

The trotting mare Rita, recently bought by Mr. V. Harris for £100, has gone into A. J. Keith's stable at Christchurch.

The trotting mare Katie M. has been sold by Mr. M. Gleeson to Mr. Malet of New Brighton. Gleeson will look after the mare until he returns to Australia.

Hampton's six-year-old son, Bushey Park, won the Liverpool Cup on the 25th ult. The race was worth 1000 sovs, and was run over a mile and three furlongs.

The V.B.C. Derby winner of 1881, Darebin, was named after a small creek close to Mill Park, the racing stable of the Messrs. Miller Brothers, which is situated some thirteen miles outside Melbourne.

The first foaling at Wellington Park is due in about a week, when Sunrise is expected to produce to Castor. It is rather appropriate that a mare called Sunrise should be the earliest matron to foal.

Under the Gambling Act recently passed by the Queensland Legislative Assembly anyone managing or advertising a lottery will be liable to a fine of £100 or imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for six months.

It is said the Stratford Racing Club have failed to come to terms with Mr. Mehaffy re the price of the Bushford Park racecourse and that the owner of the property has decided to cut it up into small sections and dispose of it in that way.

The cable tells us the Duke of Portland has invited fifty turf writers to inspect Carbine. That means half a hundred pocket-books crammed with well-merited praise—and gush, the former for the horse and the latter for the Duke.

A picture of Emmalea, winner of the V.R.C. Grand National Hurdles, appears in a recent number of the *Australasian*, and shows that the daughter of The Gondolier is on the small side and very lightly built. Yet she carries weight and stays famously.

Australia's crack hurdle horseman, J. E. Brewer, has a high opinion of Mr. Gollan's pair, Ebor and Busaco. He considers the former the best hurdling performer over a short course that he has ever ridden, and of all the chasers he has ridden Busaco was, in his opinion, the best over a distance.

During last season the successful riders of Auckland trotting horses were headed by Mr. E. G. Sandall, who had 28 mounts, resulting in 11 firsts, 7 seconds, and 10 thirds. Mr. Sandall included amongst his wins the Auckland Trotting Cup, the A.T.C. President's Handicap, and the Otahuhu Trotting Cup.

Mr. Gollan's champion 'chaser Norton will be accompanied by Ebor when he leaves for England next month. The Liverpool Steeplechase will be Norton's ultimate mission. If he scores in the C.J.C. National Steeple this day week the English handicappers will probably load him out of the famous Liverpool event.

The fractional time by quarters of the Latonia Derby, one of the big races of the American turf, was as follows:—25½, 24½, 25½, 26½, and 25½, the clock stopping at 2min 34½sec. Lamp-lighter holds the U.S.A. mile and a half record with 2min 32½sec, but it was done on a straight-away track under a burden of 109lbs. Halma's time was done under 127lbs, and his track was not so favourable as that on which Lamp-lighter's record was made.

It is said that Fairchild, the Black Rose—Hinemoa horse, is under offer to a Northern stud-master. The dam of Fairchild who was got in 1888, was bred by Mr. G. G. Stead in 1878. Her breeding is Lotara, her dam Amohia, by imp. Towton out of Anticipation, by imp. Ravensworth.

The late V.A.T.C. Secretary, Mr. Harrie Smith, was an enthusiastic follower of the hounds in the sixties and seventies. Mr. Smith won the Drag Hunt Race on the Flemington course in October, 1868. The distance of the race was four miles over the steeplechase course, and Mr. Smith landed his mount a winner twenty lengths behind the last hound.

Entries fell due for the Hawke's Bay Stakes of 500 sovs, to be decided at the 1897 Autumn meeting of the Hawke's Bay Jockey Club. The nominations received number 159. The Wellington Park breeder, Mr. Thos. Morrin, is the principal nominator with 35 entries, the Hon. J. D. Ormond is next with 10, Messrs W. M. Broughton and G. G. Stead have 8 each, and Major George, Capt. Russell, Mr. S. H. Gollan, and Mr. W. Douglas have 6 each.

