

6st. 11lb., by Nordenfeldt—Pulchra, won by a neck; Union Flag, 6st. 11lb., second; Mary, 6st. 11lb., third. The two-year-olds that have appeared this season are too close together to lead one to suppose that there is a flyer amongst them. The Metropolitan Stakes, 1½ miles, is looked upon as second only to the Cup, but this year it produced only a moderate field, and resulted as follows:—Strephon, 7st. 2lb., first; Wolverine, 8st. 4lb., second; Palliser, 6st. 11lb. third. Dudu, (9st. 4lb.) Cruchfield, (8st. 6lb.) Cynisca, (8st. 5lb.) Jet d'Eau, (7st. 9lb.) Kotuku, (6st. 9lb.) also started. Strephon won easily by a length and a half, a bad third. This performance, though profitable to Mr. Douglas, cannot be looked upon as of much account. The Epsom Light-weight Handicap, a class of race that is becoming very popular with racing men, attracted the good field of eleven, Prime Warden winning it easily by two lengths; Vision, 7st. 11lb., second; Ben Trovato third. The selling two-year-old race was an easy win for the favourite, Cajolery, who defeated three moderate ones. The Post Stakes, four furlongs, produced a field of six. Drift succeeded in defeating Chudleigh by a short head, Clifton being third. This concluded the days racing. The weather being fine the attendance was good.

THE third day's racing at Flemington is never of the same interest as the two preceding ones. The champion Carbine, having been scratched for his engagements, disappointed many people, but in the interest of racing it was beneficial, as few owners would have cared to oppose him. Mr. D. S. Wallace would do well to scratch him for his engagements, so as not to risk defeat, as he can now retire with the greatest record ever known in the annals of racing. The constant opening of his hoof is sufficient warning, and it may occur at a critical moment in some race, which will cause him to be beaten. The world at large will then immediately say that his Melbourne Cup win was a fluke. The most noticeable thing in the day's racing was how one race was completely thrown away and two others nearly so. The Flying Stakes, w.f.a., seven furlongs, was first on the cards. Eleven went to the post, Megaphone being made favourite at 5 to 4 on, and he managed to get home a neck in front of Lady Carbine, Correze being third. This, taking into consideration the time of year, is a very good performance on the part of Lady Carbine—own sister to the champion—and if all goes well she will make a name for herself. The Oaks produced a field of six, and resulted in a boil over, through the favourites making too light of the winner. Prelude was made the favorite, with Magic Circle next in demand. They allowed Litigant to steal away so far that when they tried to catch her they could not, and she won easily by five lengths, Magic Circle second, Wilga third. This is not the first instance by many that a race has been thrown away through the jockies being too confident. The Second Hurdle Race fell to Islander, 9st 11lb, Cross-rail, 11st 2lb, second, Africanus a bad third. The Spring Handicap, a race that is looked upon as a kind of after trial race, produced a field of seventeen, but the information to hand is so meagre that I can only say that it was won by Crown Jewel, 7st 6lb, Don Giovan, 7st 12lb, being second, and Despised, 6st 11lb third. Correze was made favourite, with Amina and Crown Jewel next in demand. Won by a neck, a length between second and third. The Royal Park Stakes, w.f.a., one mile and five furlongs, did not create much interest, as only King William, Pioneer and Plenty opposed Megaphone, who started at the odds of 5 to 1 on him, but only succeeded in getting home a short head in front of King William, through Ramage holding the others too cheap, thus again proving the folly of jockies riding a horse in the manner commonly called "jolly." Fourteen came to the post for the Veteran Stakes, for which Sir William, 8st. 12lb., started favourite, but Coryphus, 7st. 11lb., who started at 6 to 1, pulled through by a head from Jebuite, 8st. 3lb., the favourite being third.

THE Auckland Racing Club commence their season with the Spring Meeting to-day. This being the first meeting of the season, it is impossible to know the form of the horses, and last year's record is of little importance, as the

majority of the horses are only platers. The first race to notice is the Welcome Stakes. The good field of eleven have paid up. It is quite amusing to hear the different reports of the time these youngsters have done the distance in. If all were true, more than one could have won the Maribyrong Plate; but all these things you must take *cum grano salis*. In The Workman Major George has a good colt, but in my opinion he is overdone, and too light for this time of the year. However, I should not be surprised if he was very near the mark, as I look upon him as a superior colt. Orestes and the Captivator—Maid of Honour colt are both useful animals, and I prefer the latter, though I believe the stable are of a different opinion, but I have seen the knowing ones make mistakes before now. I am told that Wright has a pretty smart one in his stable, but as I have not seen his youngsters I can only suspect that it is Tulloch. Now, I am quite certain that none of them have been properly tried, except with the watch. It is absurd to try and pick the winner, but if I like the looks of The Workman at the post I shall have my mite on him, and save myself with Brown Bess. The Prince of Wales' Handicap is a very open race. Now that Hilda has been scratched I must make a plunge, and I think Patchwork and Cartridge are the best of a moderate lot. The Hurdles appear to be at the mercy of Wright's selected, unless Te Kooti upsets the pot. Reprisal, if he is worth his oats, ought to credit the Guineas to Major George. The other races I leave alone (but I shall be at the service of my readers on the ground, if they can find me).



