



ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING.

LORD BEACONSFIELD once wrote: "Beware of the man who has no small vices," crystalizing a great moral truth in that pithy sentence. In sooth, the frailties of human nature need some safety valve—if unduly pent up they are bound sooner or later to burst the boiler of Puritanical continence. A man who abhors liquor and repudiates tobacco, who will not touch a card, bet a sixpence, or indulge in the mildest expletive of the nature of a "swear," often displays the taint of old Adam in other directions. When Justices of the Peace inflict sentences, Draconic in their severity, upon the unhappy inebriates whose misfortune it is to be "pulled" on the day when some intemperate apostle of temperance, sits upon the Bench, the victims must keenly feel the pungency of Lord Beaconsfield's dictum. To "make the punishment fit the crime" is the principle upon which our criminal laws are based, and that principle is stultified by the uncertain and spasmodic infliction of penalties which we so frequently notice. Men with fads and cranks, however praiseworthy their intentions, should not be permitted, while dressed in a little brief authority, to give offenders three to six months for drunkenness, when next day persons convicted of the same lapse may receive from a less rabid Bench a comparatively light punishment. In bare justice to erring "drunks and incapables," copies of the *Rota* of Justices of the Peace should be posted in the various places of public resort, so that the man who occasionally succumbs to the demon drink might at least be informed of the penalty likely to attach to a lapse on a particular evening. He would probably reason, thus: "So-and-so on the Bench to-morrow—three months if I get drunk—not good enough;" and would wait for his spree until a five-shillings-and-costs J.P.'s turn arrived. This is, of course, a *reductio ad absurdum*. From the moral and physical points of view, as well as from that of expediency, it is a mere truism to say that it is a mistake for any man to get drunk. But to punish the offence so as to fill our prisons with useful members of society, who after a brief expiation might be supporting themselves and their families in place of adding to the burdens of the taxpayer for their own maintenance and saddling the Charitable Aid Board with that of their families, is folly born of blind prejudice. Moreover, such a policy, however vindictive, utterly fails to fulfil any good purpose. It neither acts as a deterrent nor reforms the peccant inebriate. That no man can be made sober by compulsion has been demonstrated over and over again. Moral suasion, with tact and good example, must always exercise a more powerful influence in the direction of reclaiming the confirmed drunkard than brute force and bullying, which only arouse a dogged obstinacy, stifle any small remnant of self-respect, and drive him to further excesses. The millennium will have arrived when an epitaph such as follows can truthfully be inscribed on every man's tomb.

EPITAPH ON A GOOD TEMPLAR.
 He never touched spirits or ale,
 Strong liquor he could not abide;
 He never got put into gaol,
 And never fell ill till he died.
 His epitaph—take your best style,
 Deep, deep in the marble engrave it—
 A sober teetotaller—*Nil*
Tetigit, QUOD non ornavit!

THE glove fight between Armstrong and Williams came off last night at the Zelandia Rink. There was a large attendance. Armstrong had all the best of the battle, which lasted five rounds, when he had Williams completely done with, but an appeal for a foul was allowed by the Referee, much to the dissatisfaction of the majority of the spectators. Williams therefore wins by a fluke and Armstrong must realise the force of the proverb *sic vos non vobis*. Mr. Wakefield acted as referee, and Mr. Mountain held the watch.

THE football match between Grafton and Auckland, calls for no further comment than that the former won hands down by 11 points to nothing. Now that Ponsonby seems to hold a mortgage on the cup, players residing within the boundaries of the new districts should organise a bit, so that the proposed innovation may have a fair trial.

FOOTBALL.

PONSONBY V. GORDON.

A GLORIOUS day for football—bracing weather, dry ground, and scarcely a breath of wind—brought a large throng of spectators to Potter's, where the best match of the season so far was played with skill and determination on both sides. Both teams were fully represented, and a Gordon player, yclept "Anderton," was a welcome accession to his club. Anderton, it will be remembered, was a member of the famous English team which visited Auckland two or three years ago, but his namesake is not the same individual—the pseudonym being a mere heraldic device! Gordon winning the toss, gave Ponsonby the sun in their eyes for the first spell. The All-black forwards at once showed a superiority which was more or less displayed throughout the match. The ball was speedily rushed up to the Blues' 25, when Jervis getting possession, dropped at goal and was dangerously near scoring. Gordon forwards pressed their opponents for a few minutes, until Mills, intercepting a pass, took the play back to the centre. Shortly afterwards another rush took the ball close to Ponsonby's 25 line, whence Jervis after a capital run got in and scored. Otway took the place at a moderately difficult angle, but his attempt was not a brilliant one. More even up and down play followed, both teams playing well; and Ponsonby, though weakened by the absence of Heffernan, who had sprained his side and retired, got on some clever rushes and good passing. Gordon forwards presently again got the upper hand, and Herrold, after a clever dodgy run, passed neatly to Cooke, who scored about nine yards from the flag. Otway taking the place, made a better effort, but did not improve. Shortly after the kick out Herrold got a mark, and Gordon still gaining ground, again invaded the Blues' territory, when Jervis dropped what most persons considered a fair goal, but the referee ruled otherwise. Ponsonby rallied a bit, and Masefield, Rhodes, Cole, and Mills, as well as Albie Braund, shone brilliantly, bringing the struggle into Gordon 25 for a brief space. It was, however, speedily taken back to the centre, and with varying fortunes the spell ended with the score—Gordon 2, Ponsonby 0.

In the second spell Ponsonby had the advantage of a bright sun at their backs, and every

man seemed determined to do or die. After some good passages between the forwards, and some exchanges between the backs, Ponsonby got close to Gordon 25, when Breen getting possession potted at goal. The ball going low struck the inner post, and the glance gave the Blues a lucky try, secured by Edwards. Breen kicked an unerring goal from a very simple angle. Scores—Ponsonby 3, Gordon 2. Shortly after the kick out Gordon forwards rushed the ball over the Blues' 25, but only a force resulted. This feat was again repeated, a few minutes later. Masefield next with a grand run relieved his side, and play was for some time in Gordon's 25. Ponsonby secured a mark, but nothing came of it. Gordon backs defended well, J. Poland playing the best game we have seen from him this season. Presently good running and passing resulted in another try for Ponsonby, after a maul. Breen failed to improve. Shortly after the kick out a much regretted accident occurred to Braund, who was thrown into touch, and in falling struck the ground so heavily with the back of his head as to be quite stunned. Play was stopped for some minutes, but it was found necessary to carry the Ponsonby captain off, and his side was deprived of his invaluable services during the rest of the spell. On resuming, play soon reached Ponsonby's 25, Cooke making a splendid run and passing several would-be collarers until well stopped by Stichbury. The fortune of war presently took the ball into Gordon's 25, when a mark awarded to the Blacks did not help much. Ponsonby, playing hard and gallantly though short of two, made a splendid effort, some very good work resulted in a try, which was, however, discounted in the opinion of many by the fact that Hobson was yards off side when he got the ball. However, the referee allowed the try, which was not improved, and the game ended in a victory for Ponsonby. The scores being—5, 2. The play was creditable to both teams, but the general opinion seemed to be that Ponsonby's win was a fluke one, and that the better team on the day was Gordon. Another account, written from the Gordon point of view, says:—

"To consider the scores as a good criterion of the play would be a great injustice, as, although beaten, Gordon had much the best of the game, and had it not been for their usual bad luck and (judging by spectators' comments and players' opinions) Ponsonby's good fortune in obtaining the referee they had, Gordon must have 'done the trick.' Unfortunately two nasty accidents occurred—Heffernan having a rib broken in the early part of the first spell, and Braund, being seriously shaken toward the end of the game, had to be carried off the field. The game was very fast and interesting all through, the Gordon forwards playing especially well, simply walking through their opponents, while the backs hampered the blue and blacks, spoiling to a great extent their usual brilliant passing tactics. Where all played well it would be invidious to particularise anyone, but nevertheless I think for Ponsonby Breen and Cole, especially the latter, deserve especial mention, while for Gordon Arty Cooke, Poland and Jervis were in great form. In conclusion, as to the umpiring and refereeing: It did not appear to give universal satisfaction; and though there are always some only too ready to air their opinions, still on Saturday it

seemed as if everyone found fault, and reckoned that some of the decisions were, to say the least, queer. Leaving out many minor details where decisions were disapproved, the two most palpable cases must be mentioned. All who were in a position to see say that Jervis' kick in the middle of the first spell was undoubtedly a goal, and yet the referee said no goal: and anyone, unless suffering from an optical delusion or some other malady, would have pronounced Hobson off side when he got the last try for Ponsonby, though the referee passed it as correct. Unless there is a competent and unbiassed man to handle the whistle football must deteriorate, as genuine players get disgusted when most palpable mistakes are passed unnoticed or allowed as correct."

We are glad to learn that Albie Braund is recovering and that Heffernan's injury is not very serious.

MUSIC, DRAMA, ETC.

Spectatum admissi risum teneatis amici?
MADAME PATEY.

THIS celebrated English contralto backed up by a fairly good company, has been drawing splendid houses, alike creditable to our musical taste and to the excellent judgment displayed in arranging the programmes. It is true that the more educated musicians would prefer to hear only high-class selections, such as "Che Faro," "Caro Mio ben," "Madamina," "Qui La Voce," etc., but the popular taste must also be studied, and programmes exactly similar have for years been presented in London, where great artistes are not too proud to sing old songs and quaint ballads, as well as the finest selections, to mixed audiences. Madame Patey's singing has been a revelation to many who have never before had an opportunity of hearing a really good artist. A secret doubt lurked in my mind that an Auckland audience might prove not educated up to the standard of such high art; but the enthusiastic and genuine appreciation manifested by listeners of all sorts and conditions have quite dispelled all misgivings on that score. Space will not permit me the pleasure of a detailed analysis of every number. I must confine myself to more general criticisms. In the first place I remarked that Madame Patey's "Che Faro" of to-day is essentially the same performance as when I last heard her magnificent rendering of Gluck's wonderfully sweet plaintive, pathetic and passionate melody twenty-three years ago. The opening recitative was given with the same thrilling power and accuracy of intonation; the wail of despair which is the motive, had lost none of its tearful and touching pathos. All those marvellous qualities of voice, method, enunciation, fervour, chaste and refined purity of taste, are preserved practically untouched by the hand of time. The fine compass, with its registers so blended as to defy detection of the points at which the "little bridges" are crossed, is there in all its smooth even breadth of tone. In lower, middle, and upper registers the contralto quality of voice is always unmistakable. Take any single note in the voice, and no person with a cultivated ear could fail to say "contralto." Some critics sapiently declare that Madame Patey's upper notes resemble those of a soprano. This is just what they do not.

