

SPORTING FIXTURES, ETC.

Table of sporting fixtures including 'COMING EVENTS', 'NOMINATIONS', 'WEIGHTS APPEAR', 'ACCEPTANCES DUE', and 'NOTICE TO OUR READERS'.

THE OFFICIAL CALENDAR

OF THE AUCKLAND RACING CLUB.

The SPORTING REVIEW has been appointed the Official Calendar for the publication of all programmes in the Provincial District of Auckland...

ASSUMED NAMES. The following assumed names are registered with the Auckland Racing Club—Mr. L. Ward, Mr. J. Hawatson, Mr. J. Malcolm, Mr. Marangai, Mr. J. Forth, Mr. W. Turner, Mr. B. Thompson, Mr. J. Dennis, Mr. J. Lowther, Mr. J. Sutton, Mr. C. Archibald, Mr. Arthur Morgan, Mr. J. Bland.

Table of COLOURS for various jockeys, listing names and their corresponding race attire.

PROGRAMMES PASSED. Gisborne Racing Club's Spring, November 9. Avondale Spring—December 3. South Auckland Racing Club Summer, Dec. 16 and 17. Matamata Races, December 26. Alexandra Annual—December 26.

DISQUALIFICATIONS. The following disqualifications by the Te Aroha Jockey Club have been endorsed by the A.R.C.—That the horse Arawa, or Emmett, be disqualified for life, and that Mr. Grant be disqualified during the pleasure of the Club.

REMOVAL OF DISQUALIFICATION. The disqualification of Mr. R. May for betting totalisator odds was removed by the Auckland Racing Club on September 16.

UNPAID FORFEIT LIST. G. Hope, £12, due to Auckland Racing Club.

JOCKEYS' LICENSES. Licenses have been granted by the A.R.C. to the following jockeys:—W. McLean, Gisborne; T. Hodson, Ellerslie; E. Munro, Papakura; Dennis Morrigan, Ellerslie; Alex. Williams, Ellerslie.

The Committee of the Auckland Racing Club meet on the first Friday in each month to pass programmes and transact general business.

LIST OF RACING CLUBS UNDER A.R.C.'S JURISDICTION.

Table listing various racing clubs and their secretaries, including Alexandra Racing Club, Awitua Racing Club, Avondale Jockey Club, etc.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

Table showing subscription rates: 3 Months 3/-, 6 Months 6/-, 12 Months 10/-.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

In every case correspondents must enclose their correct names and addresses but not for publication, as no notice whatever can be taken of anonymous communications.

OPERA HOUSE.

For a short season only, commencing THURSDAY, 17th NOVEMBER.

McLEAN'S YOUNG AUSTRALIANS.

The talented troupe of juveniles (who on their journey North have everywhere created a furore) will appear in their specially adapted burlesque—

SELIM AND ZULEIKA, or THE PIRATES' LAIR.

Introducing all the latest London novelties, and laughable local hits. Full particulars shortly. J. A. CRAIN.

Sporting Review.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1892.

The starting difficulty is engrossing a good deal of attention in Melbourne sporting circles at the present time. It is becoming only too evident that in the case of Mr. George Watson, the starter to the Victoria Amateur Turf Club and the Victoria Racing Club, "superfluous lags the veteran on the stage," and there is talk of pensioning him off.

Wholesale fining tells very heavily on owners, and we are not surprised to hear of Mr. "J. B. Clark" and other owners protesting against the course adopted by Mr. Watson.

No sooner, in fact was the V.A.T.C. Meeting over than several owners of horses personally waited on the members of the Committee of the Victoria Racing Club, and as one Melbourne paper puts it, "aired their grievances against Mr. Watson."

temporary points out, "the fewer there are of those inquiries the better will the stewards be pleased, and it is only natural that, as far as possible, the starter will refrain from inconveniencing them.

MENTION of Mr. George Watson's name reminds us that his son Mr. Godfrey Watson, who has proved a most capable starter at the Melbourne suburban meetings for some time past, has adopted a plan worthy of imitation.

EVEN allowing that a brilliant horse like Ahua won our last Grand National Steeplechase, there is no doubt that the present "class" of our hurdlers and chasers is very much below what it was in the days of Clarence, The Agent, etc.

