

It is said that Empire's destination is Sydney. Cannon by Nordenfeldt—Sister Agnes is at work at Randwick after a lengthy spell.

Since the Caulfield races Theodore and Malvolio has become a favourite double for the two big cups.

A Plymouth (Eng.) bookmaker has had the fair sized fine of £400 and costs recorded against him for having kept a betting house.

Musket's dam Leita and her full sister Waitotara are expected to foal shortly to Cap-a-pie, news of whose death reached me last night.

The N.Z. Mail turf writer prophesies that a proposal for a New Zealand Turf Council will be carried at the meeting of conference delegates in November next.

According to the correspondent of a Sydney daily paper the pony clubs of N.S.W. gave £26,720 in stakes for miniature racing in the year closing 31st July last.

An exchange states that a French speculator took a bet of 30,000dol to 60dol that he could name the winners of the French Oaks, French Derby, Grand Steeplechase, and Grand Prix de Paris, and won the bet.

The acceptors for the Sixth Biennial Stakes of a mile and quarter, to be fought out at the coming A.J.C. Spring Meeting include Mr Hordern's pair, First Shot and Collarette, and Mr S. H. Gollan's Bonnie Scotland.

Mr S. Hordern's V.R.C. Derby colt Carbondado (Hotchkiss—Onyx) has been fired and turned out for a year's spell. Sydney racing experts were unanimous in prophesying big things for this nicely-bred one, who may yet verify the flattering future foretold for him.

The associated clubs of Melbourne have respectfully declined to contribute £2 per meeting towards the salary of the V.R.C. staidary stewards as requested by the head Melbourne Club. The latter will now have to launch one of its thunderbolts or climb down.

An effort was made at Manchester on July 16th to cover a 20 mile trot (in harness) inside of the hour by a prominent old country trotter, but the backers of the "time" won, the horse losing by 11 1-5th sec. The 1875 record of ten miles in 29min 45sec was beaten by two seconds, but the last two miles found out the trotter's weakness.

When Ultimatum won his pony race at Canterbury Park (Sydney) he carried top weight, 8.13, and took 1min 18 1/2sec over the six furlongs. The class was 14.1 and the winner's price was evens. At the same meeting he won a mile race (14 2 class) with 8.5 and 7lb over in 1min 47 1/2sec. He went to the front after six furlongs had been covered and won comfortably.

"In the Lone Hand Handicap on Saturday last at Caulfield, some of the competitors, judging from the way in which they shaped evidently were conversant with the game of euchre. They did not go alone, but turned it down, with the laudable intention no doubt of trying to get a march in the next rubber." (Neat method followed by Melbourne Sportsman to hint at stiff running.)

Recent advices from Sydney state that Nobleman (by The Australian Peer—Paradox) has quite recovered from his cold and dental troubles. This colt, who is an acceptor for the mile and a quarter Sixth Biennial Stakes (to be run at the forthcoming A.J.C. Spring Meeting) is a very speedy one judging from the accounts of his track work recorded in the Sydney papers.

The Sydney correspondent of the Australasian has the following interesting par re G. Wright's N.Z. Cup pair:—"A horse called Royal Rose, trained by George Wright, is one that I think may be expected to win a race. Last Saturday morning he was sent once round with King Orry and Oxide, when he travelled home in front of them in 2min 37 1/2sec. On Tuesday he led Three Star, who is pretty well, and far from being a bad one, over seven furlongs in 1min 36 1/2sec." Yet Royal Rose could only get third in the Hawkesbury Handicap of a mile and three furlongs.

I see by Sydney files that Sepoy, who went to New South Wales with Wright, was an acceptor at 7.6 (minimum weight) for a 13 hand pony race run at Lillie Bridge on the night of the 27th ult. Bearing in mind his win with 6.12 in our last Pony Cup, the distance (a mile) of which was covered in 1min 51sec against a clinking good field I shall be curious to hear how Endymion's aged son performed with 7.6 against thirteen hand company over five furlongs. The race would be fought out at night with the aid of the electric light.

A section of the English sporting press takes exception to what they term Lord Rosebery's want of backbone in meeting the charge of the anti-gambling leaguers with the remark that he was perfectly justified in winning a £6000 stake with a racehorse "because Oliver Cromwell owned an Arab steed." His lordship's critics contend that he should not have sheltered himself behind a joking retort, but should have boldly stated that he went in for racing and betting because such was his pleasure. And I must say I fail to see why a man, because he is a premier, should be expected to stand the bigoted censuring of any cluster of anti-gambling faddists.