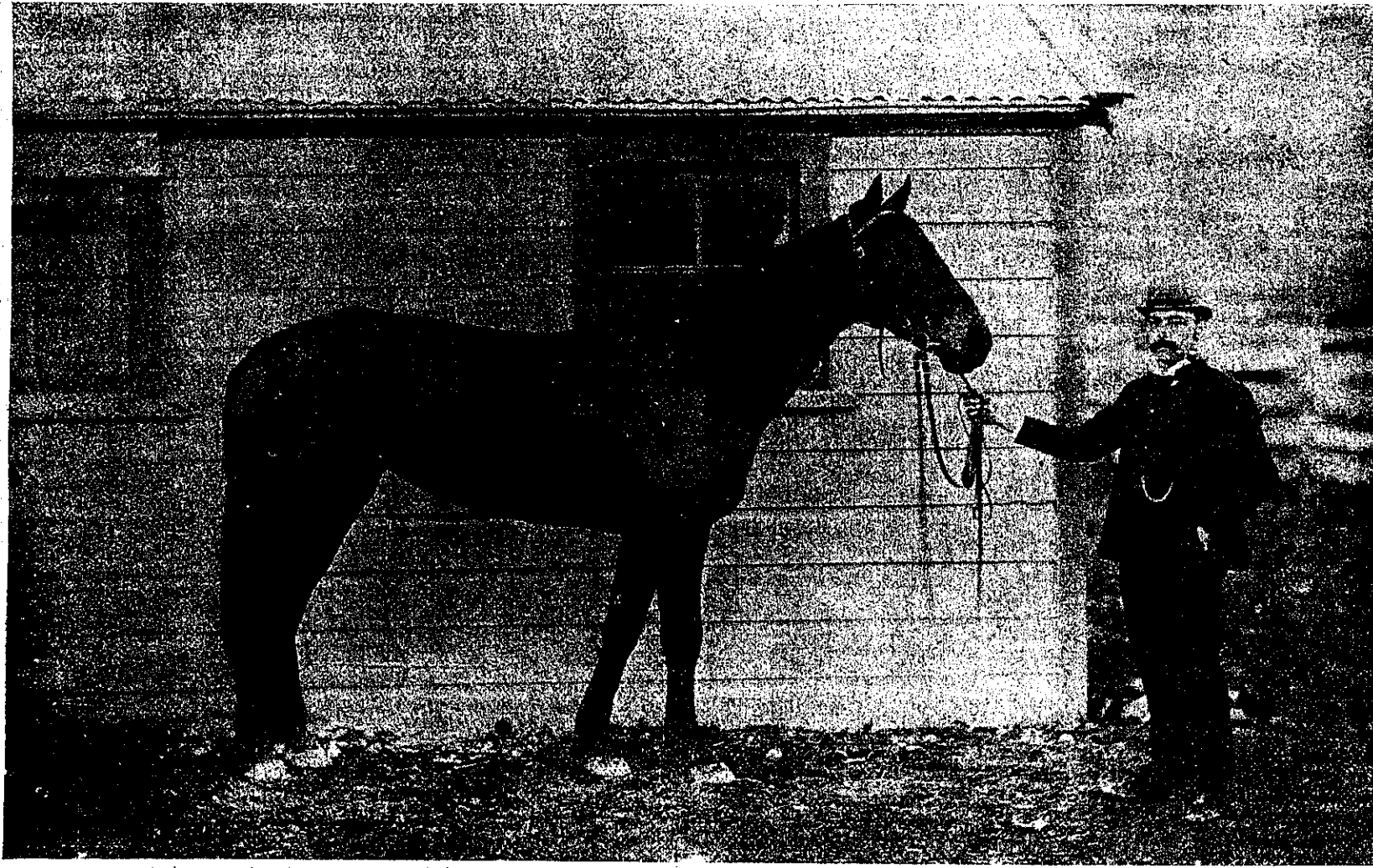
Jockey Katterns went South on Monday with J. B. Williamson's trio Despised, Marechal Neil, and Uls'er. Despised's old pilot, A. Williams, also accompanied the team, but Katterns will do the riding. I understand the three horses are in the market and that should no buyers be forthcoming in Canterbury they will be taken to Sydney. Ballyhooley is being worked there on lease by P. Nolan, who got damaged so badly a short time back, so it is on the cards that Williamson may take a spell in Sydney for a while and join forces with Nolan.