We took occasion last week to commend the proposals of the Hawke's Bay Jockey Club (which are to be brought before the forthcoming Conference) in the direction of licensing trainers and jockeys.

Amid the Thoroughbreds

A VISIT TO WELLINGTON PARK.

[By "SIR LAUNCELOT."]

(Continued.)

A FEW of the young foals were running beside their mothers in an adjacent paddock. Pointing out a grey mare Mr. Morrin informed me that it was Vivandiere, the dam of Son of a Gun and The Dancer. This mare is a fine looking animal, perfectly white in colour, with great massive quarters, and she is a bit closer to the ground than her son The Dancer. She is particularly valuable, not only for having produced this horse and Son of a Gun, but also for her Musket blood, for she was sired by that horse and is out of Georgi, a daughter of the imported Surplice horse Bishop of Osnaburgh. Her brother Flintlock, who is located in the Wairarapa, has sired one or two that can gallop. On the side of her dam Vivandiere, traces back to old Alice Grey, the granddam of Yattendon. Vivandiere has a nice filly by Castor this season. Forno shows her second pledge of affection in the shape of a filly by Hotchkiss, whose blood should nick admirably with her's. This little stranger is of bigger size than her yearling half-sister, and as she is practically full sister to St. Clair, with a dash of Sterlingworth and Oxford thrown in she is bred beautifully enough to please the most fastidious. Forno struck me as being about the biggest of all the Pulchra's, and she is certainly as handsome as paint, and I look upon her as one of the most valuable of the many valuable mares possessed by Mr. Morrin. The Apremont—Luna mare Moonray has not improved in looks since I last saw her in Christchurch. She has at foot a chestnut filly to Tasman, which youngster is a full sister to Reflection, a winner last season. Rose and Black, another of Mr. D. O'Brien's dames, is a half-sister to that great performer Vanguard, and could herself gallop a bit as a two year old. She has a colt by Castor. What a fine mare is old Madcap, who is getting well up in years, having been foaled in 1873. With all her good looks, however, and her aristocratic pedigree—she is by Trumpeter out of a mare by Young Melbourne from Maid of Masham—the old lady has not been a success at the stud, for with the exception of Morion she has produced nothing worth training. Mr. Morrin got her very cheap the other day, and since I visited the Park she has produced a colt to The Dauphin, and has visited Castor. A fine looking mare is Bianca, and a grandly bred one too, being by Black Eagle (son of Yattendon and Camilla), out of Bessie by Angler (son of Fisherman and the Oaks winner Marchioness), out of Lord of the Hills (imp.)—Ragpicker, who was sister to Sylvia. Bianca's yearling last season was an unusually fine colt, and Mr. Gollan was content to go to 560gs for him. His name is Kempenfeldt. Bianca was when I saw her attended by a filly by Hotchkiss, and she has visited the same horse again. Necklace is an old acquaintance of mine whom I shall never forget seeing beaten a head by Nelson for the Dunedin Cup and winning the D.J.C. and Forbury Handicaps at the same meeting. She has filled out into a very fine specimen of a brood mare, and shows as the result of her mating with Castor a colt of very nice quality. Mr. Morrin being a firm believer in the Leolinus mares, recently purchased Lioness, whom I next saw. This mare is by Leolinus out of the imported Trumpeter mare Miss Laura, and when I saw her she was attended by a colt by Tetford. A fine old stamp of mare is the grey Maid of Athol, whose purchase as a yearling in Australia reflects credit on the soundness of Mr. Morrin's judgment, for she has produced several winners. She was not a success on the turf herself, having only run once as a three-year-old; but her fame at the stud is sufficiently attested by the victories of her sons Krupp, Soudan and Scots Grey, and of her daughters Kotuku and Queen of Trumps. As she is only 16 years old she should be good for some more foals yet for whom Mr. Morrin can reckon on getting good prices. When I saw her she was almost due to foal to Hotchkiss, and she has since produced a filly. Victoria is not a big 'un, but she was a good racer of her class, and as game as the proverbial pebble. She is one of the few good daughters of the imported Féve that are knocking about the country, and her dam Memento was a half-sister to the dual Great Autumn Handicap winner Longlands. Victoria was in foal to Hotchkiss when I saw her, and she has since foaled a filly. In a

paddock by herself I found old Sylvia perfectly crippled. But there is still a vestige of the old symmetry that always caused one to take off his hat to such a "mother of heroes," and as we stand looking at her there rises before me memories of happy days gone by spent amid the pastures of Sylvia Park, and of those memorable days in November, 1883, when I saw her son Martini-Henry set the seal on his fame by winning the V.R.C. Derby and Melbourne Cup. Sylvia is now 28 years old, and cannot last much longer. But Mr. Morrin will let events take their own course with her. He has consecrated—if I may use the term without any irreverence—the top of a little hillock where he proposes she shall be laid when she is dead, but with such a bead-roll of illustrious names as figure among her progeny it may be said that

