





The top and bottom of it. Portsea's weight in the Terang Cup was 11.10. The minimum impost was 6.7.

Mr Robertson, who was one of the defeated candidates at the last V.R.C. Committee election, has been selected to take Mr Wallace's place.

If racing authorities were unanimous in disallowing similarly named horses to race, and did away with the obnoxious numerals, there would be no cause for confusion. The owner of one of the Whalebones now racing here has been instructed to change the prad's name and has done so, the new appellation being Cobar.

The party behind Upshot (late Ultimatum) must be having a Christmas innings. The other day they won nearly £800 when he got home in a suburban handicap, and on Saturday, at Willamstown, he had a mile and a furlong romp with 7.13, and Silence II. was three lengths from his heels at the finish. The other starters were, J5, Eridsforde, Rosebrook, Leap Year, Argent, Flying Scud, and Decision. Argent and Upshot were favourites at closing at 9 to 2. The name of the event was the Joyful Handicap, which was rather appropriate to the festive season.

Pilatus, a full brother to Stromboli (Chester—Etna), landed a 4 to 1 chance in the Trial Stakes by a neck from Disparity, while the much thought of Destiny landed his backers in the mud when he went down before J5 in the six furlong Christmas Gift. The winner had 9.4 and the favourite 8.6. Iris was winning easily in the Steeplechase, and her backers were wondering what their drinks would be, when she ran off at the home turn, and Guardfish waltzed in with twenty lengths to come and go upon. Hopkins being second, and the light-weighted Mercury next. Sheet Anchor's stock keep popping up promiscuously at these small meetings, Defence scoring in the Welter at this gathering, getting home by half a length in the seven furlongs with 7.7.

A most unusual and unexpected incident in connection with stud foaling is chronicled. About five weeks ago Mr S. Page's mare, Romany Lass, slipped a colt foal, and her owner was awaiting a chance to put her to the horse again, when, to his surprise, she dropped a filly a fortnight ago. The little lady has been doing well up to date.

The Deerfoot stallion Lottery died at Nowra, Shoalhaven, the other day. He was foaled in 1869. At the stud he got nothing but useful horses.

### SYDNEY RACING NOTES.

December 22.

Published that at Longreach (Q) the other day the winners of the six races on the card were ridden by a Mr E. Blume. In the sixth race, though, there was a "bloomer" somewhere, for he couldn't draw the weight and was disqualified.

The betting transactions of Jockey Cecil Parker were the theme of investigation on the part of the A.J.C. Committee this week. It is contrary to Sydney racing law for jockeys to bet, and it leaked out that Parker had transgressed—not in this Colony alone, but in Victoria. If a horse-guider bets on the English Derby here he has a chance of getting "passed out." Parker had a wager of £1000 to £1 Paris and Patron for the Caulfield and Melbourne Cups, but after Paris won he hedged the lot to a Victorian bookie and missed the throu. The A.J.C. Committee, however, heard further that he had backed Paris to win him £500 with a Sydney metallician, himself having the mount on Lady Trenton. Further, that he was greatly addicted to gambling, despite racing rules. The Hon Mr Dangor, the chairman, severely cautioned the jockey, and intimated that they would not take his license from him, it being the first breach of the kind reported to the Committee. He was glad to hear too, as a result of investigations, that his betting transactions had been greatly magnified, but at any rate any reported bet in the future would cause him to drop out of the ranks. Then the Committee had the Sydney bookie before them, and he received a homily from the Chairman on the subject of laying the odds to jockeys, and what would happen to any member of the ring doing so in future.

The jockeys betting rule is no doubt strict in character, but I am sorry to say that it is evaded meeting after meeting.

Riders get friends to put their cash on for them, ordinary human nature in most instances revolting against abstention. However, it is palpable to turfites that if a lad has a few hundreds or a thousand about a horse that has a chance at the finish of a big race by getting home first, there is always the temptation, if he is riding another animal, not to make strenuous efforts to beat him. I don't say that a lad would do it, but the temptation is there. And if three or four or more have backed some other horse or horses than those they are riding, the chances are that the best horse will not always win, especially if their cash is not on him. If the betting regulation has the effect of stamping out jockeys' rings then good work will have been achieved, and a necessity shown for this stringent addition to the racing code.

Auckland footballers—and others throughout New Zealand—will be pleased to read a paragraph I am about to write concerning "Billy" Warbrick, formerly of Auckland and latterly of Brisbane. He is now in Sydney, and one night this week he was invited to the N.S.W. Rugby Union Rooms in Pitt street, where he was made the recipient of a presentation which took the form of a silver watch, gold chain and pendant, and a photographic shield containing the countenances of the officers and players of the Boomerang Football Club, Brisbane. Mr J. A. Clarke, ex-Mayor of Brisbane, and Vice-president of the Boomerang Club, made the presentation in a few appropriate sentences, stating that Mr Warbrick had done much for football in Queensland, whose rep. team he had captained, and particularly for the Boomers, who were premiers last year. He hoped the watch would not share the fate of the one he wore when he last visited Sydney as the captain of the Queensland fifteen. Part of the inscription was: "Boomerang F.C., premiers 1893; a token of esteem, 1894." Mr Warbrick replied in feeling terms, and then the assembled company drank his health in bumpers. So ended a pleasing ceremony.

Sid Gregory was presented with a collection of current coin of the realm, amounting to £106 10s, when he returned to the pavilion after making 201 in the first test match against the Englishmen. He received a great ovation when he passed Giffen's 161, and a greater one when he had scored a couple of centuries. Half-a-guinea a run is not bad for a few hours batting. The match is in its fifth day, and is unconcluded as I despatch these notes, but at any rate Australia's 586 rather flabbergasted the Englishmen, who, in their second innings, had a dead horse of 261 to pay off before they started playing for victory. This they accomplished with four men's timber down.

When Stoddart went out the pavilion gate to field he and his team received the benediction of the Church, for the Primate of Australia stepped up, shook hands, and wished him every success. This was too much for squat, stout, eyeglass Premier Reid, who strode up to Blackham and expressed his political wish (in so many words) that Australia would knock 'em out of 'em. And at the time of writing politics is on top.

Giffen's batting, bowling, and fielding stamp him as the best all-round cricketer in the world. He is cunning, too. Blackham, who had to retire from the stumps owing to an injury, is admittedly a better captain, because Giffen keeps men bowling too long before he changes them, his theory being that they will capture wickets in the long run, and for less runs than what would be the case if the bowling was repeatedly changed. Blackham thinks differently, being of an opinion that judicious changing puzzles the batsmen.

Ward is one of the steadiest sheet anchors of the Englishers, and when he compiled his century in the second innings he got a deserved ovation. Little Briggs is the lively man of the team; he is full of humour and cuts funny looking antics even on the cricket field. He got quite jolly when he made a decent score in the first innings, and his capers caused amusement, especially when Gay joined him as a partner. They were both Gay then, and the great score they had to help to beat didn't seem to matter twopenny. Lockwood was too ill to bowl during part of the match, and Phillipson took his place in the field, substitutes being allowed.

When Stoddart saw what they had to beat he said, "Now then, boys, I will give a tanner to any one who makes a hundred."

Jones was only put in the team on the off chance of the wicket being bad. Conningham should have gone in his place, for not only would Queensland have been represented then, but Conningham can bat and is a good bowler. Jones is fast, but flighty, and is bowling at the men half his time.

Wicket keeper Gay stands back when Richardson sends along his lightning limb breakers. They come in a trifle swift occasionally. After Gay had missed Giffen thrice behind the stumps from lightning flashers, a critical spectator sedately remarked, "I think as it is about time they took Gay off, and put another in his place."

Bootmaker Humphreys is not playing in this match, but sits demurely in the background, mentally calculating the chances and pondering over the propable treatment they would give his insidious lob.

Those who don't go out to the ground have the match described for them in the city in a very minute manner, especially on the upper portion of Lassetter's shop. A man stands at the telephone by the window all day with assistants, and as each run is scored it is telephoned over the ground. A big board outside registers the numbers, which move up and down like those in a totalisator, and the four and five hits and byes are instantly recorded opposite the names of the batsmen, while underneath the name of the bowler slides backwards and forwards when bowling or otherwise as the case might be. So that hundreds congregate and give the police work in keeping a clear passage. Of course the firm hang out big advertisements about their bats, etc., and when Iredale scored 80 odd a large intimation was hung out stating that the firm was established in 1820 by his great grandfather. When the visitors went down in the first innings a huge board asserted that they were not using the firm's bats, and when they commenced to score up in the second innings another said that they were now swearing by them. There is nothing like advertising is there Mr Proprietor? Anyhow, this is how one man tersely put it—"I was going out, but as I can see the match in the main street here, I shall have four long sleepers for the bob."

