

all fetched over a thousand each. Angus (who never raced) 2,500gs; St. Ronan, 2,000gs; Marksman, 1,000gs; and Hermit, 1,000gs. The writer of the above may not remember that the fifties was remarkable for cheap Derby winners. Voltigeur, if we remember right, was purchased by Lord Zetland for about 300gs; Teddington and his dam by Mr. J. M. Stanley for a very small sum. Wild Darrell was returned to Mr. Popham, who sent him up to Messrs. Tattersalls with a reserve of 350gs, which not being reached he was sent back to Littlecote. Sir Joseph Hawley gave Lord Scarborough 350gs for Musjid, while later on Bill Snewing, as he was commonly called, only gave 250gs for Caractacus at the Middle Park sale. We also believe that Sefton was the first high priced yearling to win the Derby. Galopin only brought 650gs; Dundee, who ran second for the Derby on three legs, having broken down just before he reached the Bell, fell to Mr. Merry's bid at Doncaster for 150gs. It is quite certain that up to 1870 very few horses turned out anything on the race-course that had brought over a thousand guineas as a yearling. One remarkably cheap purchase that we had almost forgotten was Brown Duchess, for which Mr. Saxon only gave 35gs. Among other races she won the Oaks, and ran a dead-heat with Kettledrum for the Doncaster Cup."

## THE TURF.

[BY OLD TURFITE.]

THE Egmont meeting takes place on the 18th and 19th inst. At this distance away it is impossible to know what will start, so to try and pick an absolute winner is absurd, therefore it is better to confine one's self to what looks well on paper. The Hurdle Race has eight remaining in. At first glance many uninitiated person would consider it a moral for Satyr. If it was the Auckland horse of that name it would be; but it happens to be quite a different animal. This is another instance where the metropolitan clubs should insist on the rule being strictly carried out of having numerals after the name when two persons are so foolish in persisting in using the same nomenclature. This evil is greatly increasing, and should be put an end to with a firm hand. Waterfall, 11st 6lb, if he runs up to his form, should prove dangerous, but his performances have lately been of rather an in and out character; after him Rere, 10st 5lb, and Koromiko, 9st, are about the best. For the Egmont Handicap twelve have cried content, but of this number some are sure to drop out. Dudu, 8st 10lb, if she started, ought to beat this field, though the distance is rather more than she likes; but report says that she will be absent. Recluse, 8st 8lb, at the present time is under a cloud. Leorina will be the only Auckland representative, and if not stale from her late work, will take a great deal of beating. Of the others; Vendor, 7st 4lb, heads the list. The Hawera Welter Handicap had better be left alone. The Flying Handicap has ten left in. Boulanger has incurred a 5lb penalty, the finish, however, should be left to him and St. Malo, unless one of the light weights, probably Eileen, does the trick. Rosefeldt should render a good account of herself in the Sapling Stakes, but in her absence Crotonne may place the stake to her owner's credit.

THE Wanganui Cup is still a long way off, and subsequent running may alter the complexion of the handicap, but at present it appears a wonderful compilation of weights. What Mr. Hatley was about when he composed it is more than I can understand, as he certainly knows better than to make so many mistakes. On what form does he make Hilda and Cissy give 7lb and 3lb respectively to Crackshot. Dudu is fairly in; so is Cynisca; but the next four are clean out of it, unless they suddenly develop staying powers. Thackeray is not badly treated if he can get right in time. Kapu has none too much on him if he runs up to his best form. Montrose will run a better horse than many people expect, but the race had better be left alone until after the acceptances. For the Flying Stakes, Whisper, Boulanger, St. Andrew, Pearl Powder, and Queen of Trumps, read about the most leniently treated.

## ATHLETICS, ETC.

[BY NIMBLEFOOT.]

