

Nelson is a bright chestnut, standing 16h. in. high, with fine sloping shoulders, very deep through the girth, and powerful back and loins. He has plenty of bone, and is extraordinarily long from the round bone to the hock, which is the place from which he gets his racing powers. For such a big horse he is very deficient in size round the arm, and his gaskins are very light. He has a fine intelligent head, well set on, and is without exception one of the quietest and best tempered stallions at the stud. Nelson's stock at the present time are only yearlings, and as Major George has wisely limited him to a few approved mares there are not many of them. Major Mair has a very good-looking colt by him out of Corcyra, named First Nelson, which with luck will turn out a racehorse. Nelson, in our opinion, will become a very successful sire, especially if properly mated, but his blood will not nick with every mare.

THE Auckland Racing Club Committee have finally decided not to pass the Onehunga Racing Club's Programme, but on what grounds they do not state. If it is owing to the Auckland Trotting Club having held their meeting at Potter's Paddock they are decidedly in the wrong. We cannot see how they can construe the word "club" in the 21st rule as appertaining to Pony and Trotting Racing as the Metropolitan Club ignore this kind of Racing. If on the other hand, the reason is that they think there are too many of these mushroom meetings and are desirous of putting them down, it requires a good deal of consideration before they come down with a heavy hand. They are greatly in the power of owners and trainers, as if these should feel inclined to kick it would do the Ellerslie meetings a great deal of harm.

On Wednesday next there are several Programmes to be brought before the Committee, and it would be well for them to state their intentions from the commencement. The members of the Auckland Racing Club Committee are not infallible, and before they decide to do away with Suburban Meetings they should consider well on what grounds they do so. The sporting public as well as ourselves are anxiously awaiting the result of next Wednesday's Committee Meeting.

THE TURF.

[BY OLD TURFITE.]

THE last day's racing of the A.J.C. Meeting, held at Randwick, does not call for much comment. Prelude continued her winning career by annexing the Members' Handicap with 8st. 9lb., Cobham 8st. 1lb. being second and Venapa 6st. 9lb. third, eight others being behind. This filly has been getting a great deal of racing during the last month and it may be expected that she will now begin to go off, as this is a bad season of the year for fillies. It will be noticed that she turned the tables on the colt, Cobham, who defeated her in the Hawkesbury Produce Stakes. The Waverley Handicap was won by Claremont, 5 years, 6st. 9lb., Little Bernie, 4 years, 8st. 11lb. being second and Ellerdale, 7st. 4lb. third. Little Bernie is evidently running into great form as the race was run in very fast time. Melos, as I predicted, won the Randwick Plate easily, Whimberel being second and Gresford third. The race, however, was robbed of all interest, as it is quite evident that Carbine did not start, and with him out of the way it was a moral for Melos, as no three-year-old would be expected to beat him over that distance.

In looking through the Caulfield Cup, to be run on October 18th, there are not many engaged that finished in the front rank at the A.J.C. Meeting, so one cannot get much of a line from that running unless one is thoroughly conversant with the different stables, which I am not. Sir William, 8st. 11lb., ran a dead heat with Gresford in the Spring Stakes for third place, but this is hardly good enough to give him a chance for the Cup, as they were both beaten easily and he was only giving 23lbs. to the three-year-old. Whimberel, 7st. 7lb. won the Wycombe Stakes, one mile and three furlongs, rather easily from nine others; he also ran a good third in the Derby and second in the Randwick Plate; but he will in all probability be reserved for the V. R. C. Meeting at

Flemington. Wilga, 7st. 6lb., only ran third for the A.J.C. Oaks and may therefore be passed over. Little Bernie, 4 years old, must have a great chance with 7st. 8lb. on his back. In the Trial Stakes with 8st. 11lb. he beat twelve others; with 6st. 11lb. he won the Metropolitan Stakes; with 8st. 2lb. he defeated fourteen others in the Sydney Stakes; and in the Waverley Handicap he was just defeated while trying to give a year and 30lbs. to Claremont. This is one of the greatest coups that has been pulled off for many years, as his last years record was of no account, and not one of the Australian sporting writers mentioned him in connection with the Metropolitan Stakes a week before the race. From his recent running he may turn out a much better horse than is even now anticipated, therefore, he should be kept on the right side. At the present time I prefer the following:—Singapore and Dunkeld of the top weights, Little Bernie of the middle division and Vengeance of the turned-loose ones, but I shall have further to say next week.

The Caulfield Guineas is a race best left alone, as a winner of a three-year-old race, value £200, has to put up a penalty of 7lb, therefore, Whimberel, Gibraltar and Prelude incur it, while Titan and Gatling escape; but I think it very unlikely that any of them will put in an appearance, and so the race is a very open one, and until the acceptances, which are due on October 9th, are made, it is useless to touch it.

The V.R.C. Derby which, before the Randwick Meeting, many people thought a certainty for Titan now assumes a very different appearance, as there can be but little doubt that he is not one of the soundest. Even if he has retained his form, the running at the A.J.C. Meeting points to Gibraltar being the best three-year-old that has appeared this season, as he not only defeated Gatling and Whimberel in the Derby but in the Second Foal Stakes he gave Gatling 7lb. and defeated him by a length after a dead heat. I think Whimberel from his subsequent running is about the next best, while Prelude and Gresford may be bracketed together as fourth. These with the exception of Gresford are engaged. To this lot must be added such horses as The Admiral, Corzeze, Highlander, and a few other good ones, so in all probability it will be an open race, and as it is not run until November 1st, great changes may take place.