A sporting lawsuit was held in the Magistrate's Court at Nelson (writes the N.Z. Mail) in which J. E. Pilbrow, of Masterton, and Robert McCartney, of Blenheim, sued J. A. Harley, of Nelson, for £33, being the net amount of stakes won by the horse Langley the Devil in the Hurdle Handicap of £40, run on the 30th January, 1893, at Richmond Park, Nelson. According to the report of the case it appears that in August, 1892, McCartney, then owner of Langley, hired out the horse to a Mr W. H. Demuth till August, 1893. In January 1893, Demuth entered Langley for a race at the Nelson meeting, but did not pay the nomination fees. Before the acceptances were made Demuth died. Mr Pilbrow, who had trained the horse, entered into an arrangement with McCartney, went to Nelson, and accepted Langley for the race in dispute, as well as for others. The horse won the race, but the stakes had not been paid over, four parties claiming them—the two plaintiffs, Mr Reilly (owner of Cloud), whose horse came in second in the race, and Messrs Aspinall and Salmond, solicitors in Demuth's estate. After hearing evidence the Magistrate gave judgment for the whole amount claimed, and costs, 62s 6d.

A Sydney pony in the 13.0 and 14.0 class bears the name of Cremorne!

Recent reports re Melbourne and Caulfield Cup betting state that Havoc and Carnage have been backed for all the money in the Sydney and Melbourne markets at long prices for the two cups.

The N.Z. Mail states that if F. Potto's claim for wages, etc., for training Rangipuhi had not been satisfied by the date specified the son of Feve and Mystery Girl would have been submitted to auction. Speculating as to what sort of a price Mr Marumaru's horse would have fetched "Gipsy King" writes that a Dunedin man was prepared to go to £700.

At the annual meeting of the Pahiataua Jockey Club the following gentlemen were elected as officers:—President, Mr Tosswill; vice-president, Dr. Gault; judge, Mr Breeds; treasurer, Mr A. Stewart; clerk of scales, Mr G. Bottomley; starter, Mr Knight; handicapper, Mr Henry; committee, Messrs Iorns, Pringle, Golderd, Vile, McCarthy, Knight, R. Smith, Quirk, Sullivan, Tidswell, Yuile; stewards, Messrs McCarthy, Iorns, Vile, Sullivan, Bolton, Smith and Pringle.

The three English-bred three-year-old fillies imported to Victoria by Mr Wm. McCulloch have been leased by Mr T. S. Hall, a Victorian owner, for racing purposes. The trio, who will be trained by "Ike" Foulsham, are Lady Belle, by Sir Bevy's (English Derby) from Lady Beau, by Beau Brummel; Lady Bevy's, by Sir Bevy's, from Pugely, by Beaudesert; and Lady Heart, by Coracle (Hermit's son), from Bright Eyes by Arbitrator. The first-named pair are bred on similar lines to Ladas.

The A.J.C. Derby will be an interesting race this year (writes "Terlinga"). The Sydney people possess a most capable candidate in Nobleman, whose somewhat easy defeat by Bonnie Scotland was fully balanced later on by the splendid fight he made against Pilot Boy when only receiving 7lb. This is the sort of form I like, and if Nobleman has done well since and runs kindly, he ought to win this Derby for Dr. Anderson. I believe it is settled that Bonnie Scotland will make the trip to Sydney. No doubt he is an exceptionally good colt. He won his race at Randwick in the face of an unkind run, but as P. Martin, his trainer, has been in New Zealand for some time, it may be that he will not be thoroughly wound up until later in the season. Cobbitty will apparently represent Messrs Lloyd and Leonard. He hardly looks a weight-carrier, but there is no doubt that this half-brother to Camoola can gallop. I would not take him to be the equal of Nobleman, however, and if Raynor sends this fine looking son of the Australian Peer fit to the post next month I think he will keep the A.J.C. Derby in New South Wales.