Mr. J. F. Cruickshank reports N.Z. Cup prices (on offer) as follows:—100 to 8 Skirmisher; 100 to 7 Mahaki, Pegasus, Impulse; 100 to 6 Rip Van Winkle, Prime Warden, North Atlantic, Magazine, Gipsy Grand; 100 to 5 Saracen, Casket, Marino, Waiuku, Lady Zetland; 100 to 4 St. Hippo, The Possible, Lottie, Royal Rose, Missfire, Solitaire; 100 to 3 Bessie McCarthy, Spindrift, Osculator, Pounamu, Westmere, Golden Plover, Sternchaser, Bonnie Scotland, Aldershot; 100 to 2 Deadshot, St. Regel, Silver Spec, The Artist, Banner.

Good reports reach me re Victim the Dunedin horse that is engaged in the Maiden Hurdles and the Grand National Hurdles at the forthcoming C.J.C. Meeting. If Victim can jump he should win the Maiden fencing event and if he does so the history of the last two C.J.C. National meetings argues a prominent run for him in the Grand National Hurdles. It will be remembered that when Liberator won the event for maidens in 1893-94 he also triumphed in the big hurdles, and last year Barnardo after winning the former race acted as runner-up in the Grand National fencing contest.

A deputation consisting of the Hon. G. McLean, and Messrs Wilson, O'Regan, G. W. Russell, Stevens, and Lawry, M.H.R.'s waited on the Minister of Railways last week for the purpose of requesting him to convey racehorses to and from race meetings at single rates. In supporting the request Mr. Stevens pointed out that Australia and India gave the concession asked for, and the Hon. G. McLean reminded the Minister that the deputation only asked for racehorses what was already granted to stock sent to agricultural shows. The Minister promised to go fully into the question.

Winner of the United Hunt Club Open Steeplechase.



DROMEDARY (by Voltigeur—Lady Ellen).

N.Z. Photo-Process Co.

The financial statement of the V.R.C. shows that the club is slowly but steadily working off its huge liability. During the year the overdraft was reduced by £3,200, and the committee hope to wipe off £7,000 during the ensuing year. The liabilities are set down at £31,000.

The following are the nominations in connection with next Monday's election of A.R.C. committeemen:—Mr. H. H. Hayr (proposed by Mr. D. T. Catternach, seconded by Mr. M. Levy), Mr. N. A. Nathan (proposed by Mr. A. Kidd, seconded by Mr. E. D. Benjamin), Mr. John Kirkwood (proposed by Mr. J. Marshall, seconded by Mr. J. Gallagher), Mr. W. McLaughlan (proposed by Mr. R. H. Duder, seconded by Mr. H. O. Nolan), Mr. A. Bookland (proposed by Mr. T. Morrin, seconded by Mr. H. T. Gorrie), Mr. R. R. Duder (proposed by Mr. H. O. Nolan, seconded by Mr. Gorrie), Mr. A. Clark (proposed by Mr. Morrin, seconded by Mr. J. Kirkwood).

The Extremists in the House of Representatives say they are going to make people moral by Act of Parliament in the matter of betting and drinking. Well, they may perform the task, but the weight of experience is sadly against their chances of success. The habits of Englishmen are not easily eradicated, whether it be in betting or drinking. As Iago said in referring to the Anglo-Saxon's desire for spirituous refreshment "Your Englishman is most potent in his potting," and the same quaint phrase can hold good in the "potting" known on the racecourse i.e. the desire to make a pot of coin. Shakespeare recognised the futility of trying to make us moral by Acts of Parliament, but then he was never confronted with a Hutchison or a Carnell.

The annual elections of general secretary and two members of each divisional committee of the North Auckland Racing Association resulted as follows:—General Secretary: Mr. N. A. McLeod, of Dargaville; Eastern Divisional Committee: Mr. Norman L. McInnis, of Hikurangi; Mr. T. W. Taylor, of Whangarei, Western Divisional Committee: Mr. George Nairn, of Dargaville; Captain J. Seymour, of Te Kopuru. The eastern election was conducted by Mr. G. Clark-Walker, Whangarei, while Mr. A. Wilson, Dargaville, conducted the western election.

