



TURF FIXTURES.

February 18 and 19—Egmont R.C. Summer.
February 19 and 20—Poverty Bay T.C. Annual.
February 21—Waikō J.C.
February 21—Porbury Park R.C. Autumn.
February 23 and 24—Woodville J.C. Autumn.
February 25—Helensville J.C.
February 25, 27, and 28—Dunedin J.C. Autumn.
February 28, March 4 and 7—Otaihuhu Trotting Club.
March 2—Thames R.C.
March 5 and 6—Wanganui J.C. Autumn.
March 7—Waiapu R.C. Annual.
March 14—Papakura Racing Club.
March 17—Horowhenua Hack R.C. Annual.
March 17 and 18—Ohinemuri Jockey Club.
March 17 and 18—Gore J.C. Summer.
March 19 and 20—Masterton R.C. Autumn.
April 1 and 2—Nelson J.C. Annual.
April 11 and 12—Wairarapa R.C. Autumn.
April 11, 13, and 14—Auckland R.C. Autumn.
April 13 and 14—C.J.C. Autumn.

TURF NOTES.

Australian Colours is to be shipped to England shortly to his owner.
Auckland stay-at-home bookmakers lost money on the Taranaki meeting.
Teufel was in winning form at Gisborne as a hurdler.
Borax, a winner at Gisborne, is a half-brother to Boreas.
A. Williams is breaking a shapely filly by Scout from a Kingfisher mare.
Mr R. Phillips recently tried to purchase Great Scot as a companion for Abundance.
The acceptances for the Waikō race meeting, which takes place next Saturday, give promise of a successful meeting.
Minerva, the pony once owned by Mr J. Beckett, is in great form in Sydney just now.
Mr Hyland, owner of Despatch, purchased a yearling by Sylvia Park for 35 guineas while in New Plymouth.
Coma, a Taranaki hack, was purchased for an Auckland sport on the morning of the second day's races at Taranaki by auction for 165 guineas.
Another of Soult's progeny, in Soullina, was returned a winner during the week. This was in the Flying Handicap at Gisborne.
Pigskin's Progress, she of Abundance and so many good horses in Australia, is to be sold, together with other horses in the same stud, next month.
Much interest is being evinced in the coming match between the paces Ribbonwood and the trotter Fritz, which is to take place at Easter in Christchurch.
Mr F. Leslie, a recent addition to the ranks of bookmakers in Auckland, left for Sydney on Monday, and intends returning in April.
The first four races of Te Aroha fell to horses whose names commence with the letter M, viz., Meteor, Moccasin, Maid of Honor, and Millie. Arena and Seatonia won the next two on the list.
Wakeraf was beaten last Saturday week in St. George's Stakes at V. but for ace by Football, a son of Thunderbolt, who conceded the mare 3lbs in actual weight.
Belle Cole, the Taranaki pony, ran two good races at New Plymouth, and should have a say in the Welter Handicap at Egmont.
They met at Johannesburg. Messrs. son Bailey and B. Curtis are reported to have won £30,000 over the success of their filly Lovepatch in the Johannesburg Handicap.
The useful, but at the same time somewhat over-rated Vanguard gelding Convey, has been turned out for a spell, and report says is broken down; let us hope not seriously.
Float, Mr E. J. Watt's Captain Webb—Bonnie Idea filly, showed her best form in the Stewards' Handicap at Taranaki, but she is evidently not very reliable, and is a decidedly fretful filly, and takes a lot out of herself before a race.
Romany Queen, half-sister to the Auckland Cup winner, St. Michael, who won the Trial Stakes at the Canterbury J.C. Meeting on Thursday, was offered for sale by Mr C. G. Stead during the Wellington race week for 100 guineas.
Probably the biggest fencer in training on the West Coast of the North Island is Awahuri, by Kaiwhaka from a Mute mare, who won the Hack Hurdle Race on the second day of the Taranaki meeting.

The Hot-bites—Edith Careton colt purchased at Wellington Park for Colonel Caulton Fox, was shipped by the Walkate to Sydney, and will be sent on from Sydney to England soon after arrival by the Suez.

A lady who is a keen observer of racing was heard to remark the other day it was not a question on some of our courses of what will win, but of what was wanted to win. The lady in question says she likes a fair go for her half-crown.