The above items may not strictly come under the heading of "Racing Notes," but turf information is slack this week. The Summer and Tattersall's Cups will provide information for turfites in a few days, and I hope to be able to send some interesting notes about the Christmas and New Year carnivals. By the way, how many punters who are now mentally resolving to abstain from backing horses when the New Year arrives will adhere to their intention, but take the first conveyance out to the course on the first of the year?

December 27.

A peculiar incident occurred in connection with the Moorfield Handicap on Saturday, when the backers of Aeorlite did not have a spin for their cash. The jockey donned his colours and weighed out, and his mount was, to all intents and purposes, in the hands of the starter. But the horse wasn't even on the course. The stewards afterwards wanted to know the why and wherefore, and the owner stated that the Richmond train was late in arriving, and he did not get on to the enclosure until the race was finishing. The rider had naturally weighed out on the assumption that the horse was on the ground. The officials had nothing to do but accept the explanation, but the backers of the animal did not get their money back. Some amendment is required in the rule relating to "starters" in this respect, the dampfoolishness of the thing being apparent.

The winner of the race discussed above proved to be Sweet William's son, Theophilus, who negotiated the mile and a quarter, with 8.9, in 2min. 11½sec. He was under pressure, though, for the last half mile, and Gough had to ride him hard to keep his place. He looked a beaten horse in the straight, but came away at the finish and landed a 7 to 4 chance from Killarney and Lustre. An accident happened to Miletos, who fell at the three furlong post, and after the ambulance had brought M. Tierney in it was found that his left arm was both dislocated and fractured.

The brown Maoriland horse, Wyvern, could only run a good third to Mentor (Tester—The Barb mare), and Comet in the Tramway Handicap, with the lighthish impost of 6.12. The winner went out comparatively unbacked, his name not being quoted, and his 6.7 enabled him to beat the heavier weighted Comet by a neck. The Swell was favourite, but ran a beetle-headed brute.

The old hurdler Waratah (Butler—Ripple) displayed splendid form during the day, for he appropriated both the Welter and The Stewards' mile. In the first mentioned contest he dashed up on the outside and scored by two lengths from the brown mare Rose Stella and Peacock. There were nine others rearward, including the hot favourite, Lieutenant, and Novelette. In the concluding event he met sixteen others, being second favourite to Cumberoona. He came along at the distance and outpaced his immediate opponents by three lengths, Horizon and Sherbrooke being second and third.

Bowmont, who will be remembered when on the turf, sired the winner of the Kogarah Stakes in the three-year-old Belmont, who is out of Maronbra. The distance was six furlongs, and he practically won the event at the start, for he ran away with a three lengths lead and allowed nothing to pass him. Chrystalline and Mount Royal, who went out equal favourites, closed on him in the straight, but he passed the box with a neck advantage, Mount Royal being a neck behind the second. A protest for interference was deemed frivolous, and the deposit forfeited. Any price could have been got about Belmont, the bookies never being asked his figure.

Somnus (by Somnus), who was equal favourite with the second and third in the race just quoted, was subsequently saddled up for the Auction Stakes, in which he was entered for nil, but the public preferred Mitre and Quadrant, and the closing price of Somnus was 6 to 1. He ran home three lengths to the good, and was bought in for £60, the amount of the stake, so that the club benefit to that extent. Selling races are indeed peculiar things.

Late news from Coolgardie gives account of the death of Tom Croese, the well-known sculler—said to have been about the best for his weight in Australia. He was driving a team at White Heather, where he contracted the fell typhoid, which laid him low.

You can always evade rules and regulations somehow—if you possess the bump of smartness. Racing men are not deficient in this. One of the runners in a race at Moorfield on Saturday was saddled up and did his preliminary, and was, with others, backed in the market all the time, but later on the bookies would lay any price about him, and it seemed to all intents and purposes that they had him "in their pocket." After the horse's preliminary the jockey rode down to the enclosure, where the trainer was perched on the fence. He had forgotten his whip, and the trainer passed it over to him, and in doing so made "a few remarks," but they were intended for his ear alone. I don't say that the jockey did not forget his whip, but the position of the horse in the betting market, where operations opened, and the longer odds offered later on, looked peculiar, to say the least of it. Anyhow, if trainers are not now allowed to "tighten up the girths" just before the start, and give the riders the office, the best idea is for the boy to forget something. But a jockey who could forget his whip ought to be put in a factory for six months, pasting labels on jam tins.



TO THE RACING CLUBS OF NEW ZEALAND.

### PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

Having obtained the patent rights of GRAY'S STARTING MACHINE, I am prepared to deal on liberal terms with clubs for supplying, erecting, and starting same.

This machine is the simplest, cheapest, and most effective of the several inventions that have been tested on the Australian side.

All persons are warned against infringing the rights of, or using, Gray's Machine without authority from

G. ELLIS,

Sole Agent.

Full particulars may be obtained from me at the C.J.C. Metropolitan Meeting, or Capt. Ellis, Auckland.



FitzHercules took half a second less, in 1881 when Tim Whiffler scored in 2min. 56 1/2 sec., and 1879 (Omega's year) when 3min. 8 1/2 sec. was the clocking. The winning table of the Derby is as under:—

Table with columns: Yr., Owner, Winner, Sire, Jockey, Time. Lists winners of the Derby from 1876 to 1895.

With Bloodshot turned loose in the Midsummer Handicap at 8.12 (2lbs above the weight under which he "walked" in on December 26th in a 1min 17sec six furlong go) backers had no difficulty in locating the winner. Forma was the only other contestant to whom a chance was given, and Caribou was third favourite. The betting was supported up to the hilt, for the three horses finished in the order in which they stood in the money market, Bloodshot winning almost comfortably in 1min 2 1/2 sec. With Bloodshot 8.12 and Forma 8.3, what chance had the other competitors? Forma had no chance against the winner of the Foal Stakes, and with the latter out of the way the other horses had Buckley's chance against Forma. Last year Three Star (winner of the Foal Stakes) was put up from 8.10 to 9.0 in the Midsummer Handicap; so if Three Star was worth such a lift why not Bloodshot? who, mark you! won by a length in 1min 17sec, while Three Star only got home by a neck in 1min 19 1/2 sec—two and a half seconds longer. This weighting of Bloodshot cannot be considered as a very serious addition to the laurels of Mr Evett's fame as a weight adjuster. Bloodshot was backed down to level money chance, the machine declarations being £2 1s and £2 3s. For the six furlongs County Handicap Lady Moth was picked out as the cleanest pea, and when it was found that the owner of the mare was engaged in a dispute with Norina's owner as to who should have the riding services of Connop, the chance of Lady Moth was fancied more than ever. Mr Abbott appeared to have the first claim on Connop's riding, but a suggestion by him that he and Mr Roche should toss a coin to settle the matter, finished the dispute, Lady Moth obtaining the services of the jockey. I am afraid many punters followed the result of this little dispute, but, unfortunately for them, the mare could only manage third place, Annabelle and Lufra both finishing in front of her. Lady Moth is an excitable customer at the post, and in this race she got the bulge on the handler of the starting machine by chewing the trigger on the left hand side, thereby releasing one end of the barrier. When it was let go she and Linstock got the start, but once fairly in the cutting Lufra, with a thumping big dividend hanging to her, came with a rattle and led them into the straight. Here Annabelle moved up with a will, but despite all her efforts to shake off Lufra, the Flintlock—Magnesia stuck to her work in such a determined fashion that the North Shore mare only scored a long neck victory. Time, 1min 18sec. Dividends, £6 9s and £6 10s.

That brought us up to the A.R.C. Handicap of 350 sovs, one mile and a half, which was declined by a pair, St. Kilda and Annabelle. Lottie, with all her 9.1, was hoisted into the position of favourite, Mahaki being next in demand, with Royal Rose close on his heels. A splendid start saw Mahaki first out of line, Forme and Royal Rose being next off the mark, while Lottie made no at-

tempt to bustle herself. Right through the mile and a quarter Forme and Mahaki kept at the head, Lottie being in the ruck, while Royal Rose kept half way up the field. Ben Godfrey (in bandages), Ida, and First Nelson were only toys in the hands of the favourites throughout. When the top stretch was reached the fight began. Mahaki gained the home turn as strong as a lion, and Davis, thinking it was time to hustle, sat down in earnest on the Muskapeer mare; but though Lottie answered gamely, Mahaki's long easy stride was a trifle beyond her, and at the Derby stand the struggle was over, Mahaki drawing away easily and reaching the line two and a half lengths to the good, Lottie finishing second, two lengths ahead of Royal Rose. The time (2min. 40 1/2 sec.) was distinctly creditable to the winner, in view of the easy nature of his finish. Last year, it will be remembered, the late Van Dieman got home in a second and a half better time, but he had to fight out a hard finish with Tulloch. Mahaki's dividends were £3 13s. and £4 3s.

Table with columns: Yr., Owner, Winner, A. st. lb., Jockey, Time. Lists winners of the A.R.C. Handicap from 1876 to 1895.