I will now endeavour briefly to sum up the merits and styles of the several members of Madame Patey's excellent company. Miss Bertha Rossow, the soprano, has made a genuine success, and won golden opinions for her brilliant and sympathetic singing. She possesses a light soprano voice of good compass, flexible and cultivated. Her *forte* is in *floriture* rather than in the *cantabile*. In songs such as "Qui la Voce," "Sing, Sweet Bird," and "Cherry Ripe," she is at her best, executing trills, runs, and florid work with accuracy and grace. Her lower register is perhaps deficient in volume, and she displays a slight tendency towards the *vibrato* which should be kept under strict control. However, she is now established as a favourite, and with care *elle ira loin*. Miss Emilia Wood proved herself a brilliant and sound pianiste. Her touch is both light and firm. In *legato* work and rippling phrases she shows the result of hard practice under competent guidance. Her selections all through have been judicious, and her execution and

taste deserving of high praise. She has delighted us with Liszt, Chopin, Prudent, Kowalski, rendering some of their best *morceaux* with a fine appreciation of the composer's intentions. Mr. G. J. Patey, who for years has been reckoned the best English baritone after Santley, always replacing him in emergencies, unfortunately has been physically unfit to do himself justice. But in the concerted pieces his fine sensibility and faultless style unmistakably asserted themselves. The severe shaking from a fall during a rough passage has proved so great a handicap in regard to solo singing that after the first concert he felt obliged to restrict his performances to the concerted *morceaux*; but recovering to some extent he sang on Tuesday night Rossini's "Largo al Factotum," from "Il Barbiere," with astonishing freshness and vigour. Mr. C. R. Jones, the tenor, hails from Queensland, and the change from so sultry a climate to the Arctic weather we have lately experienced, has tried him severely. On several occasions the rather pronounced tremolo which I have noticed was caused by his shivering under the cold draught of air which rushes from entrance to entrance across the stage. Mr. Jones possesses a light tenor voice of excellent timbre, sweet and true. He sings with taste and expression, and occasionally shows dash and power. He is a young man yet, and is in good hands. I am confident that if he perseveres he will make his mark in time. His rendering of Sullivan's "Once Again" especially pleased me. Mr. Herman Morris, the accompanist, discharges his onerous duties with discretion and taste. The one thing wanted to make the company perfect is a good violinist or flautist. "Call me back," without the obligato, loses much of its effect. Against such a soloist playing with Miss Wood, *concertante morceaux* would greatly strengthen the programme.

"RUN WILD."

I AM charmed with this pleasant little comedy, in which, to my mind, Miss Jennie Lee "still betters what is done." Construction, situations dialogue and mounting, are all excellent. There are not many characters in the cast, and those are played to perfection. Miss Lee, as the bright, sensitive, witty, affectionate, and unconventional Collie, is a brilliant success. Her distress when she discovers that she has been kissing the wrong man, and her relief on finding that, after all, it is her cousin Jack, quite brought down the house. Miss Ada Lee, as Lady Grace, adds to her laurels playing artistically and effectively throughout. Mrs. Bolton acquits herself admirably in the trying rôle of Mrs. Parker; and Miss Georgie Leighford, as Mary, is a sprightly and charming *soubrette*. Mr. G. P. Carey's John Parker could not be better, and is another triumph of this conscientious and versatile actor. Mr. Edwin Lester's Bennet, the man-servant, is simply immense; indeed, I have nothing but praise for all that talented comedian's work. "Monty Drury," the lah-de-dah swell, who is nevertheless a refined gentleman with a character, through the husk of which high-minded nobility is constantly shining, was most perfectly represented by Mr. D. C. Smith. The other parts—Sir Geoffery Carew, Richard Parker, Burrows, and James—were very ably sustained respectively by Mr. Barry Marschell, Mr. Charles Hill, Mr. Fred Cambourne, and Mr. G. Williams. That old favourite, "The Ticket-of-Leave Man," now occupies the boards, and on Friday evening Miss Jennie Lee takes her benefit in "Jo," when I hope to see a bumper house.

MISS AMY VAUGHAN'S Saturday night concerts continue to be very popular, and deservedly so, as the entertainment is not only attractive and amusing, but extremely refined. The "swinging beauties" present a charming spectacle, and sing capitally in chorus.

ORPHEUS.

Settling over the late Christchurch coursing meeting resulted as follows:—Mr. J. McCann, £34 18s; Mr. J. McCausland, £31; Mr. J. Cooper, £24 6s; Mr. O. R. Wise, £18; Mr. M. Taylor, £12 8s; Mr. J. Forward, £8 8s.

GORDON CRICKET CLUB.

RESULT OF MATCHES.

We append a full statement of the Cup matches played with Gordon C.C., together with batting and bowling averages of the Cup winners.

Gordon I	Opponents.		Result of Match
	1st Inn.	2nd Inn.	
Alpha 13	263	48 6 w. for 82	won by 217 runs
United	8 w. for 482	—	won by default
Parnell	376	4 w. for 50	won by forfeiture
St. Mary's 15	380	82	won by 298 runs
Auckland	107 7 w. for 149	97	won by 10 runs
Alpha	4 w. for 191	—	won by forfeiture
United	9 w. for 143	159	lost by 16 runs
Parnell	9 w. for 174	120	won by 54 runs
St. Mary's 16	6 w. for 208	8 w. for 59	won by forfeiture
Auckland	8 w. for 152	4 w. for 31	not completed

Gordon scored 2451 runs for the loss of 84 wickets.—Average per man, 29.1.
Opponents scored 679 runs for the loss of 82 wickets.—Average per man, 9.3.

BATTING AVERAGES.

	No. of Innings.	Times not out.	Highest score.	Total score.	Average.
Moresby, T. A.	10	1	154	588	66.8
Lusk, H. B.	11	0	156	482	43.8
Ansenne, J.	6	2	47	146	26.5
Fowke, J. N.	11	1	140*	314	31.4
Ryburn, J. W.	10	3	55	160	27.1
Meldrum, D.	11	3	70*	147	18.8
Goulstone, H.	10	1	53	157	17.4
Clayton, C. Z.	7	0	33	110	15.7
Williams, N. T.	11	0	54	172	15.6
Kennedy	3	2	8	14	14
Cotterill, G. J.	3	0	36	44	14.6
Kelly, F. V.	5	0	30	65	13.2
Hall, T.	4	2	10*	20	10
Rees, E. A.	4	0	9	15	4

* Signifies not out.

BOWLING AVERAGES.

	No. of Balls.	No. of Runs.	Wkts.	Mdns.	Average.
Williams, N. T.	356	76	16	32	4.76
Lusk, H. B.	608	211	25	36	8.4
Kelly, F. V.	460	200	22	24	9
Meldrum, D.	304	113	10	14	11.3

also bowled—
Cotterill, E. J. ... 25 7 1 1 7
Moresby, T. A. ... 20 15 1 1 15
Meldrum, A. L. ... 45 22 0 3 —

CHRISTCHURCH ATHLETICS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SATURDAY last was an off day as far as the Senior contests were concerned, most of the teams having outside engagements to meet. Merivale and Christchurch journeyed to Dunedin, where they tried conclusions with the Alhambra and Pirates respectively. In both cases the home teams were victorious, and judging from the play the Southern representatives appear to be superior to their Northern friends. The game between Merivale and Alhambra was a most interesting one. In the first spell Merivale had somewhat the best of the game, their forwards' play being especially good. The defence, however, was strong, and the only score registered was a goal from a mark obtained by the visitors. On changing ends Alhambra seemed resolved to wipe off the score against them, and a goal from a penalty kick and a try made scores even. Brilliant passing amongst the home team backs enabled Cunningham to get over, a goal resulting. From this to call of time Merivale forced the play, but were unable to score, the game ending Alhambra 6 points, Merivale 3.

At the Carisbrook Grounds a grand match was witnessed between the Pirates and Christchurch. Here, again, the Otago men were successful. The play was remarkably even, and scoring was fast on both sides. During the first spell Pirates had considerably the best of the play, and had scored a goal and two tries to their opponents goal before the interval. Smart passing between the cracks on either side shifted the play from one end of the ground to the other, and the Pirates seemed to be much cleverer than their opponents in scoring. In this spell the home team registered five more points, but play was very even.

"Augur," writing to the *Australasian* in reference to the annual race meeting of the Melbourne Hunt Club, says:—The chief reason I am sorry I could not attend is that the meeting was, in the matter of palpable roping and reversal of form, the most unique ever held in Australia. And not a sign made or a word said by the stewards. Bah! No wonder some people are so anxious to dispense with the stipendiary steward. It doesn't suit their book to have the doings of their horses too closely watched. If the office of stipendiary steward is abolished, some member of the V.R.C., at the next general meeting should ask for the names of the members of Committee who voted for its abolition.

SPORTING FIXTURES, ETC.

COMING EVENTS.	
June 8	Auckland R.C. Winter Meeting
June 9	Tattersall's (Sydney) Steeplechase meeting
July 11	Wellington R.C. Winter meeting
June 25	Hawkes Bay J.C. Winter Meeting
Aug. 13	N.Z. Grand National Steeplechase meeting
NOMINATIONS CLOSE.	
May 29	Auckland R.C. Winter meeting. General entries
June 16	Wellington R.C.
June 16	Hawkes Bay Jockey Club. General entries
June 20	N.Z. Grand National Hurdles and Steeplechase
July 25	N.Z. Grand National General entries
WEIGHTS APPEAR.	
June 26	Wellington R.C.
July 13	N.Z. Grand National Hurdles and Steeplechase
Aug. 1	N.Z. Grand National Minor events
ACCEPTANCES DUE.	
May 29	Auckland R.C. Winter meeting
June 1	Auckland R.C. Winter Handicap
June 3	Great Northern Steeplechase Sweep (5 sows)
June 16	Hawkes Bay Steeplechase and Hurdle Race
July 3	Wellington R.C.
July 25	N.Z. Grand National Hurdles and Steeplechase
Aug. 8	N.Z. Grand National Final payments
HUNTING.	
June 6	Waters' Corner; noon.
June 18	Gray's; noon.

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- 3—Leave plenty of space in margin and between lines for your own and editorial corrections.
- 4—Use white paper rather than blue; because the writing stands out more distinctly.
- 5—Use the ink, and black ink—for the same reason.
- 6—Write plainly. Distinct penmanship is an immense desideratum with both editor and printer.
- 7—Number your pages of MSS.

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In every case correspondents must enclose their correct names and addresses (but not for publication), as no notice whatever can be taken of anonymous communications.

