was removed from his solitary abode, looking more like a cart horse than a thoroughbred, but perfectly sound. Though given a thorough preparation, Reugny looked lusty, and on the day previous to the race a well known breeder of horses who saw Mr Richardson riding him in a gallop expressed himself to the effect that he never saw an animal that was at all fit look so big. On this occasion the going was the reverse of heavy. By skilful riding, Mr Richardson managed to avoid the crowd, and when he jumped on to the racecourse found that only Merlin and Chimney Sweep had the least chance of beating him. So leg-weary was Reugny that he rolled about alarmingly, and upon reaching the last fence did not attempt to rise at it. In some manner he crashed through the obstacle, nearly falling on the landing side, a calamity which was avoided by the rider's superb horsemanship. Though dead beat, Reugny was not in worse case than his opponents, and, struggling gamely on, he won by half a dozen lengths.—Exchange.

Thus the "Daily Express":—A remarkable instance of a premonition being justified was the accident which happened to Hardy, the jockey, at Northampton. He had dreaded that some ill-fate would befall him if he attended the race meeting. Unfortunately, others were also injured who appear to have had no such warning. Hardy, who was riding Traitress, had the inside berth in the race for the Kelmarsh Plate, and the danger point for him proved to be the awkward curve close to the spot where S. Loates broke his thigh in the autumn of 1901. Traitress slipped, and in its struggle turned a somersault over the rails, falling among the people. Hardy was left lying unconscious on the course. The horse, regaining its feet, began careering in the crowd, and a wild stampede ensued. The people scampered away in all directions, but Traitress, who was dashing along at almost racing speed, knocked down several persons and perambulators before being caught. Four persons were taken to the hospital, and other victims were treated at neighbouring surgeries. One man, on whom the horse fell, had his ribs broken. Hardy regained consciousness at the hospital, where it was found that he had sustained a simple fracture of the right thigh, and that his other leg was badly bruised. Kempton Cannon, who rode alongside Hardy and won the race, said that personally he doubted whether the course was fit to ride upon that day. By a coincidence, Hardy's younger brother, who is also a jockey, is also laid up in Newmarket Hospital with an injured thigh.

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AUCKLAND RACING CLUB.

GREAT NORTHERN STEEPLECHASE MEETING.

The Auckland Racing Club's Great Northern Hurdle and Steeplechase Meeting commenced on Friday, Prince of Wales' Birthday, as only a race meeting which had been immediately preceded by variable weather of the worst possible sample could. With frost, sea fog, rain, hail, gales, thunder, lightning, and little sunshine, all wafted to us in the short space of a few hours, sufficiently distressing influences may be said to have been at work to cause the best planned and most promising of meetings to fall far short of the highest expectations. Much was anticipated a few days before the opening of the three days' campaign, but the weather with its kaleidoscope-like changes was simply cruel, and must have caused hundreds of people who had intended being present to remain away, some perforce being unable to reach the scene through stress of weather. As might have been expected under the circumstances, the racecourse was in a heavy, sloppy condition, though when the business of the day commenced, covered with a fine, clean green sward which speedily became cut up and wore a different complexion as the day's doings were brought to a close. Had the meeting come only a few days earlier, racegoers would have found the race grounds in perfect order, and the enclosures, which never looked so nice at this season of the year, most inviting. As it was, the lawn and paddock were too damp and wet under foot to be pleasant, even to those who had gone there well prepared, and what else could happen when matters overhead were so persistently bad? It was a very tough sample of winter weather, even for Auckland at its worst, and as a consequence the Auckland Racing Club, horseowners, and the public were sufferers, and the racing was divested of a lot of interest and dash which is usual at these gatherings when people can get about. The wet day was bad enough, but the cold that accompanied it was what most people complained of. The totalisator investments fell short of the opening day of last year by £938, which is not surprising considering the surrounding circumstances. The total investments amounted to £8175. The management was all that could be wished. The starting of Mr O'Connor was satisfactory, as also the judging of Mr Lusk. The catering was carried out in Mr King's usual style.

The field for the opening event, the Maiden Steeplechase, was reduced by two, Lady Bell and Kuranui being withdrawn during the morning, leaving half a dozen runners, of whom Moccasin was made favourite on the totalisator. Comfort was nearly as well backed through the same agency, however, and was a decided favourite in the bookmakers' ranks. The totalisator pool, however, was a small one, many people not having reached the course from the city owing to a long delay in transit, quite an hour being occupied on the journey for some reason, annoying to those who went out by it. A lot of money was probably shut out through this, though the rain no doubt sent many into shelter quarters from which they did not venture. Comfort looked well; indeed, each of the runners with the exception of Peter Simple stripped in good case, and old Klatere, who has been in J. Rae's hands for some time past, never looked better. With the exception of Eclair, who ran behind his field for a circuit, all the horses kept pretty well together until the old water jump was crossed for the first time, and then Eclair, making up his ground fast, was taken to the front and remained there till the hill was being descended for the second and last time, when he was caught by Klatere and dropped back again. Comfort, when apparently going well on the hill, slipped on landing and fell at the first fence, but Lind, who has had more than his share of falls lately, was not injured. The jumping all through, with this exception, was good. Klatere, who is a son of imported Castor and that sterling mare Victoria thrice placed in the Auckland Cup, won in good style by several lengths, Moccasin failing to get up when an effort was asked of him on the home stretch, the going evidently hampering him; while Star was some length off. Klatere's friends got the nice dividend of £6 6/.

