

doing him good for his Melbourne Cup engagement was started in the Eclipse Stakes, a mile and three furlongs. In this race The Chief made the pace a cracker, but Seahorse cut him down and then settled Paul Fry, who was in great form, but was just beaten by Kinglike in record time for the distance. It was on the following Tuesday morning that Seahorse put up a record gallop on the Flemington track—a gallop that astonished Hick-bottom, who had tried both Carbine and Newhaven over the same distance. The Melbourne Cup was considered by that trainer well within Seahorse's grasp, but on the Sunday he was prostrated with influenza, and was during the Cup week nearly dead. Seahorse's next two performances were at the Autumn Meeting of the Auckland Racing Club, in the Easter Handicap, carrying 9.12, and in the Century Stakes, in neither of which events was he placed, being out of form. Seahorse has won in all in this colony stakes to the value of £3617. The head-lines of his pedigree read:—

SEAHORSE (9)									
Moogoos					Nelson (5)				
Kernal Goldborough (12)		My Idea King Cole (12)			King Tom (5)		Out Vire		
Cocoon		Siva		Fawcote (10)		Ladslind		Yaldenden (17)	
Angler (9)		Cocoon		Fawcote (10)		Ladslind		Yaldenden (17)	

As every racing man knows, Nelson was a sterling horse, and Seahorse is his best son. King Cole never got a better than Nelson. King Monmouth, son of King Lud, a brother to King Cole, was in his time voted the best handicap horse in England. Major George could have sold Seahorse before he won the New Zealand Cup, Canterbury Cup and Canterbury Derby for a tidy sum, and it was said could have had 3000 guineas for his colt afterwards. At 2000 guineas, taking into account that he may take time to recover his form, or may never get back to it again, is a substantial price. Major George, however, thinks that his favourite will prove a good investment and a good advertisement for New Zealand. A Christchurch Press Association wire announces that Strathairn has been scratched for the New Zealand Grand National Hurdles Handicap.

CANTERBURY JOCKEY CLUB. GRAND NATIONAL MEETING.

The following acceptances have been received for the New Zealand Grand National Meeting:—

GRAND NATIONAL STEEPLECHASE OF 6500SOVS. Three and a-half miles.

at lb		at lb	
Mofna	12 6	Waifo	10 8
The Guard	12 2	Straybird	10 2
Dummy	12 2	Natation	10 0
Canonage	11 9	Hairtrigger	9 13
Social Pest	11 9	Venture	9 7
Toller	10 10	Nipapu	9 7
Gobe	10 9	Right Metal	9 7

GRAND NATIONAL HURDLE RACE OF 5000SOVS. Two miles.

at lb		at lb	
Mofna	12 10	Derrington	10 8
Social Pest	12 5	Hairtrigger	10 8
Canonage	11 10	Sundia	10 2
Hutu	11 8	Right Metal	10 0
Haydn	11 0	Dartmoor	10 0
The Needle	10 13	Duffer	9 10
Roller	10 11	The Hemple	9 9
Marina	10 8	Favona	9 8
Long Tom	10 7	Rhodars	9 0

WINTER CUP OF 3000SOVS. One mile.

at lb		at lb	
Jabber	12 2	Saat Hario	9 10
Battleaxe	11 9	The Spinner	9 8
Nightst	10 9	Magnificent	9 7
St. Denis	10 8	Scott Minstrel	9 5
Beak	10 8	St. Denis	9 2
Dundas	10 8	Clytie	9 2
Taubet	10 8	Whitires	9 2
Ostak	10 5	Hytres	9 2
Sundial	10 3	Ayrdale	9 0
Terror	10 2	Jewel Gun	9 0
Cater	9 13	Oyster	9 0
Tigress	9 12		

RACING STATISTICS. CHRISTCHURCH, July 24.

"Pentagraph" publishes the winning sires, owners and horses in to-day's issue of "The Referee." The leading lines in each table are as follows:

Winning sires: St. Leger, £9900 2/; Dreadnought, £7315; Stepiak, £6900 2/; Vanguard, £5867; Seaton Delaval, £5208 10/; St. Clair, £4893 5/; Hotchkiss, £3979 5/; Sou'-wester, £3827 10/; Natator, £3428 15/; Torpedo, £3385 5/; Castor, £2923 10/;

