

Common is said to be one of the quietest and laziest horses in England. He walks about just as if it was too much trouble to needlessly exert himself.

At the recent Egmont Racing Club's meeting a Chinaman was one of the six investors on Cingalee in the Hack Hurdles, which paid a dividend of £74 3s.

Harry Harrison has scored winning brackets with both of Major George's horses Reprisal and The Workman in Australia, and we are glad to be able to congratulate him on the fact. It is indeed a great feather in his cap as a trainer, and he thoroughly deserves the success he has achieved.

At the Mangatangi Races, near Mercer, on Saturday last, Bryan O'Lynn, the winner of the South Franklin Hurdle Race, annexed the double—Hurdles and Cup. Walter Scott got second in the Cup. The Maiden Plate was won by Panga-o-raui, and the Pony Race by Rabbit. A good day's sport was held, and a fair number witnessed the proceedings.

Our local trotters would appear to be at least equal to those of Dunedin. At the Dunedin Amateur Trotting Club's Meeting last Saturday, Magic won the two miles, taking 6min 17sec; Myrtle was third. The Onslow Pony Trot of 2 miles was won in 6min 16sec by Fibre, while the Maiden Trot, over the same distance, was won by Tyrone in 6min 15½sec.

Messrs. Adams and Andrews worked the totalisators with every satisfaction at the Onslow Trotting Club's Summer Meeting on Saturday, the tidy sum of £1,857 10s. being put through in 10s. tickets, 1,068 of which were on the Onslow Trot Handicap. This we are given to understand is the largest number of tickets ever sold on one race at Potter's Paddock.

Attention is drawn to the Auckland Trotting Club's autumn programme in another column. The day fixed is Saturday, the 16th April. It will be seen the stakes are of a most liberal character throughout, 130sovs being devoted to the principal event and 50sovs is allotted for a Harness Trot. Owners have no reason to complain of the manner they are treated by this club in the way of stakes.

A very successful Maori race meeting was held at Kapinga, 14 miles from Kihikihi, on the 23rd inst. The meeting was run under the A.R.C. rules. No totalisator was used. All the officials were Maoris with the exception of Mr. Downes, a deservedly popular half-caste. Everything was carried out in true orthodox style. Admission to the course was 2s., and 2s. 6d. for a vehicle.

We beg to acknowledge the receipt of the third annual report and balance-sheet of the Darlinghurst Harriers, Sydney, from which we glean that after making a donation of £30 2s. 9d. to St. Vincent Hospital, they have a balance in hand of £34 7s. They have a muster roll of 104 members, which is likely to be largely augmented during the forthcoming season. They are now considering the advisability of enlarging the objects of the club, so as to embrace the cognate sports of football, cricket and swimming.

Our Taranaki correspondent, under date February 27, writes:—A sporting anecdote was related in front of Kelly's Hotel, Hawera, on the first night of the recent Egmont meeting, which is worth repeating. An elderly son of the Emerald Isle, who speaks with the Yankee nasal drawl, and who is generally known in connection with "the correct card" on race-courses in Taranaki, was standing with a few friends, who were talking of the day's racing. Our Hibernian friend, in order to enter into the conversation, chipped in about Clifford's splendid riding that day, and then, presumably to show he knew a bit, he related a piece of jockeyship he had read about. He said, "I remember reading about the rider of Malvolio, who won the Milbourne Cup. He was interviewed by a New Zealander, and he said he kept riding all the way at the finish because he knew the *unredoubtable* Ka-arbine was somewhere at his heels!" It seemed quite indifferent to the old sport that "Ka-arbine" was not in the race. The "ringing in" of a New Zealander as an interviewer is a bit pure. It was the same living encyclopædia who, when shown the picture on the cover of *London Punch* said, "I knew him (Punch) twenty-five years ago, and he had the same dog with him then!" These are facts, not fiction.

## Volunteer News.

[Contributions to this column are invited. All communications should be addressed to "Torpedo," and reach this office not later than Tuesday in each week. Notes from country corps will be specially acceptable.]

### DISTRICT ORDERS.

GOVERNMENT INSPECTION PARADES.  
Friday, March 11—Auckland Naval Artillery.  
Saturday, March 12—Wairoa Rifles, 7 p.m.  
Monday, March 14—Ponsonby Naval Artillery; Thames Naval Artillery, 7 p.m.  
Tuesday, March 22—Victoria Rifles, Newton Rifles, Auckland City Guards, Royal Irish Rifles.  
Wednesday, March 23—Engineers.  
Thursday, March 24—"A" Battery Artillery, Garrison Band; Hamilton Light Infantry, 7 p.m.  
Saturday, March 26—Wairoa Rifles, 2.30 p.m.  
Monday, March 28—Thames Naval Artillery, 7 p.m.  
(All parades at 7.30 p.m. unless otherwise mentioned.)

CHAMPION KRUSE, of the Wanganui Rifles, is still keeping up his reputation as a shot, and should again this year give the cracks now assembled at the N.Z. Annual Association's gathering all they can do to beat him. The meeting is timed to start to-morrow with the Wellington Match, 200, 500 and 600 yards, 7 shots at each distance; 51 prizes valued at £120. Then follow the Hawke's Bay Match, 500 and 600 yards, 10 shots at each range; 33 prizes, aggregating £65. Marlborough Match, 10 shots at 500 yards; 33 prizes, £65. This is probably as much as will be got through on the first day, and will be sufficient to give my readers an introduction to the meeting. I purpose next week, if space permits, to give the particulars of each match, together with the prize winners of the North Island. The championship will very likely be reserved for a finish on Saturday week, to enable Wellington citizens to visit the new permanent range at Trentham, near Upper Hutt.

