

The Wellington Club has very gracefully voted £10 to James Laing, who was injured while riding Barman at the Winter Meeting.

At the outset of the foaling season the respected proprietors of the Motu-Korea Stud have experienced a little bit of bad luck, the brood mare Phantom having died after giving birth to a Seaton Delaval filly. Phantom was by Musket, and was a big, roomy mare, and the proprietors of the stud at Brown's Island had every reason to expect that she would be of great service to them. The foal, a filly, is alive and well, and appears to be thriving on the bottle.

The Messrs Alison's stud-groom reports the following foalings at Motu-Korea:—Phantom (dead), brown filly to Seaton Delaval; Friendship, filly to Regel; and May, filly to Regel.

That good-looking horse, by Ingomar—Bessemer, will not be raced again, but will be devoted to stud purposes out at Avondale.

The Hukatere—Daphne two-year-old filly has been named "Snowflower." Mr "Sandy" Barron tells us that Hukatere in Maori means falling snow, so that the name bestowed on Daphne's progeny, Snowflower, is appropriate.

The first foaling at Sylvia Park was reported yesterday morning, when Waitemata gave birth to a fine filly foal by St. Hippo.

Anna, that faithful old servant of the North Shore sportsmen, the Messrs. Duder Bros., was sent to Sylvia Park last week. She will foal shortly to St. Hippo. The early success of Miss Anna on the turf has caused the Messrs. Duder Bros. to determine to send Anna back to St. Hippo. It is to be hoped that the foal which is shortly expected will turn out to be a colt.

The four-mile hurdle race at Caulfield was spoilt owing to the bad judgment of some of the riders.

It is said that Fleet Admiral is not constant in his work, and that there is a weakness in his joints. Anyway, it might be as well to stand off him for the V.R.C. Derby until he shows us his form in some other classic event.

Locksmith, the full-brother to Key, displayed winning form at the recent V.A.T.C. Meeting, and has since come into prominence for the big Spring handicap.

Fleet Admiral is a hot favourite for the S.A.J.C. Derby, for which seven have accepted. Even money is the best price obtainable about him.

Last December Lord Shrewsbury gave 1450 guineas for Gazetteer, by Galinale out of Award, at the sale of Mr Abe Bailey's horses. Gazetteer did not win a race for his new owner until May 29th, when in the Hertfordshire Handicap of 100 sovs, he found himself more at home in the indifferent company than he did in the good class amongst which he had been racing hitherto, and won easily.

The end of the season generally sees the sire of the winner of the Melbourne Cup at the head of the list of winning sires (writes "Terlinga"), and the year just closed has not proved an exception to the general rule. Newminster tops the list with £9,181, about two-thirds of which must have been won by Newhaven. Trenton was without the services of Quiver and Auraria, while Resolute and Cydnus did next to nothing for him, but Aurum proved a splendid ally. Trenton had 22 winners of 40 races, and altogether his stock won £7,326. Lochiel's sons and daughters won 59 races among them, the total value being £7,122. The Prince Charlie horse has quite recovered his place in the estimation of racing men, and Tom Hales must be very sorry he let him slip through his hands. Robinson Crusoe, with £4,950, is fourth on the list, about £150 ahead of Splendour, and then come Booka, Glorious, Trident, Grand Flaneur, and Gozo, all well over £3,000. Of these ten horses Newminster and Glorious are dead, while Trenton is in England and Robinson Crusoe in New Zealand. Next to Trenton, Thunderbolt shows best of the Musket horses, and he is eleventh on the list with 31 races worth £3,334. Carbine is next, and then come Neckersgat (dead), Abercorn (only five winners of eight races), Richmond, Malua (dead), Battalious, and Padlock. Sunrise has a peculiar record. He claims no less than 30 winners of 65 races, but the money won is only £2,338! Carlyon has moved up a good deal, thanks principally to Carlton. Of the veterans, Goldsbrough has dropped below £1000, Gang Forward is down to £735, and Grandmaster to £704. At the end of 1895-6 Trenton headed the list with £13,126, Carbine being second with £6,189.

