

Hacking Club Handicap.—Capulet 1, Barea 2, Submarine 3, Scarbech, Tomaroug, Fancy work, for the first time, the mare was supplied by Barea, who held the lead until Capulet came with a great run and won without the whip. Submarine was a good third. Time, 1:57 1-4. Dividends, 21/8 and 17/4.

Mangrove Welter Hack Handicap.—Moloch 1, Oryx 2, Climax 3, Scarbech, Moral, St. Ludlow, Sherlock, Holmes. Time, 1:48 1-5. Dividends, 28/6 and 21/4.

Maiden Hack Stew.—Trial 1, Rosewood 2, Sherlock Holmes 3, Scarbech, Crystal, Maltri, Tibb, Lomacia. Won by a neck. Time, 2:25. Dividends, 12/5 and 11/10.

Grandstand Welter Handicap (Open).—Ladylike 1, Dullemea 2, Tambourin 3, Scarbech, Kudu, Fannywork, Bounce. Won by a length. Time, 1:29 4-5. Dividends, 24/8 and 14/4.

N.Z. Metropolitan Trotting Club's Meeting.

CHRISTCHURCH, Saturday.

The New Zealand Metropolitan Trotting Club's February meeting was concluded at Addington to-day. The weather was fine, and the attendance was the best ever for an excellent. The totalisator investments amounted to £6117 10/. The results are as follows:—

Improvers' Handicap of 800yds. one mile and a half.—Terra Nova, 11s. 1; Kerrwood, 7s. Woodbury, 12s. 2. Time, 3:45 1/2. Dividends, £3 18/ and 12/.

Ladies' Bracelet of 600yds. one mile and a half.—Master Leo, 12s. 1; Sweet Nell, 13s. 2; Derrigoville, 5s. 3. Won by a length. Time, 4:7. Dividends, 24/6 and 21/12.

Zealandia Handicap of 2100yds. two miles.—The Needle, 3s. 1; Marston, 4s. 2; Yerah, 1s. 3. Won by two lengths. Time, 4:47 1-5. Dividends, £4 6/ and 21/10.

Southern Handicap of 800yds. two miles.—Kerrwood, 18s. 1; Transvaal, 15s. 2; Brown Ribbion, 12s. 3. Time, 5:12. Dividends, £1 18/ and £1 18/.

Summer Handicap of 800yds. two miles.—Whidower, 2s. 1; Blarney, 13s. 2; Master Duddle, 13s. 3. Time, 4:38. Dividends, 24/8 and £1 18/.

Councillors' Handicap of 1000yds. two miles.—Vanciare, 8s. 1; Sir Joe, 11s. 2; Victor Huon, 14s. 3. Time, 4:54. Dividends, 63/2 and £1 8/.

Sportsmen's Handicap of 600yds. one mile.—Yestina, 3s. 1; Vartoff, 6s. 2; Cockatoo, scratch 3. Time, 2:22. Dividends, 26/8 and £1 14/.

Final Handicap of 1000yds. one mile.—Lily C, 8s. 1; The Hair, 2s. and Ingelwood, 2s. 2. Won by three lengths. Time, 2:22. Dividends, 25/12 and £3 12/.

The Hair, £1 2/; Ingelwood, £3 10/.

TURF TALK FROM THE SOUTH.

CHRISTCHURCH, this day.

Although the weather is still patchy, it never remains settled for long, and though no rain has fallen this week, the tracks at Riccarton are in good order.

The season's DeLaval filly, Becky Beaton, has visited Fallis this season.

Vladimir, leg filled after the Wellington Cup. The injury was not serious, however, and on latest advice the son of Stovrak was practically sound again.

A Southern writer states that a few months ago an inquiry after Sirrough led to the reply that £2000 was required for the horse. The sum was many people in this part of the country who would give half this sum for the erratic son of Clauwaid.

The Dunedin Jockey Club has endorsed the disqualification for three months imposed by the Farmers' Club on the New Zealand Club on D. King for four riding at the latter club's recent meeting.