To oblige Sporting friends at a distance, the result of important races will be wired immediately after they are run on receipt of a letter containing instructions, and 2s. in stamps.

Sporting Review.

THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 1891.

OUR contemporaries have lately been taking up the subject of the taxing of stallions. This question was brought before the public some years ago by "Picador" in his articles on breeding. It would be a great benefit to the colony if a tax was imposed on stallions, not only of £10, but it might most judiciously be raised to more than that as regards the thoroughbred entires. There is no place in the British Dominions where there are so few good hacks and harness horses as are to be found in New Zealand. The climate, for the most part, is suitable for horse-breeding. The question naturally arises how is this? This is easily answered. There are innumerable weedy, cross made, miserable stallions throughout the country. Where do they come from? Cast-offs from the racing stables, many of them being only "platers," others "leather flappers." Settlers in a great degree are to blame for the deterioration of horses. They have a mare that they want to get a foal from. Instead of looking about for a sire that will suit the mare they put her to the first that comes along,

never mind what he is. They are afterwards astonished at the result, and immediately say what is the use of breeding; we cannot sell the produce at any price. Nor can it be wondered at when one sees the production.

The Hawke's Bay Agricultural Society held a meeting, and it was agreed that the tax on stallions ought to be £20, and that the tax collected in each district should be awarded in prizes, and that a veterinary surgeon should be appointed to examine all stallions applying for a license to see that they are free from hereditary disease. This has been taken up by several other agricultural societies.

Last Friday, at a meeting of the North Auckland Cattle Board, Mr. Morrin, the chairman, stated that only two questions were before them. The more important (taxing stallions) he thoroughly agreed with, though it affected him more than any one else, and he thought that a licensing fee of at least 15 guineas should be imposed on all stallions. Mr. Frank Lawry thought that the fee was too high. The chairman remarked that one of the greatest breeding provinces (Hawke's Bay) recommended £20, while others £10. There was a good deal of talk for and against the tax. Mr. McLaughlin proposed "That the Government be recommended to make the license fee five guineas each, the proceeds, less inspection expenses, to be handed over to the agricultural and pastoral associations of the district as prizes for stallions." Mr. Wallace seconded the motion, with the proviso that it should not come into force for a year to enable those that might not like to pay the license to get rid of their entires. In this form the motion was carried, Mr. Morrin dissenting from it. Thus, through the shortsightedness of some individuals, the province will be overrun with scrubbers for another year, who, if the knife was applied to them, would realise much more than as entires. The intention of the tax will also be nullified, as anyone with a sire, never mind how cross-bred or made, will risk a fiver when they will not more. When this tax was mooted by "Picador" it was in hopes that a great many "platers" that run about the country would be gelded by either the breeders or owner, and by that means a good many inferior sires would be done away with. Going through the up districts we have often seen a fairish youngster entire. On asking the owner why he was kept so, the answer has been that he is intended for up-country races, and when he is broken down he will fetch more as a stallion than otherwise.

It has long been the surprise of old race goers that breeders and owners of inferior racehorses have not seen the benefit of having them cut. The late Hon. Jas. White introduced the system of castrating his inferior yearlings, but unfortunately did not live long enough to prove the benefit to others. Geldings last longer, require less work, and are less trouble. If one looks back through the English and Australian calendars, one finds that geldings last twice as long as stallions on the Turf, and in no instance during the last fifty years has a stallion kept his speed or raced as long as Reindeer or Rewi. In our opinion it would be a good thing if all entires were taxed, then only the best shaped and bred yearling would be kept, the rest being subjected to the knife.

THE *Canterbury Times*, in its issue of May 21st, has taken up the suggestion we made in ours that the minimum weight in all flat races should be 6st 7lb, and recommends that at the next conference in Wellington the matter should be taken in hand. The writer goes on: "The second suggestion, to raise the weights in handicaps where the lowest weight accepting is less than 8st 12lb, is scarcely worthy the author of the first. It has the merit, such as it is, of still appearing among the English rules of racing; but it is at best a haphazard method of meeting a mistaken sentiment. We are strongly in favour of reasonably high weights, a maximum of 10st if you will, but let them be adjusted by the handicapper, and not by the operation of an arbitrary rule which would often undo the objects of our accepted system. Any novice of ordinary intelligence will see that the intention of the handicapper might be entirely upset by raising the weights all round by 15lb or 20lb. One horse might be a weight carrier, and actually benefited by the additional burden, while another—a very undesirable class of animal we admit—might

have his chance entirely extinguished by the change. However, this question was disposed of years ago, and it is not likely to reach as far as the Conference again, but should it come before the delegates we are quite sure they will emphasise the opinion we have briefly expressed." "Any novice of ordinary intelligence will see that the intentions of the handicapper might be entirely upset by raising the weight all round 15lb or 20lb." The writer of this article must have had very little practical experience in racing. In the first place a handicapper ought to make his handicaps on the form the horses have shown. It is quite impossible for him to know which horse can carry weight and which cannot by the appearance of them. Our confrere may just as well say that he can tell by the look of a horse whether he can get through dirt or not; if he can do so he must be a clever man, and ought long ago to have made a fortune. Talking of raising the weights 15lb or 20lbs shows that he must have written the article at random. Handicappers generally commence their handicaps somewhere about 9st 7lb, therefore it must be a wretched bad one when the highest weight accepting is only 7st 11lb. The rule of raising the weight in handicaps has worked well in England for the last forty years, therefore why should it not do so in the colonies. The great fault of all the colonial jockey clubs is that they think they can improve on the Newmarket rules; ergo, they make a mess of it. Could any one understand and act on the Metropolitan rules, as they read at present, without running the risk of getting into trouble? Our contemporary is generally pretty good at these kind of affairs, but he has, we think, got astray this time.

THE secretary of the Northern Pony and Trotting Club has requested us to contradict the following comments that appeared in the last issue of the *N.Z. Referee*, for which there is not the slightest foundation:—"Auckland, Saturday, May 23rd.—By Telegraph, from our Own Correspondent.—The Northern Pony and Trotting Club brought off a meeting on the above date for the benefit of the families of those miners who were killed by the accident at Ralph's coal-mine at Huntly recently, and an attractive programme of seven events was prepared for the occasion." The Northern Pony and Trotting Club, which is affiliated with the New Zealand Trotting Association, had nothing whatever to do with this meeting, nor do they intend to hold one until pony and trotting races are put on a better basis in Auckland. As things stand at present they are most unsatisfactory. The Auckland Pony and Trotting Association advertised the meeting as their own in aid of the Huntly Disaster Fund and applied for a permit to use the totalisator, but the Colonial Secretary declined to grant it, on the ground that they had held their quota of meetings for the year, at the same time regretting that he had to do so as it was for a charitable object. We are informed on the best authority that to get over this difficulty the Auckland Trotting Association got the Otahuhu Pony and Trotting Club (which is virtually the same) to forego their meeting, so it was held under the auspices of the Otahuhu Pony and Trotting Club, assisted by the Auckland Pony and Trotting Association. The proprietors of the *N.Z. Referee* would do well to instruct their correspondents to be careful in their reports of the different meetings, as a great many misstatements have appeared lately.

McLean does not intend that Stanbury shall hold his championship honours long, if he can help it. A match has been arranged for £200 aside carrying the championship with it, to take place on the Paramatta on July 7. Thinking that the choice of positions which Stansbury obtained might have had something to do with his defeat, McLean has arranged for an alteration of the course, to start from Uhr's Point instead of Ryde, making the distance some 800 yards shorter. This alteration may be the means of having all the championship and other sculling races rowed over the new course, as it is obvious if one sculler imagines there is such a decided advantage to the winner of positions, others will not unnaturally see things in the same light. Whether McLean will establish his claim over Stanbury is at present a moot point.—*Sporting Standard*.

THE TURF.

[BY OLD TURFITE.]

AUCKLAND RACING CLUB'S WINTER MEETING.

THE acceptances and general entries for the A.R.C. Winter Meeting that were made last Friday night may be considered fairly good. From the few foreign horses that have accepted and entered, the A.R.C. Committee must see that they have made two great mistakes: First of all in the date of their meeting, it coming too close after the Wanganui meeting; secondly, making the day of general entries and acceptances so short a time before the date of the meeting that it does not give owners at a distance a chance of bringing horses—especially at this time of the year, when the weather may be rough, therefore it does not give the horses an opportunity to recover themselves. It was quite natural that the Committee were desirous of Mr. Evitt having the running of the different horses at Wanganui before he published his handicaps, but they being due on the 26th, acceptances on the 29th, and the meeting on June 3rd, practically excludes all the Napier and Southern horses from competing. Ival, who was at Wanganui, Criminal and Duadine, are the only outside horses that have accepted, so almost every race will be confined to local horses, which should not be at a meeting of this kind.

HURDLE RACE.

Of the original twenty-six entries, seventeen have declared non-content with their weights. This is not very flattering to Mr. Evitt's production, but no doubt some have been struck out owing to the reasons stated above. Sentinel, 11st 12lb, on his running with Satyr, and also at the Wanganui Summer Meeting, has nothing to complain of, but as the ground will be holding, the weight will most likely tell on him, as he appears to prefer hard going. Nap, 10st 5lb, will find the company too good for him. Bryan o'Lynn, 10st, won the last Takapuna Hurdle Race, but it was more of a flat race, as all the hurdles, with the exception of the one on the far side of the course, were knocked down the first time round. Criminal, 10st, has won several races Gisborne way, and must be looked upon with respect, as his party must know the form of most of the others. Theorem, 10st, might have been much closer at Takapuna if the sticks had not been knocked down. The same remark applies to Cloth of Gold, 9st 10lb, who makes up his ground at the jumps, being remarkably quick at them. Try Fluke, 9st 9lb, wants more experience, his situation at Takapuna being a fluke. Good Day, 9st 7lb, is the blot of the handicap, and if fit and well on the day, should win. Some time ago she met with an accident, and as she is trained privately it is hard to know in what condition she is, but as Jack Rae knows what he is about, and has only accepted with her, she must be pretty fit. Salute, 9st 5lb, is a stranger to me. To sum up, I expect them to finish in the following order:—CRIMINAL, SENTINEL, and THEOREM. Should Good Day come to the post in the same form as she was in Wanganui, which I doubt, I would not look further for the winner.

STEEPLECHASE.