MR. TOM CRAIG.

In this issue we present our readers with a photograph of Hurricane, the well-known steeplechaser, together with one of Mr. Tom Craig, his owner and rider. Old Hurricane, who is by Ravensworth, and upwards of twenty years old, has won several races in this district during the last couple of seasons, notably the double of Pakuranga Hunt Club Cup and Hurdle race two years in succession. He is trained by Mr. J. B. Williamson, of Ellerslie, to whom great credit is due for the manner in which he has brought the old horse to the post. Mr. Tom Craig is one of our best amateur cross-country horsemen, and steered Hurricane to victory in the four races mentioned. He rides with consummate judgment, has good hands and seat, and would hold his own against most professionals in the pigskin.

LOOKING through the handicaps for the Auckland Racing Club's Spring Meeting to be held to-day and Monday, Mr. J. O. Evitt cannot be congratulated. It proves conclusively to a racing man that no one at a distance can handicap horses that have only run in local races and which he has never seen. Take Antelope and Capella as an instance. They are weighted the same at a mile as they are at six furlongs, and any tyro at racing must know, if he had seen them run, that the former is the best stayer. Then take Antelope, Cynical and Capella. They are handicapped at the same difference of weights at both distances, while Belmont has 11b and Te Kooti 3lb more in

the shorter race. If this is handicapping my racing education has been neglected. If Mr. Evitt makes such mistakes on the first day, what will he do on the second, for, being in Christchurch, he cannot possibly be present on the first day to witness the running of the horses and the majority of them are engaged on both days. Mr. J. O. Evitt is appointed handicapper, and it is a moot question, if any one else adjusts the weights (except in the case of the one appointed) if owners cannot strike out their horses and demand a return of the nomination money.

EVENTS REQUIRING ATTENTION.

CANTERBURY JOCKEY CLUB.

ON Monday, nominations close at 4 p.m., with Mr. W. H. E. Wanklyn, secretary, for the following events:—

- Welcome Stakes (1891), 250 sovs., four furlongs
- Derby Stakes (1892), 500 sovs., one mile and a half
- Oaks Stakes (1892), 200 sovs., one mile and a half

AUCKLAND RACING CLUB.

ON Friday nominations will be received by Mr. W. Percival up to 8 p.m. for the

- Auckland Guineas (1892), 150 sovs., one mile

PAKURANGA RACING CLUB.

Acceptances and general entries for the Spring Meeting of the above club, close with the secretary, Mr. R. Williams, on Friday, at 9 p.m.

ACCEPTANCES—

- Handicap Maiden Plate
- Handicap Farmers' Plate
- Tamaki Cup Handicap
- Handicap Hurdles
- Flying Handicap

ENTRIES—

- Maiden Hurdle Race, 30 sovs., 1½ miles
- Selling Race, 20 sovs., 7 furlongs

THE A.R.C. SPRING MEETING.

THE RACES TO-DAY.

THE Auckland Racing Club will bring off their Spring Meeting to-day and Monday. As usual, the Metropolitan Club have supplied an excellent programme, and although one or two of the contests will not bring out large fields, on the whole the racing promises to be quite up to the usual standard of excellence. Mr. J. Kirkwood will, as heretofore, act as judge, and Mr. George Cutts as starter. Mr. F. W. Marks will be in his old place as clerk of the scales, Mr. T. Brown will keep the course clear, and Mr. W. Percival will, as usual, fulfil the arduous post of secretary. The Band, under Bandmaster Impey, will perform a choice selection of music on the lawn, and if the weather proves fine, everyone is sure to enjoy the outing. Racing will commence with the

PRESIDENT'S HANDICAP. One mile.

	st lb		st lb
Antelope	9 5	Belmont	7 6
Fiesole	8 5	Baron	7 5
Cynical	8 2	Capella	7 3
Rataplan	7 9	Te Kooti.....	6 7
St. Michael	7 7		

Antelope is a very speedy mare over this distance, and if really well, as I believe her to be, whatever beats her will win. Fiesole may, however, be found capable of defeating her, but I can find nothing else in the list likely to finish in front of Pygmalion's sister, unless it be Capella. I shall place them: ANTELOPE, 1; FIESOLE, 2; CAPELLA, 3.

WELCOME STAKES, Five furlongs.

- Resentment (Foul Shot—Mystery)
- Veux Rose (Hippocampus—Rosarina)
- Tulloch (Sword Dance—Welcome Katie)
- Ida (King Cole—Bregalia)
- Roie (St. Leger—Hippone)
- Brigand (Brigadier—Gannet)
- Lady Belle (Brigadier—Belle)
- The Workman (Robinson Crusoe—The Maid)
- Brown Bess (St. Leger—Cantiniere)
- Captivator—Maid of Honour colt
- Orestes (Nordenfeldt—Clytemnestra)

These youngsters should provide a most interesting race. I have seen Orestes work, and was much impressed with his style of going, and I am satisfied it will take a very speedy one to haul down his number. Geo. Wright's best must be considered dangerous. He has three engaged, viz., Tulloch, Brigand, and Roie. Brown Bess, a Waikato-owned filly, and The Workman are both promising youngsters. To make a place selection, I shall put them thus: ORESTES, 1; THE WORKMAN, 2; BROWN BESS, 3.