Greener still than vernal blade
Her fame shall flourish, staterier made
By their reflected might.

Strolling further afield among the brood matrons Mr. Morrin introduced me to Cissy, whom he rightly regards as a pearl of great price. Ah! if ever it should chance that the Wellington Park Stud has to be dispersed, what price will be given for this handsome sister to Trenton and Cuirassier. She is indeed the *beau idéal* of a brood mare, and being only six years old she has all her stud career before her. Since I was at the Park she has produced a colt foal to Castor, who will again be her mate. Close by her in the paddock was her mother Frailty, who is the most valuable of the whole Wellington Park collection. Mother and daughter make a handsome and costly pair. It is an oft-told story how Frailty was purchased as a yearling by Mr. Morrin, who liked her for her blood—by Goldsbrough (son of Fireworks and Sylvia)—Flora McIvor, by New Warrior (imp.)—Io (sister to Waimea), by Sir Hercules—Flora McIvor, by imp. Rous' Emigrant; how her first foal was the redoubtable Trenton, and how she has since produced Niagara, Cuirassier, Cissy, Mary, and Zalinski, all winners. After Zalinski came Mousquetaire, for whom Mr. Gollan gave 2,025gs, and at the last yearling sale Mr. W. R. Wilson gave 2,200gs for her colt by Nordenfeldt. Of a truth she has been a gold mine to her owner, and it was cruel luck for him that her son by Nordenfeldt should have died last year from inflammation twenty-four hours after birth. Frailty never raced herself, and was only a three-year-old when she was first mated with Musket. She was in fact the first daughter of Goldsbrough ever put to the stud, and now that Goldsbrough is getting up in years his daughters are growing more valuable every day, for they have nearly all been most successful as stud matrons. I suppose the most valuable of them are Frailty and Primrose, the dam of Wild Rose (the Newmarket Handicap winner). Frailty and Primrose too (the latter of whom is in Mr. W. R. Wilson's St. Albans' stud) are very closely related, for in addition to both being by Goldsbrough, Primrose is out of Corisande, who is full sister to Flora McIvor, the dam of Frailty. Frailty was brought over from Australia with Prunella, Matana (the dam of St. Michael), Kenilworth, and King Quail. Mayshe live many years to breed some more as good as those she has already thrown. I had not seen Pungawerewere since she somewhat unexpectedly won the Dunedin Cup of 1876, and I was surprised to find how well she carries her years—now twenty in number. When on the turf she was about as jady a mare as you could wish to drop across. She had plenty of "toe," but would only travel when she felt in the humour—and that was not very often. Not unnaturally most people thought that she would transmit her jady quality to her stock, but such as not been the case in the majority of instances, as witness the deeds of Tetford, Brigadier, Tranter, St. James, Crackshot, and Puwerewere. Of these Tetford won the Wanganui Cup, St. James the Dunedin Cup, and Crackshot the Canterbury and Auckland Cups, while Brigadier was a most successful racer and has sired winners. Tranter could also gallop, and Puwerewere ran respectably last season, and the yearling sister to Crackshot, that Mr. Morrin will offer on January 4th, looks like furnishing into a most worthy member of her family. It is not at all unlikely too that ere these lines appear in print Punga's son Crackshot will have won the New Zealand Cup, in which event there will be great joy at Wellington Park. Altogether Pungawerewere is a very valuable brood mare. She is in foal to Hotchkiss. Bangle, a full sister

