

would have to perform something sensational on the tracks in their present state ere his chance could be made anything like a "moral" of.

Cynisca and Cruchfield were galloped together to-day over a mile and three quarters, but the mare could not be induced to go up to the horse, and the gallop was a disappointing one to the trainer of Cruchfield; the distance was half covered before the pair got properly extended. There was nothing lazy about Cynisca as a two-year-old, but she appears to require a pair of "hooks," and plenty of riding now.

Since her arrival, Whisper has not done much work, and what she has done has been mainly sprinting. She looks in capital condition, however, and there is no doubt about her pace.

It is said that Wakawatea can gallop so well that his connections think he cannot be beaten in the Welcome Stakes, but we have two or three here that can cover half a mile quite as quickly. Though he was gelded as a yearling there is a good deal of the Apremont temperament apparent in Wakawatea. Still the history of the "Welcome" shows that the Apremont's can frequently get well away, and race fast as two-year-olds.

Both Launceston and Tamar, are very often spun out over half a mile, and the former can foot it with anything of the same age seen on this course for some time. Tamar is also fast, but Launceston can "down" her over four furlongs nevertheless.

Freedom has done a sound preparation for the Cup, and whatever beats him will just about win. His stable companion, Flinders, is thought a lot of in some quarters, but I have frequently seen Freedom have the best of the finish with Flinders.

British Lion, like Arthur Smith's other horses, is very well. When he was last trained here, his legs gave a lot of trouble, but they are now all right, and he will win a race or two in the immediate future, whatever he may do at the Metropolitan Meeting.

There is nothing trained on the Riccarton course better than Florrie over a mile and a half in my opinion, and she is as pink as a rose. I think she should be a very good double for the C.J.C. Derby and Oaks.

Oajolery is likely to be in good condition for the forthcoming meeting, and the worst feature in him may be whether he can be got off the mark all right, yet, I fancy Florrie has more pace over a mile and a half.

A pair of Oaks candidates, that can have very little show of winning are, May and Plum, both are fairly fast, and in a certain class they may win a race or two, but neither is up to middling classic form.

Merrie England is being given strong work over short courses, and doubtless a six or seven furlong Welter is contemplated for him.

Egotism, the sister to Tassy, goes well. Billy Brown told me he had bought her the other day, but I do not know whether that be right. She is a cheap mare to him if he has really purchased her.

Derrett thinks his colt by Tasman—Adulation, is a good one, though he is very small. He has been jumped off pretty often lately.

#### OTAHUHU TROTTING CLUB RACES.

THIS club held their Spring Meeting last Saturday, at Potter's Paddock. The afternoon was fine, which was a great thing, notwithstanding that the attendance was poor, not more than 400 being on the ground during the day. The trotting was not very interesting, the majority of those engaged being very inferior animals, many of them having no pretensions to trotting, having more of the "go-as-you-please" style. The handicapping was not at all up to the mark; the starts in many instances were much too long, thus making it impossible for the scratch horse, or those nearly on that mark, to make up their ground, as it must be borne in mind that moderate horses cannot give so many seconds away to those of the same class; in fact it would take a horse with a two-third gait to have made up his ground from scratch in some of the races, and there are none of them in Auckland; besides the track is not favourable for making fast time. The management was not all that could be desired, though a few of the committee worked hard, while others did nothing.

There were no judges of trotting, or if there were they did not do their duty, as several horses ought to have been ordered off the track for breaking, and not being immediately pulled down, and also for unfair trotting; in fact it was running and pacing. The time was not well kept, the first race starting nearly half an hour late.

The Handicap Maiden Trot brought the whole of the sixteen entered to the post, the majority of them being regular scrubbers. Rover went to the front soon after the start, but broke very badly on the far side of the course the last time round, when he was passed by Model; but he was soon pulled down, and coming very fast up the straight just got up, and won by a neck. The tail was a very long one.

All six started for the Pony Race, six furlongs. Red Rose got the best of the start, followed by Cupid; she ran off at the top turn, but was quickly pulled straight, but did not get up to Cupid, who won easily by three lengths, Tormentor third.

Fourteen came to the post for the Otahuhu Handicap Trot, of 70 sovs; three miles. Model, with 50 secs, went to the front after they had gone a couple of hundred yards, and was never headed, winning by about thirty yards from Myrtle, 15 secs, who trotted very well, making up her ground fast; Maud S., 45 secs, third. Most of the others went as they liked, and were a long way in the rear.

All the six acceptors faced the starter for the Railway Handicap, one mile. Red Rose made most of the running, followed by Cupid and Pica, winning easily by a couple of lengths, Pica a moderate third. The owner of Vampire lodged an objection against the jockeys of Cupid and Pica for foul riding. The stewards, after hearing some of the evidence, adjourned the further hearing of the case until Monday evening, when it was decided that the owner, rider, and the mare Cupid be disqualified for twelve months; Pica and his jockey for six months; also that Mr. W. J. Greenwood be fined £10. After the sentences were passed Mr. W. J. Greenwood applied for a rehearing on the ground that his evidence was misunderstood, and that he could produce fresh evidence. The stewards granted the request, provided that Mr. Greenwood produced fresh evidence. Full particulars will be found in another column.

