

Sydney Truth says "the handicaps for the Melbourne Cup would disgrace a Chinaman."

The new photograph, or electrophotography, as it has been proposed to call it, is not, as we have already remarked (says the Live Stock Journal) without some promise in regard to the diseases of live stock.

Without exaggeration, if anyone had known, or was prepared to back his opinion or judgment, or whatever one may like to term it, that Gipsy Grand would be top weight in the N.Z. Cup, he could have lifted £500 from the local bookmakers and others, who had been studying out a handicap for the three colts, Euroclydon, Gipsy Grand, and Fabulist.

THE BETTING MARKET.

Messrs Barnett and Grant report the following ruling prices:—

NEW ZEALAND CUP.

Table listing betting odds for the New Zealand Cup, including Euroclydon, Lady Zetland, Fabulist, Bellicent, Dauntless, Defiance, Epaulet, Saracen, Lorelei, Culverin, Quiltiri, Black & Red, Lotion, Curassow, Bombshell, Armilla, Brooklet, Ngatuere, Searchlight, Irish Twist, Casket, Chaos, The Shrew, Pompom, Anita, Antares, Hippodrome, Crim. Streak, Pirrose, and New Forest.

GRAND NATIONAL STEEPLECHASE AND HURDLES.

From 500 to 7 to 500 to 8 is now on offer.

Messrs McLeod and Cleland report fair business on the New Zealand Cup, Caulfield and Melbourne Cups, and Christchurch double.

NEW ZEALAND CUP.

Table listing betting odds for the New Zealand Cup, including Euroclydon, Lady Zetland, Epaulet, Defiance, Dauntless, Bellicent, Bombshell, and others.

C.J.C. GRAND NATIONAL HURDLES AND STEEPLECHASE.

Table listing betting odds for the C.J.C. Grand National Hurdles and Steeplechase, including Barnardo and St. Kilda, Liberator, and others.

CAULFIELD AND MELBOURNE CUPS.

1000 to 2 to 1000 to 1 any way not gone.

MELBOURNE AND N.Z. CUPS.

500 to 2 to 500 to 1.

Inter-Provincial.

CANTERBURY.

Euroclydon doing well—Brief review of Cup weights—An opposite opinion to Aucklanders—Death of Whakawatea's dam—Barnardo and Kulnine standing up to their work.

As you will probably deal at length with the handicaps for the New Zealand Cup, I will content myself with a short review of Mr Henry's work.

The scratching of Gipsy Grand at 9.30 on Tuesday morning was scarcely expected—at any rate, so early. It is a thousand pities this great colt has retired from the contest.

Euroclydon is reported as being wonderfully well, and his chance cannot be ignored.

Fabulist is also given a show, and he should beat a good many of those below him. Whether he is equal to Euroclydon, as many suppose, I am unable to say, but if as good next November as when he won the Great Northern Derby he should take a lot of beating.

Lady Zetland apparently went off a little in her most recent display, but all the same, I believe she is as well treated as any animal in the race. Lady Zetland can stay, and perhaps the mistake of last year will not be repeated.

Brooklet is surely fairly well anchored. She may prove, perhaps, that the handicapper is right and the critics wrong, but personally I think she might very well have had a few pounds less to carry.

Saracen and The Possible are not the best of stayers, and Mahaki is unsound. I prefer Lady Zetland, on Wanganui form, to Ngatuere.

Searchlight may be able to stay, and so may Irish Twist [they have both won at one and three-quarter miles.—ED. S.R.], but Bessie McCarthy is not quite sound.

I like the look of Lorelei and Culverin, also that of Quiltiri, but do not fancy Casket or Chaos, both of whom are unsound.

The Shrew and Pompom may have a chance (I like the latter best), and Lotion is just the sort of horse to effect a surprise.

Bellicent should be beaten by Culverin, and Bombshell may probably make way for his stable companions.

Anita has been well treated; indeed, she is as nicely handicapped as anything in the race.

Defiance, Dauntless, and Epaulet are three fine colts, either of whom might run well. I prefer the latter's prospects. Curassow is another of Mr Stead's who must be reckoned with if he trains on. He is a handsome animal, but a trifle heavily topped.

