



TURF NOTES.

Simple Simon has been added to the list. The three-year-old colt Dardanus is now in the hands of K. Heaton's stable.

Dudlemona is in work again at Ellerslie. She is still an inmate of C. Went's stable.

The latest listing on the Cambridge Grand National Turf Club is 6 to 1 Adjuster, 7 to 1 York, 10 to 1 Gladys.

Maturra, which was sold very cheaply at auction last Friday, has gone into A. Morrow's charge.

The name of Lady Frances has been claimed for the two-year-old filly by Eton—Gwendoline in K. Heaton's stable.

J. R. Williamson has taken the new three-year-old Peregrine in hand again, after a spell of about six months.

Waimaru, by Explosion—Stupfast, which is now four years old, is again in work at Ellerslie. She has gone into C. Went's charge.

The Intimation appears in the English Racing Calendar that a temporary license to ride under Rules of Racing has been granted to John Hill.

The crack English filly, Betty Polly, strained the muscles of her back just before the Ascot Gold Cup, and had to be withdrawn from that event.

There is a great scarcity of light weight boys at present, and several of the trainers about Auckland have openings for boys up to about seven stone.

A. Blachford has Agrippus and Imagination in work at Epsom. The latter is jumping well, and should make a useful horse at the illegitimate game.

The six-year-old mare, Zochawa, by Lechnag—Victoria, was disposed of at auction last Friday by the N.Z. Loan and Mercantile Co. for 200s. Messrs Brown Bros. of Tauranga, were the purchasers.

Sold, which has been included in a spell for about six months, was brought from the Waikato on Thursday, and is again in work at Ellerslie. He is still an inmate of C. Coleman's stable.

The three-year-old colt Hira, by Cyrenian, has gone into H. French's stable at Papakura. French has also taken in hand the new two-year-old half brother to Lady Annie, by Cyrenian—Miss Annie.

The ex-New Zealand steeplechaser Up to Date has been suffering from a severe attack of rheumatism. At latest advices, Mr Lyons' gelding was reported to have pretty well shaken it off.

Chiragra was given a turn over the hurdles at Ellerslie on Thursday morning. Considering that he was alone and has not had a jump since the A.R.C. winter meeting, he shaped satisfactorily.

Old Waiwera is striding along in good style in his work at Taranaki, and he is reported to have had much the best of Dumbie in a gallop of two miles over hurdles on the New Plymouth course last Wednesday.

At Ellerslie, last week, Frank Duff, Topaz, Maska, and the grey mare in Motherly's stable, were given a turn over the schooling hurdles. The quartette jumped well, the first pair showing to most advantage.

Mr B. Armitage has disposed of the stallion Gordon Rouge, by South—Lady Emmeline, to Mr Glen, of Taranaki. The price paid for the horse was 200s. Gordon Rouge was shipped to his new home by the Tairāwhiti last Sunday.

While schooling at Ellerslie last Saturday in company with two others of J. B. Williamson's string, the South-western gelding Brighton hit a hurdle and came down, sliding high under the wing of the fence. Fortunately, neither the horse nor his rider (D. Wright) were hurt.

Mr W. Lyons, the well known Auckland pinner, was beaten in the second round by Sydney Tattersall's Club Tournament by the favourite, E. J. Thob, Booth was on the long mark of 75, while Lyons was 55 points in search. Thob won by three points, but according to all accounts, Lyons was unlucky to lose.

W. O'Connell, the well known Auckland horseman, has sold a magnificent four-year-old gelding, which he will be discharged from the Wellington Hospital, and returned to Auckland on Thursday. It will be some little time before he will be able to ride. In O'Connell's absence, J. McGeoghegan will have the mount on Cavalry in the C.J.C. National Handicap.

The President of the French Republic and Madame Loubet were present at a trotting meeting at St. Cloud recently, and evinced great interest in the proceedings. Mr Lapiro was well received by those present. Mr Gavignani, Cyrano, driven by Gardy, covered the distance of a mile and six furlongs in 4m 10.45s, winning 2000 francs. The President had all the details explained to him, and he was pleased to attend the gathering at Maison Latitte.

The Rochdale (English) Press Library Committee recently heard the views of a draughtman, mostly a foreigner who urged the "blotting out" of betting news as all descriptions. The committee concluded that the room was not used extensively by betting men, and that therefore no great inconvenience was caused to the ordinary reader. No decision was come to by the matter.