The following complimentary reference to the late Tom Corrigan was made by a Benalla clergyman during the course of a sermon on "The Duty of Human Life":—"During the past week the newspapers had recorded the untimely and tragic death of one who appeared to have been a clever and popular jockey. The main thoroughfares of the city of Melbourne were densely lined with a sympathetic crowd gathered to witness the funeral procession, which took half an hour to pass a given point. This man's death was not only the cause of deep regret in sporting circles, but in all sections of society among right-thinking people. And why? Not because of his skilled and fearless horsemanship, nor his repeated brilliant successes on the turf, but rather because of his unimpeachable integrity and whole-souled devotion to the cause of right and the service of others. He was truly (to express it in a colonial way) 'a white man.' And when it was remembered that by the sacrifices of principle he had it in his power to amass an immense fortune in a comparatively short time, such a life was fairly entitled to our admiration, whether it was lived on the turf or in the church."

The sporting editor of the Australasian does not favour pony racing. In account of his visit to the South Australian race meeting he remarks that the S.A.J.C. having got rid of pony racing through the accident of betting being stopped, have taken all sorts of care "that this burlesque on racing will never spring up again." As it was his first experience of a race meeting without bookmakers calling the odds he was naturally curious as to the impression such novel circumstances would make on him, and after watching the proceedings closely he delivers himself as follows:—"I came to the conclusion that the public's complacent acceptance of the new order of things is not to be wondered at. There is not the slightest difficulty about getting a bet. If you don't care about being crushed at the windows (when there is a crush—there was none the other day I was there) you can entrust your money to a bookmaker at totalisator odds. The only drawback to the South Australian plan is that you must go to the trouble of studying all the figures on the machine before you can tell the favourite. This is a trifling matter which backers do not seem to object to."

The summer programme of the Egmont Racing Club will consist of Waimate Handicap, 80sovs, second horse to receive 10sovs out of the stakes; First Handicap Hurdles, 120sovs, second 20sovs; First Hack Hurdles, 45sovs, second 5sovs; Egmont Cup, 300sovs, second 40sovs, third 10sovs; Hack Sires, 100sovs, second 15sovs, third 5sovs, nominator of sire 40sovs and cup valued at 5sovs, nominator of winner 40sovs; Hawera Welter, 70sovs, second horse 10sovs; First Hack Flat, 50sovs, second 10sovs. Second Day—Flying Handicap, 100sovs, 15sovs out of stakes to go to second horse; Second Handicap Hurdles, 100sovs, second 20sovs; Second Hack Hurdles, 40sovs, second 5sovs; Atkinson Memorial, 200sovs, second 20sovs out of stakes, third 10sovs out of stakes; Second Hack Flat, 50sovs, second 10sovs; Normanby Stakes, 80sovs, second 10sovs; Produce Hack Handicap, 40sovs, second 5sovs (for all horses having paid final acceptance in Hack Sires of 1895). The card for the Winter Meeting will be as follows:—Handicap Hurdles, 80sovs, 10sovs out of stakes to second; Hack Hurdles, 40sovs, second 5sovs; Trial Steeple, 60sovs, second 10sovs; First Hack Flat, 40sovs, second 10sovs; Egmont Steeple, 150sovs, second 20sovs; Second Hack Flat, 40sovs, second 5sovs; Final Steeple, 80sovs, second 10sovs. The total money for this year will be £1395, which means an increase of £195 compared with the figures for last year. The Hack Sires for 1893 will be on the same conditions and for the same amount as that for 1897.

Fair Nell has presented Mousquetaire with a colt foal.

Ultimatum has had his name changed to Upshot.

It is stated that Matai (by St. Leger—Raupo) has become a roarer.

Apreros who missed to St. George, goes back to him.

Forward is a level favourite with Dreamland for the V.R.C. Derby.

Mr Rathbone's mares, Comatose, Flatter, and Mrs Rawdon visit Apremont.

Brilliant (pedigree unknown) broke his neck by a fall at the North Canterbury Steeplechase Meeting.

Mr Knight has been entrusted with the handicapping of the Auckland Trotting Club's Spring Meeting.

A Southern writer states that Loyalty's sire St. George will very likely go to the land of the Stars and Stripes with Artillery.

"Castor" writes that Fusillade's hocks are giving him so much trouble that he will not be used for covering purposes this season.

Realm has proved too unsound to train, and has been relegated to stud duty at Mr S. Hordern's farm.

A Clan Stuart—Marion gelding in work at Newcastle is named Rosebery, after England's sporting Prime Minister.

Although not quite a turf topic, I may say the English cricketers leave London on the 21st inst. for Australia.

Snow and rain visitations have not improved the Southern courses, and locally we have nothing to be very cheerful over.