There has not been much light thrown on the Melbourne Cup. Carbine and Melos both showed that they have lost none of their last years form, at the same time I do not think that Carbine can give the latter 12lb. and I think the Hon. D. S. Wallace too good a sportsman to risk him with such a crusher as 10st. 5lb. Little Bernie's running has brought him into notice for this Cup also, but as he meets the Queen on 17lb. worse terms she must hold him safe. Gibraltar has his weight raised to 7st. 6lb., but this does not put him out. The only other one that calls for notice is Emmie, who is handicapped at 6st. 9lb.; she ran a good second to Prelude for the Oaks and as she was coming at the finish it looks as if she could stay. Two things must, however, be taken into consideration, that October and November are bad months for mares, and that the Melbourne Cup has not been won by a filly since Briseis won in 1876. Cuirassier from his running does not appear to have much chance, though we all know that he is not half-trained, but I am informed on pretty good authority that no trainer can get him fit by November 4th, unless he gives him tremendously severe work, and this his legs will not stand. At present my opinion is that Melos, Gibraltar and Whimberel will beat all those that run at Randwick.

Dreadnought has been scratched for both the Caulfield and Melbourne Cups.

The following further foalings are announced: Mr. T. Morrin's Vivandiere (by Musket—Georgi, dam of Son-of-a-Gun), bay colt to St. Leger; Mr. T. Morrin's Victoria (by Feve—Memento), bay filly to Nordenfeldt. Major George's The Maid (by King of the Ring—Maid-of-all-Work), filly to Nelson. N.Z. Stud Company's Woodnymph (sister to Martini-Henry), by Musket—Sylvia, filly to Ingomar. Mr. J. C. Davis' Renga, by (imp.) Diomenes—Waimea, colt to St. Leger.

TURF TATTLE.

[BY NORDENFELDT.]

I PAID a visit to Harry Harrison's stable at Green Lane last week. Harrison has now got Major George's team of racehorses under his charge, and the condition he has them all in shows that no effort has been spared on his part in giving them a steady preparation. Old Raglan was enjoying a run out in the paddock, and seeing that he has only been in work for a few weeks Harrison has done wonders with him, and as he seems hopeful that the horse will stand a preparation, I shall fully expect to see my old pet sport silk again this season—probably about Auckland Cup time. One of the horse's hocks shows an enlargement, but this has grown callous, and from the manner in which Raglan galloped round the paddock I should imagine that he feels no ill effects therefrom. Reprisal, the three-year-old son of First King and Memphis, has improved out of all knowledge. He has thickened out into a real nice colt, and although he is perhaps a bit on the small side, standing only about 15.1 in height, I shall be disappointed if he does not turn out very nearly first-class. I shall, at any rate, expect him to hold his own with those of his own age in this province. Fiesole, the well-performed daughter of Ingomar and Florence, has grown up and filled out a bit, and looks as if she would be quite ready for Spring engagements. Vendetta, a three-year-old filly by St. Albans out of The Maid, does not look like electrifying anyone on the tracks, and being a beautifully bred filly will probably go to the stud at an early date. She has not yet sported silk in this district. Miss Cole, another three-year-old filly, has grown up, but looks jaded in appearance, and has not thickened out at all. She will perhaps win a race or two over short courses, but I should not take her to be a stayer. Another inmate of the stable is Coal-scuttle, a leggy, washy, chestnut mare, and one that I expect to see "placed" in selling races, if indeed she should race at all. The only other horses in Harrison's stable are the two-year-olds The Workman (by Robinson Crusoe—The Maid) and Ægyptus (by First King—Memphis). The first named is a handsome brown colt, with plenty of size, showing great power behind. He has a real game looking head and muscular neck, well set into deep shoulders, and a capital middle-piece. I shall expect to see him win a handicap or two before the close of the season, although he will probably not be seen at his best until about the Autumn. Ægyptus is not at all unlike his full-brother, Reprisal, being a chestnut in colour, with a white blaze down his face. He is a nuggetty, well-made colt, and if he turns out as good as his brother I don't think Major George will have any cause for complaint as far as his racing abilities are concerned. As I said before, the condition of the horses reflect great credit on Harrison, and I hope that, both for his sake and the popular owner's, he will have the satisfaction of seeing the "black and white hoops" first past the post on many occasions.

THE Hon. D. S. Wallace, the popular owner of Carbine, has purchased the Queensland bred racehorse, Megaphone, for 3000 guineas. This is exactly the same price that the Melbourne sportsman paid for Carbine two years ago, and if Megaphone turns out anything like as good as his illustrious stable companion, Mr. Wallace will be congratulated on all sides for his plucky purchase. Unfortunately Megaphone was not nominated for either the Caulfield or Melbourne Cups, the V.R.C. Derby or the Champion Stakes.

It is quite probable that, in addition to Mr. Gannon's colt Gatling, the Auckland Stud Company will be represented by another colt in the V.R.C. Derby. I refer to the Nordenfeldt—Pulchra colt, King William, who, it is reported, will be taken from Brisbane to Melbourne to fulfil his engagement in the Derby and Cup. This colt was tried very highly as a two-year-old, and the party behind him were quite sanguine about winning the Maribyrnong Plate, but getting badly away in that race he did not run prominently. He has, however, proved himself a racehorse in Queensland, by the manner in which he appropriated the Queen's Plate, weight-for-age, one mile, beating, among others, the flying Megaphone.