, but we do not think even if he starts he has a very rosy chance.

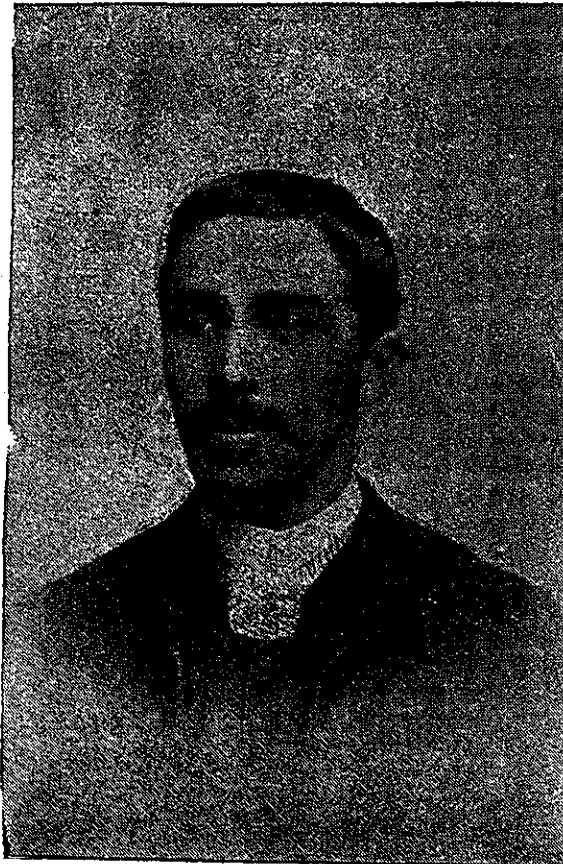
The Melbourne Cup, which is run on the same day as the New Zealand Cup is not exciting as much interest in New Zealand this year as it has done in former times

There is every evidence however of a big field starting in the great Fleming-event in Melbourne, and judging from the news received here the race should result as follows:—

Loyalty	1
Portsea	2
The Admiral	3

Sainfoin, The Jeweller, and Malvolio are liable to be troublesome though, and may upset the pot.

One of the most important events that have taken place in Wellington athletics lately, has been the formation of the local



MR. T. R. ELLISON.

ton, so that they had better "sit up" when they see a critical-looking oarsman pattering about the harbour in a little cedar dingy. It is our intention to pick out the duffers and stir up the "coaches" a bit. We may overlook some points, but we will see enough to expose some of the weak spots in the passing crews. It is to be hoped that our criticisms will