

HAWKES BAY.

Woodville betting—Harmony—Gold Cup—Baccarat—Departures for Gisborne—Ned Kelly—Errors—Moonraker—Death of a Dreadnought colt—A claim for stakes.

NAPIER, December 15.

Transactions over the first day of the Woodville Meeting were greatly in favor of backers here. Lady Lorne, the winner of the Trial Hack Race, was, practically speaking, the only one enquired for in that race, and the enquiries on her behalf, were very solid. Daphne, who paid over £9 on the first day, was another who was well supported, numbers of investors on Lady Lorne playing up a bit of her winnings on Forerunner's daughter. The stable connections of the former mare had a good commission afloat. The fielders resident here must have paid out collectively something in close proximity to £500 over the first day's venture.

Harmony, who captured the Open Hack Race at the Cabmen's Sports on Wednesday at the Town and Suburban racecourse, is an attractively-bred horse. His dam, Forest Queen, who won the Wanganui Derby in 1879, is by Gladiator from Policy, while his sire, Forerunner, is a half-brother to Vanguard by King of Clubs. Gold Cup, who triumphed at Woodville on the second day of the gathering, was at one time a stable companion of his, the pair being members of Cuneen's string. Since he quitted them neither have scored till Wednesday, when they both got home.

December 20.

J. Rollo, of Hastings, has got Baccarat in hand, and he intends taking Kempenfeldt's daughter to Porangahau for the annual Boxing Day meeting of the Porangahau Racing Club.

Landscaper (a full-brother to the defunct hurdle mare Waterlily), Hinepara, and Jadoo, all of whom are racing in the interests of the Native sport, Mr Mahangi Kaiwiti, left for Gisborne by the Waibora on Friday night. The owner of the trio has acquired an establishment in close proximity to Napier Park, where his string for the future will be located.

Ned Kelly, the hurdler, has been leased by Mr Kaiwhato, and he will carry his colors at the approaching meeting of the Hawke's Bay Jockey Club at Hastings next month. That able and proficient exponent of the art of race-riding, J. Redmond, has been engaged on behalf of Ned Kelly.

Mr Danvers goes to Gisborne this week, his services being required by the Gisborne Racing Club for the allotment of weights at their meeting this month.

The local papers here fell into two errors over the Woodville Meeting, they giving Whitaker the credit of riding Lady Lorne in the race she won at that fixture. Mr Robinson, her owner, wrote to me yesterday and informed me that his son, L. Robinson, rode the mare in her triumph. The time for the race was also incorrectly given as 1min 45 1-5sec; it should have been 1min 48 1-5sec, which was the official ultimatum.

Moonraker did not leave for Auckland after all, the inducement to participate in the Manawatu and Hastings meetings being, I suppose, too strong to resist.

The yearling son of Dreadnought and Lyrebird, the property of the Hon. J. D. Ormond, met with such severe injuries the other day while being conveyed by train to Waipukurau that he had to be destroyed. Along with a number of other youngsters he was being sent to Wallingford, one of his owner's stations, about 18 miles distant from Waipukurau, and by some bad luck he got down in the truck, his companions dealing with him in a very rough manner. I saw him a couple of months ago, and I was greatly taken with his fine, noble appearance, which was suggestive of pace, determination, and stamina.

Mr Lloyd, on behalf of Mr A. Raynor, is claiming from the Waipawa Racing Club the stakes in the race won by The Frenchman at the last meeting. Jewel Gun finished second, and the stakes are claimed on the ground that The Frenchman was not eligible to start.

THE ANNUAL THOROUGH-BRED SALES.

During the next fortnight auctioneers, breeders, and sporting men generally will have a very lively season, as during that time some of the best bred thoroughbreds south of the line will be submitted to public competition. The annual sales of yearlings from Wellington Park and Sylvia Park are eagerly looked forward to by purchasers from all parts of the globe, and as in addition to the two famous studs mentioned, we have drafts from Papanui (Mr W. Walters) and Stebbington (Mr W. Percival's). Then again comes the clearing-out sale of Messrs Alison Bros. Motu-Korea Stud, in which many choice lines may be found; in fact there are two daughters of Musket in the list, and this affords an opportunity for breeders to secure the only direct members of the Toxophilite family in the market at the present day.