Although we are within a week of the Canterbury Jockey Club's summer meeting, Riccarton is very dull. There are but a few local horses engaged; still, judging from the acceptance list, we are promised fairly large fields in most of the events, and on the whole an interesting and sporting little meeting. I shall have an opportunity in my next letter to make my final selection, but in the meantime it seems to me that the Midsummer Handicap will be a struggle between Conroy, Makaroff, and the Great. The latter named did a good gallop over a mile on Thursday morning, and Makaroff really executed one over seven furlongs. If the latter were more trustworthy, I should feel inclined to pump for him outright. As Conroy has not arrived yet it is impossible to write positively regarding his condition. I fear that he is upon the worse for his recent mishap and if that is the case, he has only to be in the right humour to be exceedingly dangerous. Tirole has been absent from the course for the last two mornings, and he and his stable companion Cavalry are said to be suffering from influenza, with which they are both afflicted. With Conroy and Cavalry absent from the course for the last two mornings, and the Midsummer Handicap, which as usual nobody knows his intentions, and therefore the only one which you wish the pair will represent him. I fancy it will be the Connelors. No less than thirteen two and three-year-old fillies have accepted for the Filly Stakes of the Riccarton-tracked. Not nothing is to be said for them. The handicapper for the minor events to be decided on the first day of the meeting made their appearance on Thursday. Master Alix has caught it hot in the Green Plate, and he will have all his work to do to concede it to Makaroff, if the latter is entered for the race, and able to

Clanchattan, Conroy. I take it, will start for the Midsummer Handicap, and the latter may run the distance beyond him. Zealand has a nice racing weight. Badly though he ran at Wellington, Ivanoff should account for the Lyttelton Plate, in which he may encounter stout opposition from Lapland and De Wette. Ripplander, Baccarie, The Mohican, Regatta, and Antique should between them furnish the winner of the Hornby Welter Handicap.

Let us only hope to meet his more able opponents in the Howse Welter Handicap.

Menshikoff was shipped to Melbourne by the Maheno yesterday.

Mr E. D. Clarke, owner of Emir, who has been paying a visit to Canterbury on a touring expedition, has left on his return to Melbourne.

(By Telegraph.—Special to "Graphic.")

CHRISTCHURCH, Monday.

The weather will have to improve a great deal to be fine for the Canterbury Jockey Club's Summer Meeting. It has been unsettled for the greater part of a month past, and on Sunday it was quite winter. On Monday the weather cleared again, but I shall be surprised if it remains fine over the meeting. The gathering is creating little interest outside local sporting circles. The polo ground is the seat of the force, and many people who make a practice of being present at the Spring, Autumn, and Grand National Meetings are unaware that a meeting is about to be held. The attendance seldom exceeds a few hundreds, and this year promises to be no exception to the rule.

There is very little fresh to write in the way of a forecast. The horses who are weighted for the Midsummer Handicap have accepted, and the field promises to number eight.

Conroy, who in company with Master Alix and Lady Ludlow reached Riccarton on Friday, looks well, and if he is in the right humour on the first of the horses he is to beat, a similar remark applies to Makaroff and Annie's Child, both of whom have a reputation for roughness. Tirole has been suffering from a cold, which is not likely to improve his chance in the extremely unkindly event of his starting, and Royal Crown is suffering from the effects of a kick administered by his stable companion Terrapin; but Highland Beel, Thunderer, and Quagga, as recent winners, are entitled to a little respect.

The Filly Stakes presents a rather complicated problem. The form of the acceptors is very mixed, and a large proportion of the horses engaged have never met one another. Pas Seo, Hilarity, Canticle, and Lady London are all doing well, and if they fall between them to furnish the winner may be because of the opposition of the "dark cream" with "fancies" and fault to choose from. Mr. Stead would appear to have the Middle Park Plate in safe keeping.

An illustration of happy nomenclature is to be found among the acceptances for the Middle Park Plate, which includes Jack and Pelling by Castshore from Pleasure-seeker.

The South Canterbury Jockey Club will distribute £140 more at its coming Autumn Meeting than it did at the corresponding gathering last year. The principal events are the Finary Cup of 1400yds and the Autumn Handicap of a similar value. The club has also decided to spend £200 on further improvements to the course.

The Riccarton horseman F. Jones, who is at present attached to M. Hobbs' stable, has accepted a retainer of £500 a year to ride for an English stable. It is probable that he will leave New Zealand immediately so as to reach home in time for the opening of the English racing season.