On the form shown by Sweet Lavender in the First Pony Handicap, the second race for miniatures looked a sure thing for her, for though beaten by Lady Thornton (7.10) her run of the first day was good enough to down Lady Thornton with an additional 18lb on the back of the latter. The public had noticed her first day's display, so she was sent out pretty well favourite, Silkworm leading her in popular esteem by a very few points. Mavourneen was expected to run a game mare, and so she did, but she was short of a gallop, the fitter Sweet Lavender beating her by a length in the run home. Brown Mantle was third. Time, 1min 33sec. Dividend, £5 and £6 12s. The Maiden Handicap, one mile, looked a snap for Anita, but lucky W. Adams sent along Cleopatra (whom he had purchased the week before for 25 guineas), and the Nelson mare beat the favourite on the post in 1min 46sec, and rejoiced her party with the decent dividends of £21 1s and £31 16s. The Sharper was a couple of lengths away third. Cleopatra's win was decided hard luck for Major George, who raced the mare all last season without scoring a win. And a few days after he accepts a miserable 25 guineas for her she wins a 50 sov Maiden and pays a dividend equal to her purchase money.

Beautiful weather again invited one to oscillate his money on the concluding day of the meeting, and a goodly number of punters accepted the invitation. As is customary on Steeplechase Day, there was a big attendance of citizens, who perhaps never visit the course except on two occasions in the year, viz, when the Summer and Great Northern Steeplechases are fought out. Business commenced with the Ascot Handicap, one mile, which attracted a quartette. With 9.7 up, backers refused to believe that The Dancer's number could be lowered, although there was a fairly strong contingent willing to back their opinion that St. Laura, with a 21lb pull of the weights, would outpace the Son of Sword Dance and Vivandiere. After a delay, the cause of which was not visible to the naked eye, the quartette left the mark together, The Dancer and Eve being the first to make a move from the main body. Opposite the stand Haria shot away and led through the cutting, but at the half mile post St. Laura and Eve took command, and the latter turned into the straight first. At this stage of the race the Briga-

dier filly fell, St. Laura falling over her, so that The Dancer had no difficulty in winning hard held, by a length in 1min. 45sec. Mantell, who was riding St. Laura, escaped unhurt, but Stewart (Eve's pilot) sustained an injury to the chest and had to be removed to his home, where Dr Bewes is attending him. The favourite paid £1 13s. and £1 2s Forma, at 8.7, overshadowed her Sylvia Handicap opponents, and, as could only have been expected, she never gave them a hope, winning with ease in 1min. 18sec., with Dead Shot three lengths away third, and Fabulist a couple of lengths behind Dead Shot. At the weighting the race was all over as soon as the handicap was posted. This is the kind of handicapping that gives rise to the expression, "pitched in." Then came the Grand Stand Handicap of 150 sovs, one mile and a quarter, for which Haria and the Derby winner, Stepfeldt, were freely backed, the Ingomar—Steppe horse being most in demand. He ran his A.R.C. Handicap mile and a half in 2min. 41 1/2 sec., while Stepfeldt took 2min. 51sec. for her Derby run. That was good enough for the crowd, and Mahaki accordingly stepped out favourite and stepped in a comfortable winner in 2min. 12sec. Annabelle (7.6) second a couple of safe lengths away, and Stepfeldt third. Ida cut out the running, but when it came she had not a hope, and Ben Godfrey (still in bandages) was somewhat sore. The Maori-owned horse won this mile and a half without the semblance of a struggle with 9.2 on his back, and remembering his comfortable A.R.C. Handicap win with 8.4 in 2min 40sec, one cannot help commenting upon his Wellington Cup chance with 8.6 in the saddle. That handicap has only twice been run in better time than Mahaki's A.R.C. 2min 40 1/2 sec, viz., in 1889-90, when Mr G. Hunter's Cynisca, with the light burden of 7.1, got home in 2min 39 1/2 sec, and in 1892-93 when Regina scored in 2min 40sec. Last year Vogegang got home in 2min 41 sec. Both Mahaki and Lottie must stand a very big chance in that Cup. I hear that T. Taylor has been engaged to pilot the horse, and it is certain Mr Kere Pere would find it hard to light on a man who would ride Mahaki better than Taylor did at Ellerslie this week. Respecting the prospects of Mahaki and Lottie in the forthcoming Windy City Cup many are of opinion that Mahaki should beat Lottie, but the Maori horse had an eleven pound pull of the weights in the Racing Club Handicap, and all things considered, I would not write the mare out on that particular performance.

When the Steeplechase candidates came out Norton was missing and everyone regretted his absence, for win or lose we would have been glad to have seen Mr Gollan's fine horse negotiating the plantation and hill with 13.0 on his back. Hickey's broken collarbone prevented him from doing the riding, and though Mr Gollan would have gladly taken the mount, I fancy the Ascot gelding was not quite in the fettle desired by his connections. With Norton out of the way Roscius took top weight with 12.0, but his habit of bleeding at the nose during his work did not incline track habitues to his chance. But the eighteen-hander did us badly, for bleeding and all he simply stamped his elephantine way over the country and walked over all opposition. The public honoured me by sending my early selection, Bombardier and Magpie, out first and second favourite, and though Bombardier failed us by turning a "seven," Magpie ran into second place. "But that does not give us a dividend," punters may remark, to which I can only answer—"How was I to know that Roscius could bleed like a pig at the nose and yet run like a fawn, jump like a deer, and stay like a mother-in-law?" The gentleman of the clothes-horse outlines and wash-basin-like feet took us all completely, but I forgive him because of the nonchalant manner in which he rolled over the fences and loped along the flat. He's as ugly as sin, but a jumper every inch of him. A jump by jump account of the race is not required, so I shall skip it and merely make a few comments regarding the performances of the various contestants. Ballyhooley was the surprise of the race, for few credited him with the fencing and galloping powers which he evidenced prior to the baulk at the double, which placed him out of the contest. The second time up the hill saw old Despised, who raced

and jumped like a Trojan, throw out at a fence, and Bombardier was the next to dislodge his rider. With his stable companion hors de combat, Ballyhooley strode down the hill like a wild Irishman and until the double made him blink and refuse he was going eyes out like a gritty chaser. When again confronted with the fences he took them, but the sting had been taken out of him. Fishmonger did not get a clear take-off at the double, the first bar of which he fenced very indifferently, but the little horse pounded over the second fence in the gamest fashion and dashed up to his field by the old water jump. Here he was galloped on, and when he came back to the paddock his near hind leg bore marked evidence of the interference, the flesh being peeled off his leg like a banana peeling. Roscius, with nostrils dripping blood, flew the double and loped around the back stretch and up the hill with the unconcern of a traction engine. By this time Magpie was his nearest attendant, and at the jump on the hill Rae out-generalled Alexander (Roscius's rider) by jumping the obstacles slantwise and sneaking a four-length advantage in the run down hill. The big horse, however, soon made the gap vanish, and Fishmonger, with a burst of speed, streaked ahead half way down the slope. His tether was, however, about out, and in the run home Roscius and Magpie had the fight between them. The Gladiator gelding had the pace left in him, and despite Rae's vigorous calls and Magpie's plucky replies, the former reached the line three lengths to the good, Fishmonger a plucky third. The little fellow raced as game as a pebble (I don't know that the gravel mentioned is particularly game but the expression is stereotyped and therefore pardonable), but the race was just half a mile too far for him. Magpie was ridden well and went gamely, but was outdone in jumping and pace by Roscius, who is an ugly wonder. There he was, outpaced in the first day's hurdle race, apparently suffering from head hemorrhage, and yet he stalked home a comfortable winner in a time that has only been beaten once since the race was established in 1875, viz., in 1889, when Recruit, with the minimum of 9.0, carried Mr Dickey's colours to the front in 8min 36sec—two seconds better than the time given Roscius who gladdened his backers with dividends of £9 1s and £8 1s. The list of Summer Steeplechase winners is as follows:—

Table with columns: Yr., Owner, Winner, A. st. lb., Jockey, Time. Lists winners of the Auckland Steeplechase from 1875 to 1895.

