

## Inter-Provincial.

### CANTERBURY.

The forthcoming Canterbury meeting—  
Riccarton training notes—Our corre-  
spondent's anticipations—The imported  
colt Sandhurst—Bicycling.

CHRISTCHURCH, February 2.

It is expected that full acceptances will be received for the Canterbury Jockey Club's Summer Meeting on Saturday. The weather has been fine during the week, and the club should have a successful meeting. Most of the horses having engagements are now at Riccarton.

During the past few days fast work has been given the Canterbury horses. On Saturday morning several horses were on the track at an early hour. Marquis of Zetland accomplished the best gallop of the morning, getting over a mile and a quarter in good style; he moved very freely and should be hard to beat in the Midsummer Handicap. Weary and Choroid both did a fast four furlongs. Barmby, Bisley, and Miniature performed well; they will also start at the meeting. Skirmisher, who is looking as well as ever, did a fast gallop. Belligerent moved freely in a six furlong gallop.

There is a considerable amount of double betting going on in connection with the Midsummer Handicap and Craven Plate. Marquis of Zetland is a popular fancy for the former event, Musketry, Leda, and Plotter being next in demand; these horses have been coupled with Bizaare, Firefly, Rustic, and Campbell. Since the handicaps have appeared for the events at the meeting public interest has increased.

There are only eight horses in the Midsummer Handicap. St. Paul (8.9) is top weight, then follow Skirmisher 8.7, Musketry 8.3, Marquis of Zetland 7.12. Of these four I like Musketry; fit and well he should about win; he is reported to be galloping well, but, as he does his work in private, very few people have had an opportunity of seeing him; it is quite possible he will be reserved for the Craven Plate. Leda (7.9) is leniently treated. Missfire (7.9), Plotter (7.8), Lord Roslyn (7.3), and Maximus (7.0) complete the rest of the field; the last-named is an improbable starter. Plotter is reported to be going well. Lord Roslyn's prospects of success are considered to be really good. My tip is Musketry, if he starts, and next to him I like Skirmisher and Marquis of Zetland. Gold Leaf will be a starter in the Middle Park Plate, but he cannot have much chance of beating Gold Medallist or Multiform, who will probably finish first and second in the order named, with Gold Leaf third.

In the Craven Plate, Stead's selected (Musketry 8.11 or Firefly 7.9) should about win. Barmby (8.12) is not thoroughly wound up. Belligerent (7.11), Rustic (7.0), and Campbell (6.10) should run well.

Senior Wrangler (8.12) or Bloomer (7.5) should be well up in the Lyttelton Plate.

Jewel, Montacute, and Tale of War read well in the Hornby Welter Handicap.