The coming sales are causing more than ordinary interest, and already many Australian sportsmen are on the move for the scene of action. It can be reckoned up as a certainty that at the ring side on each of the sale days will be found Messrs W. R. Wilson (St. Albans), J. B. Pearson (Kilmany Park), H. C. White (Havilah), S. Griffiths (Caulfield), and many other prominent Australians. We also know that Messrs Ike Foulsham (Caulfield) and Ike Earnshaw (Randwick) will be represented, and it is quite possible for Mr S. Hordern, jun., to

be in evidence on the dates to be mentioned below. For many years past it has dawned upon sportsmen throughout Australia that horses bred in the Auckland studs combine more bone and substance than do those from any other part, and further than this there is nothing kept in our recognised breeding establishments other than those animals containing the best of "blue blood." This year the yearlings to be offered are exceptionally well-grown, and they are not of the pampered up class; therefore purchasers know exactly what they are purchasing, and we confidently anticipate some big prices and spirited competition.

The ball will be set rolling by Messrs Hunter and Nolan on Friday, December 30th, at Messrs L. D. and N. A. Nathan's famous Sylvia Park Estate, when a dozen highly-bred youngsters will be offered. The brilliant performances this year of Mr D. A. McLeod's filly, Miss Delaval, and Mr L. D. Nathan's Hastings and Rosella, have turned turfy men's eyes in the direction of the imported sire Seaton Delaval, and that his virtues are fully recognised and appreciated is proved by the fact that his list this year is full to overflowing. There is sure to be a big demand for the progeny of the imported horse.

The first to come under notice is a chestnut filly by St. Leger from Charente, by Nordenfeldt from La Dauphine, a good shaped one and well grown, and one sure to come early. Then comes a slashing chestnut colt by St. Hippo from Maratea, by Nordenfeldt from Fishgirl, by Yattendon from Fanny Fisher, by Fisherman. A rarely bred one this beyond a doubt, whilst St. Leger's chestnut filly from Bellona, by Nelson from Muskerina, by Musket from Hippona, leaves nothing to be desired in the way of breeding, in fact her breeding will be hard to beat in any part of the world. Another famous family comes to light in a bay filly by St. Hippo from Waitemata, by Eiridsport from Aorere, by Chester from Kaipara, by Goldsbrough. A full brother to this filly in Eiridale has been winning numerous races in Tasmania and Victoria this season. The whole of Australia's best breeding lines are contained in this pedigree, for instance, Robinson Crusoe, Chester, and Goldsbrough.

A brown colt by St. Leger from Sunbeam, by Ingomar (sire of Hova) from Amohia, by Towton, comes from a great racing family, and this youngster is a great paddock galloper. St. Hippo is responsible for a well-grown brown filly, and one that should come early. She is from Innisfail, by Nordenfeldt from Innisthona, by Leonidas. A regular St. Albans pedigree is represented in a bay filly by St. Hippo from Ellerslie, by Trenton from a daughter of First King and Lady Grenville, by Chandos from Lady Chester, by Stockwell. If this filly never races a yard, she is worth big money as a brood mare. However, she is well grown, and knows how to move her pins.

A strapping, bold-looking bay colt by Seaton Delaval from Leocante, by Leolinus from Cantiniere, by Musket, next claims attention, and he is a fine fellow. Well grown and of great substance, he should quickly take on with buyers, as also should the beautiful daughter of St. Hippo from Stepfeldt, by Nordenfeldt from Steppe, by Saunterer. Here is breeding to be studied. Steppe was half-sister to the mighty Hermit, whilst everything from her could both gallop and stay. The purchaser of this filly should quickly get his money back, as she is sure to come early. The champion of the paddock track comes next, in a chestnut colt by Seaton Delaval from Sybil, by Leolinus from Atalantis (imp.). He shows great quality and is well grown, and can gallop fast. St. Hippo's bay filly from Liquidation, by King Cole from Realisation, requires no laudation as to pedigree, for a reference to the catalogue shows her to be connected with the best running families in the world. The last of the dozen is a chestnut colt by St. Hippo from Campana, by Robinson Crusoe from Campanilla, by Maribyrnong from Silver Bell (sister to Chester). This colt is half-brother to the flying Miss Delaval, and is a good-looking colt who should go fast and stay well.