The pet six furlong horse of the North, St. Clements, had his number taken down fairly in the Newmarket Handicap, for The Workman gave him a 3lb advantage and as neat a drubbing as the St. Leger—Satanella flier has ever received. He was favoured by backers, and after a fair start and a clear run up to the Derby stand, The Workman closed with him and settled his pretensions before the lawn rails were reached. Doris and St. Clements looked like finishing before Major George's representative came on the scene, but when he did they were quickly counted out, The Workman reaching the line a winner by three lengths in the good time of 1min. 15 1/2 sec., while St. Clements beat Doris by a length for second money. St. Clements is a good handicap horse, but I am now convinced he is no wonder, and, by the way, I desire to take back my last week's insinuation that Doris is lacking in heart. In this and in the last race she raced as game as could be, and there is little doubt that the mare was not herself earlier in the meeting. Then came a sensation as

painful as it was unexpected. Mr G. G. Stead, of Christchurch, left both Bluefire (9.11) and Bloodshot (8.0) in the Musket Stakes, and, as owners don't declare to win in this country when they have two horses going, but are supposed to drive both to a finish, the public were a bit confused. However, in the Derby, Bluefire showed anything but brilliant form, and as the leading jockey of the stable (Derrett) was put up on Bloodshot who had shown unmistakable pace during the meeting, the public concluded that he was the "correct pea," or the better horse on the day, whichever way you like to put it. And what of the result? Why Bloodshot, to the eye of the common or garden variety of onlooker, had everything beaten at the distance and was romping home until Bluefire shot up on the outside. Then at thirty yards from home down dropped Derrett's hand, and Bluefire's jockey, working like a mulatto, shot up his mount and pipped the favourite on the post, getting home by half a length to the good, while Derrett appeared to be charmingly unconscious that there was any reason for shaking up his mount. Forma finished third. When Bluefire reached the line up went a throaty yell from the onlookers, and there was no mistaking the nature of that outburst. It was the vengeful howl of a multitude believing it had been "got at," and as Bluefire and Bloodshot stepped up to the weighing room the confused babel resolved itself into excited cries of "Send up Stead." The crowd was boiling over with passion, and had there been no fence and gate the horse and jockey might have experienced a bad time. The affair was a most painful one, and the issue hung in the balance until the hoisting of the signal for stewards to assemble cooled down the angry denunciations of the spectators. Then, after a hurried meeting, the stewards decided that Mr Stead was perfectly innocent of any malpractice and that he was just as surprised to see Bluefire's victory as was his detractors. Now, concerning the nature of the stewards' investigation I cannot speak with certainty as the Press representatives were refused admission, the usual Star Chamber-like inquiry being indulged in. I have heard it stated that Mr Stead could have had no object in winning with his badly-backed second string as he never bets. But that is beside the question. Whether he had or had not a farthing on either of his horses, the fact remains that the public placed their money on Bloodshot, who was leading up to within twenty yards from home and who certainly could have won had he been ridden to a finish. A telegram from a coastal friend of Mr Stead's, asking him to invest £10 on his best horse was, it is said, placed on Bloodshot. So much the worse for the friend, who is to be sympathised with in common with other backers of Bloodshot. Now, as to the allegation of the public that Bloodshot was "stiff" for the poorly-backed Bluefire, surely no man in Mr Stead's position would act in a manner so contemptible and so easy of detection. The whole of the machine would never repay a man for the charges that were hurled at Mr Stead's name when his horse returned to the paddock. Such a scene would be dear at a profit of thousands, and where a few paltry hundreds were involved, surely Bluefire's owner is too much of a sportsman, and too proud of his reputation, to incur the hatred of a racecourse crowd. Derrett, would hardly like to be beaten by a stable boy; and yet in this connection there remains this fact: With a "ride to win" instruction Derrett did what a jockey should never do—went to sleep, and was beaten on the post. When he settled Forma inside the distance, he looked round and then dropped his hands. When he gave that glance back he saw Forma was done, and should also have seen Bluefire coming eyes out on the far side of Forma. But apparently he did not. The whole affair was a most unfortunate happening, and completely spoilt the racing. The stewards say Mr Stead is innocent, but the voice of the public sounds a different note, and I can only regret that the Christchurch sport did not scratch one of his horses and place his name beyond the reach of the mud that has been thrown at it. That the whole thing may be quickly forgotten must be the wish of sportsmen, but I'm afraid the memory of that day will die hard. Bluefire's 1min 16 sec is the record for the Musket Stakes,

North Atlantic's 1min 16½sec run of 1892 being the nearest approach to it.

The Pony Hurdle Race, one mile and a-half, fell to Mother Shipton in 2.59½, Little Tom being second and Frisco third. Then the curtain fell with the Recovery Stakes, which had to be run twice owing to one of the pony hurdles having been left standing down by the mile and a-half post. The field were sweeping along at a lively five furlong gait, and to the surprise of the onlookers they suddenly reared up in line, flopped down, and came on like born jumpers. Doris was the first to get to the judge's box, but Gallagher on Eve promptly protested and a run-off was ordered, Eve this time getting home in 1.4½, with Doris second and Lady Marion third. Considering the hard luck recently experienced by Mr Walters it was cruel fortune for him to get beaten in the run-off, for his mare was raced to a finish in the initial attempt while Eve was not. Mr Walters could have caused trouble by declining to race a second time. Seeing that he lost his dividend, I think the A.R.C. would be doing a gracious thing were they to pay the stakes twice over, and give Doris the fruits of her first win. In fairness such a course should suggest itself to the club's authorities, and I hope to find them acting in the manner indicated.

## The Annual Sales.

### SALES OF BLOOD STOCK.

THE results obtained at the recent sales of blood stock cannot be said to be altogether satisfactory from a breeder's point of view, but from a buyer's standpoint the state of the market was all that could be desired. After attending the various sales held during the past week, one is forced to the conclusion that when a man wants a good hack or buggy horse it is far better to attend a thoroughbred sale than buy in the weekly market. Many pure blooded animals sold for songs during the bazaar just closed would certainly have realised better prices had they been placed in the Durham-street yards, and submitted without the glamour of pure breeding surrounding them. Purchasers have come to the opinion that at the Xmas sales the stock must go for whatever price is offered, and they slaughter the breeders accordingly. It is eminently satisfactory for a man to pay a covering fee of 25 or 30 guineas, and then, after paying twelve months' expenses, see the yearling sold at 15 or 20 guineas after much hesitation on the part of buyers. For instance, it must have been very interesting for the Messrs Nathan to see a St. Leger—Bellona yearling knocked down for 31 guineas—just one guinea over the serving fee of the sire. And the Glenora Park breeder must have been delighted to see the result of his year's labour estimated at a total sum of 45 guineas! Mr Morrin, too, has the pleasure of facing a total of 2,787 guineas, as against last year's 5,222 guineas—not a very healthy piece of reading for our leading stud master. The sales go to show that the day for high-priced yearlings has vanished.

The principal dispersal, the Wellington Park sale, drew a large attendance, but the audience looked more like seekers after a day's outing and a free lunch than buyers of yearlings. And so it proved. Many familiar faces were missing from the ring side. Business in West Australia accounted for the absence of Mr W. R. Wilson, and Dan O'Brien was doubtless preparing a Loyalty coup in connection with Tattersall's Cup run at Randwick today. Proceedings were opened with the customary reading of the conditions of sale, and Mr Philson proceeded to impress upon his audience that it would be "the last opportunity" they would have of buying the Wellington Park stock, which announcement made many think that the leading stud-master intended retiring from the business. But the auctioneer simply meant it would be the last opportunity we would have of buying the youngsters under review. With this piece of misunderstanding cleared away, the bazaar was opened by a Radames—Weazel filly being led out. This youngster had her knees barked through having gone clean through one

