

of doing. We may surely expect to hear of something more marvellous from the ordinary bicycle after this. Fancy the tricycle beating the bicycle!—*N.Z. Referee.*

Frank Shorland accomplished the feat of beating the late James Selby's famous coach record from Hatchett's Hotel, Piccadilly, to Brighton and back on the 25th June, distance about 108 miles. The coach record was made on the 18th July, 1888, the time being 7hrs 50min. and required 16 changes, or a total of 68 horses. Shorland left Piccadilly at 7 a.m. on a "geared Facile" and covered the distance in the remarkable time of 7hrs. 19min., thus beating the coach record by 31 minutes. Many unsuccessful attempts to lower the coach record had been made by other celebrated English cracks.—*N.Z. Referee.*

Bob Lusk was in rare form when playing for the Strathfield Club against Parramatta at Sydney on August 23. He scored two tries and kicked three goals, or 12 points of the 18 scored by his side.—*Referee.*

The *Sydney Bulletin* states that the new English amateur walker, H. Curtis, is the finest and fairest walker since the days of Raby and is likely some day to do his eight miles within the hour, and has already beaten the English amateur records at 5, 6 and 7 miles at Aston, Birmingham.

Surry is the cricketing county this year in England, having rejoined its old place, Lancashire second, Yorkshire and Kent tie for third place, Nottingham being only fourth.—*Sydney Bulletin.*

Pettengell, the New Zealand boxer, made a poor show with Jack Molloy at Mathews' Hall in Sydney. When Pettengell met the champion amateur boxer, Searle, he was merely a chopping block for the clever amateur.—*Sydney Bulletin.*

Says *London Entr' Acte*:—The Surrey professionals are as a class entirely superior to the paid men who some years ago worked for the county and the public houses at the same time. Men like Lohman and Maurice Read are better gentlemen than very many of our present amateurs.

The English Lawn Tennis Championship has been played and won. Never before has there been so much talent included. There were no less than twenty champions and ex champions from all parts of England, Ireland, Wales, America, and even the West Indies, but Scotland was not represented. The tournament was played through almost incessant rain which made E. Renshaw and Lawford retire, not wishing to play on a wet court. The Irish Champion, W. J. Hamilton, defeated Barton in the final of the all-comers, and also the holder, W. Renshaw, in the championship round. W. Renshaw has been Champion for seven years and six of which were in succession. In the Ladies Championship the entries were most disappointing, only four ladies taking part. Miss Jack's defeated Miss Rice in the final for the all-comers. Mrs. Hillyard not defending her title to the Championship.

The Champion Trick Cyclist, Mr. W. S. Maltby, who was recently in Auckland, intends stopping at Honolulu a month and for a similar period at Frisco on his way home.

TROTTING.

THE following old trotting records may be interesting to some of our readers, showing that the pace has not so much improved during the last century, especially when you take into consideration that the roads were not so good as they are at the present date, and in those days there were no trotting tracks. The following is the record of Mr. Ogden's mare in 1784. This mare is known in the Norfolk Trotting Stud Book as Ogden's Mare. Four miles in 12 min. 14 secs., ten miles in 32 min., thirty miles in 2 hours, forty miles carrying 14st., in 3 hours. The following is an American record for a late date:—Longfellow, in a wagon, four miles (California), December 31st, 1869, 10 min. 34½ secs.; Satellite in harness, four miles, Keokuck, Iowa, August 12th, 1887, 10 min. 52½ secs.; Controller, in harness, ten miles, San Francisco, November 28th, 1878, 27 min. 23½ secs.; John Stewart, in waggon, ten miles, Boston, June 30th, 1868, ten miles in 28 min. 2½ secs.

DOES BREEDING PAY?