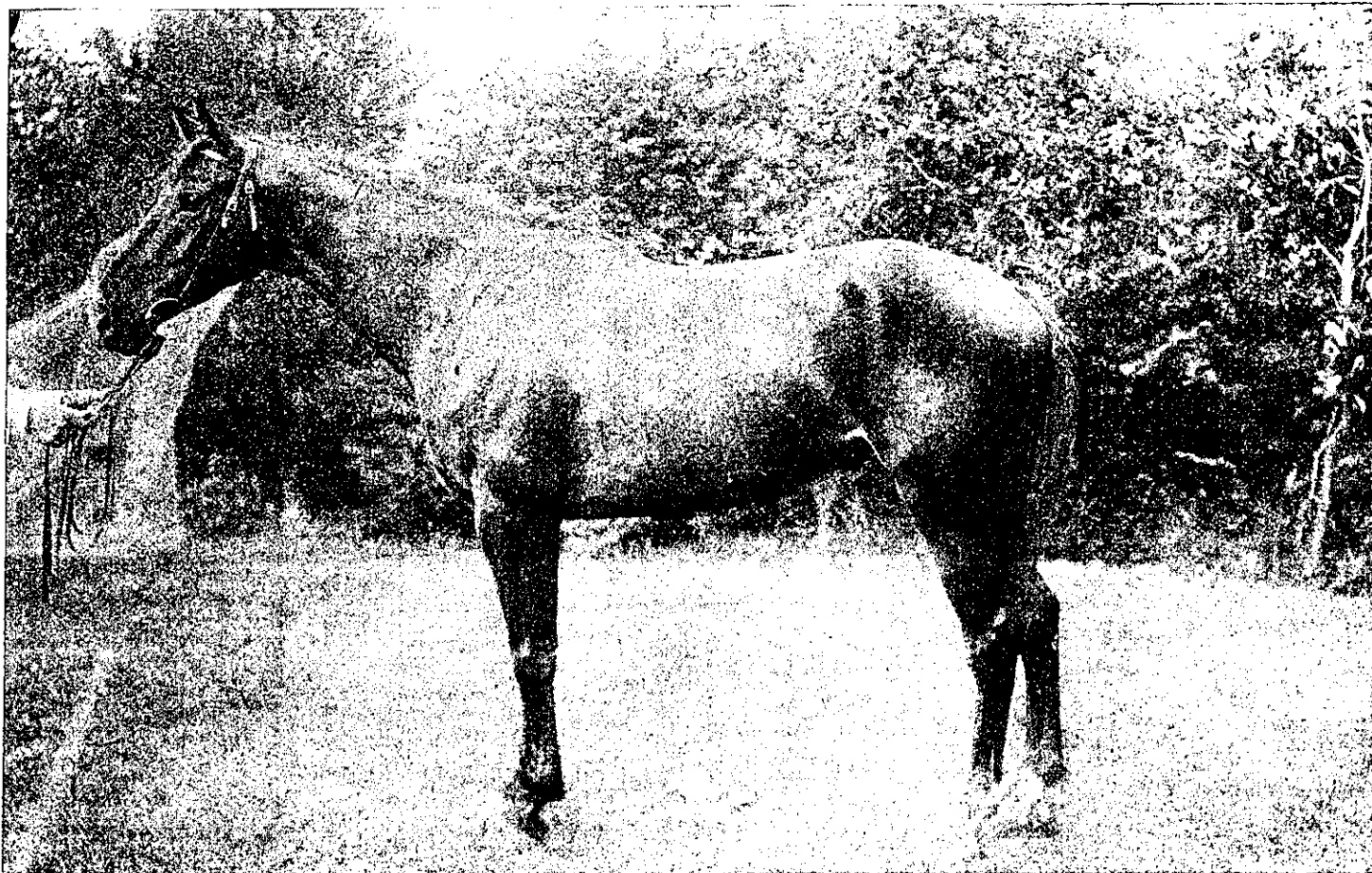
Mr P. Campbell's colt Sandhurst, by Bendigo—Engagement, who arrived at Lyttelton last week has been placed in quarantine. He is a fine looking colt, and, if looks go for anything, he should make a name for himself on the racing track.

A. R. Barker, the Canterbury champion cyclist, left for Auckland to-night, for the purpose of competing there on Saturday. He is very fit and should win a few sovs at the meeting.

A. O. Wilmot was unable to journey North owing to pressure of business.

Mr N. Oates has built a quad for pacing purposes. It was on the track last night.

Shorland, Jones, and Harry Thompson will represent the Pioneer Bicycle Club in the amateur championships at Wellington. The first-named



MR D. SCOTT'S B G REDBERRY, BY FLINTLOCK—MISTLETOE, WINNER OF THE TRIAL HURDLE RACE AT FOXTON

is riding splendidly, and intends making an attempt to lower all New Zealand records at an early date.

The Dunlop Tire Company has imported a triplet, which will also be used for pacing.

Several tandems may be seen on Lancaster Park.

### HAWKES BAY.

Douglas sore—Orion's Belt—Golden Plover—The Possible and Tire—Ellingham's string—Bank's team—Stable gossip generally—The electric starting machine—Cuneen's disqualification.

NAPIER, February 2.

On Douglas' arrival at Hastings from Wellington last week he walked very sore behind. He seems to be afflicted in the hocks. Since his return, walking exercise only has been meted out to him.

Orion's Belt's split hoof has again been giving him a lot of trouble. He has been an absentee from the training tracks in consequence. What with Girofa and St. Conon on the sick list besides, the trainer can well exclaim, "Taking one consideration with another, the trainer's lot is not a happy one."

Golden Plover, who has been entered for the Wairoa fixture this month, is looking a bit on the light side. Probably his trip to Gisborne knocked some of the dash out of him, but as I know him of old, he takes a lot of bustling before he cries *peccavi*.