Only a moiety of the original twenty-four have accepted. The same remarks apply to this handicap as to the hurdles, so one must not blame Mr. Evitt too much, but it cannot be called a good one. Sentinel, 12st, heads the list; this is rather more than he is entitled to over a course like Ellerslie. Ingarangi, 11st 7lb, has got this course before; he is a big powerful horse, but rather deficient in speed; he won the Autumn Steeplechase at Ellerslie with 9st 7lb, and the Wanganui Steeplechase with 10st 10lb, in both of which I think he had a bit of luck; one thing in his favour is that he is a good fencer. Nap, 10st 7lb, is generally thereabouts, but he appears not to like this course. Omata, 10st 3lb, is a bottled-up old crock, and his trainer often creates a surprise with this kind of animal. Takapu, 10st, is well treated; he won the Egmont Steeplechase, and was running well at Wanganui when his jockey foolishly took the wrong course. Parnell, 9st 11lb, will win a good race some day, but it strikes one that he likes the ground hard, and it is believed that Sydney will be his destina-

tion; therefore, as the stable has patience, this may not be his journey. Ival, 9st 10lb, is a great deal thought of. He is given to baulking, but they tell me it is only at gorse fences, and as there are none of them here he looks dangerous, as Mr. Gollan is not a man to send a horse all this way for nothing. The owner of Bit of Blue, 9st 7lb, must be a novice at racing. The horse cut his leg just above the knee, injuring either an artery or a vein. He still keeps on running him, when it opens again every time he starts. If he had kept him quiet he would have won a good race with him. Yum Yum, 9st 9lb, is a sure jumper and a plodder, so it would not surprise me to see her win. Duadine, 9st 9lb, is a stranger to me. Neck-or-Nothing jumps well, but is as slow as the proverbial top. Kate, 9st 7lb, is out of her place. To sum up, I will take the following three to furnish the winner:—TAKAPU, YUM YUM, or WILLIAMSON'S SELECTED.

MAIDEN STEEPLECHASE.

There are thirteen entries for the Maiden Steeplechase. Ival, Yum Yum, Neck-or-Nothing, and Kate are engaged in the big steeplechase, so if they go for that race it is not likely they will start in this. I like the chances of the following list:—YARDSMAN, BRYAN O'LYNN and JUSTICE.

SELLING STEEPLECHASE.

The Selling Steeplechase has an entry of seven. Justice and Karewa are in the Maiden. The ground will be heavy, therefore it must discount their chance. Jim, who won the last Takapuna Steeplechase, is entered to be sold for nil, and has no other engagement, therefore he will be a fresh horse, and as he is also a pretty sure fencer, he should have no difficulty in winning, with Justice and Begorrah as his nearest attendants.

WELTER HANDICAP.

The Welter Handicap shows the folly of any one attempting to frame a handicap when he has not seen the horses run. Take the running in the Takapuna Welter race. Leorina wins, Priscilla second, and Te Kooti a bad third. Leorina is now raised seven pounds, Priscilla seven pounds, and Te Kooti seventeen pounds. Still, wonderful to relate, out of the sixteen entries only two, Capella and Ilma, have been struck out. Auckland horse-owners really do not know when their horses are well in, so never mind how bad the handicap is they accept. The general public think it is a good one, never looking at the distance between the first and last horses. Of the eleven horses left in the following read best:—Jim, Criminal and Macaroni.

LADIES' BRACELET.

The Ladies' Bracelet has seven entries, and as it is welter weights, on a scale framed by the A.R.C. Committee, it must fall to Leorina if she has a rider on her back, Dolosa and Priscilla following her home.

SPORTING ITEMS.

Gipsy Prince is reported to hopelessly lame.

Uranus has been shipped to Australia.

An offer of £250 was recently refused for the jumper Chemist.

Weights for the New Zealand Cup will be due on the 1st July.

Vasco di Gama has been purchased by Mr. Handyside.

That veteran trainer Bob Ray is said to be still in very bad health.

F. Holmes, a well-known Southern jockey, contemplates visiting Australia shortly.

We understand the jumper Parnell will shortly be taken over to Australia.

Lord Onslow has accepted the honorary mastership of the Pakuranga Hunt Club.

The Calcutta Turf Club intend giving 26,000 rupees to pony racing for the season 1891-92.

The first coursing meeting of the newly formed Hawkes Bay Coursing Club will be held on the 17th inst.

D. Roberts, during the absence of Mr. R. J. Mason in Australia, will have charge of the Yaldhurst team for Mr. G. G. Stead.

Satyr, with 9st 11lb, in the Sydney Turf Club's Hurdle Race, was leniently treated, but we are informed he did not start for the event.

Mr. B. Thompson has made up his mind not to race the Muskst mare Tamora again, she will therefore be relegated to the stud.

Mr. Robert Ross of Wanganui has purchased Natator, and intends to travel him in the Wanganui district.

His Excellency Lord Onslow during his visit to Wanganui purchased a big upstanding colt by Natator for hunting purposes.

The Huntly Disaster Fund will benefit some £90 by the recent trotting meeting held at Potter's Paddock.

The Irish division are said to have won £150,000 over the victory of Come Away in the Liverpool Grand National.

Mr. F. W. Petre of Dunedin, is the successful competitor for the design of the Reefton Jockey Club's new grandstand.

Harry Pell, the cross-country horseman, arrived from Wanganui by the Gairloch on Saturday last.

It is reported that another Steeplechase meeting, will be held in the Auckland district before the close of the season.

Titan, last year's favourite for the Victorian Derby, is said to be in work again at Queenscliffe.

The Spring meeting of the Wellington Racing Club will be held on Thursday and Friday, November 20th and 21st.

Mr. George Watson has been master of the Melbourne Hunt Club for the last thirty-nine years.

Mr. Gollan's gelding Ival broke down while doing a gallop at Ellerslie on Monday last, consequently he will be a doubtful starter.

Two bookmakers were warned off the course at the Dunedin Jockey Club's meeting for laying totalizator odds.

Nap, Omata, and Highland Laddie, did some useful schooling on Saturday last over the Ellerslie steeplechase course, all horses jumping in good style.

Mr. P. F. Tancred, of Carterton, having disposed of his farm at Clareville, intends offering for sale the whole of his thoroughbred racing stock some time in June.

Sam Fergus got another "cropper" off the jumper Chance, while schooling him over the double jump at Ellerslie on Saturday last, but we are pleased to hear that nothing serious happened to either horse or horseman.

Kuline, the winner of the Dunedin Tradesman's Handicap, is said to be a perfect jumper, and will probably be Mr. Rutherford's representative in the Christchurch Grand National Hurdle Races, to be run next August.

It is reported that ex-king Milan, of Servia, who is now in London, will be a new patron in English turf circles this season. A commission to purchase racing stock on his behalf has been given.

Mr. W. R. Wilson's Tea Race, at Epsom, gave "Kaiser" Myers his first winning mount since his return from his forced retirement from the saddle, and his spell has evidently done the light-weight jockey no harm.

The following amounts have been paid over by the Wanganui Jockey Club in connection with the Steeplechase meeting held on Queen's Birthday:—Mr. J. B. Williamson, £218 10s; Mr. W. Chapman, £92 12s 6d; Mr. J. E. Nugent, £38; Mr. H. H. Hayr, £38; Mr. D. Thurston, £23 15s; Mr. D. Knight, £21 7s 6d; Mr. T. S. Bristol, £19s; Mr. F. Hill, £9 10s; Mr. D. J. Riddiford, £9 10s; Mr. R. E. McRae, £9 10s; Mr. C. A. Durie, £9 10s; Mr. J. G. Wilson, £4 15s; making a total of £494.

The following gentlemen hold certificates available for the June meeting of the Hawkes Bay Jockey Club:—Messrs. N. C. Shaw, Langley Shaw, Fred Caulton, Charles Caulton, Harold Russell, R. C. Pitt, E. Oakenfull, John Olliver, R. J. Neagle, Thos. H. Edwards, S. J. Bennett, Edward Brookes, Jas. McIvor, A. C. Lang, S. H. Gollan, John Douglas, Wm. Heslop, R. J. Hunter, Robert Harley, — Absalom, Jas. Loddell, J. D. Ormond, jun., A. Lyon, R. L. Peene, George Crisp, T. F. Ferguson, Albert Couper, Eustace Vernon.

Mr. S. H. Gollan's Great Northern Steeplechase representative, Ival, arrived in charge of James Hickey by the Takapuna on Sunday last.

Mr. J. O. Evitt, the handicapper for the Auckland Racing Club, arrived in town on Tuesday, with a view of being present at the Winter meeting.

Charlie Weal brought the jumper Sentinel down from the Waikato on Monday. Sentinel is engaged in the Hurdles and Great Northern Steeplechase.

A billiard match was arranged to take place on 26th of May last, in Adelaide, for £50 aside, between Weiss and Power, the later to receive 200 points out of 2000.

Orator has been running in Australia as a five-year old, and as he was foaled in 1884 his owner most likely will have to answer a series of objections.

Liberty has proved a good bargain for Mr. Lyons, who gave 70 sovs. for him a few months ago, and since that time the son of Alidor has won several races.

Jack Rae paid a visit to Ellerslie on Saturday last with some of his team, and we regret to say that he came to grief while schooling Relation over the double jump.

Mr. W. Hately, the handicapper for Wanganui and Egmont racing clubs, has arrived in town, in order to be present at our Steeplechase meeting.

At their last general meeting the Calcutta Turf Club raised the added money of the Viceroy's Cup to 10,000 rupees, and the Cooch Behar Cup was converted into a handicap.

Cusden, the New Zealand light-weight, again showed his cleverness in the Elsternwick Park Handicap, bringing Mikado II home by a smart piece of horsemanship.

A lot of New Zealand money has been sent to Australia for investment on Carbine for the Melbourne Cup, and the champion is now said to be at a ridiculously short price.

"Spectator" writes: "At a race meeting held lately a Canterbury jockey was fined. He asked for time when he next went to the scales, but was promptly told that he could not ride again until it was paid, and he had some difficulty in raising the cash. On the same day another jockey was fined, and he asked for time, 'Oh, yes,' said the clerk of the scales, 'that will be right;' and then chipped in a horseowner who was standing near, 'You make fish of one and flesh of another here.' Once more comes back to my recollection those oft quoted lines of Adam Lyndsey about riding for lords and standing in with stewards. It will be understood that the jockey who was allowed time was about to ride for an official of the club, who shall be nameless.

Some good work was done on the Ellerslie course on Monday by the following horses:—Ival went three times round, finishing at a strong pace, pulling up well. Priscilla, Dolosa, and Off Chance did a good working gallop twice round. Neck or Nothing went three times at a steady pace. Duadine three times, the first slow, the last twice a working gallop. Criminal three times steady. Takapu three times, the first slow, he was then joined by Karewa and the two came home at a good gallop. Yum Yum, after jumping the water and stone wall, went twice round the tan at a steady gallop. Bryan O'Lynn went three times round the tan at a steady pace.