Taken all through, the Sylvia Park youngsters will be found a sterling good lot.

The second day's proceedings will take place at Messrs Hunter and Nolan's Durham Street yards on Saturday, December 31, when the whole of Messrs Alison Bros.' Motu-Korea Stud will be sold by auction. The sale commences at 10 a.m., and the number of lots will be twenty-one. Some very valuable animals will be found therein, and the Musket mares should realise high prices. A start will be made with the brood mare Muriel, by St. Leger from Lady Mary, by Towton (imp.), but a full description of the whole appears in another part of this issue.

The third day's sale takes place on Wednesday, January 4, and it is probably the most important of the lot, for it is none other than the annual distribution of Mr Thomas Morrin's Wellington Park yearlings. Wellington Park has become world-famous, and justly so. No breeding establishment south of the line has turned out such a number of winners, and certainly not such a number of high-class horses. Mr Morrin's catalogue tells us that horses bred from mares at Wellington Park have annexed in stakes alone no less than the immense sum of £144,000. Such a result is wonderful, and what wonderful horses, to be sure, helped to gather in the spoil. Good old Frailty produced Trenton, Niagara, Cuirassier, Cissy, Mary, Havoc, and Zalinski. Ouida gave to the world, among others, Artillery, Hilda, Hazel, and the wonderful Strathmore, said by Mr Leslie McDonald to be the best colt ever seen in Victoria. Then, again, we have Collarette, Cravat, Armilla, True Blue, Multifarm, Uniform, Waiorongomai, Forme, Formo, Screw Gun, and scores of others too numerous to mention in this column.

This year Mr Morrin sends up twenty-three youngsters, of which ten are colts and thirteen fillies. Unfortunately for the breeder, there is no Frailty youngster this year, but Ouida is represented by a magnificent brown colt by St. Leger.

This is a grand combination of blood, as Ouida is by Yattendon from Gulnare, by Little John. This colt will cause spirited competition, and we hope to see some of our wealthy sportsmen purchase him. We have recently devoted so much space to the Wellington Park Stud that it is unnecessary to go through each individual lot to-day. The colts are a good, even lot, but this year the fillies appear to be better all round, and we fully expect to find that the average prices obtained will be big. We will have the opportunity next week of drawing further attention to this most important sale.

IMPORTANT STUD SALE.

THE MOTU-KOREA STUD.

[BY ATLAS.]

When a short time back we announced that Messrs Alison Bros., the well-known North Shore sportsmen, had decided to dispose of the whole of their thoroughbred stock the expressions of regret were general, and many hopes were expressed that the brothers would relent of their purpose, but we have now to announce that on Friday, December 30th, Messrs Hunter and Nolan will submit to public auction at their Durham Street sale yards the whole of the thoroughbred stock of the Motu-Korea Stud now running at Brown's Island, and thus another turf landmark will disappear from our sight, much to the regret of the racing world generally. Money and time has never been spared by Alison Bros. in securing what they considered the best lines of blood for their stud.

When some half-dozen years ago the North Shore sportsmen came upon the scene as breeders, mares of the very best strains of blood were secured, amongst them being three direct daughters of that most celebrated of all stallions south of the line, Musket to wit. These mares, Tamora (dam of Nestor, etc.), Phantom and Torment, are the only direct descendants of the old Toxophilite horse in the sale market of the world to-day. They are both very fine specimens, and I trust that our New Zealand breeders will not allow these two Musket mares to be purchased for Australia. The Musket strain in mares is disappearing from our midst in an alarming manner, and I know of no opportunity other than the one now offered by the regrettable retirement from the ranks of breeders of Messrs Alison Bros., whereby other studmasters will have a chance of securing direct daughters of Toxophilite's great son. Everywhere south of the line, and aye, even in merry old England, Musket's daughters have been a gigantic success, and, properly mated, this success will continue.

