

ing great care on his education. K. McKenzie has in his team the huddlers General Gordon and Viola II., and Reek, a four-year-old mare by Remington, a two-year-old colt by the same sire, out of Mascotte, and a two-year-old colt by Master Agnes—St. Helena. The youngsters have only just been taken in hand, but General Gordon, Viola II. and Reek are doing good work. Viola leaves for Napier in a few days to fulfil her engagements in the hurdle races at the Hawke's Bay Spring Meeting. She is very fit, but is not very well treated on the first day with 10st.

Hugh Christie, at Featherston, has four useful hacks in his stables, viz., Mr. W. Donald's chestnut mare by Puriri, full sister to Paramu, a likely-looking six-year-old that has never raced and is only just taken up; Mr. McKenzie's Jack, a compact little jumper by the Arab Littlejohn, and bred by Mr. Riddiford of Rangitikei; Mr. W. Buckeridge's six-year-old bay gelding by Mangle, a maiden, and the chestnut gelding Guess-it (a full brother to Paramu), who was formerly under the care of A. Peters at the Hutt and ran unsuccessfully there at Otaki. This team is working on a private plough gallop in the vicinity of the town.

At Taratahi Freeth has Revolt, Revolution and Rebellion. All three are engaged at Napier, but Revolt, who lately wrenched his fetlock, will not fulfil his engagement, as he has had to be stopped in his work. I hear that he was not seriously injured, and is now in good work again. Revolution is in good fettle.

Mr. Hirschberg's horses are still at Greytown, but it is understood they will go into Freeth's charge very soon.

Mr. Armstrong's roan gelding Vivacious, who figured at the Hutt and Wairarapa Hunt meetings lately, is at Taratahi on the sick list. When well he will go into Christie's stable to be trained.

Mr. W. Buckeridge's two mares' Depression and Blenheim, are both in foal to Petroleum, which stallion is standing at Alexander McKenzie's place at Featherston. It is doubtful if either of these mares will race again.

E. Cuneen, the Wairarapa jockey who has lately been employed in Mr. Ormond's stable; returned to Featherston the other day, having severed his connection with the Hawke's Bay squire.

T. Winturham, another well-known jockey, has returned to Masterton from Palmerston. He has lately been riding for Mr. O'Donoghue, owner of Shan, who ran second in the Hurdle Race at the Rangitikei Hunt Meeting to Ben Lomond.

Mr. W. Buckeridge, of the Royal Hotel at Featherston, has just supplied a want much felt in the district, by building a number of good loose boxes which are now available for trainers.

The annual meeting of the Lower Valley Jockey Club takes place to-morrow at Martinboro.

The feud in the Wairarapa Jockey Club over the Comet—Tuhitarata row at Tauherenikau last season, which resulted in the resignation of Mr. W. E. Bidwill and several other stewards and members, has died a natural death. The resignations were not accepted at the time, and the malcontents were written to and asked to re-consider their determination. Apparently lapse of time has brought about a more kindly feeling, as at the annual meeting of the club last week, several of the secessionists, including Mr. Bidwill, attended and took a prominent part in the proceedings, all reference to the recent unpleasantness being studiously avoided. The meeting, however, was not altogether of a cordial character, for there was a very heated discussion on the question of borrowing for improvements; and after several hours had been occupied in argumentation without coming to an agreement, the subject was adjourned for a fortnight.

There is a five-year-old called Marvel running in England, and he is the property of the Duke of Devonshire (until recently better known as the Marquis of Hartington). This Marvel is by Marden (brother to Sir T. Elder's stallion Nautilus) out of Applause II., and I notice by my English files that he was successful in the Stewards' Cup of 300 sovs., about 6 furlongs, at Goodwood. He beat Peter Flower—who was a good two-year-old of his year; Hildebert, the property of the Australian sportsman Mr. D. Cooper; and 27 others, and he was receiving 21b from Peter Flower and giving 15b to Hildebert. Marvel started at 1000 to 45 against a win and 100 to 12 against a place, and won all out by a neck. At this same Goodwood meeting Orme beat Watercress (who finished in front of him in the Leger the other day) and Bushy Park. In the Sussex Stakes, one mile, with 5 to 1 betted on him. Orme had to be ridden hard to win by a head from Watercress. Directly they had passed the post 6000 to 5000 was offered against Orme for the Leger.

Turf Topics.

[BY "SIR LAUNCELOT."]

Canfield Cup Scratchings.—Courteous, Scrip. Melbourne Cup Scratchings.—Courteous, Scrip. Target.