of the Park fences, but Mr A. Austin took her, bark and all, at 20 guineas. That was a beautiful start, truly, and when lot 2, a Castor—Welcome Katie colt, went to Mr W. Adams for 45 guineas, we knew what the sale would be. Mr Adams sold that other son of Welcome Katie's (Ben Godfrey) for 450 guineas a week or so ago, so he was quite willing to spend a few pounds in the purchase of a half-brother. This buyer's luck appears to be right in, for last week he bought Cleopatra for 25 guineas, and before a week had passed he won a £50 Maiden Plate with the mare, who had dividends of £21 and £31 hanging to her. Cruel luck that for Major George, who raced Cleopatra all last season without scoring a single win. Mr Wi Pere opened his purse to the extent of 35 guineas for a Hotchkiss—Tasmania filly, and followed this up by securing seven youngsters for the small outlay of 340 guineas. His other purchases were a Castor—Moilena colt, Castor—Valentinia filly, Hotchkiss—Maid of Athol filly, Castor—Balista filly, Cuirassier—Lyrelinus filly, and a Castor—Vivandiere filly. The North Shore sportsmen (the Messrs. Duder Bros.) took a St. Leger—Puwerewere at 30 guineas (dirt cheap), and for 200 guineas they secured the Castor—Necklace filly, one of the finest things given by the Zealot—Lady Yardley horse. The bidding had been very slow up to this, but a change was expected when Impulse's half-brother was led into the ring. Mr Adams started with a bid of 100 guineas, and Mr Hirschberg went one better with 110 guineas. Impulse's virtues were pointed out by the auctioneer, but not another fiver could be extracted, and down went the hammer, giving the New Plymouth sportsman as cheap a youngster as was ever let go at an Auckland sale. All eyes turned on Mr Stead when the Medallion—Sapphire filly came into the ring. A start of 30 guineas set the bidding going, and by tenners the offers went up to 150gs. Then came a pause and the persuasive powers of Mr Philson were set to work, and Mr T. H. Lowry, of Hawkes Bay, sprang another 20 guineas, but at 170gs the buyers were dumb, Mr Stead evincing no startling determination to become possessed of Bluefire's relative. Seeing the market was at top Mr Philson dropped his hammer. The Cuirassier—Katipo colt did not cause the sensation many expected, Mr Austin securing him for 57 guineas. Mr J. McKewan, of Dunedin, bought a Hotchkiss—Bianca filly (as pretty as a picture) and a St. Leger—Bang'le filly for 105 guineas, and the brother of Florrie, Launceston, and Kingsman fell to Mr Goodson, of Hawera, for 45 guineas. Last year 225 guineas was obtained for the full brother to this colt. The first sparkle of excitement came into the ring when the Cuirassier—Albatross colt was offered, Mr Stead, the Christchurch racing man, opening out for the first time. At 235 guineas the owner of Bloodshot and Bluefire became possessed of this youngster, who was, with the Formo colt, the pick of the Park basket. Mr Abercrombie took a Hotchkiss—Yattaghan filly and a Castor—Madcap filly for 60 guineas, and from a 45 guinea start Wi Pere obtained the Castor—Balista filly, 70 guineas proving the limit of the available money. Then Mr Stead opened for the second time, his bid of 230 guineas locating the future whereabouts of Forma's full brother. From a start of 100 guineas, the bidding of Wi Pere and the Messrs Nathan brought the price up to 215 guineas. Then Mr Stead spoke a "fiver" better, and Mr Nathan went ditto. "230," spoke the Christchurch sportsman, and at that price opposition was silenced and a colt worth every penny of 500 guineas went to the stranger. The Castor—Hilda colt went up by tenners from 50 guineas to 135 guineas, at which price Mr T. McEwen, of the City Buffet, was named the possessor. Mr Stead showed an inclination to take the Cuirassier—Ouida colt, but the Messrs Nathan were determined upon securing Strathmore's relative, and their bid of 220 guineas had the desired effect. Three Star's full sister was passed to Wi Pere at 75 guineas, and then the Ellerslie trainer, Geo. Wright, entered into a duel with Bluefire's owner over the possession of the Castor—Cissy colt. From 210 guineas they followed each others bidding up to 270 guineas. Then a fiver was spoken by the South and Wright

replied with 280 guineas, and down fell the hammer (or rather Mr Philson's hand dropped, for he had no hammer). The Ellerslie trainer, or the Wizard of the North as the Southrons have dubbed Wright, was again to the fore in the closing deal, his bid of 450 guineas settling the efforts of those who desired to become possessed of the Castor—Frailty filly. The twenty-seven yearlings realised a total of 2,787 guineas, as against 5,228 guineas last year. Although the thousand and fifteen hundred bids of 1894 were missing on Thursday last, the average was pretty fair. Reasonable prices will be given by New Zealand sportsmen for yearling stock, but when offers of a thousand and odd odd are required Australian side racing men are the only possessors of the necessary enterprise, or purse, just as you like to put it. After the Wellington Park yearlings had been put through, four brood mares were sold to close a partnership account, and the figures realised were poor in the extreme, seeing that the mares not only had foals at foot, but had been served by the Park sires, two of the matrons being stunted to Hotchkiss, and one each to St. Leger and Castor. The various deals during the past week were as follows:—

#### ON ACCOUNT OF MR. T. MORRIN.

	Gs.
Brown filly, by Radames from Weazel, A. Austin	20
Bay colt, by Castor from Welcome Katie, W. Adams	45
Brown filly, by Hotchkiss from Tasmania, Wi Pere	35
Brown colt, by Hotchkiss from Sunrise, A. Austin	20
Bay colt, by Castor from Moilena, Wi Pere	25
Bay filly, by Castor from Valentinian, Wi Pere	35
Chestnut colt, by St. Leger from Puwerewere, R. and R. Duder	30
Chestnut filly, by Hotchkiss from Maid of Athol, Wi Pere	45
Brown colt, by Cuirassier from Aida, Mr Hirschberg	110
Brown filly, by Medallion from Sapphire, T. H. Lowry	170
Brown colt by Cuirassier from Katipo, A. Austin	57
Brown filly by Hotchkiss from Bianca, T. McKewan	65
Chestnut colt by Tasman from Rubina, T. Goodson	45
Chestnut filly by Hotchkiss from Yattaghan, A. Abercrombie	35
Bay colt by Cuirassier from Albatross, G. G. Stead	235
Bay filly by Castor from Madcap, A. Abercrombie	25
Bay filly by Castor from Balista, Wi Pere	70
Bay colt by Hotchkiss from Formo, G. G. Stead	230
Chestnut filly by St. Leger from Bangle, T. McKewan	40
Brown colt by Castor from Hilda, T. McEwen	135
Brown filly by Cuirassier from Lyrelinus, Wi Pere	55
Brown colt by Cuirassier from Ouida, J. D. and N. A. Nathan	220
Grey filly by Castor from Vivandiere, Wi Pere	75
Bay colt by Castor from Cissy, G. Wright	280
Brown filly by Hotchkiss from Radiant, T. Moore	35
Bay filly by Castor from Necklace, R. and R. Duder	200
Bay filly by Castor from Frailty, G. Wright	450

#### MISCELLANEOUS LOTS.

Brown mare Veneration with filly foal at foot by Castor, and served by St. Leger, Mr A. Goodson	25
Brown mare Moilena, by Patriarch from Rosabelle, with filly foal by Hotchkiss, and stunted again to same horse, Mr Tyrer	20
Brown mare Arielina, by Ariel from Moilena, Mr Howell	11
Brown colt foal, by Hotchkiss from Arielina, Mr P. Bolton	10
Chestnut mare Lady Sterling, by Sterlingworth from Lady Elizabeth, Mr N. Dickey, Paeroa	11
Grey colt, by Castor from Olivette, Mr A. Byers	35

#### ON ACCOUNT OF MESSRS L. D. AND N. A. NATHAN.

	Gs.
Chestnut filly by St. Leger (imp.) from Bellona, W. Laycock, Mercury Bay	31
Brown yearling colt by Cuirassier from La Dauphine, Jos. Finnerty, Waitara	40
Chestnut colt by St. Leger from Lady Whitford, F. Watson, New Plymouth	36
Brown colt by Cuirassier from Sybil, T. Moore, Napier	125
Bay colt by St. Leger (imp.) from Cantine, John Rae, Ellerslie	145
Brown colt by Cuirassier from Roie, G. Wright, Ellerslie	100
Brown colt by Cuirassier from Liquidation, N. Dickey, Paeroa	12

#### ON ACCOUNT OF MRS W. WALTERS.

Brown colt by Hippocampus from Empress, W. Wilson	10
Black colt by Hippocampus from Cressina, D. McNeil	11
Bay colt by St. Leger from Muskerina, Joseph Finnerty	25
Brown colt by Hotchkiss from Fishgirl, withdrawn	
Brown filly by Cuirassier from Rosarina, withdrawn. Reserve, 30gs.	







Owners, Note!

POVERTY BAY TURF CLUB ANNUAL MEETING. To-day (Saturday), 5th inst., at 9.30 p.m., acceptances in connection with the Poverty Bay Turf Club's Annual Meeting will close with Mr J. H. Aislabie as under:— Flying Handicap of 80 sovs, 6 furlongs, 3 sovs. First Hurdles of 60 sovs, 1½ mile, 2 sovs. Turanga Stakes of 200 sovs, 1½ mile, 4 sovs. County Stakes of 40 sovs, 1 mile, 1 sov. Welter Handicap of 40 sovs, 1 mile, 1 sov.

EGMONT RACING CLUB SUMMER MEETING. On Thursday, 10th inst., at 9 p.m., nominations in connection with the Egmont Racing Club's Summer Meeting will close with the secretary, Mr Alex. G. Brett, as under:— Waimate Handicap of 80 sovs, 7 furlongs, 1 sov. First Handicap Hurdles of 120 sovs, 2 miles and a distance, 1 sov. First Handicap Hack Hurdles of 45 sovs, 1½ miles, 1 sov. Egmont Cup Handicap of 300 sovs, 2 miles, 1 sov. Hawera Welter Handicap of 70 sovs, 1 mile, 1 sov. First Handicap Hack Flat Race of 50 sovs, 1 mile, 1 sov. Flying Handicap of 100 sovs, 6 furlongs, 1 sov. Second Handicap Hurdles of 100 sovs, 2 miles and a distance, 1 sov. Second Handicap Hack Hurdles of 40 sovs, 1½ miles, 1 sov. Atkinson Memorial Stakes of 200 sovs, 1½ miles, 1 sov. Second Handicap Hack Flat Race of 50 sovs, 1½ miles, 1 sov. Normanby Stakes Handicap of 80 sovs, 1 mile and a distance, 1 sov. Produce Hack Handicap of 40 sovs, 6 furlongs, 1 sov.