### THE CHAMPIONSHIP MEETING.

THE first championship meeting held under the combined auspices of the New Zealand Amateur Athletic Association and Cyclists' Alliance, held on the Domain last week, was a brilliant success in every way. Never before were such athletic and cycling events seen in Auckland, nor, I can safely say, in the Australasian Colonies. The times and distances recorded in several of the pedestrian events, as well as in the weight putting and jumping, are the fastest and furthest ever done in this Colony, and previous records were knocked to pieces in many instances. The track was at its best, and all foreign competitors admit that they never ran on a better or faster. I have often heard runners having long arguments as to which was the faster, a cinder or a good grass track, and I think that the question is undoubtedly settled by the running at last week's sports. All the "foreigners" were simply in love with the Domain track, and one and all said it was better to run on than the cinder path, while at the same time they consider it equivalent to the cinders for fast running. There is no doubt that the Domain was on its best behaviour, thanks to the trouble taken by the Auckland Amateur Athletic Club, who had the ground rolled for the last two months, while the trees and shrubs, which were all verdant with their summer trimmings, made it look a real picture, *En passant*, the rev. gentleman who occupied the pulpit at St. Paul's Church last Sunday evening told his audience that the Domain on Saturday last was one of the most imposing spectacles he had ever seen.

The hero of the meeting was that great amateur W. T. Macpherson, without doubt the fastest amateur from 100 yards to 440 yards in the Australasian Colonies. He gets over the ground in a surprisingly quick and taking style. The way in which he left his opponents, all good men, in the 100 and 250 yards, after their getting the best of him in the start, was really wonderful, and I am very sorry that his former conqueror, J. H. Hempton, was not here to once more try conclusions. Macpherson met a foeman worthy of his steel in the quarter-mile in J. C. Hutchison, of the Auckland Club, and if the latter had been all himself I think he would have made it a bit too close. As it was, Macpherson got three yards the best of Hutchison in the start, and the latter chased him all the way, but ran a good yard wide all the journey. When the local man came at the entrance to the straight, and drew on equal terms with the champion, what a cheer went from the throats of the onlookers. But the Sydney man gave one tremendous bound, and then what a finish it was, Macpherson just winning by a bare two yards. The champion, in speaking at the smoke concert in the evening, said that Hutchison was the only man that ever made him gallop for that distance. By-the-by, why didn't Laird start in this race? He could have helped his Club mate considerably by making the pace for the first 300 yards. Hutchison will be heard of again. A gamer ped. than Derry Wood, the Christchurch long distancer, never wore a shoe. The way in which he fought the half and three mile runs was only becoming of such a man.

Alf Burton kept up his old reputation by annexing the one and three mile walks, and he and Cocks, the plucky Christchurch ped., who got second in each race, were the two fairest walkers in the contest. A lot has been said about the disqualification of Bailey, the Sydneyite, and I certainly think that if I had been judge I wouldn't have let him go so far. If anyone in Auckland knows what fair walking is that man is Jim Mahon. I believe every unbiassed man on the ground thought that he did the correct thing. Nevertheless, if Bailey had been allowed to finish, I doubt his ability to have got closer than third.

Aucklanders have been wanting for a long time to see the man who could show Owen the way home in 120 yards hurdles, and H. W. Batger, of the Wellington Club, proved what we have heard about him, and showed Aucklanders that he could, literally speaking, almost lose him, for he beat Owen by fully five yards. The champion hurdler of New Zealand, if not

of the world, wants to be seen jumping to be appreciated. He gained his lead by his clever jumping. Although T. F. Uphill established a record in the long jump, I have seen him leap much better. Tim O'Connor won the putting the weight contest with his first throw, and then beat the New Zealand record with a put of 37ft 8in, which is 2ft 1in better. I was sorry that Corner and White, the two long distance men from Sydney, were not at their best. The former was very weak and far from well, while White had a boil on his leg.

The financial success of the meeting is due to the exertions of the secretary of the local Club, Mr. J. Halyday, jun., who has been most energetic, having had all the preliminary work thrown on his shoulders, and the manner in which he discharged his thankless duties is deserving of endless praise. Those who assisted him were Mr. B. J. Esam, treasurer of the Auckland Club, and the Committee of the local Club.