Among the foalings at the Hobartville (N.S.W.) Stud this season are a full sister to Marvel, and a colt by Trenton out of Iolanthe's dam, Rosedale.

We have already learnt by cable that the Hawkesbury Grand Handicap winner, Selkirk, annexed that race very easily. Full details to hand by mail show that there were 11 starters, viz., Tridentine 9.3, Althotas 8.2, Gaytime 7.4, Rosstellan 7.2, Lancer 7.2, Selkirk 7.0, Barnaby Rudge 6.12, Isaac 6.11, Hegira 6.9, Princess 6.6, including 21b over, and Everistas 6.2. Selkirk started favourite at 5 to 2, 4 to 1 being taken about Gaytime, and 6 to 1 about Tridentine and Princess. Selkirk came out half a mile from home and held his own to the end, winning by about 10 lengths from Princess, who was two lengths in front of Everistas. Selkirk is by Onyx's brother Robinson Crusoe out of Fratch, by First King—Repatee, by Lucifer—Badinage (imp.) by Muscovite. Princess, who is the property of astute John Mayo, is by Grandmaster—Queen's Head, and Everistas is by Goldsbrough—Hazard. The going was very dead, so that the time registered for the mile and three furlongs was slow—2min 33sec. Selkirk, who is now four years old, commenced his racing career at Caulfield, when he finished unplaced in a two-year-old handicap, won by Lady Carbine. He afterwards competed with similar non-success at both Moonee Valley and Caulfield, at which latter place he finished fourth. This form was considered good enough to cause his party to back him at 5 to 1 for the St. Albans Handicap at Moonee Valley, but he failed to get a place. As a three-year-old he was a fair performer, his first attempt at that age being in the A.J.C. Trial Stakes, in which he finished second to Westella. He next appeared at Cootamundra, where he won the double of Cohen Cup, 6.10, and Bourke Plate, 7.5. His next notable performance was in the Rous Handicap at Randwick, when he carried 7.0, and finished second to Danton, 6.4. At Bourke he was beaten a head by Sundial (who was receiving 21b from him) in the Bourke Handicap, but on the second day he won the Central Handicap of one mile and a half, carrying 8.6, and since then he had not been seen out till he won the Hawkesbury Grand Handicap.

Our old friend J. Monaghan was in pretty good form on the first day of the Hawkesbury meeting, for he provided first and second in the Two-year-old Stakes with Welcome Spec and Budgere, and Real Lace after running second to Alcides in the County Purse beat a field of five in the Ladies' Bracelet. Real Lace is by Phil Athol (sire of Althotas) out of Suva. Pharamond for his win in the Tattersalls' Two-year-old Stakes had to put up a 5lb penalty in the Hawkesbury two-year-old event, and this caused Welcome Spec (who was second to him at Randwick) to be made the better favourite of the pair. Welcome Spec only got home by a head from her stable-mate Budgere, who is by Marvellous out of Elsie, and Pharamond was third, two lengths away. Welcome Spec is by the New Zealander Welcome Jack out of Lady Spec by Speculum—Lady Hilda (imp.) by Lord of the Isles out of Rigolboche, the dam of the English Derby winner Cremorne, a real good pedigree. At the same meeting Thornback, a half-brother to Ascot, the sire of Cretonne and others, won the Members' Handicap, 6 furlongs, from a field of eight, and he subsequently ran second to Blue Gown, to whom he was giving 10lb, in the Spring Welter Handicap, 6 furlongs.

The South Australian brood mare Footstep foaled a few days ago a full brother to The Admiral. She has had seven foals to Richmond, and this year will visit the New Zealand-bred Thunderbolt. Among other recent foalings at Adelaide is a colt by Neckersgat from Ada, and therefore brother to Newstead.

Mr. A. Austin's two-year-old filly by Brigadier—The Jilt has been named *Eve*, and his two-year-old colt by Brigadier—Victress *Bogus*.

The death is announced at Mr. W. R. Wilson's St. Albans stud farm of Vindex, the dam of Vengeance (winner of the Caulfield and Australian Cups). Vindex was by Yattendon out of the imported Stockdove (dam of The Australian Peer). The last of Vindex's progeny, a filly by First King, was purchased as a yearling last March by the Hon. D. S. Wallace for 150 gs.

The Wellington Park stallions St. Leger, Hotchkiss, Castor and Cuirassier are among the 22 stallions nominated for the V.R.C. Sires' Produce Stakes of 1896. The other sires nominated are Gang Forward, Nautilus, Eirispord, Newminster, Carlyon, Vengeance, Boolka, Carbine, Neckersgat, Trenton, Robinson Crusoe, Nordenfeldt, Commotion, Glorious, Malua, Mentor, Abercorn and Martini-Henry.