AUCKLAND RACING CLUB. On Friday, 11th inst., by 9 p.m., nominations close with the secretary, Mr W. Percival, as follows:— Further payments and acceptances in connection with Great Northern Derby Stakes (1896-97) of 500 sovs, 1½ miles, 1 sov. Great Northern Foal Stakes (1896-97) of 500 sovs, 6 furlongs, 1 sov.

TAKAPUNA JOCKEY CLUB SUMMER MEETING. On Friday next, 11th inst., nominations will close at 9 p.m. with the secretary, Devonport, or at Mr. Blomfield's office, Durham-street, for the following:— Handicap Maiden Plate of 30 sovs, 1 mile, 10s. Handicap Hurdles of 50 sovs, 2 miles, 1 sov. Zealandia Handicap of 40 sovs, 5 furlongs, 1 sov. Calliope Handicap of 50 sovs, six furlongs, 1 sov. Handicap Maiden Steeplechase of 40 sovs, 3 miles, 1 sov. First Pony Handicap of 35 sovs, 6½ furlongs, 10s. Stewards' Handicap of 50 sovs, 6½ furlongs, 1 sov. Handicap Maiden Hurdles of 35 sovs, 1½ miles, 1 sov. Suburban Handicap of 40 sovs, 5½ furlongs, 1 sov. Second Pony Handicap of 40 sovs, 5½ furlongs, 1 sov. Hobson Handicap of 40 sovs, 5½ furlongs, 1 sov. Borough Hack Handicap of 30 sovs, 6½ furlongs, 1 sov. Anniversary Handicap of 50 sovs, 7 furlongs, 1 sov.

STRAFORD RACING CLUB HACK MEETING. On Friday, 11th inst., at 9 p.m., acceptances will close as under with the hon. secretary, Mr H. J. C. Coutts, Stratford:— Handicap Hurdles of 40 sovs, 1½ miles, 20s. Stratford Cup of 125 sovs, 1¼ miles, 60s. Toko Handicap of 25 sovs, 7 furlongs, 10s. Midhurst Handicap of 50 sovs, 6 furlongs, 20s. Nominations for Ngair Stakes, 20s., and Selling Race, 10s., are due on the same date.

NGARUAWAHIA RACING CLUB ANNUAL MEETING. On Saturday, 12th inst., nominations will close at 9 p.m. with the hon. secretary Mr. E. Rathbone for the following:— Handicap Hurdles of 12 sovs, 1½ miles, 6s. Maiden Plate of 10 sovs, 6 furlongs, 5s. Ngaruawahia Cup of 22 sovs, 1¼ miles, 10s. Pony Race of 8 sovs, 6 furlongs, 4s. Hack Race of 8 sovs, 7 furlongs, 4s. Flying Stakes of 10 sovs, 6 furlongs, 5s.

TARANAKI JOCKEY CLUB AUTUMN MEETING. On Saturday, 12th inst., nominations close with the hon. secretary, Mr R. G. Bauchope, at 9 p.m., as under:— First Handicap Hurdles of 70 sovs., 1½ mile, 1 sov. Second Handicap Hurdles of 75 sovs, about 2 miles, 1 sov. Taranaki Jockey Club Handicap of 250 sovs, 1½ mile, 1 sov. Corinthian Handicap of 50 sovs, 1 mile, 1 sov. Flying Handicap of 100 sovs, 6 furlongs, 1 sov. Grand Stand Handicap of 100 sovs, 7 furlongs, 1 sov. Autumn Handicap of 150 sovs, 1¼ mile, 1 sov. Shorts Handicap of 50 sovs, 5 furlongs, 1 sov.

FOXTON R.C. HACK MEETING. On Tuesday, 15th inst., acceptances for all events, except Trial Hurdles and Anniversary Stakes, close with the hon. secretary, Mr J. R. McMillan, at 9 p.m., as follows:— Flying Stakes Handicap of 40 sovs, 6 furlongs, 1 sov. Handicap Hurdle Race of 50 sovs, 1½ miles, 1 sov.

Foxton R.C. Handicap of 125 sovs, 1¼ mile, 3 sovs. Electric Handicap of 30 sovs, 5 furlongs, 1 sov. Stewards Stakes Handicap of 50 sovs, 1¼ miles, 1 sov. Welter Handicap of 25 sovs, 1 mile and a distance, 10s. Nominations for Trial Hurdles, 1 sov, and Anniversary Stakes, 1 sov, close at 9 p.m. on January 15th, 1895.

NAPIER PARK RACING CLUB'S NEW YEAR MEETING.

[BY WIRE—OWN CORRESPONDENT.] January 1. The Napier Park Racing Club's New Year's Day Meeting was held to-day, and, in spite of small fields, the racing was first-class. The weather was perfect, and there was a good attendance. The starting was capital, Mr E. Gilpin proving that he is a capable wielder of the flag. The sum of £5,203 was put through the totalisator, but the public made few mistakes in picking the handicaps, and as a result the largest dividend was £4 16s. on Goosander in the Midsummer Handicap. The plums of the programme were divided between the stables presided over by Con Boyle and R. Gooseman. The former scored three victories for the Hon. J. D. Ormond with the aid of Hopeful, Spinfeldt, and Spindrift; while Gooseman gained two wins for Mr H. Gaisford with The Shrew, and one for Mr T. A. Lawry with the two-year-old filly Heavenly Twin. The wins of each of these three sterling sportsmen were well received by the public, although regret was expressed that Mr Geo. Hunter did not have the pleasure of seeing his horse first past the post in any of the events. The Shrew proved herself a game and fast little mare, and under light weights will always be dangerous up to a mile and a half; but courage and stamina, more than brilliancy, has enabled her to triumph in all her wins. Searchlight played up a lot at the post in both her races, and took a good deal out of herself before the start; but though fast, I fancy she is rather jady. Zanella showed that she does not like a punishing finish. Goosander and Tiritea repeated their Hastings performances, and Tiritea, by winning under 11.10, demonstrated how the handicappers for the Hastings and Kaikora meetings had taken liberties with him. Goosander won easily, and appears to be coming on. She will never be a Merganser, but the best has not yet been seen of her. On form it looked good enough to lay 3 to 2 on Spendrift for the last race, and so it proved, for he won without the semblance of a struggle. The following are the results:—

- TRIAL HANDICAP HURDLE RACE of 50 sovs. One mile and a half. 286 Hon. J. D. Ormond's Hopeful, by Puriri—Frowning Beauty, 5yrs, 11.13, Stowe 1 66 Mr F. Collins' Waterlily, 6yrs, 11.9, Redmond 2 131 Mr G. E. G. Richardson's Waipuku, aged, 9.7, Sweeney 3 24 Sandfly, 9.0, W. Griffiths, also ran.
- 507 Waipuku led for a mile, when Hopeful headed her and coming on comfortably won by two clear lengths from Waterlily, Waipuku a fair third. Time, 2min 59.2-5sec. Dividend, £1 11s.
- MIDSUMMER HANDICAP of 50 sovs. One mile. 184 Mr W. Rathbone's Goosander, by Nordenfeldt—Albatross, 4yrs, 7.11, White 1 356 Mr H. S. Gollan's Iphimede, 3yrs, 7.11, McCleer 2 156 Mr J. Hunter's Searchlight, 3yrs, 8.1, Stowe 3
- Also started—48 Middle Park, 6.10, Delaney; 23 Link, 6.7, Fairbrother. Middle Park led right into the straight, where the three top weights came at him, and Goosander, judiciously ridden by White, won with a bit in hand by half a length from Iphimede, who beat Searchlight by a length for second place. Time, 1min 47.4-5sec. Totalisator, 717. Dividend, £4 16s.
- TWO-YEAR-OLD HANDICAP of 70 sovs. Five furlongs. 233 Mr T. H. Lowry's Heavenly Twin, by Castor—Vivandiere, 8.4, Fairbrother 1 49 Mr W. Pettit's Beauharnis, 7.6, Rawbottom 2 22 Mr H. O. Caulton's Combermere, 6.7, Watt 3

Also started—173 Wikitoria, 7.13, White; 231 Spruce, 7.6, Delaney. Beauharnis and Heavenly Twin were first away, and Spruce got the worst of a poor start; the two leaders practically had the race to themselves all the way, Heavenly Twin winning by a length and a half, Combermere three lengths away third. Time, 1min 6.3-5sec. Totalisator, 708. Dividend, £2 14s. NEW YEAR HANDICAP of 130 sovs. One mile and a half. 151 Mr H. Gaisford's The Shrew, by Nordenfeldt—Bianca, 6.7, Watt 1 151 Hon. J. D. Ormond's Lyrebird, 3yrs, 6.7, Delaney 2 323 Mr G. Hunter's Planet, 3yrs, 7.0, Fairbrother 3 163 Ua, 7.0, McCleer, also ran.