On July 10, the last day of the Coney Island Jockey Club's Meeting, the rich Realization Stakes was won by The Friar, a three-year-old son of Friar's Balsam and Lizzie Baker, but the victory was unpopular because of the inconsistent form shown by the winner, and his jockey has been charged with dishonesty or incompetency by the *Spirit of the Times*. That journal, referring to the race, remarks:—"As to the race itself, the Realization needs but little description; it was The Friar's from beginning to end, as he secured the lead at the start and retained it to the end, running a grand race, as may be seen from the time from the first half to the finish, by eighths: 49 4-5sec, 1min 3sec, 1min 16 2-5sec, 1min 29 4-5sec, 1min 42 2-5sec; 1min 55 1-5sec, 2min 8 1-5sec, 2min 21 2-5sec, 2min 35sec, 2min 48 2-5sec. Considering the fact that The Friar led from start to finish, which position is generally conceded to give any horse holding it in a long race 7lbs the worst of it, these fractional times are simply remarkable, especially when compared with the time made in the Spindrift and Tidal Stakes, 1min 56 2-5sec in the former at a mile and an eighth, and 1min 42 1-5sec in the latter at a mile. The greatness of the performance can be appreciated when it is stated that the performance eclipsed all previous records for the event by a second, beat the track record by one-fifth of a second, and that The Friar, carrying 40lbs more than Hindocraft, came within two-fifths of a second of this fleet colt's world record for the distance."

At the Christchurch Magistrates' Court on Tuesday, several bookmakers were charged with having trespassed on the grounds of the Canterbury Trotting Club, at Addington, on August 10, and neglecting to leave after being requested to do so. After hearing evidence the magistrate said they had this trouble after every trotting meeting and the thing must be stopped. On the last occasion he inflicted a fine of £1, and he proposed to double it now. If the defendants wished he would double it to enable them to appeal. The defendants submitted to the magistrate's ruling and were fined £2 and costs.

Lindsay Gordon suggested that if a jockey couldn't "ride for a lord" he might sometimes do worse than "stand in with a steward," and the author of "How We Beat the Favorite" was no outsider on the subject of racing and racing men. A Victorian jockey (writes "Javelin") once had a Victorian mount at Randwick for an owner who was a steward in his own colony. While saddling, the trainer said, "You're to stop him to-day; we're sure to win on Saturday!" "But I've got a score of my own on, and I'm not goin' to lose it," replied the jockey, who was assured that not only would "that be all right," but he would get a far better price and a good bit to nothing for the other race; and accordingly the horse was stopped. There was no poetic justice in the sequel to the rider's loyalty, as the nag was cast in his box that same night, and had to be withdrawn from all engagements. Two months afterwards the rider was up before some stewards in his own colony, one of whom was the owner for whom he had "ridden dead" at Randwick, and who sat next to the chairman. The latter asked, "Have you ever pulled a horse?" "Well, gentlemen," said the jockey, with a glance at the steward on the chairman's left, "of course, if you insist I will answer that question." But upon it being represented to the chairman that "really that had nothing to do with the case," the unpleasant query was not pressed, and the rider's explanation was accepted—a finding which you may possibly remember having heard before.

In our advertising columns is the announcement that Mr George Henning has opened a Cycle Riding School, at Stanley Street, Parnell. Mr Henning has secured those large premises previously known as the Zealandia Skating Rink, and having a large building as well as an asphalt lawn, can give instruction in any weather. A specialty will be made in the matter of a ladies afternoon on Wednesdays, with a lady in attendance, and this should prove a great boon to those of the fair sex who would like to take their lessons in private. Mr Henning is well known to the cycling world, and is receiving the support of the trade in general, being an expert in tyre repairing and manufacturing. With the improvements shortly to be commenced, the track should prove a great attraction as it is the only one that is banked in Auckland, and running about ten laps to the mile, there will be plenty of room.

THE BOOKMAKERS AND THE CANTERBURY CLUB.

MR PROFFITT'S CASE.

[By OUR CANTERBURY CORRESPONDENT.]

