

SPORTING FIXTURES, ETC.

COMING EVENTS.

Feb. 18, 19	Egmont Racing Club Summer Meeting.
Feb. 25	Matakoe Jockey Club
Feb. 26 28	Dunedin J.C. Autumn Meeting
Feb. 26	Rotorua Jockey Club Meeting.
Feb. 27, 28	Westport Jockey Club
Feb. 28	Pakuranga Hunt Club
Feb. 28	V.R.C. Autumn Meeting. Newmarket Handicap and St. Leger
Mar. 3	Australian Cup
Mar. 5	Marion Jockey Club
Mar. 8 6 7	V.R.C. Autumn Meeting
Mar. 7	Helensville Turf Club.
Mar. 11 12	Wanganui J.C. Autumn Meeting
March 13	South Auckland Racing Club.
Mar. 13	Waipau Jockey Club
Mar. 17	Henderson's Mill Turf Club
Mar. 17	Cambridge Jockey Club
Mar. 17, 18	Greymouth Jockey Club
Mar. 17 18	Hawkes Bay J.C. Autumn Meeting
Mar. 21 23	Dunedin J.C. Anniversary Meeting
Mar. 21	Otahuhu Trotting Club Inaugural Meeting.
Mar. 22	Te Aroha Racing Club
Mar. 24	Mauku Racing Club
Mar. 24 25	Napier Park R.C. Autumn Meeting.
Mar. 26	Waipu Racing Club
March 27	Auckland Tattersall's Club.
Mar. 30	Fielding Jockey Club
Mar. 30 31	Canterbury J.C. Autumn Meeting
Mar. 30 31	Auckland R.C. Autumn Meeting
Apr. 1 2	Taranaki J.C. Autumn Meeting.
April 4	South Auckland R.C. Autumn Meeting
Apr. 4	South Auckland Racing Club
Apr. 7, 8	Nelson Racing Club
Apr. 11	Auckland Tattersall's Club
Apr. 16 17	South Canterbury J.C. Autumn Meeting
Apr. 25	Onehunga Racing Club
May 23 25	Dunedin J.C. May Meeting
June 8	Auckland R.C. Winter Meeting
June 25	Hawkes Bay J.C. Winter Meeting

NOMINATIONS CLOSE.

Feb. 14	D.J.C. Autumn Meeting; general entries
Feb. 20	Henderson's Mill Turf Club
Feb. 21	Taranaki Jockey Club
Feb. 21	Napier Park R.C. Autumn Meeting.
Feb. 28	Otahuhu Trotting Club.
Feb. 28	Cambridge Jockey Club
Mar. 2	New Zealand Cup—1891
Mar. 3	Hawkes Bay J.C. Autumn Meeting; general entries
Mar. 6	A.R.C. Easter Handicap, Autumn Handicap and Steeplechase
Mar. 6	Fielding Jockey Club
Mar. 13	Mauku Racing Club
Mar. 13	C.J.C. Autumn Meeting; general entries
Mar. 16	Napier Park R.C. Autumn Meeting (minor events)
Mar. 24	A.R.C. Autumn Meeting; general entries
Mar. 26	Taranaki Jockey Club; general entries.
Apr. 1	C.J.C. Champagne Stakes—1892
Apr. 3	Onehunga Racing Club

WEIGHTS APPEAR.

Feb. 16	Pakuranga Hunt Club
Feb. 17	Wanganui J.C. Autumn Meeting; handicaps
Feb. 18	Helensville Turf Club
Feb. 24	Hawkes Bay Cup and Railway Stakes
Feb. 27	C.J.C. Great Autumn Handicap
March 2	Henderson Mill Turf Club.
Mar. 6	Cambridge Jockey Club
Mar. 6	Otahuhu Trotting Club.
Mar. 10	Hawkes Bay J.C. Autumn Meeting; handicaps
Mar. 13	Fielding Jockey Club
Mar. 14	Napier Cup and Flying Handicap.
Mar. 17	Mauku Racing Club
March 19	South Auckland Racing Club.
March 19	First day Napier Park R.C.
Mar. 19	Napier Park R.C. Autumn Meeting, first day's events.
Mar. 20	C.J.C. Autumn Meeting; handicaps
Mar. 20	Auckland Easter Handicap and Steeplechase
Mar. 20	Taranaki Jockey Club.
Mar. 25	A.R.C. Autumn Meeting; handicaps
March 30	Auckland Tattersall's Club.
Apr. 10	Onehunga Racing Club

ACCEPTANCES DUE.