to Thunderbolt, Necklace, Chain Shot, and Necklet, is extremely valuable property. She lacks size perhaps, but her yearling colt does her every credit, as already mentioned in my report of the Wellington Park yearlings. This season she has a colt to Castor. Yattendon mares are very valuable now, and Mr. Morrin is therefore to be congratulated on owning such as Yattacy, a fine stamp of mare by Yattendon out of Extasy, by The Marquis (winner of the Two Thousand Guineas and Leger) out of Lady Exeter, by New Warrior (imp.)—Agitation (imp.), by Ambrose (son of Touchstone). Yattacy is in her prime, being only twelve years old, and she has already produced winners in Legacy and Yattaghan. She has a filly to Hotchkiss this season. Aida I remember when in training at Mr. G. G. Stead's as a youngster, that gentleman having bred her. She is a bit on the small side, but shows heaps of quality, and has already produced one good one in Impulse. With all her other foals she has been unfortunate, most of them having died. Her breeding is irreproachable, for she is by imported Leolinus out of imported L'Orient, who was by Knight of the Crescent (who ran third to Lord Lyon and Savernake for the Doncaster Leger) out of Egyptian, by Touchstone—Miss Area, by Gladiator. She is therefore full sister to Radames. She is in foal to Castor. Hazel I saw win the Great Autumn Handicap of 1891, but otherwise she did nothing of note on the turf. She is still the same angular mare she was then, but as a sister to Strathmore she should breed something worthy of her lineage. She has a filly to Tasman this year—the first of her progeny. Rubina is another valuable mare, for she was not only a great racer herself but she has produced two good 'uns, Vandal and Florrie. Since my visit to Wellington Park she has produced a brother to Florrie, and has gone back to Tasman again.

Crinoline was the first of the dry mares we looked at. She is a nice enough mare bar the usual stilty Lord Lyon forelegs, but so far she has not been a success at the stud, Sternchaser being the best she has thrown, and he is nothing out of the ordinary. She missed to Tasman this season, and has been served by Castor. Whenever I have seen Onyx I have always felt inclined to take off my hat, she is such a beauty of a nugget in appearance, apart from her having produced such clinkers as Sardonyx and Nordenfeldt. Enfilade too, was not half a bad 'un, and I have an idea that we shall see her son Stanmoor in great form next season. Onyx is now twenty years old, but does not look it. She missed to Hotchkiss this season, and Mr. Morrin has now put her to Cuirassier, and the progeny will have a double cross of Fisherman and ditto of old Juliet, for Goldsbrough is out of Sylvia (by Fisherman—Juliet) and Onyx's dam Chrysolite is by Stockwell out of Juliet. Steppe is another fine mare with more size than Onyx, but she is beginning to show age. She has decidedly been the most successful of that lot of mares Mr. Stead imported from England in 1882, for she has bred winners like Russley, Lady Norah, Too Soon, She, and Stepniak. Her now two-year-old colt by Ingomar was purchased by Mr. Peka Kerekere as a yearling for 300gs, which was 100gs more than Mr. Morrin paid for the mare with this colt at foot at the dispersal of the New Zealand Stud Co.'s establishment, and it was at the same sale that he secured Onyx for 300gs—two splendid and by no means dear purchases. Steppe missed to Hotchkiss, and Mr. Morrin has very sensibly put her to that most successful young sire St. Leger, remembering that to Doncaster, the sire of St. Leger and Steppe, she produced two winners—Leeds and Russley, the former of whom was a very consistent and lasting racer in the Old Country.

In another paddock was Ouida whom I had never seen before, and I found her to be a very handsome brown mare of exquisite quality, with plenty of size and power. She was purchased when young by Mr. Morrin, and here again was the soundness of his judgement proved, for she has been the mother of a long line of winners. The names of Artillery, Balista, Hilda, Hazel, Strathmore, and Brown Alice are sufficient to show the quality of her productions. She ran once as a two-year-old, and was then put to the stud. She now has a filly at foot by Hotchkiss, and has been served by Cuirassier. She is a daughter of Yattendon, and on the dam's side goes back to the same blood as The Barb. My readers will not need to be told that I am a firm believer in Anteros mares, and with him