The following clipping from the *N.Z. Herald* of last week will illustrate how the sporting writer of that journal speaks his mind when occasion demands it, and is a fair sample of the straightforward and outspoken (?) opinions that are usually found in his columns. Writing of the late trotting *fiasco* he says:—"The praiseworthy efforts of the Auckland Trotting Club in promoting a special meeting in aid of the funds for the sufferers by the Huntly colliery disaster have, we are glad to say, met with a very satisfactory result. The meeting, which took place on Saturday last, was a complete success in every way. One or two unexpected adverse circumstances which had to be contended against were promptly overcome by the management, which deserves great credit for the manner in which it worked."

The Dunedin Jockey Club ejected a man named Smith off the Forbury racecourse, on account of his being disqualified by the Ashburton Racing Club.

The United Hunt Club (Wellington) intend holding a race meeting on Saturday, July 18th, when the sum of £260 will be given away in added money.

George Hope arrived per s.s. Takapuna on Sunday last, bringing with him Takapu and his new purchase Karewa, by Natator—Clematis. Both horses arrived in good condition, having had an exceedingly smooth passage from New Plymouth.

The competition for the possession of the little gambling "club" behind the Kursaal at Ostend has been keener than ever this year. The tenders are for three years, and the offers received—12 in number—varied from £4000 to £12,000 per annum.

"Flashlight" in his notes from Caulfield says that E. Kelly now has only Cuirassier to put through the mill, the big son of Musket chiefly doing long, steady work with the sweaters on. Town Moor is still on the invalid list, and Mercy Merrick has gone into Carter's stable.

A novel way of instilling honesty into jockeys is reported from America. A prize was given to the rider of the longest-priced winner at a recent Gloucester meeting, and was won by a jockey named Hollis, who got home on a thirty to one chance. The amount of the prize was £25.

The following horses were backed for the New Zealand Cup during the Dunedin Jockey Club's meeting last month, at the following prices:—Crackshot 100 to 7, Merrie England 100 to 7, Freedom 100 to 6, Occident 100 to 6, Prime Warden 100 to 6, The Workman 100 to 5, British Lion 100 to 4.

At the annual general meeting of the Christchurch Tattersall's Club, held at the Club rooms on Tuesday, 26th May, it was resolved that as the functions of the Club had practically ceased, to abandon the name of Tattersall's and to recommend the members to constitute themselves into a social club under the title Union Club. A special meeting to ratify the change of name will be held in about two weeks.

The London correspondent of the *Melbourne Leader*, describing the race for the Liverpool Grand National, states that Mr. H. Beasley and Captain E. R. Owen, the respective riders of Come Away and Cloister, were both tired to death before the finish, and that had a strong horseman been up on Cloister he must have won.

The fine of £20 inflicted on the owner of Wabba for not scratching his horse for the Epsom Handicap at the last meeting of the Epsom Racing Club has been rescinded, as it has been discovered that the telegram conveying instructions to scratch Wabba was delivered at the office of the club in town instead of at the course.

At Messrs. A. Buckland & Sons' sale last Friday the bay gelding by Patriarch from Valerie was knocked down to the bid of Mr. T. M. Jackson for £18. A two-year-old colt by King Cole—Rosalie was purchased by Mr. H. B. Kavanagh for 55 guineas. Maud S., the trotter, became the property of Mr. E. G. Sandall for £15 5s.

The V.R.C. will after the conclusion of their next meeting have given away during the season £4,000 in added money to hurdle races, £4,400 to steeplechases, £23,600 to handicap flat races, £5,800 to weight-for-age races, and £6,300 to special weight-for-age races, being a total of £44,100. This amount is irrespective of sweepstakes and trophies.

Mr. H. Sampson, well-known in sporting circles throughout the world as "Pendragon," of the *London Referee*, has, according to a cable received last night, gone the way of all flesh, his death having occurred last week, after a short illness. Mr. Sampson visited Australia a few years ago, and in his later writings in the journal with which he was connected, has frequently made reference to the admirable manner in which racing and general sporting ventures are conducted in the colonies. — *Sporting Standard*, May 19th.

Jupiter, who was running so prominently in the Wanganui Steeplechase, but unfortunately went the wrong course, has been purchased by Mr. W. Douglas, of Napier, for the sum of £225, and it is understood that the horse will be taken over to Australia shortly.

The privileges for the Auckland Racing Club's winter meeting were offered on Friday last by Messrs. D. Tonks & Co., and realized the following prices: grand stand bar, £17 10s., Mr. Purcell; sole right outside bars, £25, Mr. Curtis; cards, £14 10s., Mr. W. Adams; refreshment stalls, £2, Mrs. McIntosh; stabling, £2, Mr. Parker.

Mr. Abington has now won four Liverpool Cups off the reel, as last season Father Confessor carried off those decided at the Spring and Summer meetings, and Lady Rosebery, who took the Autumn Cup, won the Spring Cup on March 21.

The fastest time in which the Liverpool Grand National Steeplechase has been won is 9min. 30sec. by Huntsman, in 1862. The record weight (since the big chase was made a handicap) remains at 11.13, under which Cortolvin won for the Duke of Hamilton in 1867.

Mr. S. H. Gollan has named his yearlings as follows:—B or br c by Nordenfeldt—Florence McCarthy, Taireur: b or br c by Nordenfeldt—Frailty, Mousquetaire; br c by Nordenfeldt—Nellie Moore, Culloden; b c by Leelinus—Woodnymph, Leontini; br or blk f by Artillery—Escalade, Forlorn Hope.

"Ormonde" of the *Sporting Standard* writes: Walter Hickenbotham has Carbine and Megaphone back again both looking well after the spell they have enjoyed up at Ballart; they are only doing gentle exercise at present. Bendigo has been slipping along smartly, and is looking bright and well. The five yearlings in this string are also in everyday work, and are a fine lot, a fine lengthy filly by Welcome Jack—La Maresque especially taking my fancy.

It is stated that 800 guineas was the price paid by Mr. M. Carmody for Silverstream, by The Assyrian—Silverthread, to Mr. R. O'Connor. This is the longest price paid for a filly in Tasmania, and Carmody must have a high opinion of her. There is nothing to find fault with in her shape and breeding, and she has proved herself a bit of a flyer, so it is to be hoped her purchaser will be repaid for his enterprising deal.—*Sportsman*.

The following gentlemen hold office for the Canterbury Jockey Club Programme Committee:—Messrs. G. G. Stead, Hood, Williams, Winter, and Clifford. Course Committee:—Messrs. Stead, Hood, Williams, Donald, Pitman, and Morton. Mr. Wynn Williams is chairman of the general committee.

Quite a number of people visited the Ellerslie racecourse on Sunday afternoon. Most of them enjoyed the visit by seeing the following horses work:—The first was Maccaroni, having for a companion The Lad, both doing a couple of rounds together on the trial track at a good smart pace. Ival, Takapu, and Karewa, all of whom had just arrived from Wanganui, were each sent three times round, slow. Highland Laddie, after going a couple of circuits on the grass gallop, was jumped over the stone-wall.

The following particulars, given by the *Live Stock Journal*, respecting the Duke of Wellington's famous charger Copenhagen, which carried him for eighteen hours on the day of the battle of Waterloo, will be interesting. Copenhagen was the first foal of a mare named Lady Catherine, which had been taken out as a charger on the Copenhagen expedition by General Grosvenor. At the end of the expedition Lady Catherine went back to England, and in due course produced a chestnut colt foal, which, in memory of her expedition, was called Copenhagen, and when it grew up was sold to Major-General Sir S. Stewart (afterwards Marquis of Londonderry), and was taken out by him as a charger to the Peninsula, when the Duke purchased it for £150. The sire of Copenhagen was a racehorse called Meteor, by Eclipse; the dam of Lady Catherine was out of a mare by the Rutland Arabian, out of a hunting mare not thoroughly bred. Copenhagen himself was tried on the turf. He ran 10 races in 1811, winning two, but not in very distinguished company, and three in 1812, when he was four years old. He died at Strathfieldsaye at the age of 27.

The following are the probable riders in the Great Northern Steeplechase, to be run at Ellerslie to-day:—

Sentinel—C. Weal
 Ingarangi—R. Wright
 Omata—S. Fergus
 Nap—Burns
 Takapu—H. Pell
 Parnell—W. Macminamin
 Bit-o'-Blue—Marshall
 Yum Yum—Windsor
 Duadine—A. Williams
 Neck-or-Nothing—K. Heaton
 Kate—W. Croll
 Ival—J. Hickey.

A "sport who lost his tin" was plaintiff in a case heard at the Launceston Court on Tuesday. He had taken the field against Joe Powell's stable for a tanner with Mr. G. Barber, the host of the International, on the Steeplechase the night before it was run. About an hour after making the bet he came back, having heard it was to be a walk-over for Oudia, and wanted to "cry off," but George wasn't on, so he went to law over it. It was proved that several horses were left in the race up to an hour or two before starting, and the case was, of course, dismissed.—*Sportsman*.

The first annual inrigged four contest between the Napier and Union Rowing Clubs took place in the inner harbour lately. The crews were:—Napier: Hutchinson 11st 8lb (stroke), Chapman 11st 8lb (2), Wilson 12st 9lb (2), M'Vay 10st 6lb (bow). The Union's cox did not turn up, and a 18st man took his place. The Napier men took the water first, and, rowing in good style, got a lead of about a length at the start. Their opponents spurred repeatedly, and doggedly endeavoured to wear them down during the whole distance, but their spurts were always staved off by Napier, and the latter ultimately won by about the distance gained at the start. Mr. W. Taylor was an efficient starter.

Richard Pilling, the famous Lancashire wicket-keeper, died at Manchester on Saturday evening, the 4th April (writes a Glasgow exchange) from consumption. He had only returned on the previous Sunday from a voyage to Australia for the benefit of his health. Pilling first appeared in the Lancashire eleven in 1877, and played regularly down to the end of 1889. Among wicket-keepers he was considered second only to Blackham, the Australian. He twice visited Australia as one of Shaw and Shrewsbury's teams, and, it is said, that a sunstroke during the former of these trips was really the cause of his ill-health. The funeral took place the following Wednesday at Brooklands, near Manchester, in the presence of a crowd estimated at between 1000 and 2000 persons.