Voltigeur, £2339 10/; Foul Shot, £2228 15/; Clarronald, £2185 7/; Cuirassier, £2163 5/; Apremont, £2082. Winning horses: Mnoona, £3185; Menachikoff, £2513; Motaa, £1963; Pampero, £1626; Cruciform, £1513; Beddington, £1458; Advance, £1450; Coeur de Lion, £1400; Ideal, £1335; Nonette, £1238; Hohoro, £1235; Skobeloff, £1150; Battlere, £1140; Palaver, £1080; Boreas, £1050; Bluejacket, £1050; St. Ursula, £1026; Crusoe, £1020; Cavaliere, £1013; Nobility, £1005. Winning owners: G. G. Stand, £7135; Hon. J. D. Ormond, £3552; Douglas Gordon, £4000; J. Wait, £3600; L. D. & N. A. Nathan, £3116 10/; V. Harris, £2165 15/; Hon. G. McLean, £2153 15/; P. Watson, £2113; Mrs. A. Ellingham, £1903; J. T. Ryan, £1859 5/; Captain W. R. Russell, £1561; J. Chaafe, £1553; Sir Geo. Clifford, £1544; C. Lovett, £1385; A. E. Harrison, £1336; Ellis Bros., £1333; P. Chaafe, £1290; W. Davies, £1260; J. George, £1240; J. T. Blake, £1047; L. Harris, £1015.

Wrecked on Chesterfield Reef.

Nobody can tell the following story better than the writer tells it himself. "In 1891," he says, "I first experienced the miseries of acute indigestion. I was obliged to knock off work, and suffered agonies for two months. Then I felt slightly better and went back to my post at the North Brisbane Fire Brigade Station, and stayed there until the great flood in 1893.

"Then I had a terribly severe relapse, which laid me down for ten months, seven weeks of it being spent in the hospital.

"Several doctors attended me, but they failed to effect a cure.

"Yet, at the end of two months I felt somewhat better, and being in an energetic disposition, I started in to work again.

"I managed to keep at it for six months, and then collapsed completely, and resigned my position in the Brigade.

"On returning home several of my friends urged me to put my faith in Seigel's Syrup, and in that only, saying they had known it to cure cases as bad as mine. 'Don't be down-hearted' they said.

"On this I began using Seigel's Syrup (and Seigel's Pills occasionally), and gradually got better. When I had taken about twelve bottles in all, I was so much better, I accepted a position as mate in a ship going to trade in the Islands—taking a supply of the Syrup with me.

"We sailed on the 24th of October, 1894, and on the 29th we struck Chesterfield Reef, Long Island, and were wrecked, but all hands were saved. The captain and four blacks took to one of the boats, and reached Mackay in safety; whilst I and seven blacks landed on Long Island, where we remained thirty-two days, until we were rescued by the Pylades man-of-war, and taken on to Sydney.

"Fortunately we were able to obtain enough provisions from the wreck to maintain us while we were on the Island.

"I must mention that I kept on using Seigel's Syrup until we got to Sydney, and then I was quite restored to health, and have been perfectly well ever since.

"My health is now splendid; my appetite is excellent, and all the bad symptoms I once had are gone like an ugly dream after morning breaks.

"My wife uses the medicine for a milder form of indigestion than mine was, and is as firm a believer in it as I am.

"I will name a few of the peculiarities of the aggravating and dangerous disease as it affected me. There was always a bad taste in my mouth; my breath was bad, and I used to retch frequently after eating; I belched continually, lost flesh, and had thin, lantern jaws.

"Scores of friends and acquaintances can testify to the truth of what I have said. It is certain that Mother Seigel's Syrup cured me when all other medicines and forms of treatment proved to be no good, and I have to thank the Syrup only for the fact that I am now a strong, healthy man. I have now been nearly three years in the employment of the Queensport Meat Company, but my home is at the address given below." A. C. Backmann, Myrtle Villa, George-street, Kangaroo Point, Brisbane, Q. Sept. 6th, 1900.

Athletic Sports.

FOOTBALL.

Very little rain fell on Saturday afternoon, but the weather was very threatening, and after football had been in progress a short time the playing ground became a perfect quagmire.

The Newton-Suburbs match was interesting, and under the circumstances fairly fast, and after a close game ended in a draw, though on the play Suburbs should have won.

Sutherland again donned the jersey, and apparently he has quite recovered from the effects of his recent injury, as he signalled his reappearance by giving a slashing display at full-back for the suburban team. He handled and kicked the greasy ball splendidly, and time after time got his team out of a tight corner. If he can cope with speedy, passing backs (and there should be an opportunity of testing him next Saturday) it will be almost impossible to overlook his claim when selecting the reps.

McPike played his first game in Auckland for this season, but was palpably out of form. He, however, should know better than to pot at goal when by passing a try was almost a certainty. In 1888, playing for the English team against Auckland, Speakman did the same thing, and, moreover, got the goal; but, nevertheless, his captain gave him a tremendous slating, and I don't fancy he was played again during the remainder of the tour.

