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Treasurer.....MR W. O'SULLIVAN

THE POLLARD BOOM CONTINUES.

Nightly Increasing Success of the
People's Favorites,

POLLARD'S OPERA COMPANY

First Grand Change of Programme,
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(April 21, 22, 23),
Chassaigne's Celebrated Comic Opera,

— "FALKA" —
(By arrangement with George Bignold, Esq.)

The Popular Baritone, MR ERNEST FITTS,
as "Boleslas," the Brigand Chief.

MONDAY, TUESDAY, AND WEDNESDAY
(April 25, 26, 27),

The Justly-Celebrated Musical Comedy,
— "IN TOWN" —

(By arrangement with Williamson & Musgrove).

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THEATRES AND PUBLIC HALLS, AND PLACES
OF PUBLIC AMUSEMENT.

Notice is Hereby Given that Licenses in re-
spect of the above expire on the 30th April, and
require to be renewed on or before that date.

P. A. PHILLIPS,
Town Clerk's Office, Town Clerk.
Auckland, April 18, 1898.

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Privately the pretty Steam Pleasure Launch,
BESSIE,

As she now lies at Monck's moorings, all com-
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SOME TESTIMONIALS:—

Newlands, Waituku, N.Z.,
March 28, 1898.

DEAR SIRS,—I received watch and chain in good condi-
tion, and am obliged. The watch is working splendidly.
Yours truly, L. N. WEST.
The Globe Watch Co., 105 Pitt St., Sydney.

Kent Farm, Port Albert, Auckland,
March 9, 1898.

SIRS,—I received the gent's silver watch and chain quite
safe. My son is delighted with it; I enclose remittance
for lady's gold watch and chain; if it gives as much satis-
faction as the silver one we shall be very pleased to recom-
mend your firm. Yours respectfully, MARY H. BOO. H.
The Globe Watch Co., Pitt St., Sydney.

RACING CALENDAR.

NEW ZEALAND.

FIXTURES.

April 21, Thurs; 22, Fri—Gisborne R.C. Autumn
April 27, Wed; 29, Fri—Wellington R.C. Autumn
May 4, 5—Egmont R.C. Hack Winter
May 21, Sat; 24, Tues—Takapuna J.C. Winter Meeting
May 21, Sat; 24, Tues—Dunedin J.C. Birthday
May 24, Tues—Waipawa County R.C. Autumn
May 24, Tues; 25, Wed—Wanganui J.C. Steeplechase
June 4, Sat; 6, Mon—North New Zealand Grand National
June 22, Wed; 24, Fri—Hawke's Bay J.C. Winter
June 29, Wed; 30, Thurs—Napier Park R.C. Steeplechase
July 14, Tues; 16, Thurs—Wellington R.C. Steeplechase

NOMINATIONS.

April 22—Takapuna J.C. Winter Meeting
April 25—Egmont R.C. Hack Winter
April 26—Wanganui J.C. Steeplechase
May 12—Hawke's Bay J.C. Winter
June 16—Hawke's Bay J.C. Winter

HANDICAPS.

April 22—Wanganui J.C. Steeplechase
April 29—Takapuna J.C. Winter Meeting
May 4—Egmont R.C. Hack Winter
May 6—Takapuna J.C. Winter Meeting
May 10—Wanganui J.C. Steeplechase
June 10—Hawke's Bay J.C. Winter
June 18—Hawke's Bay J.C. Winter

ACCEPTANCES.

April 25—Egmont R.C. Hack Winter
April 26—Wanganui J.C. Steeplechase
May 4—Egmont R.C. Hack Winter
May 13—Takapuna J.C. Winter Meeting
May 17—Wanganui J.C. Steeplechase
June 16—Hawke's Bay J.C. Winter
June 20—Hawke's Bay J.C. Winter



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By Tetford—Success, 4yrs old.
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PRICE, £50.

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PREPAID TELEGRAMS.

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sults of the principal races in New Zealand. If
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Sporting and Dramatic

REVIEW

AND
LICENSED VICTUALLERS' GAZETTE.
WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE WEEKLY STANDARD.

THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 1898.

PONY MEASUREMENT.

THE remark recently made by the Hon.
J. Carroll when speaking at the dinner
of the Auckland Trotting Club—that he
hoped that trotting would not be made
subservient to pony racing—indicates
that the last-named branch of sport is
looked askance upon by those who pose
as purifiers of the Turf. Notwithstand-
ing that there can be no doubt that pony
racing is popular, more popular in point
of fact than trotting, but at the same
time no branch of sport requires to be
more firmly controlled. We have but to
look at the history of the sport in New
South Wales to be convinced of that fact.
Not more than ten years ago pony racing
was countenanced only by one club, the
Sydney Driving Park Club, and only one
meeting a month was held. The com-
mittee of the Australian Jockey Club
were too lofty to take notice of ponies,
and with no proper controlling influence
pony meetings multiplied to an amazing
extent, and, instead of one meeting per
month, they averaged last year in the
metropolitan district of Sydney alone five
meetings per week. There can be no
doubt that the metropolitan club made a
huge mistake in not retaining some con-
trol over pony racing, and it is to be hoped
that a similar error will not be committed
in New Zealand. While our metropolitan
club possesses the influence over the sport
that it does, we have a right to expect
that it will do all in its power to steer
pony racing past the shoals which cause
such pure-minded gentlemen as the Hon.
J. Carroll to look askance at it. One evil
feature which grew up in connection with
pony racing in New South Wales was
faulty measurement, and the evil made
pony racing stink in the nostrils of
honest men, until that straightforward