Racing officials received a lesson at the hands of the Supreme Court, Hobart, in the matter of negligence. At the December meeting of the Brighton Racing Club there was a pony race, one of the conditions being that the ponies were to be measured. A midget named Tasmania won, with Mr. G. Smith's Camille second. Mr. Smith entered a protest on the grounds that the winner had never been measured; but it was dismissed, and he was fined £1 for a frivolous protest. Then he went to law for the amount of the stake, £10, and damages £20, including the fine, and he got the amount of the stake awarded. The judge characterised the fining of the plaintiff as a very hard-handed proceeding.

The following wagers will indicate the state of the betting market in Melbourne at the present time:—V.R.C. Derby and Cup, 2000 to 20 agst Penance and Penance, and 1000 to 5 agst that colt and the following horses for the Cup: Carbine, Megaphone, Malvolio, Marvel, Vengeance, King Olaf and Greygown. 3000 to 30 agst two Strombolis, and 1000 to 3 that colt coupled with Malvolio, Dreadnought, Carbine, Marvel, Cuirassier, Greygown, King Olaf and Megaphone for the Cup. 2000 to 20 the two Zalinskis, and 1000 to 5 agst Carbine, Malvolio, Greygown, and Dreadnought coupled with Zalinski. 2000 to 2 the two Sanctuaries, and 1000 to 10 the two Oxides. Straight out for Melbourne Cup, 1000 to 50 agst Carbine. 1000 to 30 Malvolio, 1000 to 30 Dreadnought, and 1000 to 30 Megaphone have also been laid.

BETTING QUOTATIONS.

GREAT NORTHERN STEEPLECHASE.			
Sentinel	..	60 to 15	off.
Ingarangi	..	55 to 10	"
Nap	..	100 to 8	"
Omata	..	60 to 10	" 80 to 7 tkn.
Takapu	..	37½ to 15	"
Parnell	..	100 to 8½	"
Ival	..	100 to 20	"
Bit o' Blue	..	100 to 8	"
Yum Yum	..	70 to 10	"
Duadine	..	50 to 4	" 15 to 1 tkn.
Neck or N'g.	..	100 to 5	"
Kate	..	100 to 4	"
HURDLES.			
Theorem	..	15 to 10	off. 75 to 35 tkn.
HURDLES AND STEEPLECHASE.			
Sentinel and Sentinel	..	150 to 10	off.
" " Ingarangi	..	150 to 6	off.
" " Nap	..	100 to 2	off.
" " Omata	..	150 to 6	off.
" " Takapu	..	50 to 1½	tkn.
" " Ival	..	50 to 4	off.
" " others	..	50 to 3	off.
" " anything	..	50 to 2	off.
Nap	..	50 to 1	off.
B. O'Lynn	..	50 to 4	off.
Criminal	..	100 to 7	off.
Theorem	..	bar one.	100 to 8 off.
" " Ival	..	75 to 4½	tkn.
" " Duadine	..	100 to 2	tkn.
" " Omata	..	52 to 2	tkn.
" " Bit o' Blue	..	100 to 2	tkn.
" " anything	..	25 to 3	off.
Cloth of G.	..	50 to 1½	off.
Try Fluke	..	50 to 3	off.
" " Takapu	..	50 to 4	off.
G'd. Day	..	anything	200 to 6 off.
Salute	..	"	50 to 1 off.
" " Takapu	..	100 to 1½	off.

CANTERBURY JOCKEY CLUB.

ANNUAL REPORT.

MR. STEAD, the hon. treasurer of the club, submitted his annual report as under:—

"In moving the adoption of the balance sheet and statements of receipts and expenditure, I have pleasure in referring to the satisfactory accounts which are now placed before you. On reference to the figures it will be seen that during the year the Club has reduced its debit balance from £958 5s 8d to £416 3s 3d, and this, despite the total disbursements, have increased from £10,486 19s 11d to £11,061 12s 10d. A brief glance at the expenditure will show that the added money for the six days' racing and one days' steeplechasing amounted to £8,695 15s, as against £7775 for the previous season, or the satisfactory increase of £920 15s. It will however, be noticed that the general expenses account has increased from £280 15s 9d to £451 4s 1d, the increase being due to such items as the honorarium to the handicapper and travelling expenses, removing the old shilling stand &c. The account for advertising and printing also has increased from £150 12s 3d to £218 12s 10d. due mainly to the expenses entailed in initiating the New Challenge Stakes of £2000. While on the subject of expenditure, it may be interesting to compare the net amount given in stakes with the total cost of providing them. The gross amount of added money was £8695 15s, deduct 5 per cent. commission and £1100 paid by owners for nominations and entrance fees, and it may be seen that the net sum paid to owners was £7161. Upon reference to the balance sheet you will observe that the disbursements for salaries, attendants, advertising and general expenses were £1548 2s 3d, consequently the expenses incurred in providing the stakes were nearly 22 per cent. On the side of the receipts, members' subscriptions show a slight decrease of £15 15s, but nominations and acceptances have increased from £1012 to £1100, and the race receipts, including entrances to the grounds, from £1914 0s 6d to £2078 8s 6d. The sales of privileges, however, show a falling off from £414 5s 3d to £321 12s 6d, from which it is reasonable to assume that the purchasers of these privileges must have done well during the past season. The net proceeds of the totalizer also have increased from £4261 15s 3d to £4818 3s, bringing up the grand total of the receipts to £11,603 15s 3d, as against £10,967 5s 5d for the previous year. On turning to the profit

and loss account, it will be seen that the profit on the four meetings held during 1890-91 was £859 11s 8d. In fact, each meeting has left more or less of a margin in the club's favour, which may be taken as a fair indication that the committee has now adapted all the meetings to the requirements of the public. It may be interesting to note here that in the past season the gross added money averaged slightly over £1,242 for the eight days, and as £815 per diem is the best average for any other club in the colony, it is reasonable to assume that it is to our 'classic races' we are indebted for enabling us to keep up this high average. Passing on to the alterations completed and in progress, I may mention that during the year the old shilling stand has been removed, as it was considered no longer safe, but the timber will be available for many useful purposes. The committee have commenced several important alterations, the chief of which is the new totalizer house, on a plan proposed by our secretary. The new house is to be built in a line with the fence running from the present Press stand to the course. It will be put up in two sections under one roof, and will be available for the outside public as well as for the occupiers of the grandstand. The principal feature, however, is that there will be one grand total for both the inside and outside machines; an improvement which should be much appreciated by all race-goers. In order to make room for the new house the present Press stand will be removed to the east end of the grandstand, whilst the old totalizer house will be turned into a hat and cloak room &c. It was also intended to alter the five furlong start, so as to enable the horses to get a straight run of some distance before making their first turn, but unfortunately it was found that it would be necessary to cut down some of the trees to effect the proposed alterations, and, as it would be a pity to do this, the five furlong start will have to remain where it is. During the year the new Challenge Stakes of 2000 sovs. has been initiated, to be run at the Autumn Meeting of 1893. The fact that ninety foals, eighty-eight yearlings, and forty two-year-olds have been nominated, may be taken as undoubted evidence that the new race is appreciated by owners. I may say that one or two other alterations in the programme is contemplated, which will, I trust, be similarly appreciated by owners. It will, I am sure, be gratifying to members to notice the large number of candidates that are proposed for election to-day, and it is to be hoped that this is an earnest of what we may look forward to in the future. In fact, your Committee have been endeavouring in every reasonable way to popularise the Club, and to enable it to maintain its place in the front rank of Metropolitan Clubs. After two years' negotiations your Committee have succeeded in arranging with the Railway Commissioners for the reduction of the fares to the racecourse. The arrangement come to was that the Government rates should be reduced by one-third, and the rates on the C.J.C. line by one-half. This undoubtedly reduces the club's revenue very considerably, but your Committee deemed that it was in the interest of the public that the cost of getting to the course should be reduced to a minimum, and our experience so far has shown that the step was in the right direction. It will be in your recollection that at our last annual meeting it was decided to alter the date of our Midsummer races so as not to clash with the Auckland Summer Meeting, and it was hoped that the Auckland Racing Club would see their way to alter the date of their Spring Meeting so as not to clash with ours. So far our Northern friends have not made the desired alteration, but it is to be hoped that they will yet see their way to bring about this much needed change, as it is manifestly to the interest of both clubs that their Spring Meetings should not interfere with each other. During the year, your Committee have been in communication with other Metropolitan clubs with a view to calling the attention of the Colonial Secretary to the rapid increase of private clubs. A letter has been prepared, and is now being signed by the Presidents of the Metropolitan Clubs in New Zealand, which, when completed, will be forwarded to Wellington. The chief object of this letter is to point out that the Metropolitan Clubs have no desire to see undue restrictions placed on trotting associations, carried on purely for sport and for the purpose of improving the breed of trotters. At the same time it

urges that the granting of facilities for the use of the totalisator to proprietary clubs, formed for the pecuniary advantage of the promoters, will undo the good which has resulted from the restrictions hitherto imposed by the Metropolitan Clubs. It suggests that a limit should be placed upon the number of such meetings in each district, so as to check proprietary clubs being formed by promoters whose main object is to prostitute the totalisator revenue for personal gain. It further points out that already there are five proprietary clubs within a radius of six miles of one town, and that if each of these clubs is permitted by the relaxation of the totalisator rules to hold four two-days meetings per annum, it would mean forty days given up to trotting each year within such district, whereas the local Metropolitan Racing Club provides only six days' racing, considering that ample for the amusement of the public. The letter concludes with stating that so far from the Metropolitan Clubs wishing to interfere with the operations of any trotting Association carried on solely in the interests of sport, they are sincerely anxious to work in harmony with them. I cannot conclude without referring to the loss the Club has suffered through the death of three prominent members during the past year, more especially as they were all warmly interested in its welfare and progress. The late Hon. W. Reeves in particular was a member of some thirty years' standing, and many of us well recollect him when filling the office of Hon. Treasurer some twenty-five years ago, from then almost up to the day of his death he was one of the Clubs stewards. Mr. Gresson also rendered valuable service, both as a Handicapper and a Committeeman, whilst Mr. Caro never failed to offer practical suggestions at our general meetings. Their places will not easily be filled. I have to move the adoption of the report and balance-sheet."

The Hon. E. W. Parker seconded the motion which was carried without discussion.

ENGLISH DERBY.

Or late years the great national event—the Epsom Derby—has greatly fallen off. It used to be 50 sovs each, half forfeit, and the nominations averaged 240. We cannot go back more than 45 years. In Surplice's year, 1848, they rose to 215; but in 1851, Teddington; 1852, Daniel O'Rourke; and 1853, West Australian, they fell. Until 1884 they kept pretty well up to average; since then they have fallen, so the condition of the race has lately altered to the following:—

THE DERBY STAKES, of 5000 sovs for the winner, 500 sovs for the nominator of the winner, 300 sovs for the owner of the second horse, and 200 sovs for the owner of the third horse. Colts, 9st; fillies, 8st 9lb; by subscription of 50 sovs each; half forfeit if declared by the first Tuesday in January, 1891; and 10 sovs only if declared by the first Tuesday in January, 1890; any surplus to be paid to the winner. About one mile and a-half, starting at the High Level Starting Post. [This course was altered some five years ago, we forget the exact date, from the hollow to the present course, which made it much easier.] 200 subs.