THE *Australasian* has a long article under the above heading, stating that it has often been answered both in England and Australia in the negative. Circumstances have altered since then, as prices for thoroughbreds have recently very much increased (*vide* Baron de Hirsch's 5,500 guineas for Memoir's yearling sister), principally caused by the very much more valuable stakes now run for, and in consequence of this enhanced value breeding *if properly conducted* will pay. Of course I allude more particularly to thoroughbred stock. Breeding hacks, hunters, and carriage horses in New Zealand will not pay under present conditions. Who is there here who will give from 250 to 600 guineas for a well matched pair of carriage horses, and even if they would they would have to be at least four years old and a dead match, without any white, and good action. Contrast this with a thoroughbred, if he is of undeniable pedigree and of running blood his colour is immaterial and his shape of secondary consideration, as witness Tiraille, a most ill shaped animal, but who brought 110 guineas as a yearling and who proved himself the first of his year, and who further proved the old adage "they will run in all forms." This price it will be noted was for a yearling, in contradistinction to carriage horses of four years old, with all the risk of bringing them to that age without blemish, loss of life, and risk of castration. As to hunters and hacks a man must be a bold one who would give £15 a head for all who turn out with our hunt and take the lot, and half that money for the average hack we see in the streets, so that in talking of breeding as a paying speculation it is necessary to put half-bred horses, until a better market is found, out of court. In founding a stud company liberality in management, as far as regards the comfort of mares and foals in housing and particularly in feeding, must be the the foundation of all success. It is infinitely better to err on the side of over-feeding than the reverse, and although our climate and good grass will do a great deal, still oats and bran and plenty of them must be a *sine quâ non*. Brood mares suckling a foal and in foal again, particularly want good feed, and they should have a full allowance of crushed oats and bran, say 12lbs. per day, to be further increased as the foal grows and weaning time comes near. It is of consequence that the oats should be crushed, as if not they are likely to produce worms, and some mares are so greedy that they will require to be haltered to their manger and a separate manger for their foal, or they will drive the foal away. If the mare and foal are treated in this way, the foal may be weaned in good time without any detriment to it, and to the manifest advantage of the mare, who should by that time be quick with foal, and here I should maintain the same liberal course of treatment, as you must bear in mind that the mare if not suckling is at least producing a foal, which is of course a great drain on her constitution. If the foal has been reared in the above manner and is of good constitution he should not miss his mother's milk, and this makes all the difference between a well and an ill reared colt. If the latter he will miss his mother and fall off wonderfully, and do what you like afterwards he will never make the colt he would have done. It is a well known fact amongst breeders, that if at weaning time the foal pines and loses his milk flesh, he will never get over it, feed him after how you may; and I believe want of ability to stay a distance, and carry weight, is to a certain extent intensified by want of attention to this matter, which is of paramount importance. It is of little avail that a high price should be paid for a brood mare and the services of a fashionable stallion if the foal is not well done by. It has been well said that the best part of breeding goes down the throat. There is no such thing as a foal standing still, he is either growing and making bone and muscle or going backwards. At the same time I wish to be understood that a state of fat is not a healthy state, far from it, as a foal after weaning if he has been properly looked after, should present the appearance of a miniature horse, his muscle should stand out, and he should begin to show his shape. If fed as I have indicated he will voluntarily gallop about so much as to be in half training, and also greatly to the development of his muscle. Of all things a breeding establishment should not be

cramped for capital, it will be found that it is vastly better to have fewer mares properly done to, than a larger number which have not fair play, on account of want of funds to properly mate them. A stud company should always be in a position to either purchase or hire the services of any entire, which either from breeding or any other reason makes it desirable to employ, rather than use one they may own themselves at a smaller cost. I think there can be no doubt that a stud farm conducted on *liberal* lines, with a well selected stud of mares and entire of fashionable and running blood must with the increasing demand for racing stock pay, and pay well with judicious management. And more particularly this is the case as regards Auckland, with the prestige it has already obtained in the colonies, it is no longer an experiment as to the class of thoroughbred we can breed, or as to the remunerative prices they bring under the hammer.

NUNQUAM DORMIO.

TO TELL THE AGE OF A HORSE.

To tell the age of any horse,
Inspect the lower jaw, of course;
The six front teeth the tale will tell,
And every doubt and fear dispel.

Two middle "nippers" you behold
Before the colt is two weeks old;
Before eight weeks two more will come;
Eight months the "corners" cut the gum.

The outside grooves will disappear
From middle two in just one year;
In two years, from the second pair;
In three, the corners, two are bare.

At two, the middle "nippers" drop.
At three, the second pair can't stop.
When four years old the third pair grows.
At five a full new set he shows.

The deep black spots will pass from view
At six years from the middle two;
The second pair at seven years;
At eight, the spot each corner clears.

From middle "nippers," upper jaw,
At nine, the black spots will withdraw.
The second pair, at ten, are white,
Eleven finds the "corners" light.

As times go on the horsemen know
The oval teeth three-sided grow;
They longer get, project before,
Till twenty, when we know no more.

SPORTING ITEMS.

George Bell, the jockey, who received a fall while schooling Apropos, has since died.

Mr. Martin Taylor has been appointed handicapper for the Ashburton Trotting Club.

It is stated that Mr. Henry Redwood has a splendid lot of yearlings by King Cole, the sire of Nelson.

It is stated the Chinese lottery banks in Australia make an average daily profit of £225 amongst them.

The Taranaki Jockey Club have decided to hold a small meeting on Boxing Day, the stakes not to exceed £200.

Joseph French, who will be remembered by many English racegoers in the Colony as the trainer of Bendigo and other good horses, died at Newmarket on July 15.

Backers who attended the Rosehill pony and gallopway races had rather a bad time of it. There were fifty-three starters for the four handicaps out of sixty-three entries, and outsiders won every time. The finishes were particularly close. It will be some time before such a thing as this occurs at a legitimate meeting.

The following foalings are announced:—
N.Z. Stud Co.'s Sister Agnes by Rosicrucian—
Penance, brown filly to Ingomar.

N.Z. Stud Co.'s Mersey, a chesnut colt by Nordenfeldt.

Major Mair's Sweet Alice (The Dreamer's Dam) a bay filly to Ingomar.

Major George's Florence, colt by Nelson.
Rosarina, filly by Nordenfeldt. This filly if she has any luck should do the Papakura Stud great service, she is well enough bred for anything. Rosarina being by Traducer from Yatterina by Yattendon from Kohinor.

Stud News on September 4;—Mr. C. C. Gordon's be w bitch Spruce by Welcome Jack—Myrtle, 9 whelps to Mr. T. Macready's blk w d Rocket by Tumult (imp)—Marchioness (imp). 5 dogs (2 blk and w, 1 fawn, 1 blue and w, 1 white, blue spots), 1 slut (blue and w) kept.