

TURF NOTES.

Continued from page 15.

shan's colours on a couple of occasions, and was then sold at auction for £250, afterwards being disposed of to the Wellington Jockey Club for £1000, with considerable success at the Wellington Pony and Galloway meetings, and was afterwards taken to Melbourne for the Richmond Thoroughbred, with the above result.

An English writer remarks:—"Horses have the proverbial habit of showing their backs to the whip. In the case of the present race the whip is indisputably the direct cause of the large number of races that there are at present in training, and the powers that be have laudably instituted a series of events at headquarters, such as the Visitors' Handicap (on May 19), where it is not permissible for the apprentices to carry whips. Possibly old-fashioned whips may be taken as a fitting protest against the all too frequent use of the fall."

It can be fairly said of St. Simon, the celebrated sire of the present time, there was not much to choose between the best colts and the best fillies by this wonderful sire, and to take half a dozen of each, one might name Persimmon, St. Frangin, Diamond Jubilee, and the like, and the best, and Floriel II. as colts, and Signorina, a Fleche, Memoir, Mrs Butterwick, Amiable, and La Roche as fillies. In the second generation the blood looks almost like carrying all before it, for St. Simon headed the winning sires last year. Desmond was in third place, and Persimmon and Diamond Jubilee in seventh and eighth places, while a whole host of less known horses by St. Simon were well up in the list.

About the time when the law was endeavoring to solve the problem of what is "a place," four newspaper men belonging to Manchester and a disconcerting experience while travelling downwards from Scotland. The only other occupant of the compartment was a sanctimonious-looking stranger, who sat quietly while one of the four piled up a nice little bank on the seat beside him as the result of the race. By and by Mr Sanctimonious protested that a railway carriage was "a place," and added that if the game went on he would inform the authorities. The four grew angry, and a heated argument ensued only at Carlisle. There Mr Sanctimonious got out, and there was a rush to the window. He was seen to go in the direction of the station officials, and the four momentarily expected a visit. However, he did not reappear, and Mr Sanctimonious reappearing, and the four sat down to resume operations. The sequel was provided when an exclamation was made by the "lucky" one: "My Heavens! He's plucked my winnings!"

Thus an English writer:—"The gentleman rider who gets up because he enjoys the sport and hopes some day to get one of his many mounts home—two runners and the other one to fall, for St. Simon headed the 'stretched.'" What to him are such trifling inconveniences as fractured collar bones or displaced ribs; is he not a "sport?" Count Kinsky, who won the Grand National of 1883 on his mare, never beaten until these lines, only he "old" ride winners occasionally. No matter how bad a tumble, he was always ready to go on with the "great game" as soon as possible. At Bangor once, while the Kilmorygan horse blundered and threw his enthusiastic rider into the open ditch, after which the animal awkwardly tried to recover himself, but made matters worse by rolling on to the unfortunate rider. He then, when released, released the Count from his unpleasant, not to say dangerous, position. When assisted to his feet the undaunted sportsman carefully felt his limbs, and happily found he had sustained no injuries "beyond the back." "Ach, he" he exclaimed in a delighted tone, when the examination was concluded—"only my nose is broke."

In England, even nowadays, a horse who proves useful as a sire is occasionally picked up at a low figure, and, touching on the success of Mr R. Sylever's four-year-old mare Trofan in the previous Handicap at Kempton Park of £375, on May 15, a recent London exchange says: "Her sire Black Duck, stood at the low fee of 8000 in 1903 when he was mated with Clarette (Trofan's dam) in the following December Black Duck himself was put up at auction at the Newmarket sales, and realised the trifling sum of 112s. Yet in the next season (1904) one of the despised stallions of the opening Roper, then a three-year-old, won the second handicap, inclusive of the Derby Gold Cup, of the total value of £2205. As a two-year-old Roper had won a race worth 25000 on the first day of the Kempton Jubilee meeting. The next year, when he scored his first success at Kempton, did not run as a two-year-old, and only twice last season, while prior to last Friday she had this season run second to Gold Sand at Epsom. It is not difficult to see after Roper's successful essays for his present owners, Messrs Joseph Davis and A. Knowles, Mr Davis purchased Black Duck from his owner, Mr Westgate, for 50000s. Black Duck was then sold at auction by Galopin of Cal Duck, by Macaroni. It is not surprising that he has got a stock to gallop, although given very few chances. It may be added that he is bred on the same lines as that same stallion, St. Angelo, who was also by Galopin out of a Macaroni mare."