Desiring to place before the readers of the REVIEW all up-to-date information concerning the stud to be offered by Messrs Hunter and Nolan on the 30th, I one day during the week, accompanied by an old sporting scribe, visited Brown's Island, where the stud is located. We were accompanied by Messrs E. W. and A. Alison, and, as the water was smooth and the tide high, that good little steamer, Planet, landed us at the island jetty in double quick time. The first item to attract my attention was the wonderful supply of feed of all the choicest kinds, from the good old English clover downwards. Therefore we naturally expected to find the stock looking well, and in this particular we were not disappointed. Everything is in tip-top condition, the cattle and sheep being simply, to use a Sydney auctioneer's well-known phrase, "balls of fat."

Seeing the stock on Brown's Island, which by the way consists of some 150 acres, every portion of which is covered with the richest of grasses, the thought struck me that the island would suit some of the Australian sportsmen now in our midst as a stud farm, wherefrom they could feed year by year their Australasian stables with yearlings combining both size and substance, and I feel sure that if breeders like Messrs W. R. Wilson, H. C. White, and J. B. Pearson, who are now in our midst, were to have a good look over the property, one or other would fall in with my idea. Of this, however, more anon.

Of course the first of the thoroughbreds to come under notice was the lord of the harem, Regal, by St. Leger from Atalanta, by Dainty Ariel from Moonshine (imp.) by The Label from Twilight, by Velocipede. Therefore it goes without saying that in Regal's veins can be found some of the choicest strains of New Zealand running blood. Standing close upon 16.1 and a rich brown in color, Regal is marked with a star and a white hind foot. Truly he is a nice horse; he has a beautiful head and neck, well let in to perfect shoulders, with a good barrel and excellent loins, but its when you are behind him that his immense power becomes apparent; with quarters big enough for a dray horse and excellent timber underneath him, he is a regular dandy. He is quality all through, and has a beautiful temper. I am told that when in training St. Leger's son showed great pace, and his owners considered that upon one occasion the V.R.C. Newmarket Handicap was completely at their mercy. He had shown them a trial better than 1min 14sec for the six furlongs, but alas, the colt went wrong and had to be scratched. The stock sired by Regal are a credit to him, as I feel sure spectators will admit when they see them in the sale ring on the 30th.

In a paddock close to the house were introduced to two charming fillies, in one of which I held particular interest. She is a bright bay daughter of Seaton Delaval from Phantom, by Musket from Atlantis. The dam of this filly died foaling, and when I saw this "wee orphan" some twelve months ago I despaired of her life. Therefore my astonishment was great when Mr Alison informed me that the slashing, great bay filly, with a patch of white on one of the fore feet, was none other than the sickly youngster of last year. Reared by hand Phantom's bonnie daughter is a splendid advertisement for the stud groom under whose care she has been reared. Wonderfully well-grown, of good shape and

make, and also legs like bars of steel, Seaton Delaval's daughter is bound to cause a stir amongst buyers when brought into the ring. Her breeding is of the best, as the Seaton Delaval cross upon the Musket mare cannot fail to be successful.

By "Regal from Friendship," said Mr Alison, as an immense chestnut filly, with a blaze down the face and a white hind foot, came forward. As long as the proverbial ship, with legs like steel bars and showing quality all through, this is, indeed, a fine filly, and so she should be, for, in addition to Regal's good breeding, her dam comes from one of the most famous of N.S.W. families. Bred by Mr Richard Rouse, Friendship is by Reprieve (Yattendon—Gazelle) from Nydia, by Tarragon (Champion Race winner) from Atalanta, by Reprieve (imp.). Everything on the dam's side could race, and to New Zealanders, the good deeds of Friendship are too fresh in memory to need recapitulation, and the chestnut filly under notice, is a worthy daughter of a great family.

Further away on the hillside we came across a strapping bay yearling gelding, by Regal from Pearl, by The Barb from Ladybird. In this colt Regal has sired one much after his own stamp, and I take it, that after racing men see the progeny of the Brown's Island pet, he will be much sought after. The gelding under notice should, from appearances, go fast, and stay as long as a youngster at an ice cream cart.