Feb. 11	Egmont Handicap; final payment
Feb. 14	D.J.C. Autumn Meeting; handicaps
Feb. 19	V.R.C. Autumn. Newmarket Handicap and Australian Cup
Feb. 21	Rotorua Jockey Club.
Feb. 20	Pakuranga Hunt Club
Feb. 23	Dunedin Cup; balance of sweep
Feb. 24	Wanganui Cup, Derby, Two-Year-Old Stakes and Handicaps
Feb. 27	Helensville Turf Club
Mar. 3	Hawkes Bay Cup and Railway Stakes
Mar. 3	Wanganui Cup; final payments
March 6	Henderson's Mill Turf Club.
Mar. 12	Cambridge Jockey Club
Mar. 13	Otahuhu Trotting Club.
Mar. 13	C.J.C. Great Autumn Handicap and further payments Champagne and Challenge Stakes
Mar. 14	Hawkes Bay J.C. Autumn Meeting; handicaps
Mar. 16	Napier Park Cup and Flying Handicap
Mar. 20	Fielding Jockey Club
Mar. 20	Napier Park R.C. Autumn Meeting (minor events)
Mar. 24	A.R.C. Easter Handicap and Steeplechase
March 26	South Auckland Racing Club.
Mar. 26	C.J.C. Great Autumn Handicap; final payment
Mar. 26	A.R.C. Autumn Meeting; handicaps
Mar. 26	Taranaki Jockey Club.
Mar. 31	Taranaki J.C. Handicap; final payment.
Apr. 3	Auckland Tattersall's Club.
Apr. 17	Onehunga Racing Club

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HARRY H. HAYR, PUBLISHER.

Sporting Review.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1891.

A SHORT time ago we had an article relating to brood mares. We see that a writer in the *Canterbury Times* has taken up the question, and in a great measure confirms our theory that a mare seldom produces more than two first class racehorses, or throws a good one after sixteen years of age. The writer, though in the main confirms our opinion, confines himself entirely to New Zealand. If he would go farther a-field, and study the English and Australasian stud books we feel pretty certain that he would coincide in our theory.

There is another thing that we do not agree with the writer in the *Canterbury Times*; that is, many of the horses mentioned cannot even be considered second class: therefore we hope with the means at hand that he will go further into the question, as the *Canterbury Times*, being an old established paper, has much more opportunity of bringing these theories before breeders than we have. There are very few in New Zealand that have any practical knowledge of breeding, and go at it as you may say in a "hit or miss" style, with no regular theory. Now that New Zealand has made a name for itself as a country where first class racehorses can be bred, it is time that some sound system should be laid down as regards breeding the thoroughbred. Even then it is as precarious a game, as trying to breed a perfect hunter or hack, for it must be borne in mind that "like does not beget like."

As the writer in the *Canterbury Times* has taken the trouble to look up and substantiate our two theories with regard to brood mares, we hope that he will go into the third as regards stallions, and if we find he is sufficiently interested in it, we will give him another as regards the offspring.

Our theory as regarding stallions is this: Never mind how well he himself has run on the turf, he will rarely turn out a success at the stud unless he is out of a good mare.

Our chief experience in breeding has been in the old country, and having neither the English Stud Book or Racing Calendar at hand, we can only quote those horses that we have seen both on the turf and in the paddock, trusting at the same time to memory.

We will commence with the Flying Dutchman. A better racehorse never faced the starter. He could go both fast and stay well. His dam Barbelle was a very moderate mare. After he retired from the turf to the Rawcliffe Stud paddocks he had the pick of the English mares sent to him, but he never got one within pounds of what he was himself. He was then sold to go to France, and Brick was about the best he ever got there. A curious thing about The Dutchman's stock was that they were natural jumpers.