Of the others lower down, the colts Lord Rosslyn and Brigand strike me as likely ones, while old Captive may give trouble if the going is heavy.

At present I like the following:—Euroclydon, Fabulist, Lady Zetland, Lorelei, Culverin, Quiltiri, Lotion, Defiance, Epaulet, Curassow, Pompom, Searchlight, and Brigand.

Since the publication of the weights Mr M. Barnett has laid the following:—400 to 8 Lord Rosslyn, 500 to 10 Esau, 500 to 5 Marino, 760 to 6 Brigand, 500 to 6 Marquis of Zetland, 250 to 7 Anita, 500 to 4 Bonnie Scotland, 250 to 12 Lady Zetland, and smaller lines.

The old mare Becky sharp, dam of Whakawatea, has been destroyed.

All the local horses have been doing good work, especially Barnardo and Kulnine. The latter has not been forgotten at Wellington. If he jumps he has a chance, but he is none too fond of the big fences.

WELLINGTON.

Dromedary in good nick—Violence in work again—Whalebone's sister being trained at The Hutt—Bootles and Conscript at The Hutt—Safe arrival of two thoroughbred stallions from England—Gold Reef (by Bend Or) and Soult (by St. Simon)—Both in quarantine for the present.

The appearance of the New Zealand Cup weights, due on or about 1st July, were anxiously looked for here. There was some speculation as to which of the colts would receive post of honour.

Silent Friend still shows signs of soreness. He hurt one of his knees about twelve months back, and still shows a slight weakness.

Dromedary ran a real good race in the Hawke's Bay Steeplechase, jumping the last hurdle with the leaders, and finishing a good fourth.

W. Galbraith has joined J. Taggart at The Hutt. Galbraith has done a lot of hurdle riding, principally on the West Coast.

Mr Freeth has got the chestnut mare Violence in work for the Hunters' Hurdles.

The owners of Man-o'-War have sent Spermaceti (sister to Whalebone) down to J. Taggart to be prepared for The Hutt meeting.

Bootless and Conscript arrived from Napier on Wednesday night (1st inst.) in charge of Mr E. Shore and E. Williams, the rider.

In the Hurdles at Hastings Revolt struck his knee, which necessitated his withdrawal on the second day.

J. Taggart informs me he has leased Smart's old stables, and that the boxes are all engaged.

Evidently there will be large fields for the local meeting.

Mr J. O. Hayward returned on Sunday from England, per s.s. Tokomaru, bringing with him the stallions Gold Reef (whose tabulated pedigree and performances appeared in last week's SPORTING REVIEW) and Soult, a five-year-old brown stallion by St. Simon—Beauharnais, by See Saw—Josephine, by Birdcatcher—Inheritas, by The Saddler. The horses were landed in fair condition, and I was enabled to have a look at them on Some's Island, where they will remain in quarantine a fortnight.

Gold Reef is a bay or brown horse standing about 16 hands. He has plenty of size, is a good boned horse, and when built into stallion estate will make a fine horse. He stood up during the whole journey, and having just landed, was seen at a disadvantage. Gold Reef was only purchased two days before being shipped. It has not yet been finally decided, but in all probability Gold Reef will go to the Manawatu district.

Soult was purchased a month before being shipped. During the trip Soult took advantage of his box by lying down, and consequently landed pretty fresh. He is a brown, ticked with grey hairs, with small, white star, and stands about 15.3. He is a very handsome horse, and shows a lot of quality; just what anyone would expect from such a well bred one.