A yearling bay filly, by Regal from May, by King Cole from Friendship, is another of the good sorts, well grown, of good shape, and showing heaps of quality, and the good legs of her sire, this young lady should meet with a hearty reception in the sale ring. I might here point out that on the dam's side, the King Cole cross "comes home to roost" through Nelson, undoubtedly, one of the best horses ever seen in New Zealand. Nelson is by King Cole from My Idea, by Yattendon, whilst Friendship is by one of Yattendon's best sons, Reprieve, who, by the way, was full-brother to Pardon, dam of Lady Betty, Pigeon-toe, etc. There is nothing better bred in Australia than the Friendship family, and the St. Leger tribe in New Zealand speak for themselves. The filly under notice is a worthy representative.

Taking the young stock in order, we fall across a two-year-old filly by Regal from good old Friendship. This aristocratic youngster was unfortunately injured when a foal, and a damaged hock was the result. This, however, is merely an eyesore, and does not prevent the young lady from showing all the family galloping powers. Well grown in every particular, this pretty filly has a white near hind foot, and bar the blemish above mentioned no fault can be found with her. If she never raced one yard her blood as a brood mare should be invaluable.

Jessie, the dam of John Booth's champion Rex (by St. Leger) and the speedy Chasseur (by Cuirassier), is responsible for a two-year-old chestnut filly by Regal. Wonderfully well grown, and showing more power and substance than Rex, she is a great mover. I take it that this is the best representative that Jessie has yet given us, and as to different sires we have had Rex and Chasseur, both very brilliant animals, it is only fair to anticipate good deeds from the chestnut filly under notice.

A bay two-year-old gelding by Regal from Tamora, and therefore half-brother to Nestor, next claims attention. He is brimful of quality and well grown. This is not to be wondered at, as his dam is a Musket mare, and one that never threw a bad one. This is a full-brother to that improving colt, Regulus, now in full work at Ellerslie.

A great bouncing three-year-old filly by Regal from Vasator, by Captivator from Vacillation, by Knottingly from Atalanta, has been broken in but not tried. Few three-year-olds will be found with the size and substance of this young lady, and that she knows how to move her legs is made evident by the style in which she moves across the paddock. Having now seen all the yearlings, two-year-olds, and three-year-olds, we turn our attention to the good old dames browsing upon the hillside.

Tamora, as the dam of Nestor, takes, of course, the pride of place at Brown's Island. A bay in color, the daughter of Musket and Moonlight can be labelled A1. She is bred the right way, as Moonlight, her dam, is by Ake Ake from Moonbeam, by Pacific (imp.) from Moonshine, by The Label. This is rare breeding, and a bay colt by Regal shows all the family quality. This year the Messrs Alison have sent Tamora on a visit to Seaton Delaval. Singular to say, Tamora has bred seven foals, and every one colts.

Her Ladyship is a bay mare by Nelson (King Cole—My Idea) from Phantom, by Musket. She is a mare worthy of her high lineage, but unfortunately this year she has no foal, but has gone on a visit to Seaton Delaval.

The bay mare Torment, by Musket from Hannah, by Traducer from Renga, by Diomedes from Waimea, by Sir Hercules, boasts of the best blood in the world. On every side can be found champions of the first water. To Nelson this same Torment produced our own Miss Nelson, and everyone knows what sort of a mare she is. This year Torment is followed by a filly by Regal, and this is her first filly since she produced Miss Nelson. The youngster looks all over a goer, and is of excellent quality. Breeding students will notice that through Waimea and Sir Hercules, Torment goes back to the same valuable lines as are found in grand old Frailty's pedigree.

A handsome bay mare named Revenant, by Nelson from Phantom, by Musket, is followed by her first foal, a colt, brown in color with two white hind feet. He is by Regal, and is a great pet with his breeders; and justly so, as look at him as you will he catches the eye at once. Like all the others at the island, he is well grown, and is as active as a kitten.

"The dam of Rex and Chasseur," said Mr Alison, as a handsome chestnut mare named Jessie came strolling along. She is by Anteros (imp.) from Tres Deuce, by Traducer from Gitauna, by Sir Hercules from Il Barbieri. To St.