The following are the results of the two days' racing:—

#### THREE MILES WALKING CHAMPIONSHIP.

Present champion, E. J. McKelvey, D.A.A.C. World's amateur record, 21min 9 1-5th sec, F. P. Murray, New York. New Zealand amateur record, 24min 18 3-5th sec, E. J. McKelvey, D.A.A.C. Standard, 23min 30sec. Entries: A. F. Burton, Auckland .. .. . 1  
H. S. Cocks, Christchurch .. .. . 2  
G. Peace, Auckland .. .. . 3  
Also started: Bailey, of Sydney; MacDonald, Wellington; and Bain, of Dunedin. Time, 23min 37 1-10 sec.

#### 250 YARDS FLAT CHAMPIONSHIP.

Present champion, J. H. Hempton, S.A.A.C. World's amateur record, 24 4-5th sec, E. H. Pelling, London. New Zealand amateur record, 27sec, H. M. Reeves and A. B. Williams, C.A.A.C. Best New Zealand championship performance, 27sec. Standard, 27sec. Entries: W. T. Macpherson, New South Wales .. 1  
J. M. King, Wellington .. .. . 2  
A. E. Sefton, New South Wales .. .. . 3  
Also started: B. Owen, M. H. Laird, Auckland. Time, 24 3-10th secs, which is the world's record.

#### FIVE MILE BICYCLE CHAMPIONSHIP.

Present champion, N. Hall, P.B.C. World's amateur record (ordinary), 13min 53 4-5th sec, F. J. B. Archer, England; (safety), 12min 54 2-5th sec, W. E. Jones, England. New Zealand amateur record, 14min 55 3-5th sec, N. Hall, P.B.C. Best championship performance, 15min 43 3-5th sec, N. Hall, P.B.C. Entries: A. G. Wilmot, Christchurch .. .. . 1  
S. R. Stedman, Dunedin .. .. . 2  
P. Ledsham, Christchurch .. .. . 3  
Also started: A. G. Buchanan, A. Howard, H. S. Short, E. Reynolds, Auckland; W. J. S. Hayward, Christchurch. Time 15min 58 4-5th sec. Hayward fell in the last lap, when in a good position.

#### HIGH JUMP CHAMPIONSHIP.

Present champion, T. McNaught, D.A.A.C. World's amateur record, 6ft 4in, W. B. Page, M.A.C., America. New Zealand amateur record, 5ft 6in, F. C. White, H.B.A.A.C. Best championship performance, 5ft 3 1/2in, T. McNaught, D.A.A.C. Standard, 5ft 4in. There were only two competitors for this, Messrs. J. E. Hume (Wellington) and E. T. Laurie (Auckland). After an exciting contest it resulted in a draw, both clearing 5ft 3in.

#### HALF-MILE FLAT CHAMPIONSHIP.

Present champion, J. F. Grierson, C.A.A.C. World's amateur record, 1min 54 2-5th sec, F. J. K. Cross, Oxford. New Zealand amateur record, 2 min 1 4-5th sec, P. Morrison, S.C.A.A.C. Best New Zealand championship performance, 2min 5 2-5th sec, J. F. Grierson, C.A.A.C. Standard, 2min 5sec. Entries: D. Wood, Christchurch .. .. . 1  
J. F. Grierson, Christchurch .. .. . 2  
J. W. Winks, Auckland .. .. . 3  
Also started: R. J. White, Sydney. Time, 2 minutes.

#### 120 YARDS HURDLE CHAMPIONSHIP.

(10 Flights, 3ft 6in.)

Present champion, H. W. Batger, W.A.A.C. World's amateur record, 16sec, C. F. Daffrods. New Zealand amateur record, 16 1-5th sec, H. W. Batger, W.A.A.C. Best New Zealand