Although the Northerners Marguerite, Petticoat, and Gleanin remain in the Middle Park Plate, they are not expected at Riccarton for the meeting.

Goodman has Master Alix in capital fetters. I have never seen the son of Stepiak look so well.

It is said that Jones' engagement is with Mr Buchanan, the owner of Nocturno, but I doubt if Jones himself knows who he is going home to ride for. A rumour has also been in circulation at Riccarton that H. Franks, who took Nocturno to England, and has been appointed private trainer to Mr Buchanan, but I don't think there is any foundation for it.

Beau Seaton, who has joined J. Frank's team, made his re-appearance at Riccarton on Saturday. This "much-owever" horse is carrying much more condition than when he was here.

The two-year-old Lapland slipped and strained himself while exercising on Thursday. He was able to do a gallop on Saturday, and it is hoped that he will be able to take part in this week's meeting.

W. Clarke has re-commissioned the steep-chaser Korus. The son of Eucrocydon looks in capital fettle.

McClintock put in a re-appearance on the course on Friday. So far she has been restricted to walking, exercise.

The well-known horseman W. Holmes,

who had practically retired, has evidently changed his mind, and has taken service with Mr Mason, under whose care he served his apprenticeship.

The Royal Artillery Billy Turnbull is ailing, and is to be treated to a lengthy spell.

Taggart is breaking in a two-year-old filly by Seat Lario from the Artillery mare Martin.

The Hotchkiss Colt Field Gun, which was lately sent to the Springfield, has resumed work after being bilistered.

On Saturday morning Martin did a capital gallop over six furlongs, cutting out the distance in 1:15 4-8. The son of Martagon is coming on nicely.

The Canterbury Jockey Club has received capital nominations for the Great Autumn and Great Easter Handicaps. With Achilles, Martau, Cuselmore, Machine Gun, Vladimir, and other crack sprinters in the short races, and Martin, Nightfall, Vindicator, Mollid, and a number of others in the Autumn Handicap, there is ample material in both races for interesting contests.

Judging from the proceedings at the annual meeting of members of the Forbury Park Racing Club, members are losing interest in the operations of the club. There was a small attendance, and it was explained that some difficulty was experienced in collecting subscriptions. The club, however, has a credit balance of £50. It is proposed to hold the annual race meeting on March 3rd.

Both selling races at the Manutoto (Otage) annual race meeting last week fell to the Auckland-bred Transport. After his second victory the old son of Curassier was sold for £20 10/. Among the other winners at the meeting was a pair of horses that brilliant filly Bracelet, in the shape of Curiosity, a four-year-old gelding by Curassier (by Curassier-Albatross), from Adulation. Among the unsuccessful division was Cavella, a half-brother by Chajory to the winner. It will be interesting to speculate the doling of his relatives.

Certain Dunedin backers have been operating with such remarkable success on the Auckland pony races that local starting-price bookmakers intend to cease business on these events, and are also for the same reason thinking about cutting off the Avondale and Takapuna meetings.

Mapler Yearling Sales.

NAPIER, Friday.

The annual sale of thoroughbred yearlings from Messrs Douglas, Brose, Te Mahanga Stud, and Mr S. H. Golan's Manatutu Stud, took place at Hastings to-day. There was a good attendance of house buyers, and fair prices were realised for most of the lots. The twelve Manatutu yearlings brought an average of £12s, the filly by the Possible-Primula reaching 100gs, the top price of the day. The four-year-old blue-roaners were disposed of at an average of 61/ guineas, the highest prices being 160gs for a colt by Gold Reef-Nymph, and 135gs for a colt by San Fran-Maud, and consequently half sister to Mahoutou.