Of the Auckland reps. who have gone South I give the precedence for the championship to Gunner C. P. Taylor, Sergt. H. Doughty, Sergt. McCallum, Lieut. Little, Vol. James Leigh, Sergt. Parslow, Corpl. Webster, Capt. Tobin, Seaman Weir, A. Henderson, Shepherd, and Dormer, while all the rest should be prize takers.

A band contest is announced to take place in Wellington at the end of the present year, when twenty-four bands are expected to compete.

On the 9th of January last a private of the Highland Light Infantry was sentenced by court-martial to six months imprisonment for malingering. He placed the two foremost fingers of his right hand on a bench and deliberately cut them off with a razor, the fingers being afterwards found under his bed. His object was evidently to get out of the army, as he cannot now fire a rifle with his right hand.

The "F" Battery, Napier, have a credit balance of £120 10s. At their annual general meeting the members were congratulated on their success at the military sports competition both there and at Wellington. The committee were of opinion that these contests should be continued, as they proved beneficial to the company.

"Bull's-eye," in the *Wanganui Chronicle*, has the following, dated 5th instant. I presume he refers to Jim Leigh:—"Lee, of Auckland, was over on the range on Saturday afternoon firing, and remarked that if our men could shoot in the light that prevailed then, they could shoot in anything. So they can."

The Auckland representatives, numbering twenty-two, left by the Takapuna for Taranaki, en route for Wellington, on Monday afternoon. Lieut. Montgomery, of the Guards, also accompanied them.

At the Nelson Jubilee celebrations held there last month, the blue-jackets from H.M.S. Ringarooma took part in the various manoeuvres with the volunteers at the review, and the minister of Defence congratulating them on their efficiency thanked Captain Bourke for allowing his men to take part in the review, and mentioned that this was the first time men of a new colonial warship had taken part in a shore demonstration. He was glad to see the Ringarooma men taking part in the day's work. Mr. Seddon assured the Volunteers that as long as he was at the head of the Defence Department he would do all in his power to encourage the massing of Volunteers as he considered it would bring the men to a high standard of efficiency.

TORPEDO.

## Athletics Etc.

### CRICKET.

SIMPLY perfect weather gladdened the hearts of cricketers on Saturday last, but the three finishes which were expected to prove close and exciting ended in every case in an easy victory, to the disappointment of all genuine lovers of the game.

### SENIORS.

Gordon v. St. Mary's - Onslow. — The Hyphens, with three wickets to fall, wanted 27 runs to win, which some poor fielding on the part of Gordon—several catches being missed—together with an unlucky accident to Fowke, enabled them not only to get but also to raise their total to 129, or 50 to the good. The absence of H. B. Lusk was sorely felt by the Blue and Gold. Stone and Robinson, the not outs, raised the score to 68, when the former was clean bowled by Gould. E. Walton joined Robinson joined Robinson, who was well set, and the pair speedily passed Gordon's total, and continued gaily putting on the runs until Bell secured Robinson's wicket at point, where Ansenne held a very soft skier. Telegraph 114—9—51. In spite of one or two steady bits of play Robinson's innings was a good display of vigorous hitting. Rowe joined Walton, and runs came until Ansenne caught the former, and all were out for 129. Batting two short, Gordon only made one over the half century in their second venture, Bell 13 and Ball 10 being the only double figures. Collins and Robinson went in to make the two runs required, but Mr. Extras saved them the trouble, and the match ended in a win for St. Mary's-Onslow by 10 wickets.

Auckland v. United.—United, wanting 47 with five wickets to fall, were thought to have a rosy chance, but notwithstanding a very generous let off at the wicket by the usually safe catch, Lieut. Abdy, R. Neill and Howlett polished off the five wickets with the score at 84, Auckland thus winning the match by 30 runs and the cup without a defeat.

### JUNIORS.

Auckland II. v. North Shore.—Auckland, with four wickets to fall, wanted 20 runs to win, but any prospect of a close finish was ruined by the Shore's poor display of fielding. Two easy chances were missed directly after the start and others subsequently. Smith and O'Keefe made matters even before the latter was caught by Coupland. E. C. Beale, with Smith, put on 62 runs, when the latter was bowled by Goudie for a meritorious 67, only 8 runs short of the medal standard. The innings closed for 177, Beale not out 31. North Shore made a poor show in their second attempt, Gaudin proving very deadly and being well backed up by Seccombe. Only 38, and no double figures, was the total, leaving Auckland II. the victors by an innings and 32 runs.

Wanderers v. St. Mary's - Onslow II. — Wanderers increased their good score of 233 for 8 wickets to 278, about the biggest junior total for the season. The Hyphens could only reply with 49 and 17, suffering defeat by an innings and 212 runs.

Hempton has rejoined the Wellington Amateur Athletic Club, and both he and Batger will go to England as representatives of that club and the colony.

A committee meeting of the Northern Athletic Club was held at the Edinburgh Castle Hotel on Monday evening, there being a full attendance. The secretary reported that the entries were not up to expectations, notwithstanding this, the committee are fully determined to carry out the programme in its entirety, sufficient funds having already been guaranteed to pay all prizes in full, as advertised. Judging by the names of the competitors close and exciting contests for the various events are anticipated. Several prominent citizens have taken the tug of war contest in hand, and teams from both German and English war vessels, New Zealand born, Irish, Scotch, Maoris, and English are expected to compete. Mr. Geo. McBride has very generously offered a suit of clothes to be competed for valued at 4 guineas. Mr. W. C. Walker has also donated one guinea towards the funds.