



EVENTS REQUIRING ATTENTION.

WHANGAREI COUNTY RACING CLUB.

ON Tuesday next, January 6th, acceptances and general entries for the following events will close with the secretary, Mr. G. E. Alderton, Whangarei, or with Mr. W. Adams, Durham-street, Auckland, at 9 p.m. :—

ACCEPTANCES—

Handicap Hack Race, 10 sovs., 1 mile
 Handicap Hurdle Race, 25 sovs., 2 miles
 Trial Stakes Handicap, 20 sovs., 1 mile
 Whangarei R.C. Handicap, 50 sovs., 1½ miles
 Flying Handicap, 15 sovs., 6 furlongs
 Handicap Maiden Steeple, 25 sovs., 2 miles
 Handicap Maiden Plate, 15 sovs., 1 mile and a distance

Kensington Park Handicap, 30 sovs., 1½ miles
 Northern Steeplechase Handicap, 35 sovs., about 3 miles

Publicans' Purse Handicap, 20 sovs., 1½ miles
 Farewell Handicap, 15 sovs., 1 mile.

NOMINATIONS—

Auction Stakes, 20 sovs., 1 mile

TAKAPUNA JOCKEY CLUB.

ON Friday next, January 9th, nominations for the following important events close with the secretary, Mr. R. Wynyard, at 9 p.m. :—

ANNIVERSARY STAKES, Summer Meeting, 1892 (for now yearlings), of 100 sovs., six furlongs

TAKAPUNA STAKES, Summer Meeting, 1893 (for now yearlings), of 100 sovs., 1 mile 1½ furlongs.

AUCKLAND TROTTING CLUB.

COMMENTS ON THE RACING.

THE first day's meeting of the Auckland Trotting Club took place at Potter's Paddock, Epsom, on Saturday. Unfortunately the weather was not altogether fine, for although it cleared up later in the afternoon some heavy showers of rain fell just before the time advertised for the starting of the first race, and this had the effect of keeping a number of people at home. The attendance, however, was very large, and those present were evidently well supplied with the sinews of war, for the large sum of £2,600 was passed through the machines during the afternoon. Mr. F. Lawry, M.H.R., occupied the judge's box, and Mr. E. D. Halstead was starter, while Mr. F. W. Marks officiated as clerk of the scales. As usual, the secretary, Mr. C. F. Mark, worked hard to ensure the success of the afternoon's sport, and under his management everything worked smoothly. Racing commenced with the Maiden Trot, for which there were a dozen starters. Charlie was made a warm favourite, and taking the lead from Dick on the last round he never gave the others a chance, but won rather easily by about thirty lengths. Bess was third. The Pony Hurdles was the next event on the card, and out of the five runners Reuben was favourite, but Minnie Grey and Pica were also fancied. Minnie Grey took the lead at the start from Reuben and Sepoy, and so they raced once round. Passing the stand Minnie Grey was still a length in front of Reuben, and Dolly ran up third. At the back the positions were unaltered, and Minnie Grey, holding Reuben safe throughout, won by half