788 Planet, closely attended by The Shrew, made play for over a mile, when the latter took command, and although Lyrebird put in a strong claim in the straight the Nordenfeldt filly shook her off and won by a length all out, Planet a fair third. Time, 2min 4.3-2-5sec. Dividend, £4 13s. HANDICAP HURDLES of 80 sovs. Two miles. 239 Mr A. Nopera's Tiritea, by Hippocampus—Waimareka, aged, 11.10, Redmond 1 254 Mr W. Douglas's Kapua, 5yrs, 11.12, Hope 2 99 Mr F. Collins' Dainty, aged, 9.10, Sweeney 3

Dainty led for a mile and a quarter, when Tiritea supplanted him, and Redmond, keeping his mount going, won by two lengths from Kapua. Time, 3min 59sec. Dividend, £2 4s.

FLYING HANDICAP of 70 sovs. Six furlongs. 148 H. Gaisford's The Shrew, by Nordenfeldt—Bianca, 3 yrs, 7.11, Watt 1 64 W. Douglas's Ua, 5yrs, 7.10, Donovan 2 236 W. Rathbone's Zanilla, 4yrs, 8.0, White 3

Also started—176 Searchlight, 7.11, Stowe; 97 Nixie, 7.6, Delaney. Nixie was left at the post, and Searchlight was slow in moving. Zanilla was first away, with The Shrew next. The Shrew was soon taken to the front, and led into the straight. Ua came with a late run, but failed to reach Mr Gaisford's filly, who won by a length, Zanilla a good third. Time, 1min 19sec. Totalisator, 721. Dividend, £4 7s. SELLERS' HANDICAP of 30 sovs. Once round. 313 Hon. J. D. Ormond's Spinfeldt, 5yrs, by Nordenfeldt—Spinnaker, 8.12, Donovan 1 100 Mr D. Wright's Miss Patriarch 5yrs, 6.7, Watt 2 130 Mr R. Gooseman's Barbelle, 4yrs, 6.13, Fairbrother 3

Also started—66 Morag, 8.0, Stowe; 46 Waitress, 6.13, Rowbottom. Barbelle, Waitress, and Miss Patriarch led alternately until reaching the straight, when Spinfeldt was brought up with a fast run, and settling his ffield in a few strides won handsomely by a length, Miss Barbelle gaining second honours by a neck from Patriarch. Time, 2min 2sec. Totalisator, 655. Dividend, £1 17s. GREEN MEADOW HANDICAP of 50 sovs. Seven furlongs. 284 Hon. J. D. Ormond's Spindrift, by Nordenfeldt—Spinnaker, 3yrs, 8.3, White 1 177 Mr G. Hunter's Planet, 3yrs, 8.8, Stowe 2 57 Mr F. Collins' Link, aged, 6.7, Fairbrother 3

Link led the other pair a merry bat for five furlongs, when Spendrift got on terms, and holding the others safe all down the straight, won easily by a length. Time 1min, 33.4-5sec. Dividend, £1 12s. The trotting contributor of the Canterbury Times reports a most dastardly act. Mr E. Freeman had a very promising three-year-old colt by Emmerson from a Young Performer mare running in Pigeonhare, Riccarton. The colt was all right on December 24th, but next morning it was found lying dead, a small bore bullet having been shot through its head. Not satisfied with this cowardly act the offender cut through a turnip netting and barbed wire fence and boxed the sheep which had been running in the paddock. The police have the matter in hand, but I have not heard whether they have discovered a clue. But no doubt they will. A police officer may fail to find his quarry, but he never misses lighting on a "clew."

Turf Records.

AUCKLAND TROTTING CLUB'S SUMMER MEETING. FIRST DAY.—THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27TH. HOBDEHN FOUR-YEAR-OLD STAKES of 50 sovs. One mile. 143 Mr M. Edwards' b g Lawyer Bell, 4yrs, sc. 1 41 Mr W. J. Greenwood's b g The Judge, 4yrs, sc. 2 90 Mr E. G. Sandall's b g Old Judge, 4yrs, sc. 3 11 Mr H. Ellett's br g Bendigo, 4yrs, sc. 0 285 Won all the way. Time, 3min 30sec. 10s tickets. Dividend, 17s. HANDICAP HURDLES of 40 sovs; second pony to receive 5 sovs from the stakes. One mile and a half. 304 Mr E. Williams' br g Fauntleroy, by The Australian—Della, 6yrs, 10.7, Munro 1 143 Mr T. Bray's blk g Little Raven, aged, 10.10, Donovan 2 172 Mr Thos. Greenwood's br g Pica, aged, 11.0, Owner 3 51 Mr T. Bray's b g Nimbus, 4yrs, 9.8, Jones 0 55 Mr W. Robinson's b m Kaipara, aged, 9.4, Clarke 0 84 Mr E. Stanley's b g His Gills, 5yrs, 8.7, Ghent 0 809 Won by a length. Time, 3min 7sec. 10s tickets. Dividend, £1 3s. HANDICAP MAIDEN TROT of 35 sovs; second horse to receive 5 sovs from the stakes. One mile. 59 Mr E. G. Sandall's b g Old Judge, 4yrs, 18sec, Owner 1 26 Mr D. Harford's b g Disappointment, aged, 15sec, Owner 2 16 Mr E. Archibald's ch g Rocket II., aged, 8sec, Clarke 3 274 Mr F. Palfrey's b m Peerless, 3yrs, sc., Owner 0 13 Mr W. Willmott's blk m Corina, aged, 3sec, Willmott 0 6 Mr John Anderson's b g Glen Buck, aged, 8sec, Anderson 0 33 Mr W. J. Greenwood's ch m Maid of Killarney, aged, 10sec, Owner 0 88 Mr E. Gray's blk m Minnie, aged, 14sec, Chatteris 0 161 Mr G. H. Morrison's b m Otara, 6yrs, 18sec, Morrison 0 675 Won all the way. Time, 3min 4½sec. 10s tickets. Dividend, £5 2s. PONY CUP HANDICAP of 75 sovs; second pony to receive 10 sovs from the stakes. One mile. 75 Mr M. Moore's b m The Dove, aged, 9.5, Cook 1 114 Mr A. G. McKenzie's ch h Vampire, aged, 9.13, White 2 105 Mr R. H. Wilson's ch h Little Hero, 5yrs, 7.7, Robertson 3 20 Mr E. Stanley's br g Gillie, aged, 9.2, Gillespie 0 148 Mr F. Green's b m Nelly, aged, 8.7, Wright 0 15 Mr M. Moore's br m Lady May, aged, 8.6, Donovan 0 74 Mr W. McConkey's b g Direct, aged, 8.6, Johns 0 18 Mr W. J. Bowden's ch m Helena, aged, 8.0, Bowden 0 51 Mr Thos. Greenwood's b m Butterfly, aged, 8.0, Linton 0 32 Mr J. Robertson's b m Kate, aged, 7.0, Judd 0 652 Won by a length. Time, 1min 49½sec. £1 tickets. Dividend, £7 16s. AUCKLAND TROTTING CUP of 230 sovs; second horse to receive 20 sovs, and third horse 10 sovs from the stakes. Three miles. 261 Mr E. G. Sandall's b g Tom Hicks, 6yrs, 75sec, Owner 1 16 Mr T. Barker's b m Ida, aged, 63sec (including penalty), Greenwood 2 90 Mr T. Maloney's br g Rotheram, aged, 54sec, Owner 3 100 Mr F. Palfrey's b g Colonel, 6yrs, 54sec, Owner 0 467 Won all the way. Time, 8min 48sec. £1 tickets. Dividend, £1 12. HANDICAP STEEPLCHASE of 40 sovs; second pony to receive 5 sovs from the stakes. Two miles and a half. 86 Mr W. J. Bowden's ch m Helena, 6yrs, 9.12, Owner 1 167 Mr T. Greenwood's b m Butterfly, aged, 11.4, Owner 2 81 Mr T. Bray's blk g Little Raven, aged, 11.4, Donovan 3 119 Mr E. Williams' br g Fauntleroy, 6yrs, 10.7 (ran off), Munro 0 453 Won comfortably. Time, 2min 54sec. £1 tickets. Dividend, £4 14s. HARNESS TROT of 40 sovs; second horse to receive 5 sovs from the stakes. Two miles. 205 Mr T. Palfrey's blk m Rita, aged, sc., White 1 7 Miss M. Merrigan's gr g Commodore, aged, 34sec, Greenwood 2 19 Mr James W. Martin's ch g Charlie, aged, 12sec, Owner 3 2 Mr G. Bevan's blk g Hollywood, aged, 15sec, Thorpe 0 2 Mr H. Lowe's b g Little Ben, aged, 28sec, Owner 0 53 Mr E. G. Sandall's b g Tom Hicks, 6yrs, 40sec, Owner 0 30 Mr Geo. McBride's b g Sparrowhawk, aged, 44sec., Chatteris 0



AUCKLAND TAKE BREEDERS NOTICE!



