

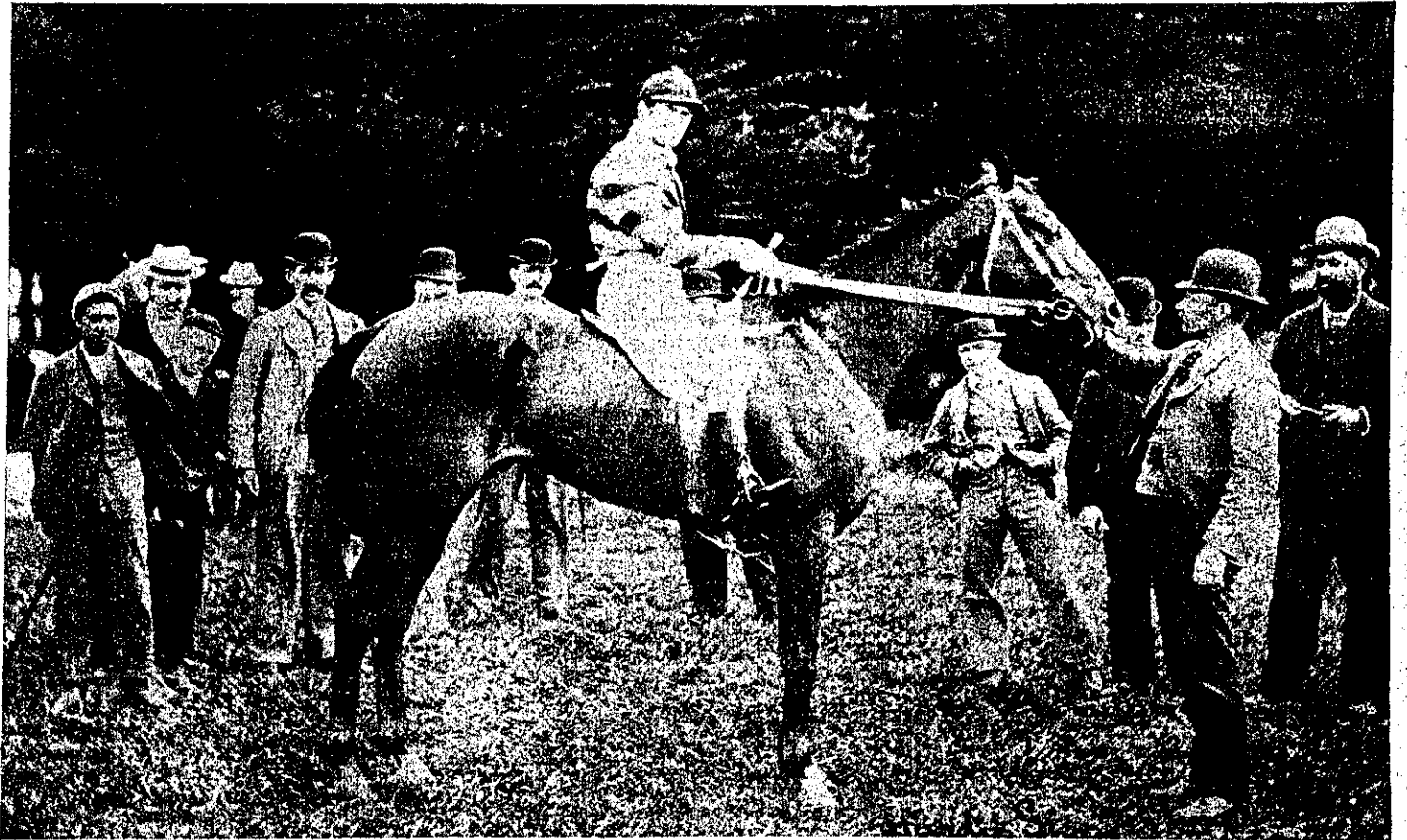
Euroclydon and Roscius is the favourite selection with double backers for Auckland Cup and Steeplechase. Levanter is receiving fair attention for the cross-country event, and St. Hippo is frequently named for the Cup.

Mr S. H. Gollan, the New Zealand racing man, who has carried on so gallant a campaign in Australia, has (writes the English turf scribe, "Robin Hood") sent five horses over to this country. They are Ebor, Dhurringile, Corrigan, Norton, and Busaco, and they have gone to Swatton's training establishment to be put through their facings with an eye to the approaching winter campaign. They seem to have been landed in good, healthy condition, but have not yet been seen at work.

The Australian Jockey Club are restricting the racing of two-year-olds in New South Wales by limiting the distance over which they may be raced, and prohibiting the handicapping of the youngsters before December 1st. The early racing of two-year-olds has been generally condemned in England of late. An English sporting contemporary, in protesting against the overdoing of two-year-olds, says:—"The early waste of our thoroughbreds is absolutely criminal. With far more horses bred each year (at ten times the expense) and running each season—for twenty times higher stakes—than was ever previously known, a worse lot of racehorses all round was never before seen on the Turf. Season after season our over-worked two-year-olds disappear one after another, and at the end of their third year are, almost without an exception, done with for racing. An English representative racehorse should be four years old and an attested stayer, a class of animal we hardly ever now see, or try to cultivate. To breed from these wretched and crippled babies is to perpetuate animals like themselves—good for nothing. Hence, then, our present soft and unsound breed of racehorses, without stamina, robustness, or any of the essential attributes once constituting the sterling English thoroughbred."

The Musket horse, Artillery, passed through Auckland, on Saturday, en route for the United States in charge of C. Brown, who has had charge of the stallion for the past three years.