On the fourth day of the A.J.C. Meeting the most noticeable feature was the further failure of Autonomy to distinguish himself, for though he started first favourite in a field of nine for the Randwick Plate, w.f.a., three miles, he could get no nearer than third to Candour and St. Albans II. Candour is a son of Splendor, the Speculum—Bathilde horse that won the Payne Stakes at Newmarket for Mr. Stead, and was sold by him to Mr. F. Reynolds, of Tocal, N.S.W. The Waverley Handicap of a mile and three-quarters saw the Hawkesbury Handicap winner Selkirk (7.9) finish third to Ethelbert (6.9) and Affiance (7.6). Ethelbert, who belongs to Mr. W. Gannon (owner of Melos, etc.) is by Sylvia's son Goldsbrough out of Sweet William's sister Ethel. Mr. S. Hordern, owner of Nordenfeldt, won the Final Handicap, with the six-year-old mare The Gift, by Somnus—Little Wanzon, who was until lately the property of Mr. H. Oxenham, the bookmaker. The "J. B. Clark" syndicate not only suffered defeat as above-mentioned with Autonomy in the Randwick Plate, but their colt Ulric went down before Straightfire, to whom he was giving no less than 26lb., in the Members' Handicap, one mile and a furlong, for three-year-olds only. Straightfire is by the unbeaten Grand Fleuret out of Crossfire, a sister to the Melbourne Cup winner Arsenal. The ex-New Zealand boy Nolan rode Clarence into second place in the Steeplechase, the winner being Frantic, who was giving Clarence 16lb.

The committee of the Auckland Racing Club held their ordinary monthly meeting on Friday last. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Hon. Captain Russell and Mr. W. F. Buckland, M.H.R., for acting as delegates on behalf of the Club at the recent Conference of Metropolitan Clubs. The disqualification of Mr. R. May was removed. The publishers of the *N.Z. Turf Register* were voted a bonus of 10gs. It was decided that all jockeys desirous of riding in the Auckland district during the present season be required to forward their applications for licenses by the 15th prox. The following dates for race meetings were submitted to the committee and approved of by them:—Avondale Jockey Club, December 3rd and April 22nd; Drury Racing Club, December 28th; Papakura Racing Club, March 17th; Ohinemuri Racing Club, March 17th; South Auckland Racing Club, December 16th and 17th and April 8th; Takapuna Jockey Club, November 26th, January 28th and 20th and May 24th; Matamata Jockey Club, December 26th; Poverty Bay Turf Club, October 18th and 19th and January 10th and 11th; Ormond Jockey Club, January 2nd; Waerenga-a-Hika Jockey Club, December 26th and May 24th. The programmes of the Thames Jockey Club and Northern Wairoa Jockey Club—both of which had selected December 26th and 27th—were sent back for amendment of dates, and the programmes submitted by the Gisborne Park Racing Club were referred back to the Club in order that certain financial questions might be answered. The committee declined to pass the programmes of the Orehunga Jockey Club and the Lake Jockey Club, as they did not consider that they were required. Ten new members were elected, and Messrs. J. W. Wallace and F. D. Tonge were elected as gentlemen riders.

The sum of £3,055 passed through the totalisators at the Auckland Racing Club's Spring Meeting on Saturday last was £869 less than was put through at the corresponding meeting of last year.

The Auckland Trotting Club will bring off their Spring Meeting at Potter's Paddock on Saturday. Mr. E. D. Halstead's handicaps have produced good acceptances, there being 19 left in the Maiden, 11 in the Flying, a dozen in the Spring Handicap Trot, seven in the Tramway Handicap, eight in the Harness Trot, six in the Hurdles, and eight in the Electric Handicap. A particular interest will be evinced in the performance of Rarus, who arrived on Monday from Christchurch, where he put up the record for two miles in harness for the Colony, particulars of which appear in another "turf topic."