and strict racecourse official, Mr Thomas
Watson, was appointed measurer for the
Kensington Club, and now the patrons of
the sport are relieved of the farce of see-
ing 15 hand galloways running as 14
hand ponies. To an extent the evil that
had to be remedied with a strong hand
in New South Wales is perceptible here.
Few will deny that there are ponies run-
ning in the Auckland district above the
standard, and there can be no doubt that
the system of measurement hitherto in
vogue has been faulty. To illustrate
that, it is only necessary to mention the
case of the three-year-old pony, Dick.
He had not been measured since he was
a two-year-old, but the Auckland Trotting
Club stewards decided that as the pony
had once passed the standard, and as
there was no limit to the duration of the
certificate they had no power to interfere.
It is satisfactory to know that in Dick's
case, when he was re-measured it was
found that he was entitled to a 14.2
certificate, but if he had been as big as a
mountain he, according to the ruling of
the stewards, would have been entitled to
the stakes in the race he won, because
"there was no limitation to the duration
of the certificate." There, however,
should be a limitation to these certificates.
The certificates of two and three-year-
olds should be limited to six months,
while four and five-year-olds might be
granted certificates for twelve months,
and after that for life. There seems to
be no good or valid reason why ponies
should not be measured in public, and it
occurs to us that the appointment of an
official measurer would be much more
preferable than to delegate the duty of
measuring to a committee as at present,
and such measurer should be careful
never to put the stick on any pony whose
feet had been unduly pared, or who
showed the symptoms of having been
physicked. It is only by the observance
of such rules that general satisfaction
will be given, and galloways and horses
be prevented from competing with ponies.
It is to be earnestly hoped that the mat-
ter of pony measurement will be seriously
taken up by the Auckland Club at the
end of the current racing year.

Sporting Topics.

They had come down for the autumn meeting,
and went to stay with their pal of the brave,
wild, hard-riding, hard-drinking days. He had
married and settled not a hundred miles from
Auckland, and on the night they came the host
suffered a serious relapse from the sobriety which
had blessed so many years of domestic life. One
of the visitors, speaking about it afterwards, said
"My word, his wife was wild in the morning."
"What did you say to her?" was the natural
query. "Oh, I just said, 'Good morning,'"
replied the visitor; "she said the rest."

St. Simon's fees have brought in the highly
respectable sum of £16,000 to the Duke of Port-
land during the last two seasons. This year the
horse's fee is 500 guineas, so that if he has a
subscription of forty mares there will be a clear
profit of upwards of £20,000 for his owner.

Mr Archie Yulle thus expresses himself in a
letter to the "Special Commissioner":—"If
Aurum gets home well you will find him one of
the best and most generous of horses. He is a good
weight-carrier and a great stayer."

E. Huxley, associated for such a length of
time with Tom Payton's stable at Randwick, and
who won the Caulfield Cup on Cromorne, has
taken to hurdle race riding.

Some English critics are of opinion that the
starting machine has much to do with the very
equable temperament which characterises Aus-
tralian horses.

The Duchess of Montrose once said to a jockey
after a race: "Why did you not come away at
the turn, as I told you?" "Because I could not
come without the horse," replied the jockey.

The question is often asked (writes "Martin-
dale"): "What becomes of the host of yearlings
bred every season? It is a difficult one to
answer. Only a limited number find a place in
the training stable after three years, and at six
perhaps a dozen that raced as two-year-olds can
be trained. Take, for instance, the animals
competing at the forthcoming A.J.C. Autumn
Meeting. A glance through the entries will
reveal the fact that only two aged horses are
nominated in the weight-for-age races, viz.,
Battalion and Ronda. Of those nominated in
various handicaps only thirteen are of the aged
division, viz., All There, Whakawatea, Sundial,
Lethe, Annadour, Beverley, Wat Tyler, Phara-
mond, Rock Rose, Clyde, Theorem, York, and
Ophir. It would thus appear that, despite our
splendid training tracks and well laid-out race-
courses, the life of a racehorse is a very short
one. Many finish up their career as hurdle
and steeplechasers, and it is amongst the jumping
horses that we only find the aged division well
represented. Out of the score of horses nomi-
nated for the First Hurdle Race a dozen are
aged: while the six-year-old Ditto is the most
youthful in the Steeplechase.

Frisco won the high jump at the N.S.W. Royal
Agricultural Show, jumping 6ft 2in.