At a recent race meeting in Australia the correct cards did not arrive in time, and the unusual experience of being without books had a depressing effect upon those present. One writer says it took all the enjoyment out of the meeting.

An avowed slanting himself "Sport" writes wishing to know whether the starting gate is to be used at the Otaihuhu Trotting Club's coming meeting, or whether we are to have a repetition of the starting at the last meeting.

Mars ran probably the best race of his life in the Autumn Handicap at Taranaki, in which he was set to give Queen's Guard (who beat him 11lb, or 6lb more than he had been asked to give her in the Cup race, in which neither competed.

The Whistler, winner of the Blue Hack Hinder at the Taranaki meeting, is a half-brother by Howitzer to that fast horse, the famous Kuku, who was voted champion hack on the Taranaki coast a few seasons back.

Misgivings prompted by the noise he made when galloping about McMillan's premises near Auckland being able to travel a distance (says an Australian writer) have been completely allayed by his success in Wellington Cup, which he won with 104 lb, traversing the 13 miles in 2:34 1/2—an Australasian record.

Maid of Honour, who won the Te Aroha Cup, is probably about the best descendant of the Captain for home breeding. Her dam, Scotch Mist, was got by Dey Dawn from Ace Hatley's old Nutworth mare Brown. Jess, dam of Lochivar, a good horse. H. Bawa, Landover, and other good performers. She ran without success last season, but has won several good races this season.

When Mr Thomson purchased the yearling full brother to Wadriki at the Cambria and Glenora Park sale, it was believed by many, that at the price paid he had secured a colt who would fetch 100 guineas for him; indeed he could have sold him again had he so desired at a substantial advance, something like 130 guineas. It was really hard luck to lose him.

The Helensville Jockey Club have received good nominations for their meeting, which takes place on February 25th. There are thirteen in the chief handicap, seventeen in the Flying, seventeen in the Maori race, twelve in the Maiden, nine in the Farmers' Plate, and six in the Hurdle race.

Hippoval, notwithstanding that he makes a noise, managed to win over hurdles at Gisborne, and ran the mile and three-quarters there in 3:27. His half-brother, Great White, won the 100 guineas for him; indeed he could have sold him again had he so desired at a substantial advance, something like 130 guineas. It was really hard luck to lose him.

Last year the Taranaki Jockey Club headed £11,187 at their second summer meeting, this year £9,544. The fees received from the bookmakers would make up the deficiency of revenue. The meeting will leave the club with a fair profit. It is a mistake for the club to hold their only two meetings so close to each other. The dates will probably be altered in future.

Baggipes, the aptly named winner of the Filly Stakes at Riccarton on Thursday, is one of the best representatives of the class that have ever raced. She is from the Lochiel mare Reel and is one of Mr. Stead's representatives. Lolah, who finished second, has run with little success so far in hack events.

Strathvan continued in winning form at Taranaki. He was lucky there to meet one of the weakest of fields in the Cup. Battelaxe is still racing below his best form, but he was nevertheless capable of defeating the rest of the opposition, simply through staying on for it is likely he would have gained a place had the race been a mile and a quarter.

Westward ran below her best form at the Taranaki meeting. It is understood that she was supported by her connections, but did not get away well in her only engagement there. Whatever may have been misdeeds with the mare to prevent her starting in the Wellington, she appears to be all right again, and is looking well.

The Taranaki course was in fast condition on Thursday, especially of the two days of the Summer Meeting there. Queen's Guard ran the mile and a quarter, by private watches, in 2:10 dead. Each of the Hurdle Races was run from barrier to barrier, the open race with a show flying start, and the hack one with a long flying start, in 2:50.

Tsaritzia, who won the Hornby Welter Handicap at the Canterbury Jockey Club's summer meeting, is a full sister to Petrovna, who has won the same race, by changing hands in November last. Tsaritzia broke blood vessel some time ago, and this kept her out of purchases from securing the two fillies after the C.J.C. November meeting, when 500 guineas was asked for the pair.