The Riccarton correspondent of the Times writes that Cajolery and Merrie England are in the sale list. If the latter be not sold he will be put in work again.

It is reported that Penrose, with the New Zealand Cup weight (7.6) up recently, did a more than fair trial over the distance at Kaikora North (H.B.).

"Gipsy King" hears that a court case will shortly occur over the ownership of the hack Tamarere (Robinson Crusoe—Duster). L. Holmes will be the plaintiff and Mr Utiku Marumaru defendant.

Foxtail, a Lone Hand Handicap contestant (who is also engaged in the Caulfield and Melbourne Cups), broke a small blood vessel just before the race was run, and had to fall out of the fight, which was won by his stable companion.

The Muff, who is in the Caulfield Cup at 7.2, won a five and a quarter furlong race at the Corrigan Benefit Meeting in 1min 8sec, although he was in very indifferent condition. The Muff hails from Tasmania and is by Napoleon.

The members of Sydney Tattersalls are showing their disapproval of the A.J.C.'s action in admitting Bowes's members to the paddock at Randwick by taking steps to obtain a court decision as to the legality of the A.J.C. imposing a bookmaking fee at all.

John Porter, the famous Kingslerc (England) trainer, gives it as his opinion that neither Isinglass or Ladas would have had a chance with Ormonde. On the form displayed by the latter when he won the Two Thousand and Derby Porter argues that he could have given more than a stone to Isinglass or Ladas.

Lord Rosebery's lucky number is set down as 7 because he was born on May 7th, the year of his birth was 1847, he is 47 years of age, the Derby was the 7th race run by Ladas, the horse was the 7th on the card, and there were only 7 horses running.

The owner of Utter (Mr Humphrey Oxenham) has a tabulated pedigree which traces her breeding back past the Darley Arabian to the Byley Turk to the year 1679. For 215 years an unbroken record is shown of her antecedents. Utter is the subject of a mating reputation which is at present being carried on by Sydney Referee.

The last Sydney files show Brockleigh favourite for the Epsom Handicap at 10 to 1. Bungebah comes next at two points longer, and then follow Acmena, Response, and Stanmoor at 16's. Paris is at the head of affairs for the Metrop. Stakes, and I should fancy a nice double could be had by linking the name of Acmena with the Metrop. favourite.

Dean Hole, who will probably arrange an Australian tour with the only Smythe, once delivered himself re racing as follows:—"Racing will not harm a man any more than a rubber of whist. I would subscribe to races and go to view them, over the flat or the fences, and rejoice to see working men on a Bank holiday enjoy the sport, if I could be assured that the best horse would win, that knaves and harlots would be warned off the course and that drunken men would be taken away and whipped."

A controversy has been going on in the London sporting press as to the best method of boxing a nervous horse. Amongst the many plans set out the following has certainly the merit of simplicity: Lead the horse gently forward to the box, and when it declines to go further, get a couple of men and a waggon cover or tarpaulin, which they should spread out and quietly approach the back of the horse. He will prefer to enter the box than be touched by the tarpaulin. That may be so, but on the other hand he may prefer to turn round on the tarpaulin holders. Quadrant in his old days would have been a nice horse to approach in this way!

Mr W. A. Long has given notice to the A.J.C. that he will propose the striking out of Rule 77 and the substitution of the following:—"The fee for riding to a winning jockey shall be 10 per cent. on the amount of the stake up to 100sovs, and thereafter 5 per cent. only on the amount of the stake in excess of 100sovs. To a losing jockey the fee for riding shall be £1." The losing amount has aroused the ire of "The Old Un," the Sydney Referee writer, who points out that in many cases a jockey, to get down to riding weight, spends 14s in order to earn 20s, which means a return to him of 6s. The writer quoted makes the expenditure as under:—Two Turkish baths 8s, racecourse 5s, wear and tear, saddle, clothing, etc., 1s—total 14s.

Pumau is said to be under orders for Caulfield. "Mazeppa" writes that P. McGrath intends sticking to riding this season.

It is said that Mr P. Butler meditates an early visit to the Australian turf.

I hear that T. Hodson, the jockey, is in the market for starting honours.

Pinrose, Rosefeldt and Marino are doing a sound preparation for the N.Z. Cup.

The British Lion colt Britannia was killed at Greymouth recently.

Telephone, a half sister to Megaphone, broke down in Queensland recently and has been sent to the stud.