There were a dozen runners for the Maiden Welter Handicap, Roseshield, Lady Hune, and Waikato being equally favoured. Woodmount and Sergius were next in favour, also well supported. A surprise was in store, as the Strowan gelding Calle Iris, who claims Opaque (a daughter of Kalo and the Dainty Ariel mare May Moon) as his dam, winning practically from end to end, and in a decisive manner at that, from Lady Hune, who had Woodmount handy in third place finishing well. Roseshield ran into fourth place, and Waikato, who might have done better had he been ridden out, was next. The dividend, £15 11/6, on Calle Iris was participated in by some North Shore folks, where the gelding was trained. Mr Nasmith, of Gisborne, bred the winner, who has some pace and is useful in the company he found himself, if not first-class. Calle Iris should make a jumper; his grandmother, May Moon, was a clever little mare whom old-time racegoers will remember when she carried the colours of Mr O. C. McGee, of Otahuhu, successfully.

Then came the big event of the day—the Great Northern Hurdle Race Handicap, for which a baker's dozen—unlucky number—were saddled, and a very fine field they comprised, and the best half of the lot were very fit horses. The top weight, Waiwera, at once arrested the eye when on parade for his shapely substantial proportions, a solid looking horse he is, and he had justly earned his impost, not, however, on any of his displays at Ellerslie, for he has invariably run badly on our right handed course, and this for the reason that the going has always been heavy when he has visited the north. The people know his failing, and Waiwera went out at a longer price than ever he was known to do before at Ellerslie. It is indeed a long time since he carried so little public money; as a matter of fact, he started at over 60 to 1. Spulpeen, who was known to be manifestly unfit by his track showings, and betrayed his want of form by sweating profusely before he went to the post, was fairly well supported, but both he and Waiwera finished behind the field. Up-to-Date, the next in the matter of weight, looked, and no doubt was, very fit, and was so soundly supported that he was sent out so well backed as to be carrying only £30 less money on the totalisators than Roseshoot, the favourite, and exactly £90 more than Haydn, who had strong backing from the right quarter; indeed, Roseshoot, Up-to-Date, and Haydn had over one half the totalisator investments placed upon their chances. Up-to-Date ran a very good race, and Haydn, who was very fit, did who I expected to hold his own with Mr Roulston's gelding, acquitted himself quite as well as I had anticipated; but Roseshoot, who had quite a commanding appearance for a young horse, and whose condition could not be found fault with, put himself out of court through jumping his rider off at the second hurdle, the only mistake made. Thirteen starters, and 13 was Roseshoot's unlucky number. Slow Tom, short of a gallop or two, otherwise was well, and ran and finished well until he got tired, but he for once in a way found something to gallop and jump as fast as himself, and this was Hautapu, who jumped as well as ever, and looked as well as ever I have seen him, and lasted a bit longer than many expected. Mars, the ancient of the field, was looking as fresh as a two-year-old, nice in his coat, and muscular withal. Princess of Thule did not look equal to the task before her, and was perhaps tighter in flesh than usual. Ranana looks as uncommon in appearance as they are made, for he is so hollow backed that a large amount of padding has to be used under the saddle. He has a plain head, and though he presented a more fit and less sore appearance than at Wanganui, it is possible may be improved. Aka Aka was turned out by C. Weal in condition that did him credit. This gelding has gradually raced into form, and as he revelled in the dirt at Wanganui, and ran two such good races there, it is hard to conceive how people came to support Haydn in preference. I was all along satisfied, and stated so, that he would hold safe all the horses he met at Wanganui, but I felt just as certain that Roseshoot held him as safe as he held others. This, of course, may be called the after game, but Wanganui form was born out by the running of Aka Aka, Haydn, Ranana, and Waiwera, and why should it not have been in Roseshoot's case. There is no doubt that Aka Aka acts well in soft going; there is a suspicion that Roseshoot, who was beaten at Ellerslie last year in the Bracelet, does not. Flat racing is one thing; hurdle racing another. Roseshoot was unlucky, and we can leave it at that. Hippowai was very fit indeed, the day was against him, and he ran a rattling good race, his weight helping him through into third place, though he was always prominent. Frances Lovejoy ran well as long as her condition lasted, and was well up to the turn for home, but Aka Aka really had the race won three furlongs from home, and came home full of running. Aka Aka comes of a good family, having the St. Leger, Musket, Dainty Ariel, and Painter blood, and his grand dam, Mystery, was a good performer in her time. Mr Kidd, his owner, bred Aka Aka, who is an improving horse.