The Apremont sprinter, Whakawata, will now, it is said, leave Sydney after the Carrington Stakes has been decided at the Sydney Tattersall Club's Summer Meeting, on New Year's Day. He will become an inmate of Roden's stable, and, after taking matters easy at Riccarton for some time, will be prepared for the Dunedin Jockey Club's First Eclipse Stakes, to be decided in February, 1897.



THE MISER (BY PUBIRI—GERMAIN), WINNER OF THE HUTT PARK SPRING HANDICAP.

In commenting on the Cesarewitch candidates an English writer remarks:—"Banquet II. found his best friends among the Colonials. Most of the Australian division declared on the old Yank. Perhaps a sort of clannishness may be expected among Australians and Americans, both being, as it were, representatives of the new school of training and racing as opposed to our old-fashioned methods. These are both believers in the clock, too, and that brings them into accord in estimating form. But be the cause whatever it may be, there is the fact. You generally find our Colonials—Australian, Indian, Canadian, African, no matter where they come from or have been to—you find them inclined to stand American horses in England.

A dispute that took place at Potter's Paddock last Saturday between Mr M. Gleeson, owner of Katie M., and Mr A. Hughes, bootmaker, of Otahuhu and owner of Rosebud, will be discussed in the Police Court next Wednesday, when Gleeson will be called on to answer a charge of maliciously damaging property. When Gleeson was harnessing up Katie M. to take part in one of last Saturday's races, Hughes demanded £4 from Gleeson for the hire of the pneumatic sulky in which Katie M. has been racing, and which Hughes alleges is his property. According to the latter's story Gleeson refused to pay the amount requested, and whipping out a knife, said, "If I don't use it no one else will," following up the remark by puncturing the pneumatic tyres, which act, of course, made the machine useless. Gleeson, on the other hand, declares that he tendered Hughes a cheque in payment of the £4 demanded, but that the latter refused to accept it. On Monday night last Gleeson was arrested at the instance of Hughes, and had the uncomfortable experience of passing that night in the watch-house. He was bailed out next morning, and remanded till Wednesday next. I hear there is a likelihood of the defendant bringing an action against Hughes for false imprisonment. Next Wednesday's court proceedings will be watched with interest by racing men.

St. Simon headed the list of winning sires when the last mail left England, his progeny having won about £31,000, to which St. Frusquin, with £11,000, was the principal contributor.

The following are the principal winners at the D.J.C. Spring Meeting:—M. Sherwin, £391 8s; McGuinness, £225 11s; Stephenson and Hazlett, £218 10s; F. Macmanemin, £204 1s; J. B. Reed, £161 10s; Kett, £152; R. Ray, £147 5s.; P. Butler, £128 5s; J. Giesking, £128 5s; J. M. Holmes, £104 10s.; V. Harris, £104 10s. The smaller amounts won brings the total to £2,653 5s.



A Chat with the Secretary (Mr H. M. Lyon).

When Fred Archer died and Charley Woodcame under the ban of the Jockey Club, everyone pointed to George Barrett as the jockey of the future. Their expectation looked like being realised until Barrett himself got into disgrace, not for what is thought to be the failing of a jockey—pulling, but for an over anxiety to win. He emerged from this little trouble satisfactorily, but then ill-health began to affect his riding, and, in the last issue of the Racing Calendar a notification appears to the effect that he has returned his riding license.



Consulting the Father of the New Zealand Turf (Mr Redwood, of Blenheim).—Centre figure.

English racing men experimented with the starting machine at Sandown Park in October, but, according to the London Sportsman, "it failed to altogether receive the approbation of trainers and others who critically examined and tested it." Yet, the same paper observes in a matter-of-fact fashion, that when Omladina won the Great Sapling Plate, "a delay of close upon half-an-hour occurred at the start." If Englishmen could see a Melbourne Cup field started in less than two minutes, it might cure their insensate opposition to the starting machine.

The Black Eagle mare Bianca foaled a filly to Cuirassier at Wellington Park last week, and has been mated with St. Leger.

The Summer programme of the Wellington Racing Club will require the attention of owners on Friday, January 3rd, when general entries are required in connection with the meeting. The dates of the gathering are Wednesday and Friday, January 22nd and 24th; and as will be seen from the programme appearing in our business columns, an attractive bill-of-fare has been provided for both days. The Wellington Cup of 500 sovs, one mile and a half, which closed with fifty-six nominations, is of course the main item on January 22nd, and the President's Handicap of 125 sovs, one mile and a furlong, forms the other leading event of that card. Besides these two races there are four handicaps with 100 sovs purses attached, viz., the Anniversary Handicap, one mile, the Nursery Handicap, six furlongs (for two-year-olds), the Welter Handicap, one mile and a quarter, and the Telegraph Handicap, six furlongs. The Hurdle Handicap is valued at 80 sovs, and will be run over two miles, and 75 sovs go to the First Hack Handicap, one mile and a furlong. On the second day of the meeting the W.R.C. Handicap of 200 sovs, one mile and a quarter (closed with fifty-nine nominations) forms the principal attraction, and the Metropolitan Handicap, run over three-quarters of a mile, has 125 sovs hanging to it. The other items are as follows:—January Handicap of 100 sovs, one mile and a furlong; Second Welter Handicap of 80 sovs, five furlongs; Hurdles of 70 sovs, one mile and three-quarters; and Second Hack and Farewell Handicaps, both worth 60 sovs, and run over one mile. General entries close on Friday, January 3rd, by 9 p.m., with Mr H. M. Lyon. Mr Evett's handicaps for the first day are due on Tuesday, January 7th. Acceptances for second day close on Tuesday, January 14th, and the final payment (6 sovs) for the Wellington Cup must be made on Monday, January 20th.



COURANTO (BY PATRIARCH—QUICKSTEP), WINNER OF THE FIRST HURDLES

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