J. R. Williamson, the well known Ellerslie trainer, returned from his visit South during the week, bringing back with him four blood mares belonging to Mr G. Curle and Mr C. F. Moore, of Wanganui. Three of the mares, which are South, and one called Southan. Those that go to South are Ma Mlle Rosette, by Trenton—Bouffe Rosette; Billings, by Paul—Stall—Linda; and Vain, by Saul—Wester—Vain. Nicole, by Lord of the Isles—Lancelot, goes to Southan.

Tom Sloan says an exchange has been riding with some success in Kansas. He still has hopes of being allowed to ride in the States in the West, and is planning to win with six of his mounts. He claims to be in tip-top condition, and believes he could ride as well as ever he did if given a good opportunity. "I am through with the States," he said, "only want there at the solicitation of Mr Corrigan, and there was no contract, as was reported. The American Turf Association seems to have all the best of the field in the West."

A certain English handiapper once treated of an animal that had been carefully "road fed" for a back-end handicap in an exceedingly prudent manner, with the result that the animal won the race in this event. About a week after the event had been decided the weight-adjuster received an anonymous present of a full-sized brass helmet, a complete set of leading, and a nightgown, to which was attached an envelope. First thoughts naturally were of a cheque or bank-note, but it only contained a slip of paper, with "You don't want no hally sleeping draught" inscribed upon it.

Lord Rosebery, in honour of his Derby success, gave a display of fireworks in his grounds at the Dudmans, Epsom. The chief attraction was a pair of Great Balls, of a realistic design of immense proportions, the dimensions being 20 feet by 25 feet. Over the horse were the words "Well run," and underneath were figures showing the time in hours and minutes for the race. There were a number of other splendid set pieces, including one representing a motor car race. There was a large crowd present at the display, composed principally of townsmen, and Queen's owner had a great reputation.

J. Nolan, a capable apprentice jockey who rode a very fine race on Auckland with the name of Nolan, and who is now in Southland, has, I hear, left Epsom for New Zealand under a six months' engagement to ride for Mr Palmer. Nolan's weight is about 100 lbs, and he has been somewhat of a success in his work. He has many opportunities of distinguishing himself as his lighter contemporaries, but he has shown himself to be a fine horseman, strong, determined, and a good judge of his work. He is, however, a very judicious rider, and is to be "sneered at," says, indeed, that Nolan is the best boy he has ever had under him. And he has had a few through his hands. Well, Nolan could not be too good, he was met with some W. Nightingale, and he comes of a blood stock, for his father was a leading cross-country jockey 20 years ago.

There are twenty-four blood mares at Cambridge Park, and one of which boasts a fine racing pedigree. Owing to the sale last year, a number of the mares were not served, but most of those that were are undoubtedly in foal. Those that are expected to add to the string this year are: Whitnall, in foal to South, and rebulls South; Golf, in foal to Eton, and rebulls Eton; Lawwood, in foal to Eton, and rebulls Eton; Peace, in foal to Eton, and rebulls Eton; Red, in foal to Eton, and rebulls Eton; Songa, in foal to Eton, and rebulls Eton; Companion, in foal to Eton, and rebulls Eton. Of the others, Anna, Miss Annie, Alf's Well, The Bell, and Broughton are the best. They are mated with some W. Nightingale, and he comes of a blood stock, for his father was a leading cross-country jockey 20 years ago.

According to an American exchange, an anti-gambling law was to have come into effect at the St. Louis race tracks on June 30. This law was intended to follow a number of bets, but has no penalty for the man who "makes" the bet. The law was aimed at

the bookmakers. Someone told the Legislature that by doing away with the bookmaker, the bookmakers would be put out of business. However, the booksellers they have found a way out, and their scheme is to have been given a trial at Dublin last month. Under this new system the bettor writes his own ticket, places it on a book corresponding to the number of the horse on which he bets. After the race the cashier pays off in the usual way. The only written evidence that a bet has been made is the memorandum made by the bettor. The bookmaker works without a pencil. He makes no data for the officers to work on. If there is anyone arrested it will probably be the patrons who bet, and as the law intended to operate on the bookmaker, it is not likely it will be invoked against patrons.