£635, exactly the same amount as last year, will be distributed at the South Auckland Racing Club's Summer Meeting, to be held on the Claudelands racecourse, Hamilton, on Friday and Saturday, December 16 and 17. Some slight alterations in the conditions of some of the stakes as compared with last season are, however, to be found in the programme advertised in another column of this issue. Thus, on the first day the Maiden Hurdles of 25 sovs. is made a Hurdle Handicap and raised to 30 sovs., and the Novel Race of 25 sovs. is excised, its place being taken by the Waikato Produce Stakes, which last year was run on the second day of the meeting. On the second day the Hurdle Handicap is increased from 40 sovs. to 45 sovs., and a new race, the Claudelands Handicap of 25 sovs., 5 furlongs, takes the place vacated by the Produce Stakes. The Publicans' Purse is reduced from 50 sovs. to 40 sovs., and the distance cut down to one mile and a quarter. The County Plate of 20 sovs., which appeared in last year's bill of fare, gives place to a Novel Race of 25 sovs., 7 furlongs, and the Welter Handicap is reduced from 30 sovs. to 25 sovs. The principal events of the present programme are the South Auckland Cup Handicap of 115 sovs., one mile and three-quarters; South Auckland Steeplechase of 70 sovs., about three miles; and Waikato Produce Stakes of 60 sovs., 6 furlongs. Nominations close on November 25. Mr. E. D. Halstead will adjust the handicaps.

Appended to the S.A.R.C.'s programme are advertised the conditions of the Waikato Mares' Produce Stakes of 1894-95, for which nominations are invited by 9 p.m. on December 2nd next. £50 is given by the Club, and will be added to a sweepstakes of 3 sovs. each, and the general conditions are liberally framed. It is open to foals out of mares the *bona fide* property at time of service of settlers in the five counties of Raglan, Waipa, Waikato, Piako and Ohinemuri.

The noted trotter Rarus was brought up from Christchurch last Monday in charge of Edwards to fulfil his engagements at the Auckland Trotting Club's Spring Meeting, which comes off on Saturday. It was mentioned in our Wellington correspondent's letter in our last issue that this gelding had broken the New Zealand record for harness in a race at New Brighton, near Christchurch, a few days previously. Full particulars of the event now to hand show that the starters were ten in number, the race being the Avon Handicap Trot (in harness) of 35 sovs., second 5 sovs. from stakes, 2 miles. The field was made up thus (the figures before each name representing the number of investors on the totalisator):—35 Rarus, ser; 20 Sunlight, 2 sec; 19 Polly Plum 25 sec; 3 Unknown, 32 sec; 1 The Speaker, 35 sec; 1½ Vanderbilt, 39 sec; 45 Colonial, 39 sec; 11½ Apology, 42 sec; 21½ Pride of Erin, 47 sec; and 5 Poppet, 50 sec. Rarus won by two lengths from Pride of Erin, with Apology a moderate third. The official time was 5min. 36sec., and the dividend £4 1s 6d. A local writer says, in commenting on the race, says:—"The Avon Handicap produced a magnificent struggle between Rarus and Pride of Erin, and the former just won in the last 20 yards. How good Mr. Brewer's horse is it is difficult to say. He only really settled down to his work at the end of three-quarters of a mile. At that point he had not made up any ground, but when he did commence he trotted through his field in magnificent style, and though he was quite 100 yards behind Pride of Erin half-a-mile from home he got up in the last 20 yards and won by a couple of lengths. The official time was returned as 5min. 36sec., or 2sec. better than the New Zealand record held by Kentucky, but private watches made the time 2sec. or 3sec. slower. In any case it was a great performance, as had Rarus trotted right through the race as he did in the last mile he would probably have covered the distance in 10sec. or even 15sec. less time than it actually took him."

From Melbourne I learn that Mr. D. O'Brien's horse Freedom has had to be blistered on one of his hind legs.

Mr. W. R. Wilson of St. Albans, Vic., heads the list of winning owners in Australia for the past year, having had 12 winners of 28 races of the total value of £14,030. The "J. B. Clark" syndicate comes next with £13,272, won in 27½ races. Mr. J. Redfern, thanks mainly to Malvolio's Melbourne Cup, is third with two winners of two races value £10,214. Mr. George Hill (N.S.W.), with Marvel and Shamrock, won nine races totalling £5,673, and Mr. S. Miller (Vic.) follows him with £5,609, won in 25½ races. Three New South Welshmen—Mr. E. Keys, Mr. W. Forrester, and Mr. H. Oxenham—won £3,753, £3,224, and £3,210 respectively, and they are followed by Mr. W. Sayer, Victoria, with £3,126. Mr. I. T. Carslake won £2,885; Mr. D. S. Wallace £2,851; and Mr. S. G. Cook £2,765; and these three are Victorians. Old Jack Chaffe is well up in the list, his nominations having annexed £2,407. But what chiefly concerns New Zealanders is that Mr. S. H. Gollan had three winners of six races of the total value of £2,267. We have to go a good deal further down the list before we come to Major George, who is credited with £853. C. Rudings has £585 to his credit, F. Paneti £245, and the late Wally Clifford £210.

