

crossing their opponents' line, two of the tries being improved upon. On changing ends Christchurch took the aggressive, and on several occasions should have scored, but foolish passing marred their attempt. Merrivale then woke up, and their backs playing like one man, secured two more tries, one of which was improved upon.

The game between Linwood and Sydenham, at Lancaster Park, attracted a good number of spectators, some of whom would have done more service by stopping away, as they insisted on crowding over the lines and between the goal posts. Throughout the game forward play and packed scrums were greatly indulged in, and at this Linwood more than held their own. Twice only did the Sydenham forwards manage to clear their lines during the first spell, and on both occasions their backs took the advantage and secured two tries. In the second half Linwood had Sydenham busy defending their lines, and though on several occasions the former broke through, only one try was scored; Sydenham thus winning by two points to one. Linwood had decidedly the best of the game, and were robbed of two certain tries by the ball touching spectators.

During the East Christchurch-Canterbury College match a peculiar point occurred, which was eventually laid before the Rugby Union. West, the College full-back, potted an unmistakable goal, but on appeal to the officials the East umpire gave it no goal, and the College umpire was also understood to give a similar decision. This gave the referee no option but to give it no goal, although he was of opinion that it was a goal. The College umpire then stated that he had given it a goal, upon which the referee gave it a goal also. The Rugby Union, however, decided that the referee would have to abide by his first decision, and the College were thus done out of a sure goal.

Through continual wet weather no matches have as yet been played in Dunedin. This is sure to put the Otago men back considerably, and does not improve their chance in the inter-provincial match against Canterbury.

EGMONT STEEPLECHASE MEETING.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Wednesday, May 13.

THE attendance was good, and the racing of an interesting character. The steeplechase course is a severe one. The Auckland horse Ingarangi greatly disappointed his backers. The principal race—the Steeplechase—fell to the Auckland-owned horse Takapu.

The following are the results of the races:—

HANDICAP HURDLES of 60 sovs., two miles and a distance.

Christmas	1
Jupiter	2
Worth	3

Jupiter went away with the lead, Worth going on second. After a mile had been covered Waterbury, while going well, fell. Coming up the straight Jupiter and Christmas were neck and neck, the latter gained a little over the last hurdle, and eventually won by a length and a half. Time, 4min 31½sec. Dividend, £7 1s.

HACK HURDLE RACE, one and a-half miles.

Marksman	1
Karewa	2
Corsair	3

Marksman at the fall of the flag went to the front, and jumping well was never headed, and won easily. Time, 3min 12sec. Dividend, £3 2s.

MAIDEN STEEPLECHASE, 50 sovs., about two miles:—

Sir Maurice	1
Whalebone	2
Ridge	3

Whalebone jumped off with a lead of fifty yards, but he ran off at the hurdles in front of the stand, but being pulled round got safely over it and caught Sir Maurice. Coming up the straight there was a slashing race, Sir Maurice winning by half a length; a bad third. Time, 5min 27sec. Dividend, £1 17s.

HANDICAP HACK FLAT RACE, one and a-half miles:—

Heamoe	1
Durus	2
Viola	3

Won by a head. Time, 2min 54sec. Dividend £5 15s.

EGMONT HANDICAP STEEPLECHASE, about three miles.

Takapu	1
Dangerous	2

This was the principal event of the meeting. The flag fell to an excellent start. Ingarangi at once made play, leading past the stand for the first time, his nearest attendant being Takapu. Casualties commenced at the first jump, which Ivy failed to negotiate. All got over the second jump but Matchless, who came down. The fourth jump proved fatal to the chances of Waterbury and Sir Maurice, who both came to grief, the latter breaking his neck. Christmas ran off at the fifth jump, but was quickly pulled round, and got safely over, only to fall at the seventh jump, which also proved fatal to Jupiter. Christmas was remounted, but fell again in the second round, Ingarangi also coming to grief at the same time. Takapu and Dangerous were then left to fight out the finish. Takapu won easily by five lengths in 7min. 57sec., his supporters winning the fair dividend of £4 2s.

THE SECOND HACK RACE of 30 sovs, one mile.

Durus	1
Chance	2
Heamoe	3

Won, after a good race, by half a length. Time, 1min. 56secs. Dividend, £4 3s.

THE FINAL STEEPLECHASE.

Whalebone	1
Ingarangi	2
Ridge	3

Only these three started. Won easily.

THE RING.

OWING to an extremely wet and unpleasant evening the attendance at the Zealandia Rink to witness the glove fight between Nicholson and Collins, fixed for Monday night, proved so small that it was decided to postpone the match until Wednesday. To amuse those spectators who had braved the elements, a couple of boxing bouts were given. The brothers Paltridge boxed three rounds and a final, showing very fair form, but of course playing light. Next two lads, Burtenshaw and Donovan—the latter a chip of the old Barney block—boxed a couple of rounds with great vigour and no little skill. The young Barney-block stuck manfully to his taller and heavier antagonist, and both elicited frequent bursts of applause for clever hitting and stopping. Dick Sandall is schooling another young bantam, who will have a gentle turn-up some day with Barney's chick.