The long-pending case in which Mr W. Proffitt, of Napier, sued the Canterbury Jockey Club for £500 damages, "For that defendants, by their agents, on November 14th, 1896, on certain land at Riccarton, known as the Christchurch Racecourse Reserve, did assault plaintiff, and imprison him for a long time, by reason of which he suffered pain of body and mind," came on at the Supreme Court on Tuesday. The statement of defence was a denial of the assault and imprisonment. On the date mentioned the club was lawfully holding its Spring Race Meeting on the racecourse reserve, a portion of which was known as the grandstand enclosure, and set apart for the exclusive use of members of the club and such other persons as the club (through its stewards and officers) might from time to time permit to

enter and remain therein during the time such race meeting was being held; that no person other than members of the club could properly enter and continue within the enclosure while the race meeting was being held, contrary to the wish or order of the club. The plaintiff, contrary to the wish of the club, went within the enclosure while races were being held, and was requested to withdraw, which he refused to do. Defendants, acting by order of the committee, gently laid their hands on the plaintiff, using no more force than was necessary for that purpose, and removed plaintiff from the enclosure, which was the assault and imprisonment complained of. The statement further set forth that on the day mentioned the committee of the club had exclusive right to the grandstand enclosure. They further pleaded that plaintiff was a professional bookmaker and layer of totalisator odds, as well as a turf commission agent; that the club, whilst acting within its rights, decided that bookmakers should be excluded from the grandstand enclosure, or if admitted should not be allowed to continue there during the holding of the race meeting referred to. Plaintiff had had notice of the club's determination, and having obtained permission to the enclosure refused to leave when requested to do so, and defendants, acting under authority of the club, removed him from the reserve. Plaintiff had further claimed to be entitled to enter upon the racecourse stand enclosure, and to remain thereon, and while there exercise his right of carrying on his business of bookmaker and layer of totalisator odds, which business the Booth trustees had prohibited from being carried on upon the reserve. Mr Beswick, in opening the case for plaintiff, put in the Act under which, in 1857, the Christchurch Racecourse Reserve was vested in trustees, also the lease of the Canterbury Jockey Club. For the purposes of the case it would be admitted that Mr Proffitt was a bookmaker, and had obtained admission to the grandstand enclosure by means of a ticket. He submitted that the Jockey Club had no power to make regulations for the conduct of the reserve. Those must be made by the trustees, who must get their power by legislation. He called William Proffitt, who deposed that amongst other things he was a bookmaker. On November 14, 1896, the last day of the November meeting of the Canterbury Jockey Club, he went on the racecourse into a portion known as the grandstand enclosure, paying ten shillings for a ticket at the train entrance to the enclosure, having previously paid for his railway ticket from town. With Mr Pollock he went to the stewards' room. After being there a short time the Hon. E. W. Parker and Mr Wanklyn told them they must go off. On their refusing to leave Mr Wanklyn and a man named Spry came up and ordered them off. He declined to go, and asked Spry to put his hand upon him, so that there might be a case to whether the racecourse was a public reserve or not. He was then removed by persons named. Cross-examined: He had seen the advertisement that bookmakers would not be admitted to the course. He, with a deputation appointed by the Bookmakers' Association, waited upon the Hon. E. W. Parker and Mr Wanklyn to endeavour to arrange for admission for the bookmakers. The deputation offered to forfeit £100 each if any member should be found betting totalisator odds. Mr Parker declined. With Mr Pollock he afterwards saw Mr Wanklyn, who told him that the club had determined not to allow bookmakers to do business on the course. When he went to the course he did not intend to ply his calling, but for the express purpose of being turned off. He and his friends went straight to the stewards' room, when they went to the course and asked to be allowed to remain. He wished to establish his right to be on the course. The case occupied the court the greater part of the day. Judge Denniston reserved his judgment.



BRITOMARTE, WINNER OF THE V.A.T.C. GRAND NATIONAL STEEPLES.

Photo. by Wall Bros., St. Kilda, Melbourne.

For letterpress see page 10.