"Vigilant," the English writer, pens the following: With great trainers, who have had many good horses under their charge, they have often expressed varying opinions as to which was absolutely the best. I know a great many of them, and one of the number there are two or three experts whose opinions I am always anxious to obtain. One of them, a most distinguished and successful trainer, met me last Wednesday. "I hope you are winning," he kindly observed, and I replied that bookmakers still appeared to observe my approach with equanimity—I had not done anything since then—and it seemed a tricky card. "Oh, no!" he said, "Everything is laid out today! You can't go wrong! The first race is a bit different, for it must be a near thing between Thimble and Whistling Cross; but the others are simple. Chiron, Sir Daniel, if his trial is all right, Costly Lady a good thing—any Turkish, a still better. They fancy Rouge Prody, too, and of course, Lilly will be the best race of the race. This is a real 'backers' day!" If the man who is a true maker of these remarks had been correct, I would give his name; as he was wrong in five cases out of six, I will, however, be mentioned started a hot favourite, and one out of the half dozen justified expectation.

To give a horse a "bucket" previous to taking part in a race is popularly supposed to be an effective and inexpensive method of creating a "sweat" and, although there is a tale on record of two horses not having the desired effect, this is one of the exceptions that help to prove the rule. On the morning of the Derby, Ransom, the trainer of Bay Middleton, was busy attending to the horse's mane he suddenly beheld him of a better comb in the next box, and said "Bay" was by no means a fractious animal, Ransom did not scruple to leave him for a few moments. The desired article secured, the trainer hurried back to the stable, but on reaching the horse's head he stopped as though shot—water was dripping from his forehead. "What a nasty chance found for the man who had 'slobbered' his charge, Ransom was about to give an alarm, when he

thought to look at the poll of water he had been using to bring the horse's legs—It was almost empty, the rest stuck fast, soaked by this discovery quite amused the trainer, who, however, informed his portion of the mishap directly the thirsty cap was done up. On leaving the newsmongers of the owner, promptly indignantly rebuffed, though the latter renege to loyal to his horse, who, even with its water penalty, managed to secure the Derby on a little, he said, to Ransom's credit.

Betting on the C.J.C. Grand National Double has been pretty brisk during the week. The following business is reported:

Table listing betting amounts and names of horses and trainers, such as 500 to 50, Kintore Cavalry, 1000 to 12, Kintore Herodias, etc.

In writing of the recent big meeting at Ascot recently the English writer "Rapid" writes the following: At one of my clubs there is a copy of the old "Sporting Magazine," and it occurred to me that it would be interesting to look back a century and note what happened at Ascot in the year of 1805. There was no "Gold Cup" given to-day with 25000s in prize (in addition); no Coronation or St. James' Palace Stakes of 10000s each, left, with 500 added nothing of that sort; indeed, the prizes were very small. On the opening day, Tuesday, June 18th, the first item on the card was a "Sweepstake" of 10 guineas each, 25 guineas added from the Fund, for four-year-olds, 750 lbs; five-year-olds, 850 lbs; six-year-olds, 950 lbs, and aged, 950 lbs. Mares allowed 40 lbs. The winner to be sold for 200 guineas if demanded. Two miles and a half. Twelve subscribers; and it fell to Mr W. Fenwick's lot, Miss Colner, by Don Quixote. Then came another sweepstake of the same value, for three-year-olds, the winner of the Derby or the Oaks carrying 70 lbs extra; and the winner of the Oaks took it. This was Lord Grosvenor's Marengo, who bore animals belonging to Sir F. Standish, Mr Ludbrook, H.R.H. the Duke of York, Mr Watson, Lord Egremont, who had won the Derby that year with Hambleton. His Marengo's Plate of 100 guineas for hunters; four-year-olds, 1st 120; five-year-olds, 1st 90; six-year-olds, 1st 120; and aged, 12st, followed, run in four-mile races. Three matches were included, but in one of them an owner received compromise. In another I read, "Mr Hyde's lot, Little Colner, 3 years old, 12 hands 3in, a fifth, beat Mr Pease's lot or Forest Lady, 3 years old, 12 hands 4in, 7st 7lb. Course not mentioned. First Lady listed."

On the Wednesday there is record of only one race, surely there must have been others, perhaps they were small affairs that did not seem worth mention? This

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