Eleven started for the Selling Trot. Maud S., who was in a good humour, went to the front, and trotting very fairly won easily from Model. Mickey Free a moderate third.

There were only three started for the Handicap Pony Hurdles, 1½ miles. Pica went to the front, and won as he liked.

The concluding race was the Pony Trot Handicap; 2 miles. Ladybird, 20 secs, was in the front all the way, and won pretty easily from Myrtle, who was making up her ground fast; Maud S. third. Another long tail in this race.

We have again to call the attention of the committee to the primitive telegraph board in use. The numbers cannot be seen from the stand, and even those in the paddock have to squeeze between it and the rails before they can see them. It is really a disgrace to the place. As three clubs use Potter's paddock for their races it would not ruin them if they combined and got a proper telegraph board erected with the numbers a good size, so that they could be seen from the stand and saddling paddock as well as the course.

#### ELLERSLIE TRAINING NOTES.

MONDAY.—The following horses were out this morning, all of whom did useful work.—Reprisal was the first to work, but only did a mile on the plough slow. Fiesole cantered the same journey. Coalscuttle, The Workman, and The Dreamer, each, in turn, put in a couple of rounds on the plough at stout half pace, after which, First Nelson in sweaters, was sent a couple of rounds at a good smart pace. Circus Girl did a good strong once round, then Lochness was sent three miles at a good swinging gallop, moving very freely. King Cannibal went once round, and Romeo three times on the tan slow. Fishmonger and Queen Rose ran four furlongs outside the hurdles at top. Orakei, Secret, Justice, Brigand, Scott Free, and Nap, all did two miles slow on the plough. Hopeful Kate in company with Ingorina did

a couple of times round the plough at a good working gallop, after which the mare continued on for another round by herself. The Barb and Tulloch in company, put in two good strong rounds on the plough, afterwards, Ma Boughal and Kupe went together for a couple of rounds slow. The Dancer did slow work on the tan. Puwerewere and Lorace ran five furlongs outside the hurdles, the time registered being, 1min 10secs. Welcome ran a good once round the course proper at about ¾-speed, the Titania filly doing the same distance at half pace. Dolosa ran a mile and a quarter outside the hurdles in 2min 25sec. Despised finished the morning's work by going two miles on the course proper at about ¾-speed.

#### OTAHUHU TROTTING CLUB.

A LARGE attendance of sporting men, jockeys, and trainers assembled at the Star Hotel, Otahuhu, on Monday evening, the occasion being to decide the protest of Mr. McKenzie, the owner of Vampire, against the owner and riders of Pica and Cupid, Mr. A. R. Harris, J.P., was in the chair. As soon as the meeting had assembled, our inevitable bore of a reporter was found to be present, and claimed his right to be there. Being requested to make his claim in writing, the worthy "Barge" was not slow in finding him material, and that request being promptly complied with, our representative was admitted, his letter of application being placed on the minutes at his request. Full evidence was taken by Mr. Lockhart, the Secretary of the Club, and everything was done in the most open manner. A very strong impression had gained ground that Mr. W. Adams was a part owner of the ponies running under Mr. Greenwood's name, but this was fully shown to be a fallacy.

Mr. A. Greenwood was called by the Chairman, and stated that he rode Pica according to instructions, which were to win. He occupied the fifth position, Vampire being just ahead of him. Everyone was jostling and crossing and running wild. Red Rose, he said, was the best in the stable, although they did not know it at the time. Mr. Kelly remarked that they "either ran very wild or tried to bolt."

Mr. W. J. Greenwood having been called, was asked by the chair, "Did the best of your horses win that race?" A positive and peremptory "Yes" was the answer. He did not think Cupid could have won that race. He thought Red Rose the best horse in his stable, and he was the sole owner of the horses mentioned.

"Tom" Greenwood rode Red Rose, and said he could have won in any part of the race. He was leading at nearly every corner. Cupid came up on him once, but he got away again easily.

Mr. Mackenzie said that he would have been quite satisfied to say nothing about the race in question, but for the public's sake, he thought it right to inquire into the matter.

After a long consultation, resolutions to the following effect were agreed upon unanimously: "That the mare Cupid be disqualified for twelve months, and Pica, together with his rider, for a term of six months, and that Mr. W. J. Greenwood be fined the sum of £10."

After the meeting had been absolved and the above decision arrived at, there was, as usual, lots of talk in "the lobbies," which were packed by sleeping "jocks" like herrings in a tin, awaiting (as Amy Vaughan puts it) the verdict.

The Committee reassembled, and decided that Mr. W. J. Greenwood should have a rehearing in accordance with an application from him stating, as he did, that his evidence was misunderstood and he could produce fresh evidence.

The *Sydney Referee* of the 21st October in the following paragraph predicted that Maud S.'s record would be smashed. It said: "Mr. Marvin declares that he will send his great trotter Sunol for a record over the kite-shaped track; so the rumours of bad condition, etc., were greatly exaggerated. It would not surprise one to see Maud S.'s record lowered whenever they let Sunol out." Up to this time Maud S. held the world's record, but by late papers we see that Sunol's time for the mile is 2.8½, while Maud S.'s for the same distance is 2.8½.