The Magnificent Imported Trotting Stallion

"PLEASANTON,"

FOALED IN 1889. RECORD, 2.29 1/2. TRIAL, 2.23.

Will Stand this Season at J. B. WILLIAMSON'S STABLES, HARP ROAD, ELLERSLIE.

PLEASANTON WON FIRST PRIZE WHEREVER EXHIBITED in roadster classes.

HAMBLETONIAN. 10 The founder of the great Hambletonian family.

ELECTIONER 125 Sire of 137 in 2.30 list, and 34 Sires, including—Egotist, Elector, Albert W., Anteeo, Antevolo, Bell Boy, Bernal, Chimes Clay, Egotist, Electricity, Eros, Electrotyp, Fallie, Junio, Nowal, Palo Alto, St. Bel, Sphinx, Whips, St. Just, Sunolo, Howal, Hammer.

GREEN MT. MAID Dam of seven in 2.30 list.

ELECTOR, 2170 Record, 2.31. Sire of Floa M., 2.16; Acclamation, 2.24; Ally Sloper, 2.28; Cora S., 2.20; Electrina, 2.20; Lizzie F., 2.16; L. A. Dick, 2.25; Elector Jr., 2.29; Pleasanton, 2.29; Morning Glory, 2.27; Electress, 2.27; Ella M., 2.28; J.B., 2.20; Leck, 2.29; Nettie C., 2.28; Elect, 2.28; Desperado, 2.29.

GILBERTA

ST. CLAIR 656 (Fred. Law). Sire of Adalia, 2.27; Clay, 2.25; and dams of Electro, 2.25; Fay, 2.25; Costello, 2.24; Sam Lewis, 2.25.

LADY GILBERT stb. Grandam of Lot Slocum, 2.17 1/2

TARASCON Ran a Mile in Chicago in 1.42.

PRINCE ALBERT Sire of Bessie S., 2.29 1/2.

SALLY PATTE

BLUCHER

BLACK BESS

KENTUCKY MARE stb.

I hereby certify that the above Pedigree of the horse Pleasanton, purchased for New Zealand, is correct.—Wm. G. LAYNE, Editor "Breeder and Sportsman."—July 25, 1894.

Terms, 5 Guineas; Groomage, 2s. 6d.; Grazing, 3s. per week. Every care taken, but no responsibility.

ALSO,

"JUDGE BYRON."

JUDGE BYRON. 3-Year Old.

JUDGE BELDEN (Imp.) Record, 2.31. Trial, 2.17.

ELMO Record, 2.27.

PRENTICE

LADY BYRON Trial, 3 miles, 7.32.

CHILDE HAROLD (Imp.)

AULD LANG SYNE

Judge Belden, sire of this colt, is a beautiful Bay, black points, stands 16 1/2 hands. His half-sister was sold lately at San Francisco for over 4000 dollars. Judge Belden was at the stud on the estate of the late H. W. Seale, and was sold by order of the executors at Bay District Track on February 28th, 1890. He won his races with a record of 2.31, and has a public trial of 2.17 to the mile.

ALSO

"HANDSOME JACK,"

Table with columns for Radiance, Robinson Crusoe, Atlantis, Doncaster and their respective sires: Sunshine, Phoenix, Chrysolite, Angler, Hurricane, Thomasby, Margold, Stockwell.

HANDSOME JACK (foaled 1890) was bred at Sylvia Park. Having met with an accident while training, he was never raced; but was very highly thought of and tried to be a horse of great promise.

Fee: Five Guineas. Groomage, 2s 6d. Half-bred mares and ponies as per arrangement. For further particulars apply to J. B. Williamson, Harp Road, Ellerslie, or to A. AUSTIN, OWNER.

DAN McLEOD

Member of Victorian Club, Melbourne.



ADDRESS—

Tattersall's Club, Auckland

Tattersall's Club, Auckland

ADDRESS—

Can be Consulted on all Coming Events

GLADSTONE BREWERY. Telegraphic Address: Symond Street, Auckland. Telephone No. 355. DANIEL ARKELL, BREWER, MALTSTER, & BOTTLER, GLADSTONE STREET & NEWTON ROAD AUCKLAND.

ASSORTED CASES OF BEER & SPIRITS As follows:—

No. 1 Case Contains 1 doz. Dunedin pint Ale 1 doz Dun'din pint Stout 1 bottle Hennessy's Three Star Brandy 1 bot. Australian Wine 1 bottle Scotch Whisky 1 bot. Wolfe's Schnapps 1 bottle Rum 35s per case.

No. 2 Case Contains 1 doz Dunedin qrt. Ale 1 doz Dunedin quart Stout 1 bottle Hennessy One Star Brandy 1 bottle G-neva 1 bottle Scotch Whisky 2 bottles Australian Tokay Wine 32s per case.

ARKELL'S OWN BREW OF DRAUGHT ALE & STOUT.

XXXX Strong, Old, 2s per gallon. XXX Mild, 1s 6d per gallon.

A.K. BITTER ALE, 1s 9d per gallon. EXTRA STOUT (specially suited for Invalids), 1s 9d per gallon.

DUNEDIN ALE & STOUT, quarts 9s, pints 4s 6d per dozen.

D. ARKELL also supplies HIS ALE and STOUT in Bottles as under—

XXXX ALE ... 8s per doz 4s per doz STOUT (recommended by the medical faculty) ... 8s ,, 4s ,,

NELSON Hops, packed in 1lb and 1/2lbs, each case contains 30lbs, 1s 3d per lb.

Pure Island Lime Juice, 7s 6d per doz. All Casks charged for until returned. Cash with Orders.

DEWSBURY'S

TRADE MARK

'CENTAUR' TRADE MARK



EM-BRO-CATION FOR HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, AND DOGS ALSO GOOD FOR HUMAN BEINGS.

This Liniment is exactly the same as was prepared by B. DEWSBURY as "CARNALL'S RELIABLE EM-BRO-CATION" but the original recipe has been so altered and improved upon that the proprietor has decided to change the name to its present style.

It is now used by nearly every large Horseowner in North Island, and is now recommended by several leading medical men for Rheumatism, as being superior to any of the imported makes through much cheaper.

B. DEWSBURY - MAKER, LABORATORY over CAKTON PRINTING WORKS, AUCKLAND

GALLOPING HORSES, SWINGING BOATS, BAZAAR, SHOOTING GALLERY, &c.

THE first-mentioned is pronounced by all to be the finest and the only one in the whole of Australasia. Recently imported from England, where the like is at present the centre of attraction at all great Shows and Fairs. The great SWITCHBACK RAILWAY and other similar amusements resign in favour of this exhilarating pleasure, when in close proximity. It has an endless source of fun for old and young.

FRANK BAXTER. Exhibition Shows, Galas, Etc., attended

A. SANFORD AND SONS, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL FISH & OYSTER MERCHANTS, Opposite CUSTOM HOUSE, AUCKLAND and at RAKINGO ISLAND.



Oysters in Sacks, Bottles, and Tins. Fresh and Smoked Fish daily. "Mermaid" brand tinned Mullet. Smoked Schnapper in 4lb (oval) tins. Shipping and Country orders will receive prompt attention. Telephone 658. P.O. Box 443.

£140 GIVEN AWAY IN 100 PRIZES!

WHO CAN SOLVE THE MAGIC SQUARE?

DIRECTIONS.—Re-arrange the figures in Square, still keeping

5 in the centre in order that each row from top to bottom, from left to right, and from corner to corner will add to Fifteen. The following Prizes will be awarded amongst those who send correct answers on or before 28th December, 194:

3x3 Magic square with numbers 1-9 in a grid.

5 American Gold Hunting Case Lever Watches, value £10 each;

10 Sterling Silver Lever Watches, value £3 each;

15 Nickel Silver Keyless Watches, value 30s. each;

20 Ladies' Gold Bar Brooches, value 20s. each;

50 Ladies' Sterling Silver Brooches, value 10s. each.

Write your answer clearly and forward to us, enclosing Fifteen Penny Stamps for a Box of STAR ANTIBILIOUS PILLS, the best Liver, Kidney and Bowel Regulator ever used; or you may order a Box of either Star Cough Pills, Star Neuralgic Pills, or Star Rheumatic Pills. These valuable presents are given solely to introduce our Wonderful Medicines. Lots will be drawn for the whole of the Prizes, thus giving everyone sending correct answer a fair chance of winning. Result of drawing, with names and addresses of winners will be posted to all Competitors. National Drug Co, Russell St., Melbourne

LIST! YE TRAINERS !!! SEQUAH'S OIL.



IS A BOON TO ATHLETES!

IS A BOON TO HORSES!

DON'T FAIL TO GIVE IT A TRIAL.

INSTRUCTIONS WITH EACH BOTTLE.

Sold by all Respectable Chemists and Grocers.