There were eight competitors for the Maiden Hurdle Race Handicap. St. Rowan, who has been racing in similar contests here about for several years being made a rather better favourite than Glasgow. Medallius, Morpeth, and Lady Raven, each of which had good followings, Cavalry, and Leona being the outsiders. St. Rowan raced at the head of affairs with Cavalry, who did not jump nearly so well, but galloped the freer between the hurdles, and as two of the hurdles in the last five furlongs were down, had no trouble in disposing of the opposition of Glasgow, who was the only one to make the semblance of a race with the son of Light Artillery in the run from the bottom of the straight, along which the horses were stretched out at intervals, headed by Medallius. Backers of Cavalry received the nice dividend of £15 2/6. The jumping of most of the starters was anything but good, and no wonder, for the ground was considerably cut up by the runners in previous events.

There were no fewer than eighteen runners for the Cornwall Handicap, and Mr O'Connor had a lot of trouble in getting the field in order, and the start as far as could be judged when they came in sight after going a few chains was strung out, with Newtown at the head and Zuleika at the tail of the field. Newtown, indeed, led until the last stride, where Durable got through, and made a dead heat of it. At the business end there were several that were running prominently, notably Geordie, Geologist, Tukapa, Putty, and Float, and Geologist seemed to have a bit of bad luck in the home run. Newtown is a full brother to that good mare Lottie, and keeps on improving, while Durable invariably races well in soft going, and he ran a surprisingly good race, finishing well under pressure. The field for the Selling Steeplechase was reduced to a match, and there was little or no speculation on the event. It was an interesting race all the same, and Marlue outstayed Mangamahaki, and won by half a dozen lengths. Going along the back and up the hill for the last time, Mangamahaki went to the front, and the effort seemed to tire him, as he then compounded. Lady Hune, nicely handled by Mr Paul, after an interesting race to the Derby Stand, won the Ladies' Bracelet by several lengths.

The following are the details of the racing:—

MAIDEN STEEPLECHASE HANDICAP of 100sovs. Distance, about 2¼ miles.

67—Mr Sam Darragh's b g Klatere, aged, 11.4 (Howard) 1
146—Mr W. Morgan's br g Moccasin, 6yrs, 10.8 (Quinton) 2
71—Mr Norman Banks' br g Star, 6yrs, 10.12 (Selby) 3

Also ran: 117, Comfort; 70, Eclair; 29, Peter Simple. Lady Bill and Kuranui were scratched.

Peter Simple was first to show out, and he showed the way up the hill, the order being Peter Simple, Moccasin, Klatere, Eclair, and Comfort. On the level the field was all together, and there was no material difference until they jumped the old water jump, when Eclair rushed to the front and showed the way along the back. At the hill he came away from Peter Simple and Klatere, with Comfort and Moccasin last. Eclair was still in front as they jumped the second fence on the hill, but Klatere took them on as they raced on, and was first in the straight. He had two lengths' advantage as they jumped the last hurdle, and throwing off the challenge by Moccasin, won easily by two lengths, Star five lengths further back third. Time, 4.54. Dividends, £6 6/ and £6 10/. Comfort fell at the first fence on the top of the hill on the last time round.

MAIDEN WELTER HANDICAP of 100 sovs. Seven furlongs.

56—Mr C. Manning's Calle Iris, 9.10 (owner) 1
107—Mr A. Ludlow's Lady Hune, 10.0 (Cross) 2
129—Mr T. W. Armitage's Woodmount, 10.0 (Stuart) 3

Also started: 168, Rose Shield, 10.5; 117, Sergius, 10.2; 167, Waikato, 10.0; 77, Stepney, 9.7; 17, Sir Gilead, 9.5; 59, Certainty, 9.5; 32, Lady Lottie, 9.0; 57, Lallah Rookh, 9.0; 81, Albuera, 9.0.

Lallah Rookh turned round when the barrier went up, the others getting away on even terms. Calle Iris was quickly upon her feet, and, passing the six furlong post, had half a length advantage of Waikato, after which came Lady Hune and Stepney. Calle Iris was still in the lead as the field entered the cutting two lengths in front of Lady Hune, which was a similar distance in front of Woodmount, with Waikato fourth. Calle Iris was first into the straight, and, drawing away from the field, won easily by three lengths from Lady Hune, which was a head in front of Woodmount. Roseshoot was fourth and Waikato fifth. Time, 1.35. Dividends, £13 11/ and £1 10/.