Lord Alington's br c Common, by Isonomy—Thistle..... 1
Mr. E. Blaine's ch c Gouverneur, by Energy—Gladia..... 2
Sir James Dukes' b c Martenhurst, by Wenlock—Hirondelle... 3

The accounts to hand are meagre, but from what we can learn Gouverneur made the running for a mile, when Common, the favourite, went to the front, and won easily by two lengths. The time, 2min 56 4-5ths sec, is slow, but it appears the race was run in pouring rain.

Common was bred by Lord Alington, and did not run as a two-year old, but was brought out for the Two Thousand, which he won. Common was trained by Porter, who has been connected with so many Derbies, at Kingslarc.

Gouverneur, who ran second, was bred in France, and as a two-year old he was a good performer, winning, amongst other events, the Middle Park and Critterion at Newmarket. During the winter he was a great favourite, but little money, however, would have gone on. Betting, now-a-days, on the Derby, is not like what it used to be, when at the great yearling sales Captain Batchelor, Hargreaves, H. Hill, Padwick, Jackson, Russell, and others, who had ten thousand books open, and the moment a yearling was knocked down to you, an offer was immediately made by them of 10,000 to 100. At the Middle Park sale, when Angus, St. Ronan, Marksman, and Hermit, were sold, they got over £3000 in their books on that day, and they were kept open and increased until the day of the race. Then it was no uncommon thing for owners to win large sums. Mr. Merry got £90,000 on Thormanby, and Sir

Joseph Hawley won that amount on Beadsman and Musjid, while no one knows what Mr. Chaplin won over Hermit; while Captain Machel landed a cool £50,000. Books at the present time are only open a few months before the race, so it takes a clever man to win £20,000 or £30,000, as there is not much hedging afforded.

The accounts of the last race reminds one of 1852, when Daniel O'Rourke won; Barbarian, second; Chief Baron Nicholson, third. Willie Noble, for whom Mr. Merry had given £6,500 for as a two-year old, on purpose to win the Derby, Stockwell and other good ones being behind, Frank Butler (who rode the winner), immediately on coming round Tattenham Corner, made for the upper side of the course, close under the rails, where the people had been walking, therefore obtaining a sounder going, the others keeping the middle. He afterwards said he could have won on either of the first three. So he would if the same tactics had been taken. Time, 3min 2sec. In Ellington's year, 1856, the course was very heavy, though it did not rain during the race. The time, 3min 4sec, the longest on record. Hermit's race, in 1867, was run in a snow-storm, his time being 2min 52sec. These are the three worst Derbies we ever remember having seen. One thing that surprises us is, though the course has been made much easier, Kettledrum and Blair Athol's time, 2min 42sec, has never been beaten. We will treat on the winners of the olden days in future issues.

The Epsom Oaks, which takes place on the Friday, which is generally called the "ladies' day," having met the same fate as the Derby, has been altered, and resulted as follows:—

THE OAKS STAKES, of 4000 sovs for the winner, 400 sovs for the nominator of the winner, 300 sovs for the owner of the second, and 200 sovs for the owner of the third, by subscription of 50 sovs each. For three-year-old fillies, 8st 10lb each. About one mile and a-half.
Mr. Noel Fenwick's b f Mimi, by Barcadine, dam by Lord Lyon—Sadie 1
Lord Rosebery's br f Constoprhine, by Foxhall—Chopette 2
Mr. H. A. Harrison's br f Lady Primrose, by Rosebery—The Empress Maud..... 3

Mimi has proved herself a smart filly. Last year she won four out of six engagements, and this season she has placed the One Thousand Guineas and the rich Newmarket Stakes to her owner's credit. She was bred at Sledmore, and purchased at Doncaster by her present owner.

The following race at the Epsom Meeting has recently come into notice, though at one time it was little thought of:—

THE EPSOM GRAND PRIZE, of 1000 sovs for the winner, and 200 sovs for the nominator of the winner, added to a sweepstakes of 25 sovs each. For three-year-olds. The owner of the second horse to receive 100 sovs out of the stakes. About one mile and a-quarter.
Mr. Leopold de Rothschild's br c Benvenuto, by Galopin—Queen of Diamonds 1
Mr. Henry Miller's b f St. Kilda, by Clairvaux or Macheath—Emma Melbourne 2
Duke of Westminster's b c Ordinance, br Bend Or—Bright Beauty..... 3

WEIGHTS, ACCEPTANCES, ETC.

AUCKLAND RACING CLUB WINTER MEETING.—ACCEPTANCES AND GENERAL ENTRIES.

GREAT NORTHERN STEEPLCHASE, about 3 1/2 miles.

	st lb.	st lb.	st lb.
Sentinel	12 0	Takapu	10 0
Ingorangi	11 7	Parnell	9 11
Nap	10 7	Ival	9 10
Omata	10 8	Bit o' Blue	9 10
		Yum Yum	9 9
		Duadine	9 9
		Nk. or Nohin	9 7
		Kate	9 7

HURDLE RACE, 2 1/2 miles.

	st lb.	st lb.	st lb.
Sentinel	11 12	Criminal	10 0
Nap	10 5	Theorem	10 0
B'vano'Lyrnio	0	Cloth of Gold	9 10
		Salute	9 5

THE WELTER HANDICAP, one mile.

Leorina	12 11	Snake	10 8	Warrior	10 4
Dolosa	12 0	Criminal	10 8	Bon Voyage	10 4
Ingorina	11 6	Ilma	10 7	Orakei	10 0
Loch Ness	11 3	Lonely	10 7	Shaugraun	10 0
Capella	10 10	Te Kooti	10 7	Macaroni	10 0
Priscilla	10 9				

* Capella and Ilma were scratched.

MAIDEN STEEPLCHASE, about two miles and a half.—Mistletoe, Highland Laddie, Bryan O'Lynn, Justice, Neck-or-Nothing, Ival, Karewa, Yardman, Chance, Kate, Yum Yum, Dan.

SELLING STEEPLCHASE, about 3 miles.—Kapal nil, Relation £20, Justice £20, Off Chance nil, Jim nil, Karewa £50, Begorrah nil.

LADIES' BRACELET, one mile.—Leorina, Lad, Theorem, Chance, Ingorina, Priscilla, Dolosa.

TURF RECORD.

WAIPA RACING CLUB AUTUMN MEETING. MONDAY, MAY 25th, 1891.

HANDICAP HURDLE RACE, of 25 sovs. Distance 2 miles, over 8 flights of hurdles 3ft 6in high.
15 Mr. John Brown's b g Pretender, aged, 9st 12lb 1
22 Mr. D. McKinnon's g Barshot, aged, 9st 2
7 Mr. C. Pye's gr g Peter, 5yrs, 9st 10lb 3
5 Mr. John T. Hettit's ch g Wideawake, aged, 9st 9lb 0
6 Mr. Wm. Thornton's g g Pirate, aged, 9st 4lb 0
7 Mr. R. Henwood's b g Muscatella, aged, 8st 0
62 Pretender led from start to finish, and won easily. Muscatella fell. Wideawake refused to leave the post. Time, 4min 22sec. Dividend (10s tickets), £1 17s.

HANDICAP MAIDEN PLATE, of 20 sovs. For all horses that have never won an advertised race of 20 sovs. One mile and a quarter.

44 Mr. C. R. Hewitt's b g Sentinel, aged, 8st 3lb	1
3 Mr. Matengaro's br m Kismet, aged, 8st	2
18 Mr. Collins' br m Mountain Maid, 4yrs, 8st 3lb	3
16 Mr. H. Windsor's b m Helen McGregor, 5yrs, 7st 9lb	0
5 Mr. John Brown's ch m Duchess, 5yrs, 7st 5lb	0
7 Mr. H. Brown's b g Contempt, aged, 7st 3lb	0
2 Mr. D. McKinnon's g Barshot, aged, 7st	0

89 Won by a length. Dividend (10s ticket) 18s.

THE AWAMUTU CUP HANDICAP of 40 sovs. Distance, 1 1/4 miles.

23 Mr. John Brown's ch g Snake, aged, 8st	1
22 Mr. D. McKinnon's Scot Free, 5yrs, 8st 4lb	2
8 Mr. W. C. Breckell's br m Leila, 5yrs, 8st	3
39 Mr. R. Brown's ch g Clarion, aged, 8st 4lb	0
9 Mr. John T. Hettit's ch h Possuin, 5yrs, 8st 7lb	0

101 Won easily. Time, 2min 55sec. Dividend (10s tickets), £1 19s.

NOVEL RACE, of 30 sovs. Weights—3yrs, 8st 4lb; 4yrs, 9st; 5, 6, and aged horses, 9st 2lb. The winner to become the absolute property of the Club. Once round the course, about a mile.

8 Mr. Collins' br m Megoulet, 4yrs, 9st	1
27 Mr. John Brown's b g Pretender, aged, 9st 2lb	2
9 Mr. John McCnicoll's b g Ernest, aged, 9st 2lb	3

44 Won by a head. Dividend, £2 9s.

MAORI RACE HANDICAP, of 5 sovs. Once round the course, about a mile. Horses to be owned and ridden by Maoris.

12 Kismet, 10st 12lb	1
16 Clippertina, 10st 2lb	2
3 Matinei, 10st	3
1 Protest, 9st 9lb	0
1 Whangapai, 9st 8lb	0

33 Dividend, 18s.

KIKIKIHI PLATE HANDICAP, of 25 sovs. Distance, one and a quarter miles.

15 Mr. John Brown's ch g Snake, aged, 9st 6lb	1
3 Mr. D. McKinnon's b g Scot Free, 5yrs, 8st	2
27 Mr. C. R. Hewitt's Sentinel, aged, 8st 7lb	3
24 Mr. R. Brown's ch g Clarion, aged	0
2 Mr. W. Brecknell's br m Leila, 5yrs	0
2 Mr. Wm. Thornton's b m Mountain Maid, 5yrs	0

73 Dividend (10s ticket), £2 3s.

TOWN AND SUBURBAN RACING CLUB BIRTHDAY MEETING.

THERE was a large attendance on the Taradale course on 25th May, and some good racing was witnessed. The totalisator put through £3898.