"The Aslan" (Calcutta), which came to hand this week, contains a cable account of the English Derby, and the Aslan rider did not after all start a favorite for the former race, that position being filled by the America-bred colt Norman III.

next in order coming Vamsee, See Sick II., and Mountain Apple, while Ferrer was sent fanned. Of the eighteen runners the only one standing at a better price than Signorietta was the French representative Aurore, who was at a very long price. Mountain Apple and Sir Archibald in turn attracted their supporters, but at the end Signorietta fairly ran over everything. Her two length lead from Ferrer, who beat Liangwa a neck, with Mountain Apple fourth, Eaton Lad fifth, See Sick II. sixth, and Royal Realm seventh. The time 3.40, was four faster than when Orby won the previous year, but 3.12sec worse than that recorded by Spearpoint in 1906.

After her Derby win one would have looked to Signorietta to start favorite for the Oaks; but such was not the case. Miss Croker's Rhodora being sent out a very warm favorite, while Chevalier (Glastrel's filly) was at a decent price. Signorietta had everything settled a quarter of a mile from home, and could have won by several lengths. However, W. Bullock, who rode her in the contest, contented himself by beating Courtney by three-quarters of a length. Unfortunately the race did not prove a test of the respective merits of Signorietta and Rhodora, the latter falling in the last furlong, to the heels of French Partridge, who also came to grief. Bullock, who rode Signorietta, went from India to Ireland to Orby in most of his years for last year's Derby. L. Helff was substituted when it came to the race.

TURF TALK FROM THE SOUTH.

CHRISTCHURCH, Tuesday.

There has been a week of almost continuous wet weather, and at the time of writing it is still going strong. Needless to say the tracks at Riccarton are thoroughly sodden; in fact one has to don water-tights to get through the course gates. The state of affairs has practically put a stop to training operations, and most of the horses in commission are being jogged about the roads in the vicinity of the course. A few of those inclined to the wet weather, N.Z. C.C. meeting have been making the most of the opportunity to get in a little sprinting work, amongst their number being Rurus, Probable, Virtus, Stronghold, Paragon, and Cavatina, all of which are to be sent North in the course of a few days.

Slow Tom is booked to compete in the steepchase at Trentham. He is in a nice robust condition, and will be ridden by his old associate Scott.

Taggart has received an addition to his string in the Stepniak mare Volodia, which was recently purchased by a patron of his. Mango, which met with rather a bad accident at the North Otago meeting, is almost ready again, and has been put into light work.

Tremulous, Contender, and Lady Didsain have been making the most of their opportunities, and all three are in robust health. Contender's New Zealand Cup candidate Bonny Glen, is progressing satisfactorily, and so far has shown no signs of his old trouble.

Longley has been exercising three of his charges, Fin Grand, Montreal, and Lorusse, about the roads.

To Ability recently met with a slight mishap to one of his knees, but the injury is of little moment, and should not prejudice his Grand National Hurdle prospects. During the few hours of his weather on Saturday, Slow (Cobell), Starlight (O'Connor), and Pacific (Carr) were given a turn over the big fences. Starlight and Pacific both fenced cleverly, but Storm made several mistakes.

G. Pine, who a few weeks back received a damaged shoulder through Southern Cross falling off him, is nearly all right again, and hopes to be in the saddle before the national meeting.

The well known trotting stallion Specification, which was imported from America about fifteen years ago, died recently at his owner's residence, Bangor. During his racing career the son of Contractor and Kate Merryhawk won several races in good time, and also established the world's three mile trotting record. At the stud he was fairly successful in his progeny, like himself, all exhibiting great stamina.

The New Zealand Metropolitan Trotting Club has decided to add a valuable silver cup to the National Handicap, the principal harness race at its August meeting, in commemoration of the visit of the American fleet.

Walpo had many friends here for the V.R.C. Grand National Hurdle Race, but evidently the solid pace set by Lady Quix and the start soon got him into difficulties.

The hunter Albury is to be given a special preparation for the Grand National, in which he is leniently enough treated at the start, like most of his class. Albury will find an excellent country at a solid pace a very different matter to following the hounds, or running in point-to-point steepchases. It is the pace that finds them out.

Lupulite will not be taken to Wellington next week, his owner, Mr. Fenwick, changing at the weight apportioned him. The horse has quite recovered from his recent accident, and is almost a sure visitor to Riccarton for the Grand National meeting. When the time starts for the Winter Cup is problematical, for he has certainly been set a stiff contract.

Labelle has been placed in McKay's stables at Wingatui, to be prepared for the spring meetings. A present she is decidedly fit, and in condition, but is sure to pick up with expeditious treatment.

CHRISTCHURCH, Friday. The weather is still extremely wintry, heavy mist, with occasional glimpses of sunshine, being the prevailing conditions for days. Under the circumstances training operations at Riccarton are practically at a standstill, the tracks being thoroughly sodden, and this has practically put a stop to training operations, and even should the weather clear off, of which there is little prospect, it will be nearly a week before the tracks are in anything like good working order. It is almost certain that the Southern horses will be placed at a big disadvantage when called on to race at the Wellington and C.J.C. meetings.

