NATIONAL BANK OF NEW ZEALAND (LIMITED).

Incorporated under the Companies' Acts and the New Zealand Act I., 1873.

Notice is hereby given that a DIVÍDEND for the half year ended 31st March last, at the rate of Five (5) per cent, per annum, has been de-clared by the Directors, and will be paid to Share-holders on application at any of the Branches in the Colony on and after the 25th instant.

The Transfer Books will be Closed from this date until the 25th instant.

JAMES COATES, General Manager.

Wellington, July 10, 1895.

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LIST OF GOODS.

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Book's Neuralgia, etc.
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SPORTING FIXTURES, Etc.

COMING EVENTS.

NEW ZEALAND FIXTURES

Aug. 8 and 10—N.Z. Grand National Meeting Aug. 9—Canterbury Trotting Club Spring Aug. 15—Tinwald Harriers Club August 22—North Canterbury Hunt Club Sept. 7—Otago Hunt Club. Sept. 7—Otago Hunt Club. Copt. 12 & 14—South Canterbury J.C. Spring Oct. 7 and 8—Hawke's Bay J.C. Spring November 9—Taratahi-Carterton R.C.

November 9—Taratahi-Carterton R.C.

AUSTRALIAN FIXTURES.

Angust 3, 10—V.A.T.C. Grand National Meeting
August 10—Canterbury Park R.C.
August 10, 17—Adelaide R.C. Grand National Meeting
Angust 16, 17—Queensland Turf Club
August 17—Warwiok Farm R.C.
August 24—Rosehill R.C.
September 14, 17, 19, and 21—Australian J.C. Spring
Meeting
October 12, 19—V.A.T.C. Spring Meeting
November 2, 5, 7, 9—V.R.C. Spring Meeting

NOMINATIONS. August 3-North Canterbury H.C. Steeplechase Meeting August 17-Otago Hunt Club

HANDICAPS.

August 12 - North Canterbury H.C. Steeplechase Meeting August 23-Otago Hunt Club

ACCEPTANCES.

August 2—New Zealand Cup August 5 & 9—N.Z. Grand National Meeting (minor events and final payment for Grand National double) August 17—North Canterbury H.C. Steeplechase Meeting August 31—Otago Hunt Club

FURTHER PAYMENTS. August 2—C.J.C. Derby and Oaks FIRST FORFEIT.
August 2—Fifth Challenge Stakes August 2—Fourth Challenge Stakes

HUNTING.

PAKURANGA HUNT CLUB. August 3-St. John's College, noon

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Subscriber," Waihi.—Sixteen horses fell in Grace Darling's Caulfield Cup, viz., Too Too, Sardius, Claptrap, Tom Brown, Lord Exeter, Prince Imperial, Despot, Israelite, Winchester, Country Boy, Sirocco, Tarpeia, Kingship, Lucky Hit, Uarah, and Real Jam.
F.S.—Yes; Coupon 375 should read—Strahan, The Trier, North Atlantic

Sporting Review

LICENSED VICTUALLERS' GAZETTE.

WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE WEEKLY STANDARD.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 1895.

THE past week has been productive of several important parliamentary developments which can only be read in one light. We cannot disguise the fact that the totalisator, an invention that has brought financial health to many a struggling racing organisation and purity to the sport of racing, is being venomously attacked by a set of intolerant bigots whose knowledge of the matter they have taken in hand is as puny as is their conception of fair play. And that is saying a lot. Last session the Parliamentarians wrestled with the subject of betting, and after much talk they arrived at the conclusion that New Zealanders race to an improper extent. It was decided to curtail the number of totalisator permits, and the Racing Conference, in accordance with the new Gaming Act, provided that from to-day the number of legitimate race meetings should be two thirds less than was the case in season 1892-93. That reduction was a healthy move, for there is little doubt that racing in the past has been carried to excess. But now our parliamentary friends are forsaking the path of healthy reform for the one trodden by bigots whose brains are choked with faddist fungus, to the exclusion of any conception of the virtues of moderation. Extremists never do any good for themselves or anybody else, and we are thankful that, as a rule, they sink back into the obscurity from which they should never have arisen. They generally arouse the opposition of their auditors by fanatical lopsided mouthings, and the beginning of that natural opposition will soon come to pass, thanks to the farcical measures that are being carried into the House by the Extremists. There are two legislative luminaries in our House of Representatives who have purchased moral spectacles of a certain strength, and they now ask the people of New Zealand, whose eyesight is not affected by so many unhealthy motes, to fix the aforesaid specs, on their noses and see with the eyes of men like Mr W. Hutchison of Dunedin, a gentleman whose mission in life appears to force his particular fads down every throat in the country

Twelve months ago Parliament agreed

that the Tuck would be reformed if

certain branches of the Racing Tree were

lature being allowed to wait the result of the Reform about to be given effect to, it is being requested by a few of its morbid, Cold Tea members to stultify its decision of a year ago and cast the machine into the outer darkness. The argument of the anti-totalisator fiend has not grown more lucid than it was twelve months back. It is the same old intolerant shrick unsupported by argument or decency. Years ago the Turf was covered with excrescences and the Totalisator came along and not only made clean the national pastime but gave to the country a revenue which in olden time sank into the pockets of the few. Now, the virtuous Mr Carnell calls for a return of the old order of things, while Mr Hutchison goes the whole animal and shricks for the abolition of the racing tree with its many branches of employment. The desire and blindness of the anarchist have entered into this gentleman who sends forth a puny howl for the destruction of New Zealand's training and breeding establishments, her many racing grounds, and the turning loose of the hundreds of employes connected with such establishments in order that they may join the unemployed and bless for ever the name of Hutchison. However, it would be a waste of time to take this pearl of legislative ability serious. Like a child crying for the moon Mr Hutchison is wailing for the impossible, for his demands are absurd unless the people of New Zealand are suffering from brain rot and have forgotten there is such a thing as liberty of the subject. The very force of the man's fury will strangle his chance of success so he can be left to his inane bigoted wailing.