It was hard luck for Suburbs that McPike fell a yard from the line when running in unopposed. The play that led up to McPike's run was extremely clever, and a try would have been a fitting result.

Absolum played a really good game, by far the best three-quarter game on the ground, in fact. In addition to making the opening from which McPike should have scored, he took part in every piece of attack work.

A. Gray is a recent addition to Suburbs' three-quarters, and he made a very creditable display in the mud, as also did Dempsey at five-eighths, although the latter was occasionally a bit weak in handling the ball.

M. Gray, at half, was in fine form, and handled the wet ball as well as anyone on the ground.

Suburbs' back team was much superior to that of their opponents, but, on the other hand, their forwards (owing chiefly to lack of combination) were no match for the Newton vanguard, especially in scrum and other combined work. On the line and in the open, however, they held their own fairly well.

Johnston, an enthusiast who comes down from Waiuku every Saturday, plays a fine game, and on Saturday was always in the thick of it. He is a real good cut of a forward, and Mr Murray should keep his eye on him.

Although the Newton backs did not shine as compared with their opponents, their play was of a very solid description, and but few mistakes can be attributed to them.

Brash, at full-back, was very safe, though of course he was not up to Sutherland's standard. All the three-quarters played soundly, but Robinson was the pick, and he should develop into a good player, as he has plenty of pace and handles a ball well.

Woods, at five-eighths, was always in evidence when his side was in difficulties, and he has few superiors in Auckland as a defensive player.

Newton's main strength lies in the vanguard, and on Saturday the forwards were strongly in evidence. Had they failed to more than hold their own Suburbs would in all probability have scored an easy victory.

As usual, H. and A. Wilson were greatly in evidence, and both played very high class games.

Lewis made his reappearance in the Newton ranks and showed glimpses of his old time form, but he was palp-

ably out of condition. If he gets into condition Mr Murray will have to take him into consideration.

Although Grafton defeated Ponsonby by nine points to nil the game was a very close one, and the defeated team on several occasions had hard luck in not scoring. The Grafton team hardly played up to form, and the backs failed to handle the greasy ball so cleanly as on the previous wet Saturdays. On the other hand, Ponsonby played up really well, their forwards doing especially good work.

Marshall was not a success as full-back for Grafton, and unless he displays marked improvement next Saturday he ought to stand down for the City match.

Although Mackenzie was the best of the three-quarters, he hardly played as well as usual, nevertheless he put in a lot of fine work.

Thomson was comparatively off, and failed to handle the ball cleanly, but Campbell was much better in the mud than on the previous Saturday.

Hay, Kiernan, and Taylor all did good work, especially the first named, who scored Grafton's first try by a fine effort.

The black and white forwards were not quite at their best, and their display did not compare favourably with that of the previous week when pitted against Newton. They lacked a good deal of the dash they showed on that occasion, and altogether appeared to be playing half-heartedly.

The Ponsonby backs are not a particularly strong combination, and on Saturday they suffered when compared to Grafton's strong rear division. However, they did some good line kicking, and their defence left nothing to be cavilled at. Upton, however, played a really good game in all departments, and was well supported by Stephenson. The first-named had hard luck in not obtaining a try, as he crossed the line, and then lost the ball.

Doran on the wing was the life and soul of the Ponsonby forwards, and played a great game. He was always to the fore, and proved a thorn in the sides of the Grafton backs.

In Francis Ponsonby possesses a player of great promise, and a splendid kick, both drop and place, although in the latter respect he was hardly up to his usual standard on Saturday.

North Shore made a much closer game of it with City than was generally anticipated, and although the latter won by eight points to all there was not a great deal to choose between the two teams on the general play.

G. Smith was undoubtedly the pick of the City backs, and it will be a thousand pities should he persist in his refusal to take part in the rep. matches. No doubt he is anxious to be at his best when he tackles Rossgrave over hurdles in November, but if he played for his province, at all events up to the New South Wales match, on September 7, he would still have time to get into condition, especially as training for football must keep him pretty fit.

McGee showed very marked improvement at five-eighths on Saturday, and his display was much superior to anything he has recently shown, and more like his displays earlier in the season.

The City vanguard proved very strong in the mud, and more than held their own, and to this fact I fancy City owe their victory.

G. Tyler proved a most capable mudlark, and so did Scott, and these two were about the most prominent of the red and black forwards, though all did real good work.

The North Shore backs surprised everyone by their fine display, and they certainly gave a really good exhibition. Gerrard at three-quarter work both in attack and defence. He