Full Cry, who continues in winning form, and accounted for three races this week, is a decidedly useful gelding, and it was no disgrace for Formosa to be beaten by the son of Reynard and Vienne, who has breeding and appearance to recommend him. Full Cry was sold as a yearling at a sale of Mr J. J. Goldstock's stock in February, 1898, to Mr G. Syme, jun., for 6 guineas.

Black Reynard, who made a runaway race of the Second Hack Flat event on the Taranaki Club's programme on Wednesday, is a son of Reynard, by Le Loup—Miss Kate, from the old Panie mare Brussels, and is among the best of the man's family, grand-dam of Novette and L. G. and dam of Vienne, the dam of Full Cry, and of Sappho, dam of Asteritz. Black Reynard may win again during the coming week.

A big Australian bookmaker made his first "rise" by breaking the bank of a three-up man. In more or less kindly thought he that, he attended the man's funeral, which happened not long after the "three-up" incident, and at the graveside—this is his own story—he threw a pair of dice on the coffin. The dice turned up deuce—such is the "Baker's" narrative, identified "crabs" for the deceased.—"Bulletin."

The scratching of the last Melbourne Cup winner, The Victory, for the Australian Cup was a hard knock for early backers of doubles, according to the "Bulletin," who hears that the crack's special mission is the Champion Race, with a view to sending him to his owners to Big game, who, only recently it was reported that The Victory would not stand training again.

On his recent Randwick form Purser is mentioned by a Sydney writer as a fairly good thing for the Newmarket Handicap. He can run out every inch of a mile, and is the class of man required for the big Flemington sprint. At the Sydney Turf Club's Meeting 10:9 in the Welter Handicap secured nothing to him, and more recently he had 11:2, and, giving the crack Contest 30lb, beat him smartly.

The betting transactions of a bookmaking member of Auckland Tattersall's Club having been called in question in Southern New Zealand in connection with the Wellington Racing Club, the member's name has been referred to at once handed in his books to the committee in order for them to see whether the document was justified or not, and the committee, in view of the charge, have been instructed to refer the matter to the bookmaker's solicitors to take proceedings on his behalf.

Though I did not anticipate a victory for General Symons in the Midsummer Handicap at the C.J.C. meeting, I was not at all surprised that he had succeeded in winning that event. It will be remembered that he had won the same race in the last Wellington meeting to the fact that he chafed himself, not to any want of will on his part. He was meeting Gamie Chief on the 13th in terms that they met in the Wellington Cup and the General Symons ran in the lead for about seven furlongs.

"Sentinel," in the "Otago Witness," reports that the stewards of the Tapanui Racing Club are extremely dissatisfied with the financial results of the last couple of meetings held by the club. Mr. Quinn, the secretary, informed the writer that the club intended to disband and sell off all the buildings, starting machines, and other appliances in use on the course. The Tapanui Park Racing Club should try and secure the club's totalisator permit.

The Waikato "Argus" of a recent date states that serious allegations are being made against a Hialeah rider in connection with a sporting transaction on the second day of the Takapuna meeting. It is alleged that a friend, also from this district, gave him £200 to invest on the totalisator on the 15th in the second Handicap. Lady Anne won and paid £11 3/6 dividend; but up to the present the man who was commissioned to purchase the tickets has been unable to account for either the £212 invested or the dividend, amounting to £131. It is more than likely that the matter will be ventilated in the Police Court.

I am afraid that Mr Hyland has lost the services of his good little mare Despatch for some time. While competing on the first day of the Taranaki meeting she slipped when running, and she was so hurt, and it is supposed must have injured herself; but, little suspecting anything was wrong, she was started a second time, and, toiling in the rear from the word "go," was pulled up before three parts of the journey had been traversed. It was with difficulty that she was got from the course to her stable quarters. It is her hip, or round bone that was hurt. This is bad luck, as the little mare was in good form.

Far and away the best hack racing at the Taranaki meeting was the three-year-old Sylvia Park gelding Koharou, from the Foul Shot mare Secrecy, whose dam was got by the Traitor—Lady Grey horse Tomson, who got lots of honors and was a speedy, good staying horse himself, a winner of many races. Secrecy was a fast and good performer on the flat and over hurdles, and Koharou, who holds four unbeaten performances, should make a clinching good start with a show flying start, and the hack one with a long flying start, in 2:50.

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