In the case of Mr Carnell, the House appeared to allow its judgment to be caught napping. According to the telegrams received from Wellington this gentleman's measure for the abolition of the machine has been introduced in House on a division of 40 to This result appears to give 19. the Napier M.H.R. a working majority but were all the forty voters honest in their declaration against the machine? And will they be found voting with Mr Carnell when his measure comes up for serious debate? We take leave to doubt the sincerity of the division that has brought such joy to the Napier statesman. We were of the opinion that the arguments for and against the machine were sufficiently well-known to enable our representatives to give a different reply to Mr Carnell's motion, and until they speak plainly we will not believe that sensible men of the world are allowing one or two brazen throated extremists entice them into regarding matters with the one eyed gaze peculiar to faddists. The people opposed to the machine seem to forget one thing that so long as New Zealanders retain traces of their Anglo Saxon descent the love of racing will exist in them and demand expression. For three hundred years Englishmen have practised the sport of racing, and the desire for its continuance has been increasing in power with the passage of every year. roots of the racing tree are of exceeding strength, and it is just probable that even the power of a Carnell or a Hutchison will be found unequal to the task of pulling them from the affections of the people. Accepting the fact that racing will continue in the land is it not better to place a check upon it which besides purifying the sport will give material financial aid to its supporters and the country. Mr Carnell may wish, like Mr Hutchison, to take up the position of a destroying angel, but we are prepared to credit him with the possession of sufficient sense to know that such a role is not obtainable so long as the people retain a portion of the brain power the Creator has endowed them with. What then does the member for Napier want? He is returned by people who are intimately acquainted with racing. Is it that his constituents object to the totalisator and desire the return of the Ring system of betting? The answer of the Napier people will doubtless be given in no uncertain voice when Mr Carnell again appears at the hustings. The only people whose interests call for the abolition of the machine are a few large owners and the Ringmen, and one would think that the strenuous opposition of the latter is sufficient proof that they cannot supply lopped off... That pruning takes effect the wants of the public at the figure murmur, "Pooh, only a piece of luck," while in from to-day, and instead of the Legis. | charged by the machine. However, apart the event of his selections failing to score, his

from the prices given by the human and mechanical bettors there is the unanswerable argument that the latter gives support to genuine racing and spells large stakes and cheap sport for the owner who is thus rendered independent of the very thing the Extremists wish to banish -betting. Let our stakes continue grow under the shelter of the machine and the day is not far distant when an owner will have no reason to bet in order to race. And surely we all know that the more non-betting owners there are, the better it will be for true Sport. Further, the very fact of the machine offering long outside returns induces owners to send their animals out to win, and an increase in the number of triers" is indeed a reform contrasted with the state of things we were used to in the long ago, when horses performed the apparently impossible feat of getting inside leather bags, to the discomfiture and loss of the people.

WE would ask the Parliamentarians to

remember this. The past year has shown, in Australia, England, and America that racing and betting cannot be stopped. The former will be the sport of Englishmen years hence when even the memory of a Hutchison has faded, and there will always be a certain amount of accompanying betting. The Anti-Gamblers of England sought to stifle turf speculation, not only on racecourses, but in social clubs, and utter failure crowned their efforts. In Americaa law was actually passed to stop course wagering, but what has been the result? Simply the abolition of cash for credit betting, and we think most people will agree that the less credit is obtainable in turf matters the better for the public. Hang out a credit sign and many men will bet on the chance of winning, knowing that an extension of time will be given them if their speculation fails. And what has been the result of the Sydney-side crusade against shop betting? Utter failure, for though heavy fines were inflicted in the first blush of the Reformers' enthusiasm, the secret "tote," an infinitely worse thing than the legalised machine still flourishes under the very nose of the N.S.W. police. Legislators may throw out the totalisator, but they will never eradicate racing, and so long as that continues the spirit of speculation will accompany it. We do not defend betting. On the contrary, we quite recognise the fact that it is an unfortunate, but inevitable accompaniment of racing. But we do think that if the totalisator is wrecked by short-sighted and blatant Reformers the country will quickly be afflicted with the curse of shop betting. The outlook simply resolves itself into a question of public and private gambling, and even Lord Lamington, the last survivor of the Gaming Committee of the House of Commons, learnt to rue his action in choosing the latter in preference to the former. The report of that Committee suppressed public gambling in England. and shortly before his death Lord Lamington made the following striking admission He stated in Blackwood's Magazine that "had they been aware of the dimensions which private gambling was destined to assume, they would never have recommended the abolition of public gambling, which, of the two, is by far the less injurious and liable to abuse. parliamentary representatives would do well to ponder over that quotation.

Amid the Thoroughbreds.

[BY BORDERER.]

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