The following are particulars of the lots with prices obtained:—Tembuzuga yearlings: Brown filly by Lethe-Rosewater, £1 Bennett, 30gs; bay colt, by San Fran-Ta. £10; Fitzpatrick, Hastings, 25gs; bay filly by San Fran-Klaxton, 20gs; bay filly by Easton North, 54gs; black filly by San Fran-Walkaba, £10; McKenzie, Palmerston North, 62gs; chestnut colt by Gold Reef-Nymph, 3s. £10; MacDonald, Levin, 100gs; brown filly, by San Fran-Admiral, 30gs; Poyzer, Watloo, 40gs; bay colt, by Torpedo-Parlourmaid, Mr A. Woods, 50gs; brown filly by Torpedo-Lady Beys, Hupha Te Hinga, Forerunner, 34gs; bay filly by San Fran-Maud, M. J. Baile, 30gs; brown filly by San Fran-Walpurata, Mr E. Eglinton, Featherston, 45gs; brown colt by Torpedo-Espanola, Mr J. Munn, 40gs; bay colt by San Fran-Amoreux, Mr M. J. Baile, 35gs; chestnut gelding by Advance-Nigato, Mr G. L. Mackenzie, 50gs; brown filly by San Fran-Walau, Mr O. Woodham, 37gs.

Manatutu yearlings: Bay filly by the Possible-Primula, Mr K. Goseman, 190gs; bay filly by Walkaba-Namos, Mr A. L. Fraser, 102gs; bay filly by Walkaba-Violet, Mr W. J. Douglas, 80gs; bay filly by Walkaba-Medora, Mr E. Croase, 60gs; brown filly by Danup-Iphigene, Mr G. A. Woods, 50gs; brown gelding by Te Hanga-Soble-Maid, Marlton, Mr Ruphu Te Hanga, 40gs; brown gelding by Walkaba-Hinecup-Te, Mr S. Pitt, 45gs; bay gelding by Walkaba-Bountie Idea, Mr C. J. Parker, 61gs; chestnut gelding, by Advance, 50gs; chestnut gelding, by Advance, 40gs; chestnut gelding, by Advance, 25gs; chestnut gelding by Danup-Jule, Mr A. L. D. Fraser, 55gs; black or brown gelding by Walkaba-Forloron Hope, Mr E. Goseman, 25gs; bay gelding by Walkaba-Patrick, Mr J. Teed, 40gs.

The Albatotto Stud of the late Mr W. Rathbone, was also disposed of, the top price, 82gs, being obtained for the brood mare Signaller, a winner of the Hawke's Bay Cup, and the Great Autumn Handicap at Riccarton, besides numerous other races.

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MUSIC AND DRAMA.

There is a proposal afoot to erect a memorial stone on the grave of the late "Little Gulliver" at the Southern Cemetery, Dunedin.

The following are the bookings of MacMahon's Dramatic Co.—Theatre Royal, Christchurch, February 17 to March 3; His Majesty's Theatre, Auckland, March 10 to April 12; Theatre Royal, Christchurch, Easter Monday, April 14 to April 28; Opera House, Wellington, May 5 (four weeks).

Chelso gave a street performance while in B.H. with Wills's Circus, though he didn't mean to. He was motoring along the main street with a local hotelkeeper in a trailer behind. Some one threw a dog out of a train Chelso's motor and the dog met. Chelso tore his garments, and was somewhat bruised; the hotelkeeper left part of his face on the roadway; the dog hasn't since been seen.

It is not generally known (says the Otago "Daily Times") that a programme Trust has been formed in connection with the theatres in New Zealand. From the theatre proprietors view-point the venture may be a good one, but from that of the proprietor of the touring company it may not be altogether desirable. Further developments in connection therewith will be interesting.

Mr George Edwardes produced "The Little Cheryl," a musical comedy by Owen Hall and Ivan Caryll, at the Prince of Wales Theatre, London, about a fortnight ago, and Mr J. C. Williamson has already received a cable from his London agent stating that an enormous success had been made by the play. He is now waiting fuller particulars by mail, and if these indicate that the character of the piece insures its acceptance by Australian audiences, he will, of course, secure the Australasian rights in it.

In connection with the above, New Zealand friends of Mr Dampier will be glad to know that Her Majesty's Theatre, Sydney, was en fete when Mr Alfred Dampier took the benefit accorded him prior to his departure. At these benefit performances the public gets a great deal more for its money than it does at an ordinary show, and Friday was no exception to the rule. The Royal Comic Opera Company presented an act of "The Girl from Kays," Mr William Anderson's pantomime company was much in evidence, and several Richardson turns were staged. Also Mr Charles Hollaway presented an act of "The Two Little Vagabonds," the highly emotional drama.

Sir Charles Wyndham, in the Christmas "Pearson's Magazine," tells the following Irving story: "Irving was, of course, the very essence of dignity and

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