A meeting of the Auckland Trotting Club Committee will be held to-morrow (Friday) when consideration will be given to the statements made by M. Edwards in connection with the dispute between the Auckland Trotting Club and the Canterbury Trotting Club. The authorities of the local body state it has come to their knowledge that Edwards, when questioned by the Canterbury stewards as to his action in riding at Potter's Paddock in spite of the Canterbury Trotting Club disqualification, asserted that the Auckland Committee gave him permission to ride. Their assertion is that the matter never came before them, but that Edwards was told unofficially that if the Canterbury Trotting Club wrote concerning his disqualification they (the Auckland stewards) would have to refuse him permission to ride. If Edwards told the Canterbury Trotting Club authorities that the Auckland Club gave him formal permission to disobey the injunction of the Southern Club it is easy to understand the extreme step recently taken by it re the Auckland organisation. The Auckland Trotting Club people lay the blame of the whole matter on Edwards who will find it hard to defend the action he is stated to have taken.

At the end of 1895 the sweep promoters of the other side will find the Queensland gates closed against them. Where will Tatt. next turn his steps to? Noumea in all probability.

The bookmakers have applied to the Manawatu R.C. for permission to call straight-out odds on the Club's course during the coming season. No decision has yet been arrived at re the matter.

The Lancaster Park Amateur Trotting Club's meeting was held last Thursday on a course sodden with rain. The sum of £2888 was passed through the totalisator. The following were the results:—Maiden Handicap (saddle) of 30 sovs, two miles.—Zehan 18s, 1. Time, 6min 32½sec. Dividend, £9 16s. Pony handicap (harness) of 30 sovs, two miles.—Mambrino Abdallah 51s, 1; Doris 20s, 2; Miss Sligo 48s, 3. Time, 10min 56½sec. Dividend, £6 16s. Winter Handicap (saddle) of 110 sovs, two miles.—Pauline 20s, 1. Five others started. Victor came in first, but a protest for not trotting fairly was upheld. Time, 5min 44sec. Dividend, £5 12s. Maiden Handicap (harness) of 40 sovs, two miles.—Cynthia 22s, 1; Burwood Bess 22s, 2. Time, 6min 34½sec. Dividend, £3 16s. Lancaster Park Handicap (harness) of 120 sovs, three miles.—Joe 41s, 1; King's Errand 51s, 2. Four others started. Won by 100 yards. Time, 9min 2sec. Dividend, £10 4s. Selling Handicap (harness) of 40 sovs, one mile.—My Dream 6s, 1; Westleigh 3s, 2. Time, 3min 13sec. Dividend, £4 14s. Dash Handicap (harness) of 40 sovs, one mile.—Alice 22s, 1. Time, 3min 12sec. Dividend, £1 10s. Electric Handicap (saddle) of 40 sovs, one mile.—Maggie 10s, 1; Commotion 6s, 2; King's Errand 13s, 3. Time, 2min 55sec. Dividend, £4 2s.

The Sharper will not contest the flat races at the Riccarton jumping meeting, Mr. Caulton having decided to scratch him. The weight could not have been the trouble for with only 10.0 in the Winter Handicap the Kalo horse was very well treated.

Mr. Justice Grantham, in delivering judgment in the appeal case re the Albert Club (England) betting cases said:—"Betting is not illegal, it is the keeping of a house for improper betting which was illegal, and which was aimed at. If a person joined a club of this kind manifestly for the purpose of meeting other members, it must be assumed that he knew something about betting, and that he was not one of those imprudent persons aimed at by this statute. It might be that he went to his club to learn something, it might be to acquire information for his benefit elsewhere, and enable him to make bets elsewhere. He (the judge) did not know why he should not do it, so far as any statute was concerned. That being the position of the respondent in this case, the persons who belonged to the club so long established, and where they had their regular dinners provided, and newspapers, and other things, went to the club for the purpose of enjoying it as a club, and they chose to bet together. The circumstances of this case were not like any of the others that had been mentioned, and it did not come within the four corners of the Act of Parliament. Under these circumstances, although the question had been before the court indirectly on many occasions, nothing had fallen from any judge that he was aware of who had such an instance as this brought before him to show that it would come within the Act of Parliament. In his judgment, the appeal must be dismissed."