Voltigeur out of Martha Lynn, a moderate mare, was as good and game a racehorse as was ever saddled. What did he get? Vidette was the best of them, but he was not within 14lb as good as his sire.

Teddington by Orlando out of Miss Twickenham, was as game a little horse as ever ran. Who will forget his terrific race with Stockwell for the Emperor's Vase at Ascot, when the pony

running the straightest won by a short head. Sir Joseph Hawley would not use him because he was out of a bad mare. He never got a racehorse. Here are three Derby winners close to each other.

Now we take the mighty Gladiateur, which was one of the best racehorses we ever saw, and after his race for the Gold Cup at Ascot, when in the Swinley bottom he was at least a hundred yards behind Regalia and Bredalbane, he eventually won, hard held in a canter, old racegoers said he was the greatest wonder they had ever seen; still when he went to the stud he could never get one good enough to win a decent selling race.

We will only take one more, though there are plenty in the same category—Lord Lyon out of Paradigm. She was such a bad performer on the turf that she was given to Colonel Pearson, to whom she turned out a mine of wealth, as she bred several good racehorses, not one of them being any use at the stud. Lord Lyon started at a covering fee of 100 gns, and after he had every chance gradually came down to 10 gns and half-bred mares.

Now let us take the other side, commencing with Orlando out of Volley, a tremendously fast mare. All his stock could go fast, but not many could stay. The old saying used to be: put a donkey to him and you will get a racehorse.

Stockwell, out of Pocahontas, was a most successful sire, as everyone knows, so were Rataplan and King Tom, out of the same mare.

Then again take Newminster, out of Beeswing, the idol of the north country folks, and one of the gamest and finest mares we ever saw.

Take Beadsman, out of Mendicant; Lord Clifden, out of The Slave; and Blair Athol, out of Blink Bonny. Their dams were all good performers on the turf, especially Mendicant and Blink Bonny.

Last, but not least, we take Hermit, out of Seclusion, a real good mare, famous more for her speed than staying powers.

If we had the stud book by us we could pick many more of both classes, but we think enough has been quoted for the purpose of bringing the theory before our readers.

Our knowledge of New Zealand sires is somewhat limited, but The Peer, Traducer, Musket and Nordenfeldt are all out of mares that could race. Musket's dam would have done more on the turf if she had not turned roarer.

We take the following from the *Canterbury Times*:—"Turning over an old number of the *Sporting Magazine*—the issue of 1859—the other day, we found an account of the sale of Mr. Blenkiron's yearlings at Middle Park, in which it stated that Mr. W. H. Harris purchased five lots for shipment to New Zealand. They were a brown filly, by Black Doctor—Aconite, 100gs; bay filly, by Kingston or Newsham—Frolic, 60gs; bay colt, by Kingston—Kate, 220gs; bay filly, by Junius or Flatcatcher, out of a Sir Hercules mare, 105gs; and a black filly, by Neasham—Glance, 51gs. These figures look little enough in these days, but we would mention that the twenty-three lots only averaged a few shillings over 100gs. It will be seen that Mr. Harris did not confine himself to the cheap lots at the sale, indeed the colt by Kingston from Kate stood third on the list of prices, being only beaten by a bay colt by Kingston—Calcavella, which cost Mr. Wood 340gs, and a brown colt by Kingston—Sacrifice, which Mr. Hilton secured for 250gs. Thirty years ago yearlings had no prospect of earning small fortunes before they had carried the saddle twelve months, and buyers could not afford to pay the big prices that rule at every sale ring now. These yearlings were shipped on board the *Burmah* that was lost with all on board on her voyage out." If our memory fails not, these yearlings were purchased at Mr. Blenkiron's second sale, as in those days he used to have two, keeping back his late foals from the June sale until further on in the year. It was not until the sixties that four figures began to be reached. If we remember right, the first of Mr. Blenkiron's that fetched over a thousand was a chestnut colt by Stockwell out of Ennui. Great was the excitement in 1865 when the following four were brought into the ring under the elms at Middle Park, one after the other, when