The Possible and Tire are doing good solid work, I presume in view of the approaching Wanganui meeting. The brace are looking in

eighteen carat order. In whatever event they are slipped they will take a lot of beating. No one, I am sure, would grudge Percy Martin the pleasant lot of leading in a winner or two. For some time past he has not had a very good time of it in that respect.

Alf. Ellingham is handling a yearling filly by Torpedo—Comino and the Maxim—Burlesque colt, Popgun, who has been in retirement for some time back, through suffering from a weak joint, but is again in active service. Ellingham had a bit of hard luck in losing his services when he did, as he had just commenced to learn how to gallop. There were several races here about Christmas that would have been within his power of annexing.

Banks, who has Rainbow in hand, has just received an addition to his team in the shape of a good looking three-year-old daughter of Waterfall and Mystery. "Bruiser," as she is familiarly called by her associates, ought to have a look in at some of the meetings about here in the back end of the season, that is to say, if the latest inmate possesses any of her sire's or dam's galloping powers.

The full-brother to Torpina, Brennan, in Gooseman's stable, has been taken in hand again. Since his initial run at Marton last year he has been enjoying a spell.

Barshot, who I mentioned some time back as being on the sick list, is now partly recovered from his indisposition. What with Prince Charlie just suffering a recovery, and Rangipuhi still disabled, Quinlivan can be said to have been having a not too rosy time of it lately. I sincerely hope that in the future things will assume a brighter aspect for him.

Last Saturday morning, Horace Reeves, a Hastings trainer, who is greatly respected, not only by his fellow trainers, but by the general public, had the great misfortune to lose his wife,

a young woman of only 26. In his sad bereavement, sincere sympathy is felt for him all over the district.

Jack Cuneen, in consequence of his brother's disqualification, now controls the destiny of Kauri Gum, Marina, and Harmony. The latter is going to be schooled over hurdles in view of the Trial Hurdles at Napier Park next month. Jack is a hard working and industrious chap, and I should say that the above-mentioned trio ought to prosper under his guidance.

Gold Cup will, so I have been informed, be hacked about at her owner's place near Waipawa. I asked Ted Cuneen what he would do now that he was under the ban, and he laughingly replied that he would rusticate in the country, and perhaps pick up a wrinkle or two about sheep farming. "You know," he said, "it might come in handy some day." Having known Ted since he was a boy (a day or two ago) I feel sorry for him in his trouble, and hope the penance he is now doing will have good effect upon his conduct.

Yesterday I had a look at Nichol's, of Invercargill, electric starting machine, and it is a most ingenious affair for trotting, bicycling, or any other events which have time starts allowed to them. It should prove invaluable. I will write a full detailed account of it in my next, as in telegraphing one cannot give the necessary explanations so fully as could be wished. Mr Elbourne, the trotting handicapper, who is not a bad judge, has expressed himself as being very highly pleased with the apparatus.

Pocock and Fraser, the bicyclists, who got a smash up at the Recreation Ground on January 27th, are now on the fair way to recovery.

Your Wellington correspondent, in commenting upon Torpina's performances at the late Wellington meeting, makes the assertion that the syndicate who race The Shrew and Torpina are not racing on account of adverse handicapping. In that he is wrong, as one of the members of the firm assures me, and also gave me his authority to make it public.

### WELLINGTON.

Mahara—The running of Bull's Eye—  
Leda.

WELLINGTON, February 2.