Someone has been steadily backing Launceston and Loyalty in Melbourne for the two cups. Havoc and Carnage is the favourite pick.

Couranto has been scratched for the first and second hurdle race of the A.J.C. Meeting, to be held on 15th, 18th, 20th, and 22nd insts.

I saw Crazy Kate the other day, and judging from her looks she will never see Saturday's starting post.

R. Kingan, the coast jockey, was at Ellerslie track yesterday morning and remains in Auckland until the Spring meeting has been held.

News of the death of Mr M. Dunack, owner of Rose of Australia and other horses, comes from Queensland.

The saddles, horse clothing, etc., belonging to the late Tom Corrigan realised £37 16s 6d at public auction.

An American starter was recently fined £20 for striking a mounted jockey at the starting post.

Mr J. O. Evett will have to handicap the Wellington hack entries this year in addition to the better class nominations.

The alterations made by the Wellington Club in connection with their programmes for the season will be found in the letter of the Review's Wellington correspondent.

Marechal Neil pulled up lame on Monday last and has not been seen on the track since. The Hunt Club horse, Nap, has also been a missing quantity of late so far as the track is concerned.

This season's American trotting record for a mile was put up at Michigan on July 14th, when Fantasy (by Chimes—Honora) covered the distance in 2min 9sec.

Mr P. Lorillard, the American sportsman, who captured the English Derby of 1881 with Iroquois, is selecting a team to make another descent on the English Turf.

According to the London Sportsman the French pencilers were out by some £20,000, owing to London backers who "nodded" their bets on Matchbox for the Grand Prix, and then left unostentatiously for Merrie England before settling day.

There should be a big fight at Randwick on Saturday next between Bonnie Scotland and Cobbitty for the A.J.C. Derby and from an authentic source I incline to believe the second named colt will win.

According to the Victorian correspondent of the Witness, Percy Martin names Saracen as the only New Zealander likely to pay Melbourne a visit. That N.Z. Cup backing of Saracen appears to be as mysterious as ever.

The Victorian Trotting Association has advised handicappers working in connection with it to in the future penalise horses that they may fancy are non-triers. This is surely a pretty large power to give a handicapper.

A recent seven furlong gallop at Randwick between Three Star, The Dancer and Royal Rose, saw the first named win after running the last 5 furlongs in 1min 6sec.

The cable informs us that the Champion Breeders' Foal Stakes of 1000sovs, five furlongs, run at the Derby Meeting on the 4th inst., was won by Sir Tatton Sykes bay colt Raconteur (by St. Simon—Plaisentier).

Melbourne betting on the Victorian Spring events is rather slow just now, but what is doing shows Forward in favour for the Derby, Capstan for the Caulfield Cup, and Carnage for the big Flemington Handicap.

The positions of handicapper and starter to the Auckland Trotting Club, filled by Mr Halstead last season, were not applied for by that gentleman when the committee dealt with them a few days ago.

Sir William (by Sir Modred out of Vesper) who ran second to Malvolio in the Melbourne Cup of 1892, is advertised for service on the Sydney side at 3 guineas. Low price that for a stoutly bred proved galloper.

The thoroughbred stallions Cap-a-pie and The Dauphin have gone the way of all horseflesh. A wire received last night from the Wanganui correspondent of the Review states that Cap-a-pie succumbed to paralysis, and that The Dauphin had to be destroyed through the horse breaking his leg.

"If the sports and bettors on horse races were as highly bred as the animals which run in the race the track would not be a reproach and a means of degradation and ruin."—(An American parson's opinion of thoroughbred horses as compared with "scrubby" men.)

An unlucky rider. P. Bolger, who rode Frolic in the Caulfield Grand National Hurdle Race, had his nose broken by his mount falling, and it was only a short time back that he left the hospital where he had been laid up with a broken jaw.

"Verax" writes that the Castor—Necklace colt which Mr S. Hordern purchased at the last Wellington Park sale for 1050 guineas looks all over a racer, shows plenty of quality, but has a tendency to be slack in the loins. Respecting Collarette he considers she is too light in the loins, and "will never be a weight carrier, not having enough body."

In Tasmania the racing clubs are protesting against the imposition of a 5 per cent. tax on totalisators, which is one of the new features of the government taxation scheme. A deputation from the T.R.C. recently interviewed the Treasurer, objecting to the tax, but he could hold out no hope of the impost being abandoned.