out of the country we have all too few of them left. Gannet is by Anteros out of Albatross, and therefore combines in her veins the blood of Stockwell and Fisherman—two mighty sires. She is half-sister to those good performers Teksum, Loch Ness, and Merganser, and has already produced a racehorse in Brigand, who last season won the Auckland Guineas and Prince of Wales' Handicap. Gannet never raced. This season she has a nice Castor filly, and has visited Cuirassier. A very handsome black mare with a white face is Albatross, who was another of Mr. Morrin's Australian purchases. She is by Malta (son of imp. Kingston, and winner of the Hawkesbury Guineas) out of Auk, by The Marquis (imp.) out of Seagull, by Fisherman (imp.)—Omen (imp.), by Melbourne—a lovely pedigree indeed. Her winning progeny so far have been Teksum, Loch Ness, and Merganser—not a bad trio. Albatross ran in one race as a youngster, but she met with an accident, and had to be thrown out of training. She has had a filly to Hotchkiss this season, and has been mated with Cuirassier. The Jilt was an old friend of mine, and she hasn't altered a bit since her young days. She has, however, proved good enough to produce two winners, Folly and Eve, and as she is only thirteen she has plenty of time to further enrich the pages of the *Stud Book*. Since I saw her at the Park she has produced a filly to Hotchkiss. Lyrelinus is a well bred mare, and has good looks also to recommend her. Here we have some more Leolinus blood, for she is by that horse out of Lyre by Patriarch (son of Yattendon) out of Lyra (imp.) the dam of Gortou, who has been a pretty successful sire in Otago. Lyrelinus—who by the way never raced—is full sister to All There, who has won several races in Australia lately. She has a filly to Hotchkiss this season. Katipo has a bit of value as the first of Pungawerewere's stock, albeit she is not a particularly attractive mare to the eye. Her sire Treg-eagle II. was by Treg-eagle (imp. son of Wild Dayrell) out of Mignonette by Egremont (son of Moss Rose) out of Queen Bess by Peter Fin (imp.). Katipo won two or three races in the Auckland district. She is a contemporary of The Jilt, having been foaled in 1879. She is only a recent purchase of Mr. Morrin's, and has this season produced a colt to Brigadier. She has visited Cuirassier. Queen Cole is by King Cole out of Rosalie, and is therefore half-sister to Derringer; she has a filly foal to Hotchkiss, and has visited Cuirassier. Two very nice mares are the sisters Hilda and Balista, who were grazing together. We all know what a good mare on the racing track Hilda was, and Mr. Morrin naturally regards her with great pride, and looks to her to produce a line of winners. She was put to Castor rather late just after she was taken out of training, and unfortunately missed to him, and so did Balista. Both have visited him again. Further afield I met an old acquaintance in imported Titania, the dam of Puck, Bonny Blink, Howitzer, Fusee and Tit. Considering that she is no more than 18 she was not dear at 55gs at the N.Z. Stud Co.'s dispersal, when Mr. Roach secured her, and he still owns her. She is in foal to Cap-a-pie, and has been sent to Wellington Park to visit Tasman. Tasmania is a rather plain half-sister to Tasman, who won a little for Mr. D. O'Brien when she was racing. She has a colt by Hotchkiss. Before All There commenced winning Mr. Morrin got hold of Valentinia, another sister to him and Lyrelinus, and she has been served by Castor. Rose of Wellington has youth and good blood on her side, for she is a five-year-old daughter of St. Leger and Fleurette, and is consequently half-sister to Boulanger. I have often wondered how Mr. Morrin and other studmasters let an American commissioner secure such a well bred mare as Fleurette at the N.Z. Stud Co.'s break-up for 120gs; she was at that time only 11 years old, and her pedigree cannot be beaten, for she is by Onyx's brother Robinson Crusoe out of Rose of Denmark (imp.) by Stockwell out of Marchioness, the imported Oaks winner, who produced Fishhook, Angler, and several other good horses. Rose of Wellington has a colt by Hotchkiss, and has gone to the same horse again.

(To be continued.)

La Flèche is the fourth St. Leger winner trained by John Porter, the others being Pero Gomez in 1869, Ormonde in 1886, and Common last year. J. Watts who rode La Flèche in this year's race, also steered Memoir when she won in 1890, and he also scored in the race on two other occasions—in 1883 on Ossian, and in 1884 on The Lambkin.

Among Horses and Ostriches.

[By "SIR LAUNCELOT."]