Soult has some fair performances to his credit. His grand-dam was a good mare, and won about fifty races, including several Queen's Plates (three miles). Mr Hayward informs me that he would be agreeable to lease Soult. This would be a capital opportunity for Mr Walters to fill the vacancy caused by Blairgowrie's death. As a two-year-old Soult started on no fewer than ten occasions. He ran third to Bill of Portland (also a St. Simon colt, imported by Mr "St. Albans" Wilson) in the Bedford Stakes at the Newmarket Spring Meeting, and at the Doncaster September Meeting he was beaten by a length in the Glasgow Plate, there being fourteen starters; at the Lancaster meeting, in the same month, he ran fourth in the Nursery Handicap, sixteen starters; at the Newmarket Houghton Meeting, he won a £200 match; at the Leicester November Meeting he ran third in the Aylesford Focal Plate, five starters; at the Manchester November Meeting he won the Nursery Handicap, fifteen starters. At three years he ran fourth in the Prince of Wales Plate, at Leicester. At four years he started thirteen times, being beaten by a head in the Glasgow Plate, at Epsom, thirteen starters; second in Patcham Stakes, over T.Y.C. course, at Brighton, five starters; at the same meeting, won the Pavilion Plate of six furlongs, seven starters; won the mile Handicap at the Leicester October Meeting, six starters; at the Liverpool November Meeting he won the Stewards' Cup of six furlongs, thirteen starters. At five years, he started ten times, running third in the Leicester Spring Handicap, eight starters; third in Holmwood Plate (at Epsom), six starters, and third in the Tadworth Plate, thirteen starters, at the same meeting; second in the Walsall Plate, Birmingham Meeting, five starters; second in the Prince of Wales Plate, at Leicester, eight starters; won the Oringden Stakes, at Brighton, eight starters. His winnings amount to £1,340.

Mr Hayward had a good time at Home, inspecting the various stud farms, etc. He was lucky enough to back Victor Wild, the winner of the Great Jubilee Stakes.

Gold Reef, I may mention, is half-brother to Gold Leaf, a recent winner at Newmarket; also to Sorcerer, who is standing at the Cobham Stud at a fee of twenty guineas.

DUNEDIN.

More thoroughbred stock from Australia for Dunedin—Beadonwell's sister goes to the stud—Victim a probable non-starter at Christchurch—The N.Z. Cup handicap started too high—Strange proceedings by D.J.C.—Dunedin betting market.

A few days ago there arrived in Dunedin a couple of youngsters by Trident. They are at present located at Mr McEwen's stable near the racecourse. One is a brown or black colt, rising two years, from Eleanor, and the other is a chestnut filly, rising three years, from Ruth. Nothing is known about them further than that they are in charge of Mr Geo. Smith, late owner of Johnny Faa, Clarissa, and Co.—It is hoped they may remain here, as they would be a valuable addition to our racing stock.

Clarissa, sister to Beadonwell, has been purchased by Mr Crossan, and will be used for breeding purposes. Clarissa is only three years old, but her legs proved too troublesome to allow proper training.

Victim has left James Cotton's stable, which may be taken as an indication that the son of Betrayer will not start at this year's Christchurch Grand National Meeting.

The report is rife in Dunedin to night (Tuesday) that Gipsy Grand has been scratched for the New Zealand Cup. [Gipsy Grand was scratched on Tuesday morning.—ED. S.R.]

The general impression here is that Mr Henry commenced his handicap a few pounds too high for this year's New Zealand Cup, and started with the wrong horse. Seven pounds over weight-for-age for four-year-olds is considered too much.

The action of the Dunedin Jockey Club, at their meeting on Thursday night, in black-balling half a dozen respectable citizens who were proposed for membership, is being adversely criticised in the city. Two of those proposed were Dr Jeffrey and Mr K. S. Begg. The former is president of the Tahuna Park Trotting Club, and has for some time past acted as hon. surgeon to the D.J.C., and rendered many a good service. Mr Begg has for many years been associated with the turf here as an owner, and both gentlemen are very popular residents. It is impossible to realise why they, at any rate, should have been slighted in such a manner.

Mr Abe Moss reports the following business:—New Zealand and Melbourne Cup double—All at 300 to 1—Pinrose and Wallace, Jane Eyre and Loyalty, Curassow and Newman, Vandylke and Newhaven, Chaos and Warpaint, Dauntless and Devon.

Mr Moss has also written the following items for the C.J.C. Grand National double:—200 to 4 Hopeful and Chris, 150 to 3 Donald McKinnon and St. Kilda, 100 to 3 Liberator and Liberator, 200 to 4 The Plug and Liberator, 150 to 3 Zaccho and Rangipunehu. Mr Moss has also done the following straight-out New Zealand Cup business:—300 to 3 Searchlight, 500 to 4 Vandylke, 200 to 4 Lord Zetland, 200 to 12 Lady Zetland, 300 to 9 Penrose, 200 to 10 Dauntless, 200 to 8 Curassow.