GREAT NORTHERN HURDLE RACE of 500sovs. Distance, 2¼ miles.

129—Mr A. J. Kidd's Aka Aka, 9.10 (O'Connell) 1
338—Messrs Maranamein and Davis' Haydn, 11.0 (Fergus) 2
117—Mr J. Reginald's Hippowai, 9.2 (McGregor) 3

Also started: 30, Waiwera, 12.4; 138, Spulpeen, 12.2; 398, Up-to-Date, 11.10; 113, Slow Tom, 11.0; 56, Mars, 10.9; 81, Princess of Thule, 10.3; 132, Hautapu, 10.0; 67, Ranana, 9.10; 398, Roseshoot, 9.10; 39, Glasgow, 9.7; 39, Frances Lovejoy.

The field were dispatched to a splendid start, Hautapu was first to show out, and was followed by Slow Tom, Francis Lovejoy and Hippowai, the others being abreast. Hippowai was still in front at the second fence, which Roseshoot struck, and unseated his rider. Going through the cutting, Hautapu was still leading, Slow Tom, Frances Lovejoy, and Up-to-Date following in that order. As they raced down the straight, passing the stand the order was: Hautapu, Frances Lovejoy, Hippowai, Slow Tom, Up-to-Date, Aka Aka, Mars, and they passed the seven furlong post with the positions unchanged. At the next hurdle Hautapu still had charge, Hippowai and Frances Lovejoy were making a forward move, Waiwera last, going through the cutting, and passing the half-mile post Hautapu had half a length advantage of Hippowai. Then came Aka Aka, Up-to-Date, and Haydn. At the last hurdle Aka Aka and Hippowai were together, and ahead of Hautapu, Up-to-Date, and Haydn. When finally in a line for home Aka Aka drew out from the field and won easily by two lengths from Haydn, which was under punishment a long way from home, with Hippowai three lengths off third, Ranana, Up-to-date, and Frances Lovejoy following in that order. Time 4.32 4-5. Dividends—£10 15/ and £1 17/.

MAIDEN HURDLE RACE of 100sovs. Distance, 1¼ mile.

44—Mr A. Champion's Cavalry, 10.0 (McGregor) 1
155—Mr R. Hannon's Glasgow, 10.0 (Quinton) 2
155—Mr G. Omga's Medallius, 9.7 (Delaney) 3

Also started: 186, St. Rowan, 10.3; 159, Morpeth, 10.0; 104, Rother, 10.0; 145, Lady Raven, 9.10.

Cavalry and St. Rowan were quickest to the first fence, and St. Rowan jumped to the front on entering the straight. After them came Lady Raven and Glasgow. Passing the stand St. Rowan was still in the lead. Going out of the straight Cavalry was on terms with St. Rowan, and passing the seven-furlong post Cavalry had a length's advantage, Lady Raven third, 10 lengths ahead of Glasgow. At the hurdle at the six-furlong post Cavalry made a faulty jump, and St. Rowan was again in the lead, but Cavalry took command as they went through the cutting, where Glasgow ran up to third position. Cavalry still had charge as they raced across the bottom stretch, and although Glasgow made desperate efforts to get on terms it was of no avail, as Cavalry easily held his lead, winning by a length. Medallius three lengths away third. Time, 3.34 2-5. Dividends, £15 2/6 and £1 6/6.

CORNWALL HANDICAP of 300sovs; second horse 50sovs, third 25sovs. One mile.

53—J. George's br g Durable, 5yrs, by Sylvia Park—Durus, 11.2 (George) 1
187—A. Ludlow's b g Newtown, aged, by Muskapeer—Ladybird, 9.12 (Cross) 2
132—T. A. Williams' b g Geologist, 9.7 (Deeley) 3

Also ran: 78, Scotty, 11.2; Ryan; 242, Float, 10.12, Davis; 85, Miss Lottie, 10.10, Ring; 53, Dolores, 10.5, Jellings; 347, Putty, 10.2, Julian; 179, Zuleika, 9.12, Quinton; 191, Geordie, 10.0, Bird; 69, St. Olga, 9.10, Chaafe; 147, Hinekoa, 9.10, Howie; 327, Marshal Soult, 9.8, Abbott; 63, Solo, 9.7, McLeod; 54, Tukapa, 9.3, Cochrane; 17, Jack Brown, 9.2, White; 31, Yulette, 9.0, Secats; 17, Albuera, 9.0, Speakman.

Marshal Soult and Float caused a lot of delay at the post. When the field came in sight Albuera was in the lead, two lengths in front of Tukapa; then came Durable and Solo, with the rest of the field strung out. Albuera had a slight advantage of Newtown as they raced through the cutting, Geordie being third, just in front of Durable. Passing the half-mile post Newtown was in the lead, and he showed the way across the bottom stretch, the others all together close up. Entering the straight

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