Clon, which was rather badly injured in the National Steeplechase, is in light work again, and looks in nice robust condition. He is now quite recovered from his damaged legs, but with tracks in their present state there is little chance of his meeting having him anything like fit by August.

Slow Tom leaves for Wellington in the course of a few days to take part in the Wellington Steeplechase. His preparation has not been dissatisfactory, one by any means, and a solidly run race is sure to find him wanting.

Word has been received that quite a number of Australian sportsmen intend being at the sale of the Yaldhurst and Otago bloodstock, and they will give their patronage to the C.J.C. Grand National meeting. This should lead to that nature, but I am afraid the counter attraction in Auckland, combined with the weak state of the local market, will militate against the success of next month's gathering.

Dusky Morn is the first to drop out of the Winter Cup, the Sou'-wester gelding having been scratched on the 11th day (Friday). The Grand Committee of the Ashburton Racing Club, after a visit of inspection, have decided upon the erection of a commodious tea kiosk on the lawn; addition of twelve horse boxes, and many minor alterations and also intended having three separate entrances to the course, one for racehorses, one for pedestrians, and another for vehicular traffic.

At the usual monthly committee meeting of the Canterbury Jockey Club on Wednesday application for registration by the Waimau Valley Racing Club was approved. The application for removal of disqualification incurred by persons and horses taking part in the unregistered meeting of the Riccarton Sports Club was refused. The committee decided to recommend the N.Z. Racing Conference to cancel the registration of the Lauriston and Lyndhurst Sports Club. It was decided that in future, under special circumstances, dual licenses would be issued to trainers and jockeys. The Programme Committee's report for the season was approved.

At the spring meeting the Stewards' Handicap was increased from 75000s to 100000s, and the Epsom, Avon, and Fendalton Handicaps were each increased by 50000s. The Jubilee Cup was struck out, its place being taken by the Stead Memorial Cup. The total increase for the season amounted to £1020.

In future events the Welcome Stakes of 1908 was increased to 100000s, the Champagne Stakes of 1910 to 75000s, the Derby of 1910 to 125000s, the Oaks of 1910 to 50000s, and the Challenge Stakes of 1911 to 75000s.

Payments for the Welcome Stakes of 1907 were increased to 50000s, and for the Challenge Stakes of 1911 to 50000s. The second forfeit for the Champagne Stakes of 1910 was reduced from 50000s to 30000s. The date of the first forfeits for the Middle Park Plate and Challenge Stakes was altered from August to December. The transfer of Santina, by Sant Harlo—Senshall, from J. Bredt to H. F. Nicol was approved. A resolution was passed expressing sympathy for the death of Mr. W. Thompson, who had been a country member of the Metropolitan Committee since it was first formed.

AUCKLAND RACING CLUB.

THE GREAT NORTHERN GUINEAS.

The following is a list of the horses left in:

GREAT NORTHERN GUINEAS, 1908, of 100000s, and second horse 25000s, and third horse 25000s, from the stake. Colts, 8.10; geldings, 8.7; fillies, 8.5 each. One mile.

Mr. J. T. Puka's b c, by Puka—Dainie.

Mr. E. E. Paul's b c, by Puka—Merry Kate.

Mr. J. B. Cooper's ch c Sir Arctegal, by Stepniak—Bronkton.

Mr. J. Monkton's b c Diabolo, by Stepniak—Tortula.

Mr. R. J. Peterson's b c, by Stepniak—Bow's Finnes.

Mr. J. H. Prosser's b c, by Stepniak—Fair Maid.

Exors. Mr. G. G. Stead's b f Armet, by Mouschikoff—Armitia.

Mr. Lance Wood's b f Ukraine, by Stepniak—Madda.

Mr. W. Handley's b c Arimwoll, by Soult—Gladys May.

Mr. John Lynch's b c Coronand, by Mouschikoff—Golden Rose.

Mr. W. E. Paul's b f Lady Winnie, by Soult—Indian Queen.

Mr. E. J. Watt's b f Wimmera, by Merrivew—Mousqueterie.

Mr. E. J. Watt's b c Aborigine, by Merrivew—Ratanella.

Mr. E. J. Watt's b f Separator, by Seaton—Belwin—Brown Alice.

Mr. W. C. Ring's b c Hohungahni, by Freedom—Black Watch.

Mr. F. Marshall's ch c, by Leontias—De-cenith.

Mr. G. Donnelly's b f Gold Treasure, by Gold Leaf—Pearl Sho.