WHITFORD PARK, where Mr. L. D. Nathan keeps his thoroughbreds and also goes in for ostrich breeding, is a comparative *terra incognita* to the average New Zealand sportsman. This arises from the fact that it is not so easy come-at-able as other homes of the young thoroughbred, for to see it properly takes a whole day. It is only lately too that Mr. Nathan has gone into racing with a thorough earnestness, and but very few youngsters have been reared at Whitford Park. But now that Mr. Nathan has gone into the "sport of kings" with a thorough *vim*, and intends keeping up a good breeding establishment at the Park, we will, I think, find many winners hailing from the property so prettily situated on the banks of the Turanga Creek.

I have said that it takes a whole day to visit Whitford Park, and so it does if you want to "do" the place properly, but if one only wants to cursorily inspect the blood stock he can run down by the boat, which leaves Auckland for Turanga Creek on either Thursday or Friday, and stays there about an hour and a-half and then returns. But it was by road that we journeyed the other day, Mr. Nathan himself and his brother-in-law Mr. A. Davis (who manages his racing operations, in which St. Hippo this season has played such a prominent part) being my *cicerones*. In a comfortable waggonette, and behind a slashing pair of Pullen and Armitage's nags, we traversed the journey to the Park in about three hours—not bad time for a distance of 21 miles, especially when portions of the road were in very bad order and some steep hills had to be mounted. A beautiful view is obtained nearly the whole way down. The eye of the visitor rests on the one side on the placid waters of Auckland harbour, and on the other he can take in a panorama embracing at various stages of the journey Epsom, Otahuhu, and all the country adjacent thereto stretching as far down as Onehunga, the Manukau Heads being distinctly visible when one steep hill has been breasted. Arrived at the farm a light breakfast was the order, as we had left town at the early hour of 7.30 a.m., and then with Mr. Dibble, Mr. Nathan's energetic manager, we sallied forth to roam among the thoroughbreds.

A description of how to get to Whitford Park has, however, led me away from mentioning the fact that we diverged slightly on the road thither in order to have a look over a portion of Sylvia Park which Mr. Nathan has leased for grazing purposes, and where some of his mares were at the time located. Old and pleasant memories were revived as I trod this historic ground, which I had not visited for more than eight years; but times have changed since then, and not only has Musket paid the debt of nature and the stud been dispersed, but the old stallion boxes have been burnt down and an old landmark thus removed. However, there are some thoroughbreds still at the Park other than those I saw, so it cannot altogether be said that this famous spot is entirely given over to other and more ignoble uses than it formerly boasted of. The first mare of Mr. Nathan's now pointed out to me was Sybil, a four-year-old sister to Leolantis and Fabulous by Leolinus (imp.)—Atlantis (imp.). She never ran, but is a roomy mare of nice quality. Her first foal was at her side in the shape of a filly by Tasman. La Dauphine is a fine big bay of great power and substance, and withal by no means devoid of quality. She is by The Dauphin (son of Traducer, and winner of the Canterbury Derby of 1881) out of the Panic mare Brassolis, and had a bit of foot when in training, and turned out to be a small winner. She has a filly by St. Leger at foot—a fine booming baby that does her credit. Her mother Brassolis was close by. This is a fine strapping mare—not one of much quality, but with tons of substance, and quarters like a cart mare. She is one of the only two Panic mares ever imported to this colony—Bragela being the other—and she is by that sire out of Josephine, by Boiardo (imp.)—Wando, by Cossack (brother to Waimea)—Fair Helen, by Rous' Emigrant—a fine old-fashioned pedigree. Both she and Bragela were imported about 10 years ago to Poverty Bay by Mr. J. Macpherson, and afterwards drifted up this way, and were both sold to Auckland residents. Panic mares are worth a bit of money in Australia nowadays. Brassolis is now 15 years old, and is beginning