MAIDEN HANDICAP HURDLE RACE of 20 sovs., second to receive 8 sovs. from the stakes. 1 1/4 miles.

Mr. P. Hunter's ch g Rough, aged, 9st 12lb, Redmond	1
Mr. J. D. Ormond's b g Forty Winks, 9st 7lb, Stowe	2
Mr. W. Proffitt's ch g Lopez, aged, 9st 12lb, Gilpin	3

Bateman and Dehance also started. Won by a length.

MAIDEN PLATE RACE of 30 sovs., second horse to receive 5 sovs. from the stake. 1 mile.

Mr. B. Ferris' Carmo, Stowe	4
Mr. W. Douglas' Lady's Maid, Morrigan	7
Mr. R. Mason's Hexham, Woods	3

Pera, Waimakariri, Kaorikaha, Miss Melvor, and Exchange also started. A dead heat. In the run off later, Lady's Maid won by a length.

BIRTHDAY HANDICAP of 40 sovs., second horse to receive 5 sovs. from the stakes. 7 furlongs.

Mr. Collins' Link, 3yrs, 7st 10lb, Lindsay	1
Mr. Oakenfall's Brown Duchess, 5yrs, 7st 8lb, Donovan	2
Mr. Soudan's Pourere, 6st, Fuzzard	3

Como 8st 8lb, Musketeer 7st 12lb, Silvermine 7st 2lb, Kathleen 6st 12lb, May 6st 12lb, and Pimate 6st 10lb, also started. Dividend, £3 11s.

HANDICAP HURDLE RACE, of 40 sovs; second horse to receive 5 sovs from the stakes; over seven flights of hurdles 3ft 6in high. Winner of the Maiden Handicap Hurdle Race to carry a penalty of 7lb. 2 miles.

Mr. P. Hunter's ch g Rough, 9st 7lb, Redmond	1
Mr. G. Lind's ch g Chester, 10st 13lb, Goodwin	2
Mr. W. Stock's b g Prospect, 9st 9lb, Petersen	3

War Cry, 10st 2lb; Titbit, 9st; and Forty Winks, 9st, also started. Dividend, £4 8s.

TARADALE HANDICAP, of 50 sovs; second horse to receive 8 sovs from the stakes. 1 1/4 miles.

Mr. J. Maher's Couranto, aged, 8st 8lb, Raynor	1
Mr. W. Clifford's Liquidation, 8st, Lawton	2
Mr. Macandrew's Claud, 7st 2lb, Donovan	3

Legacy and Hukatere also started. A good race. Dividend, £4 8s.

SELLING RACE, of 20 sovs. Top weight, 9st; 7lb allowed for every £5 of selling price. 1 mile.

Mr. T. Parotene's g g Silvermine, 8st 7lb, Lawton	1
Mr. D. Taylor's b g Exchange, 8st, O'Shannassy	2
Mr. W. Proffitt's ch g Lopez, 9st, Lindsay	3

Crummy, Waimariri, Pera, Kaorikaha, May, Era, Wideawake, Disgrace, and Wooneya also started. Waimakariri and May fell. Won easily. Dividend, £4 4s. Mr. Atkins purchased the winner at the upset price.

WELTER HANDICAP of 30 sovs., second horse to receive 5 sovs. from the stakes. Minimum weight, 9st. 1 1/4 miles.

Mr. B. Ferris' Carmo, 10st 6lb, O'Shannassy	1
Mr. Macandrew's Claude, 10st 7lb, Stowe	2
Mr. W. Douglas' Scar, 9st, Morrigan	3

Hukatere, Bateman, Pimate, and Titbit also started. Dividend, £2 18s.

FLYING HANDICAP of 40 sovs., second horse to receive 5 sovs. from the stake. The winner of the Taradale Handicap to carry a 7lb penalty. 3/4 mile.

Mr. Collins' b m Link, 7st 10lb, Lindsay	1
Mr. Oakenfall's b m Brown Duchess, 7st 10lb, Donovan	2
Musketeer 7st 12lb, Kathleen 7st, Miss Melvor 6st 12lb, Pourere 6st 5lb, May Flower 6st, and Friendship 6st, were also started. Won by a neck. Dividend, £1 12s.	

BELL BLOCK RACES.

THE first meeting held under the auspices of the new club was held at Mr. C. Rundle's paddock on Monday, May 25. The weather being fine, an attendance of about 700 was present. The following are the results of the various events.—

HANDICAP HACK HURDLES of 15 sovs., second horse 2 sovs. out of stakes. Over five flights 3ft 6in high. 1 1/4 miles.

Mr. S. McGuinness' ch m Alf Onslow, Governor—Mokamoka, 9st, Cook	1
Mr. G. Sole's b g Atlantic, Endymion—Pacific mare, 9st, D. Crozier	2

Mr. Richardson's Tommy 10st 2lb (Arnoldt), and Mr. W. J. Honeyfield's Pawa, 9st 5lb (Duncan), also ran. From the fall of the flag Tommy went to the front, followed by Atlantic, Pawa, and Lady Onslow. It looked a very open race, but on coming to the last hurdle Lady Onslow led, Atlantic being in close attendance; Lady Onslow eventually won by about half a length. Time, 2min 45 2-5sec. Dividend, £2 8s.

HANDICAP PONY RACE of 10 sovs., second horse 2 sovs. from stakes. For ponies not exceeding 14½ hands. 6 furlongs.

Mr. S. McGuinness' ch m Lady Onslow, 8st, R. Johnston 1
 Mr. H. Putt's b m Coronet, by The Australian, 7st, Putt 2
 Mr. J. Putt's b g Rodney, Flintlock—Day Dawn mare, 7st 4lb, C. Riley 3

Also ran—Daisy, 8st 8lb, Lett; Poppy, 8st, Smith; Fryingspan, 7st 8lb, Lister; Little Dick, 6st 10lb, Elder; and Moturos, 6st 7lb, Chew Chong. At the fall of the flag Rodney rushed to the front, and held his lead to the straight, but Lady Onslow coming under the whip won by a bare length; Rodney a good third. Time, 1min 23 1-5sec. Dividend, £7 1s.

BELL BLOOM CUP HANDICAP of 25 sovs., second horse 5 sovs. from stakes. 1½ miles.

Mr. S. McGuinness' ch g Flukem, by Australian—Peter Flat mare, 7st, R. Johnston 1
 Mr. J. George's b m Durus, Armourer—Confident, 9st, Cudd 2
 Mr. D. Teed's br m Sirius, by Australian, 7st 7lb, Putt 3

Ionic, 7st 11lb, Smith; Leger, 7st 4lb, Lett; Handmaid, 7st, Dempsey, also ran. Flukem on the fall of the flag rushed to the front and taking a lead of some 10 lengths, the rest of the field being in a bunch going past the stand. At the back of the course the rest of the field reduced Flukem's lead; Durus, Ionic, and Sirius going in pursuit of the leader. At the straight entrance Ionic fell back, and Durus and Sirius challenged Flukem in the straight, but the chestnut, who was well ridden by Johnston, stayed it out, and won by a bare half length from Durus; Sirius a good third. Time, 2min 29sec. Dividend, £3 17s.

FARMERS' PLATE, of 12 sovs.; second 2 sovs from the stakes. No weight under 10st. Once round.

Mr. G. Pavitt's b h Shamgar, McGregor 1
 Mr. J. Bailey's b h Jack, Gungall 2

Atlantic, Riley; Wairongamai, Corbett; Whakahahi, Sefton; Waihi, Marsh; Joseph, Smith; Nugget, Crozier; Coskade, Watson; Dora, Hill; Black Bass, Street; and Dick, Smart, also ran. A good race up to the straight ended in a half length win for Atlantic; Jack a fair third. The winner, on whom there were only four tickets, was disqualified, he having run in an advertised race, and Shamgar was awarded the race. Time, 1min 53 2-5ths sec. Dividend, £2 5s.

HANDICAP DISTANCE TROT, of 10 sovs; second to save stakes. Distance, about 2 miles; no weight under 10st.

Mr. J. Bailey's blk m Judy, owner 1
 Mr. N. King's b m Comet, 10yds behind scratch, Bolton 2
 Mr. Pennington's b h Nero, owner 3

Charlie, 300yds behind scratch; Fibre, 8yds behind; Ike, 50yds behind; Peggy, Sailor Boy, Montrose, Tinker, Oroya, Acme, Don, Pawa, Mouse, Molly, and Lomy, scratch; and Belcher's pony and Firefly, 30 yards in front, also started. Judy took a good lead on the second round, winning by about four lengths from Comet Time, 6min 52 1-5th sec. Dividend, £13 7s.

FLYING HANDICAP, of 20 sovs; second 8 sovs from stakes. 6 furlongs.

Mr. J. George's Durus, 8st 4lb, D. Crozier 1
 Mr. McGuinness's Flukem, 8st 12lb, including 7lb penalty, R. Johnson 2
 Mr. D. Teed's Sirius, 7st 10lb, Smith 3

The Orphan, 7st 5lb, Putt; Daisy, 7st 5lb, Watkins; Leger, 7st 4lb, Lett; Handmaid, 7st 8lb, Dempsey; Rainbow, 7st 8lb, Lister; Armour, 6st 8lb, C. Riley; and Nugget, 6st 7lb, Eva, also ran. The field got away well together. Flukem at once rushed to the front, keeping it until entering the straight. Durus, however, caught up to him, and a grand race resulted, Durus winning by three-quarters of a length; Sirius third. Time, 1min 25 2-5th sec. Dividend, £2 7s.

HURRY SCURRY, of 10 sovs; catch weights. 4 furlongs.

Mr. J. George's Maroro, J. Johnston 1
 Castlemaine, C.T., Petroleum, Bonnie Lass, Camelia, Primrose, Fly, Playboy, Ivy, The Twin, Wizard, and Butterfly, also ran. Won by half a length. Time, 56sec. Dividend, £1 12s.

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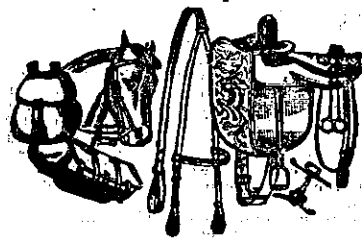
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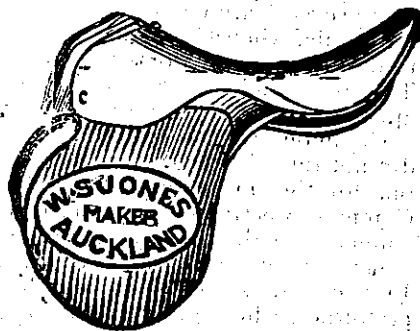
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