Mrs. Coombe's b c Master Soult, by Soult—Lady Hostler.

Mr. C. Matthew's b c Shaqa, by Soult—Spitta.

Mr. F. W. Arnold's b g Sarata, by Eton—Peace.
Mr. J. Moley's b f, by Eton—Tournament.
Hon. J. D. Ormond's b c Miascut, by Sir-Benhead—Miss Never.
Mrs. J. Leonard's b k c Santa Rosa, by Soult—Vieux Rome.
Mrs. Leonard's b k c Waimanga, by Soult—Rosa—Kamihau.
Mr. J. Nelson's b f, by Soult—Miss Nelson.
Mr. J. Ellis's b c Benefactor, by Melbourne—St. Ouida.
Mr. J. Ellis's b k c My Lawyer, by Blackstone—Kamihau.
Mr. T. H. Lowry's b f, by Merrivew—Cantatrice.
Mr. G. F. Moore's b k c Guiding Step, by Stepniak—Guiding Star.
Sir Geo. Clifford's ch c Haglesstone, by Clan-rasid—Westhara.
Mr. W. Davies' b f Carreno, by Soult—Lottie.
Mr. D. McKinnon's b g Rimlock, by Flintlock—Heeper.

FLEET RACE MEETING.

TO BE HELD AT

EGLISVILLE RACECOURSE.

On

WEDNESDAY, 19th AUGUST.

Under the JOINT MANAGEMENT of the Auckland, Avondale, and Takapuna Clubs.

COMMITTEE:

The Committee of the Auckland Racing Club, together with the Chairman and Secretary of each, the Avondale and Takapuna Jockey Clubs.

Judge: Mr R. B. Lusk. Starter: Mr C. O'Connor. Clerk of Course: Mr A. Selby. Clerk of Scales: Mr F. W. Marks. Handicapper: Mr R. Wuyard.

PROGRAMME:

1. THE WELCOME HURDLE RACE (Handicap) of 125000s; second horse to receive 25000s, and third horse 100000 out of the stake. For all horses that have never won a Hurdle Race of value of 100000s, or Hurdle Races of the collective value of 250000s at time of starting. Entrance 10000s and acceptance 15000s each, to go to the funds. Over six flights of hurdles. One mile and a-half.

2. THE ADMIRAL'S HANDICAP of 110 5000s; second horse to receive 15000s out of the stake. For three-year-olds and upwards, that have never won a flat race of the value of 100000s, or that have won a flat race of value of 25000s at time of starting. Entrance 15000s and acceptance 15000s each, to go to the funds. Minimum weight 9.0. Five furlongs.

3. THE ROOSEVILT HANDICAP of 300 5000s; second horse to receive 50000s, and third horse 25000s out of the stake. For three-year-olds and upwards. Entrance 15000s and acceptance 25000s each, to go to the funds. Minimum weight 1st. One mile.

4. THE SPERRY STEEPCHASE (Handicap) of 250000s; second horse to receive 50000s, and third horse 25000s out of the stake. Entrance 15000s and acceptance 15000s each, to go to the funds. About three miles.

5. THE CONNECTICUT STEEPCHASE FOR HUNTERS (Handicap) of 150000s; second horse to receive 35000s, and third horse 20000s out of the stake. Minimum weight 10st 7lb. Entrance 15000s and acceptance 15000s each, to go to the funds. For horses the bona fide property of members of any recognised Hunt Club, and which have been duly qualified during the season of 1908 by a lady member of any such Hunt Club, or by a gentleman member of any such Hunt Club who is eligible as a Gentleman Rider under the Rules of Racing. No horse will be eligible which has won a race of any description of the value of more than 25000s (hunters' races excepted). Horses to be ridden by members of Hunt Clubs who are eligible as Gentleman Riders under the Rules of Racing, and who must hand to the Clerk of Scales a Certificate that they have hunted during the current year. Owners must hand to the Secretary a Certificate of qualification of their horses at time of nomination. About two miles and a-half.

6. THE FLEET HANDICAP of 200000s; second horse to receive 50000s and third horse 15000s out of the stake. For three-year-olds and upwards. Entrance 15000s and acceptance 15000s each, to go to the funds. Minimum weight 10st. Five furlongs.

CONDITIONS.

1. All races to be run under N.Z. Rules of Racing.

2. FEES MUST IN ALL CASES BE PAID AT TIME OF NOMINATION AND ACCEPTANCE.

DATES.

Nominations close at the office of the Auckland Racing Club on FRIDAY, the 17th July, at 9 a.m.

Weights will appear on MONDAY, 27th July.

Acceptances close on FRIDAY, July 24th, at 9 p.m.

J. F. HARTLAND, Secretary.