to show signs of wear and tear. She had a very finely-developed filly by St. Leger running with her, and the Stockwell, Thormanby, and Wild Dayrell blood in that horse should be the very thing to nick with the Panic strain in Brassolis and La Dauphine, and I was glad to hear that they are to be mated with the same sire this season. Close by was a little mare that was pointed out to me as Lady Whitford. This is the filly by Nordenfeldt out of Bianca, whom Mr. Nathan got for 75gns at the break up of the New Zealand Co.'s establishment—rather a contrast to the 560gns, which Mr. Gollan gave for her full brother the following year at Mr. Morrin's sale. Lady Whitford was, however, a lot on the small side, which accounts for her going at such a low figure. She was put to the stud as a two-year-old, and therefore I was not surprised to find her first foal so small. It is a chestnut colt by St. Leger, and exhibits a lot of quality. St. Leger on a Nordenfeldt mare is a combination of two successful young stallions that is hard to beat. Lady Whitford again goes to St. Leger. There were three other mares of Mr. Nathan's at Sylvia Park that had rambled away up a hill, and we had no time to go and see them. This I regretted more especially, because one of the trio was St. Hippo's sister Roie, who has been served by Cuirassier. Another visitor to Cuirassier is Maxim's half-sister Liquidation, by King Cole—Realization (whom I had of course seen when Mr. Stead had her in training), and the other of the trio was Operatic, by Don Giovanui out of the Burns mare. This mare has visited St. Leger. But to return to Whitford Park and what I saw there.

Mr. Dibble first led the way to the yearlings' boxes, and brought out a filly by Nordenfeldt—La Dauphine. She is chestnut in colour, with a white forefoot and white hind one and a blaze down her face. She is well-grown enough almost to pass muster for a two-year-old, and yet she is not a bit leggy. She stands on a capital set of legs, has beautifully sloping shoulders and a back like a billiard table, a well-rounded barrel and massive quarters, but her hocks might be a bit closer to the ground. She is the first foal of her dam, and if La Dauphine breed many more like her and the filly I saw at Sylvia Park, she should be one of the most valuable brood mares in New Zealand. If Mr. Nathan send this filly up for sale as a yearling she should set many heads nodding. The filly by Nordenfeldt out of the Leonidas mare Inisthona, is also a chestnut in colour, with the off fore-foot and off hind-foot white. She is not quite as tall as the previously-described filly, but is well grown for all that, and better let down; she shows heaps of quality, and being one of the last of the Nordenfeldt's in New Zealand should realise a good figure. The filly by Leolinus out of Cantiniere (the dam of Brown Bess) represents a cross of Leolinus and Musket that I'm very fond of. She has the usual back of the Leolinus stock, but she is not as tall as he generally gets them. She is of good average size though, and shows plenty of quality. Her bone is big right through, and she girths well, and her legs and feet are all right, but she is a bit pigeon-toed, which, however for my part, I never regard as a blemish. A filly by Leolinus—Outcast completes the quartette of young ladies. This filly is not a big 'un—far from it—but she has several good points about her, and as she is sure to be a cheap lot she should be worth the attention of up-country sportsmen.

Whitford Park is graced by the presence of two yearling colts, which number would have been three had not the colt by Nordenfeldt—Lovebird had the misfortune to injure himself so badly that he had to be destroyed. This was a piece of very hard luck for Mr. Nathan. The first young gentleman we looked over was a son of Nordenfeldt and Brassolis, who bears a great deal of resemblance to his relative, the above mentioned filly out of La Dauphine. It therefore almost goes without saying that he is a really good looking colt containing power, substance and quality. The colt by Nordenfeldt out of Operatic is not as tall as the other colt, and is a trifle narrow to follow, but he is quality enough, and looks like coming to hand early. St. Valentine, the two-year-old son of St. Leger and Lovebird I had before seen when he was in training at Wright's, and he was now again shown to me. Mr. Nathan has done wisely to elect to give such a loose overgrown fellow a good spell, and he should be greatly benefited thereby. We next interviewed a two-year-old colt by Ingomar (imp.) out of Nelson's dam My Idea. When the N.Z. Stud Co.'s stud was dispersed this colt was running

at his dam's foot, and for the mare and him Mr. Nathan gave 130gns, which alone would not have been dear for the dam of such a celebrity as Nelson. However, she did not live long to enrich Mr. Nathan with a second Nelson, and her colt before he had been long at Whitford Park jumped a fence and cut himself very badly on the hind leg. He still bears the marks, and there is an ungainly swelling on the leg, but Mr. E. D. Halstead has examined him lately, and has given it as his professional opinion that it will not interfere with his training when he is put into work. I have often thought that with Ingomar's own performances over sticks added to the fact that he is bred from chasing blood, his stock should have been tried at the "illegitimate" game more than they have been, and this bay young gentleman looks just the handy cut-and-come-again sort to turn out a "dandy" over the little sticks or across a country. Mr. Nathan now suggested a return to the house for luncheon, where a repast, in which succulent home-fed mutton and ditto beef formed a component, proved substantial and appetising, and here I may remark that there is a neat little residence at Whitford Park, to which Mr. Nathan's family retire during the hot weather, and it is surrounded by another residence for the manager and substantial outbuildings.