The postponed match came off in due course on Wednesday evening, in the presence of a much better attendance, although hardly sufficient to recoup Mr. Winch for his generosity in providing a £25 purse. Two preliminary boxing bouts amused the spectators while the combatants in the great event of the evening were preparing for the fray. The brothers Paltridge gave a neat display, boxing three rounds very similar to those given on Monday evening, but on this occasion the elder asserted his superiority more palpably. Next young Barney Bantam was announced, his opponent being a taller but slighter boy yclept Hunter. In him Barney met his match, and after three merry rounds the contest appeared pretty even, though if anything in favour of Hunter for choice. Both boys shewed no little quickness in hitting, but Barney discounts his powers by too many round-handers. Dick Sandall, before introducing the real warriors, announced that Saxon was prepared to make a match with the winner for £5 a-side. Immediately after this Nicholson and his dark antagonist entered the arena. Mr. Sandall was appointed referee, and Mr. Churchward—who has had some experience in a similar capacity at the famous Pelican Club—acted as time-keeper. Frank Burns looked after Nicholson, and Sidney Barnes tended Collins. On stepping into the ring a

marked contrast in development was noticeable between the two men. Nicholson seemed in good fettle, but certainly looked pounds heavier than 9st 2lb, at which weight he was supposed to fight. Collins looked lithe and muscular about the arms and chest, but appeared to fall away below, and his understandings were decidedly of the pipe-shank order. His fighting weight is usually 9st, but unless we are mistaken he scarcely reached that weight by some pounds.

THE FIGHT.

1st round.—Both men seemed cautious, and a long time was spent in sparring for an opening. At length Collins led off and got in a facer. Some quick exchanges followed, of which Collins got all the best, and Nicholson seemed a bit staggered, and a gentle streak of claret flowed from his nose. Rallying well, he speedily turned the tables, getting in a heavy right and left on Collins' jaw and forehead, under which the latter went down near the ropes. Collins was up like a shot, but after some quick exchanges again went down under a heavy visitation from Nich.'s right. He rose at once, but was again felled, and again with monotonous rapidity. After two more knock-down blows time was called, and the round ended all in Nicholson's favour.

2nd round.—Collins responded gaily to the call, but looked rather blown and discomfited after the frequent heavy visitations received in the last round. However, he pluckily went for the forlorn hope of getting in a severe knock-out blow, but his clever and weightier opponent again asserted his superiority, knocking him clean off his pins no less than three times in succession. The end came speedily, for Nicholson got in a very severe right and left, which laid out Collins on the floor. He failed to respond to the call of time, and Sandall awarded the fight to Nicholson.

We cannot speak highly of the display of science. It was a mere hard-punching match, of which the heavier and better conditioned man of course got the better. But the match was genuine, and those lively two rounds were worth a dozen tame sparring slints.

Sam Matthews' California Club in Castle-reagh-street was the scene of some capital fighting on Saturday night says "Upper Cut," and gruel was served out hot and strong in several of the bouts set down for rehearsal on the evening's programme. The principal biz. for the evening was the knock out between Maxwell and Burke, two heavy-weight boys from amongst the York-street draymen. Party feeling ran strong, and as the two entered the ring a howl of satisfaction went up on all sides. Our Yankee cousin, Joe Choynski, did duty as referee. Directly "time" was cried the pair set to and made a rush at each other, which would have knocked spots out of the fame of Maloney's renowned Fenian cat. Fierceness shone out from the eyes of both, and the first round was a regular ringer. Away they went, pummelling each other in red-hot style, and the fight was made exceedingly warm and fast. Too fast, indeed, it seemed, for on several occasions Referee Joe found it necessary to interfere and separate them. Round No. 2 saw things equally as warm as in the first, and it was evident that each were bent on making one of them see more stars than have ever come within the meteorological observation of Mr. Ellery. First one and then the other came in for a good old knock down, and the 10sec. grace allowed was never taken advantage of by either party, the motto and family crest of each of the boxers apparently being "Up, boys, and at him." After a really rosy time the third round came on, and in this Burke landed his opponent such a beautiful right on point of the jaw that he was completely knocked out. "Tick, tick," went Diamond's clock; but, after 10sec. had been counted out, Maxwell failed to respond, and Burke was therefore declared the winner.

The horses in training belonging to M. Lupin, one of the oldest sportsmen in France, were sold lately in Paris. There were twenty-three lots, and the average price realised was over £800. The highest priced one was Philadelphia, a chestnut filly by Xantrales from Pensacola, for which M. Ephrussi gave £1,860. Several lots were purchased for America.