St. Hippo and The Dancer will be taken to Napier to-day to fulfil their engagements at the Hawke's Bay Jockey Club's Spring Meeting. George Wright goes down with them. St. Hippo was unfortunately not entered for the Wanganui Derby or he would have been a competitor at the Wanganui Jockey Club's Spring Meeting, which follows closely on that of the H.B.J.C. Had he gone to Wanganui he would have been accompanied by The Dancer and Fishmonger. St. Hippo's owner and trainer were rather taken aback when they found that the colt's name was missing from the Wanganui Derby list. What was St. Hippo's then owner thinking about that he did not enter him?

Messrs. Cohen and Stock, who have for some time past worked the totalisators in connection with the Hawke's Bay Jockey Club's meetings, announce that under instructions from the Hawke's Bay Jockey Club, they are prepared to receive money for investment at the Hawke's Bay Jockey Club's Spring Meeting. Money order telegrams, with instructions, will be received in Napier up to 10 o'clock on the morning of each day's racing. Two and a half per cent. will be charged on all winnings. Intending investors can address their telegrams to Mr. H. P. Cohen, Napier; Mr. W. Stock, Hastings; or Messrs. Cohen and Stock, Hastings racecourse.

Mr. D. O'Brien wired from Sydney to an Auckland friend at the end of last week that Lady Walsley was to be sent to Tasman. Mr. O'Brien also stated in the cablegram that he had had a good win over Florrie in the Sydney Handicap and that he was leaving Sydney for Wellington on Saturday last.

Looking through my Southern files the other day I noticed that in all of them Cynisca figured in the Hawke's Bay Spring Handicap at 9.0. Now, having seen Mr. Evett's handicap as soon as he issued it, I knew that the mare's weight was 9.5, and, as soon as I pointed it out to him, he wired to the Hawke's Bay Jockey Club's secretary pointing out that the error had, presumably, been made in telegraphing. Southern contemporaries, please note.

Mr. H. Ellison, the Auckland manufacturing tobaccoist and commission agent, advertises in this issue that his Turf Club Cigarette guessing coupons close on October 11th. To Mr. Ellison I am indebted for a copy of Mr. H. Oxenham's usual Australian Sporting Guide, for the sale of which Mr. Ellison has been appointed Auckland agent. Mr. Oxenham's Guide gives the performances of all the principal candidates for the forthcoming Australian Spring events, and is therefore very valuable to that legion of turfites throughout this Colony who "follow form" in Australia.

The Pakuranga Hunt Club's Spring programme has undergone further alteration, the opening event being now made a handicap, the Members' Tally-ho Steeplechase Handicap fixed for three miles, and the winner of the Hunt Club Cup to be penalised to the extent of 7lb; and the Ladies' Bracelet made a Welter Flat Handicap instead of being run over the little sticks.

The Auckland Racing Club announce by advertisement in another column that all jockeys wishing to ride this season where the Metropolitan Club's rules are in force, must make application for a license on or before the 15th prox.

The Auckland Provincial Agricultural Association will be in evidence on Friday and Saturday, November 11th and 12th. £750 will be distributed in prizes. This is hardly a "Turf Topic," but owners of thoroughbreds and draughts will do no harm by taking note of the dates of the Show.

The programme of the Ormond Jockey Club's annual race gathering, to be held on the Marshlands course on New Year's Day, appears in this issue. £150 is to be given to eight races, the most valuable of which is the Ormond Cup Handicap of 40 sovs., one mile and a quarter.

The entries and weights for the Waikato Hunt Club's Spring Meeting are published in our "Turf Record" column.

Wright has received an accession to his string in the shape of a yearling colt, by Castor out of Zip.

The principal feature of the third day's racing at Randwick was the victory of Florrie, who credited Mr. O'Brien with the Sydney Handicap of 500 sovs., one mile and a half. She started at 14 to 1, and beat a field of 19. Autonomy had again to succumb to Bungebah in the Craven Plate, w.f.a., one and a quarter miles, Marvel finishing third. Titan's sister Trieste easily landed the odds laid on her in the Oaks, and another prominent Caulfield Cup candidate, Paris, beat Candour, St. Albans II. and nine others in the Wycombe Stakes of a mile and three furlongs.

Radames, by Leolinus—L'Orient, and Brigadier's brother Tetford, are two new sires of the season advertised in this issue.