

Gisborne Park Steeplechase Meeting.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

THE annual race meeting of the Gisborne Park Steeplechase Club was held on the grounds of the Poverty Bay Park Company, Te Haparu, on the 5th inst., and was attended with every success.

On the eve of the races the weather was somewhat threatening, but the morning of the 5th broke clear, and during the day the atmospheric conditions were everything that could be desired.

Glenora and Lancer declined the Hack Hurdle Handicap of 10sovs, one mile, for which Caitiff was a hot favourite, but failed to run up to expectations.

A field of five contested the Ladies' Bracelet of 20 sovs, one mile and a distance, for which The Bishop was scratched.

The fine field of thirteen started for the Winter Oats Handicap of 40 sovs, 6 furlongs, none of the acceptors being

affected by the scratching pen. Jewel was a hot favourite, but showed a disappointing fight. After a couple of false starts a good line was obtained and Hukatere was the first to detach himself from the rest.

The attraction of the meeting was the next item on the programme, viz., the Gisborne Park Steeplechase Handicap of 75 sovs, about 3 1/2 miles. Raven, Disturbance, The Bishop and Jibboom were scratched, and these defections left a field of nine to fight out the finish.

The Hunters' Steeplechase Cup Handicap of 25 sovs, about 2 1/2 miles, saw Lascar and The Bishop almost level favourites.

The last event on the card was the Final Handicap of 45sovs, one mile and a distance, for which Royal was favourite.

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ATHOLINE. VESPAIAN. Habana. Blair Athol. Vesta. Newminster. (Derby and St. Leger, 1884) (St. Leger, '81)

Table with columns for sire names and their respective titles and years.

Blairgowrie's performances are as under:—As a two-year-old at Sydney Turf Club: Won Sapling Stakes, 1/2 mile, 8.0, time 51 1/2. V.R.C. Meeting: third to Acme and Madeline, Maribyrnong Plate, 5 furlongs, 1.44; won Flying Stakes, beating Madeline and Acme, 1/2 mile; third in December Stakes, 5 furlongs, 9.1, time 1.3; second in Ascot Vale Stakes, 1/2 mile, 9.6, time 1.18. A.J.C.: Won Champagne Stakes, 6 furlongs, 8.10; time 1.15; second First Foal Stakes, 9.0, Volcano first, 8.2, 6 furlongs, 1.14; 4th three years: Second in A.J.C. Derby, won by Trident, 2.38 (fastest ever been run); second to Trident in the Champion Race, V.R.C., 8 miles; and second to Abner in Doncaster Handicap, A.J.C.

It will therefore be seen that his performances are first rate at all distances and under big weights, and being a change of blood in this colony, and coming from a good racing family (Vespasian being a first-class performer in England under big weights) ought to be everything that is desired to beget racehorses.

At the Bourke Meeting in May three of his get were first, second and third in the Mares' Produce Stakes. He is also the sire of Caroline, the winner of the Sires' Produce Stakes on the second day.

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