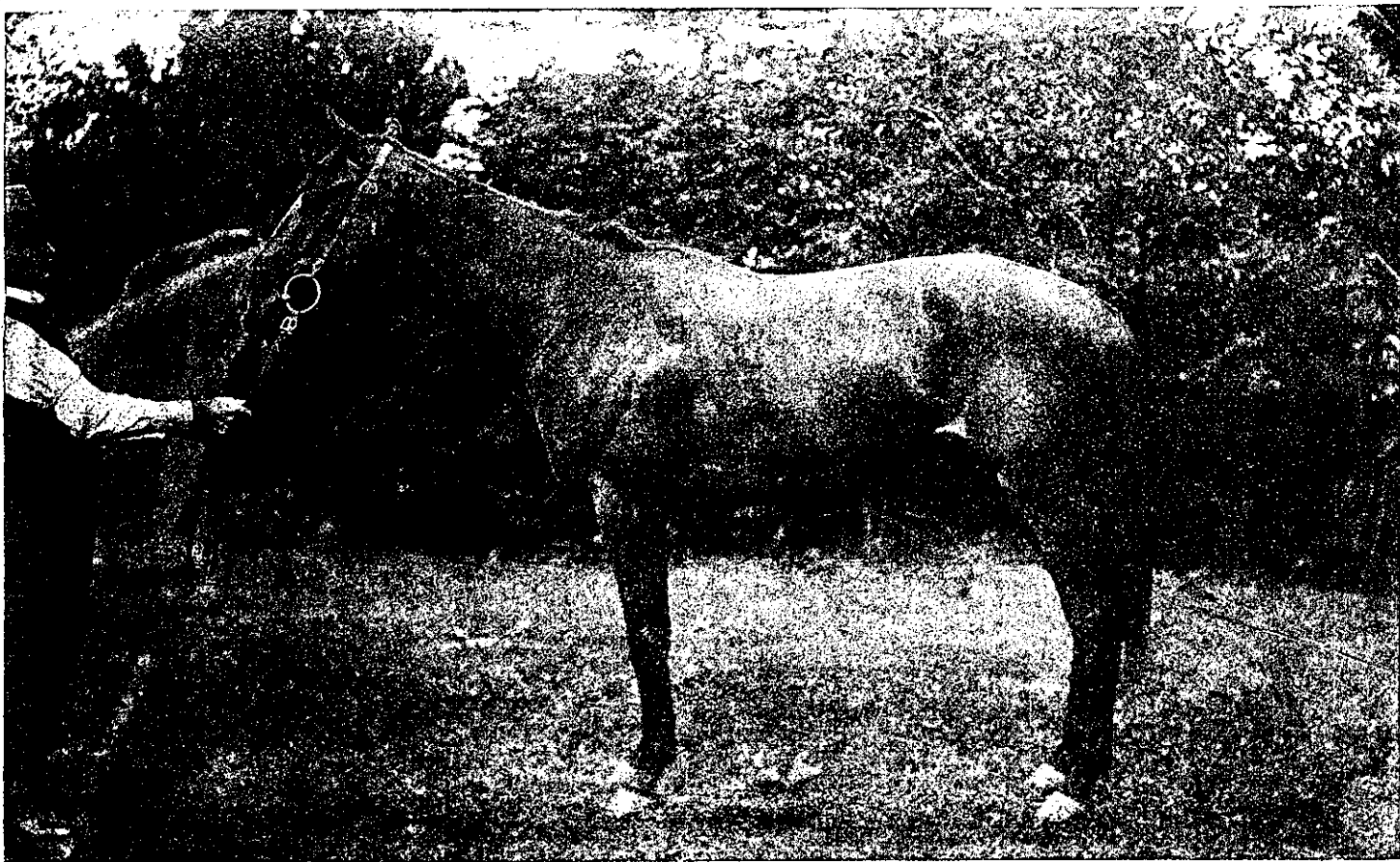
The grey gelding Mahara (by Voltigeur—The Field), one of the smartest hacks a few seasons back, has been put into work again at Taurakina.

The Lower Valley Jockey Club called a meeting for Wednesday last to enquire into the running of Bull's Eye in the Hurdles on Boxing Day. Owing to the absence of several witnesses it had to be postponed. The owner, Mr J. Orr, charges Fred. Seccombe with pulling Bull's Eye off the course.

W. Davis took Leda to Christchurch to-day to run in the Midsummer Handicap on Saturday next. Leo. Matthews went down to ride the mare, who will run forward.

King Wai had one of his eyes knocked out recently while running in the paddock.

Specification was sent down to Christchurch last week.



MR D. SCOTT'S OH M ELECTRO, BY AHUA—PETER FLAT MARE, WINNER OF THE HACK HURDLE RACES AT THE RANGITIKEI MEETING.

Photos, by — Billens, Marton.



### DISTRICT ORDERS.

Brigade Office,

Auckland, January 26th, 1897.

The Service Practice from the Forts, which was to have been held last month, will take place on SATURDAY, 6th February next, at 2.30 p.m.

Field Battery and Heavy Ordnance Prize Firing on SATURDAY, the 13th February—the former at the Narrow Neck, the latter at the Forts.

By Order, J. GRANT,  
Lieutenant and Acting Adjutant,  
Auckland District.

Training jerseys 1s each at Geo. Fowlds