HAWKES BAY.

Mr Donnelly secures a capable trainer for his horses—Mr "Portland" removing to Palmerston North—Harry Alexander ("Fordham") takes charge of Mr "Portland's" team—T Rose fancied for her Gisborne engagements—Death of a promising colt.

Alf. Ellingham has relinquished his position as trainer for Mr "Portland," and in future will have charge of Mr G. P. Donnelly's team.

The two-year-old Forest Rose, the property of Mr Richardson, will also be under Ellingham's supervision, Fred Collins still acting as mentor to the jumping horses Zaccho and Morag.

Mr "Portland" is, I believe, going to take his residence at Palmerston North. Harry Alexander who used to train and ride Roscine, will take charge of Mr "Portland's" horses.

T Rose's connections are very sanguine about her chance for the big steeplechase at Gisborne. She did not shine very much at Hastings the other day, although I am told that in the Final Steeple, in which she ran third, she had the bad luck to get one of her plates twisted. Certainly, she will have no Morag or Donald McKinnon to meet at Gisborne, which, of course, will be a point in her favour.

The St. Andrew—Vision colt, the property of the Moeller syndicate, while being put through his facings at Hastings this (Tuesday) morning slipped and fell, thereby breaking his shoulder, and consequently had to be destroyed. This is hard luck for the Bird's Eye Blue confederacy as the colt gave promise of being a fair horse.

MESSRS MILLER BROS.' STABLE.

THE HOME OF REDLEAP AND DART.

Many people imagine that the Messrs Miller are coining money at racing (says the Age). It is true that the red and white livery is more frequently borne to the front throughout the year than any other, but when one has inspected the extensive establishment which they keep up, it is easy to believe the statement of Mr S. Miller, chairman of the V.R.C., that the year's revenue does not cover the expenditure. The immense estate consists of between 800 and 1,000 acres, every inch of which seems to be judiciously handled by the keen business men who own the valuable territory. Mr S. Miller occupies about 200 acres, which include the Redleap stable, where the horses ready to race are kept; elaborate accommodation for the boys and the trainer (Mr H. Bellamy), and the racecourse (a mile and a quarter round), which is one of the finest training tracks to be found in Australia. Much constructive skill has been brought into play in the formation of the course. The drainage is perfect. There are three distinct kinds of going—to suit the variations of the weather and the requirements of a horse's condition—and besides a hurdle and steeplechase course, over which horses have to perform the most exacting duties before they are permitted to appear in public, the explanation without doubt of why the horses of the Messrs Miller, whatever else they may be, are always good jumpers. The Messrs Miller have a very conspicuous dread of fire, as the stables, the boys' quarters and, in fact, every building on the Redleap Estate, have been erected with as much brick and as little inflammable material as could be utilised. The accommodation provided for the boys is of the most considerate character, and there are evidences on all sides of the anxiety of the proprietors to make their employes comfortable. The stables are called the Redleap stables because that sterling jumper paid for their building, and Mr S. Miller, who owns them, hopes to extend the accommodation when another Redleap brings the requisite grist to Mill Park. The Messrs Miller are not too sanguine that the opportunity will arrive this year, but as they affectionately gaze at Dart it is easy to believe that they have not abandoned the idea of winning this year's Steeplechase, while, if Lealie should fail to prove as good as is expected, there is Mr T. Wilson's cast-off, Artist, and one or two others who are not to be passed over lightly, but on the contrary may help to account for some important events before long.

Mr J. A. Berggren, we are sorry to say, died at the local hospital on Sunday, June 21st. Mr Berggren was at one time proprietor of the City Hotel, Kaipara Hotel at Helensville, and the Lady Bowen Hotel at the Thames. In each of these well-known hostleries, Mr Berggren made himself very popular. After giving up the hotel business, he appears to have met with nothing but bad luck, and his capital soon ran out, but he was fortunate, some time prior to his death, in meeting a good friend such as Mr Thos. Foley, of the Shakespeare Hotel, who, with great generosity, extended to Mr Berggren the comforts of a home, and the latter remained with Mr Foley as his guest up to the time he was taken to the hospital.