a length, Pica a poor third. A protest lodged by the owner of Reuben, maintaining that the winner had crossed him at the last hurdle, was not upheld by the stewards. The Selling Trot was an uninteresting race. Mary Jane soon showed the way, and it appeared any odds that she would never be caught, but she broke repeatedly on the last round, and allowed Our Boy to beat her. The Pony Cup Handicap was voted a good thing for Vampire, a handsome little thoroughbred chestnut, hailing from Whangarei. There were nine runners, and from a good start Gillie took the lead, Vampire second and Cupid third. Passing the stand Sepoy moved up, and when the back of the course was reached he was racing Vampire for the lead, Antic and Gillie being most prominent of the others. From here it was seen that Vampire had the race in hand, and never giving Sepoy a chance he romped home an easy winner hard held. Considerable interest was taken in the Auckland Trotting Cup. Black Hawk, the scratch horse, hailing from Christchurch, was the favourite, and Charlie, the winner of the Maiden Trot, was also well backed. About the best mover on the field appeared to be Lord William, a horse recently brought from Australia. After Kaiwaka had held the lead for a mile Commodore showed in front, and remained there till the finish. The positions of the others, however, were considerably altered on every round. Charlie was never prominent, but Lord William made up his ground in fine style, and passing one after another finished in third place behind Commodore and Maude. The scratch horse, Black Hawk, was a rank disappointment, for he refused to trot a yard, and after going half a round he was not persevered with. An inquiry was held by the stewards into Commodore's reversal of form, as in the Maiden Trot the horse was never prominent and finished seventh. Harford, the rider, was called in and was questioned. He explained that in the first race the horse would not trot, but that in the Cup he had settled down at a steady pace and was thus enabled to win. The stewards accepted this explanation as partially satisfactory, but fined Harford £2 for not riding his horse out in the first race. The Pony Steeplechase was then brought up for decision. Minnie Grey was favourite. She led until about half a mile from home, when she fell at the post and rail fence at the back of the course, giving her rider, a lad named Williams, a very nasty fall. Pica refused the first jump, a stone wall, but Reuben who had been racing Minnie Grey until the latter fell, made no mistakes, and when the last-named came down, had the race at his mercy. Emblem and Buster did not finish. The Handicap Pony Trot was the last race on the card. Chuznee, the scratch horse, was favourite. Kaiwaka, who was on the limit mark, led from start to finish, and won by two lengths. Dick and Bess looked dangerous at one time, but when either went up to the leader they broke, and Kaiwaka, never going out of a steady trot, won as above stated. The good prices of 45 and 30 to 1 was paid on the machines.

The handicaps for the second day's racing, which takes place on Saturday, Jan. 3rd, appear in another column.

Hailstone, the hurdler is for sale.
 Sentinel and Hopeful Kate are scratched for all engagements at the A.R.C. Summer Meeting.

THE TURF.

[BY OLD TURFITE.]

THE attendance at Ellerslie on Boxing Day was not so large as I have seen it, the Grandstand especially not being half full. This may in a great measure be owing to the A.R.C. Committee being very strict this year as to who should be admitted—a thing that has long been required. The course was rather hard, and this made the times fast for some of the races. The races commenced with the Trial Stakes, only Memorandum and Antelope having the temerity to oppose Cissy, who won in a common canter. All those that had paid up came to the post for the Great Northern Foal Stakes. The Workman—a slashing fine colt by Robinson Crusoe out of The Maid—being made favourite, but he was far from fit, having lately suffered from influenza. He is without doubt one of the best colts that have been seen on the Ellerslie course for some time, but it will take an experienced trainer to get him fit for his three-year-old engagements, as he has not the best of forelegs. Lebel, by Nordenfeldt out of Pulchra, is a nice colt with very powerful hind quarters, but stands straight on his fore legs, but from the way he ran must be a thoroughly game one. Rosefeldt, by Nordenfeldt out of Rose d'Amour is a nice cut of a filly, and appears one that is likely to stay well, and to have a good constitution. Brigand is a little gentleman, but he evidently was not himself, and had been blistered on his off stifle. Roie and Brown Bess I do not think will ever be good enough for first-class company, though they will win some small handicaps. The start for this race was a very bad one. The Workman got away with a good lead, several lengths in front of Lebel, while Rosefeldt was left standing at the post. Entering the straight it looked a good thing for The Workman, but being ridden atrociously, also short of work, he began to compound half-way up, and Lebel running as straight as an arrow and very game, Clifford, by as brilliant a piece of riding as I have seen for a long time, was enabled to get up and win in the last stride by a head. Brown Bess a moderate third. The Auckland Cup only brought a field of seven out of the fourteen to the post, Medallion being the principal absentee. Crackshot was made the favourite, Hilda being next in demand, Dudu and Strephon being about equal on the machine. The pace was a cracker all the way. Crackshot always held a good position, and won very easily by a length and a half. Mr. Morrin's two mares Hilda and Cissy, being ridden out to the end, finished second and third. Dudu was fourth, though with the winner out of the way I think she would have been returned the winner, as Clifford had a good feeler coming up the straight, and when he found Crackshot held him safe, eased off. Many other jockeys should take a lesson from him, as there is no use punishing a horse when he has no chance. The tactics pursued with St. Andrew were rather curious, considering that he is a reputed "non" stayer. Notwithstanding this he was taken to the front from the fall of the flag, and made the pace very fast for a mile and a half, then died away and finished absolutely last. Strephon's running is inexplicable, as he was never in the race from the start, and did not appear to be able to go the pace with them. The time,