After lunch and some dessert we were again on the move, this time to see the brood mares, who were running in a large paddock through which ran a beautifully trickling stream. *En route* some of the ostriches claimed our attention, and having been a visitor more than once to Mr. J. T. Matson's ostrich farm in the vicinity of Christchurch, the antics of these ungainly looking birds did not afford me as much astonishment as they did to some of our party. Of them anon. The first mare to cross our path was Coryphee by Sword Dance—Brassolis. This mare ran but once, when as a two-year-old she finished out of a place in the Calliope Handicap at the Takapuna Summer Meeting. She is a decidedly leggy lady, but is valuable because she is one of the few mares Sword Dance left behind him as the result of the only season he stood in New Zealand. Outcast, a burly chestnut mare that we saw later on, has a bit of a history. She is by Castaway (brother to Lurline and Le Loup) out of Moss Rose by Camden—Young Rosebud by Sir Hercules, and she therefore descends from the same family as Chancellor, Black Rose, York, Awarua Rose, The Shah and several others. She was purchased as a yearling by Mr. Redwood, I believe, at one of the Middle Park sales. Afterwards our local owner Mr. J. Lennard got hold of her, and then she went into obscurity for awhile, and Mr. Dibble, hearing of her in his neighbourhood, bought her for the Whitford Park Stud. Turning up the *Stud Book*, I find that Moss Rose foaled two chestnut fillies to Castaway—one in 1876 and the other in 1877. I wonder which this is, and as her owner does not know, perhaps some of my Southern readers can furnish me with the information. The mare was in foal to Fabulous when I saw her, and since then she has dropped a filly. Leolantis will now be her mate. Inisthona is as handsome a mare as you could wish to see in a day's march, and she had a lovely colt at foot by Fabulous, and visits Leolantis. This mare reminds one a good deal of Steppe. She never raced owing to an accident, but Mr. Nathan was fortunate to drop across her casually as was the case with other of his mares. She is by Leonidas out of Moilena (a mare now in Mr. Morrin's stud) by Patriarch—Rosabelle by Panic (imp.)—Rosabella by Gohanna; Leonidas being by Kelpie (imp.)—Bessie Bell by the Black Prince (imp.). She was bred by Mr. Macpherson, who imported Moilena along with Bragela and Brassolis, and like them she was buried in obscurity for some time. It is really peculiar, however, how a most diligent student of the *Stud Book* loses the run at times of some brood mares. Another fine mare Mr. Nathan owns is Cantiniere, and she has produced a filly to St. Leger, whom she will again visit. It was the union of St. Leger and this mare that produced that smart little mare Brown Bess, whom it is a pity Mr. J. C. Booth did not bring back with him from Australia after the meritorious manner she raced there, as well as in the land of her birth. Cantiniere is a Musket mare, and is out of Queen Bess, a daughter of Nutwith, the brother of Waimea. This same Queen Bess has had several winners besides Brown Bess, and there is no doubt she is thoroughbred, but unfortunately her dam's pedigree was lost in the early

days of Wanganui breeding, when they did not in that locality attach as much importance to pedigree lore as they have had reason to do since then.

In another paddock I received my introduction to Leolantis. This five-year-old son of Leolinus and Atlantis is entirely a different stamp to what I expected to see. He is a good deal shorter in the back than the average of Leolinus' stock, and shows more quality than a large number of them. He is nice and close to the ground, full of power and muscle, standing on good legs, and remarkably short in the cannon-bone. He was, those most competent to judge and who saw him running tell me a colt above the average *calibre* as a racer, and the records show that as a three-year-old he beat The Dreamer and Reprisal in the Auckland Guineas, and took the A.R.C.'s Christmas Handicap, carrying 8.3, and beating a field of half-a-dozen, whom but one he was conceding weight. He is getting several of his owner's mares this season, and I see no reason why he should not be as successful at the stud as his half-brother St. Leger. Retracing our steps to the vicinity of the house we were shown some more of the ostriches; some of them on their nests, the male and female bird taking turn and turn about at sitting on the eggs as is their wont; the plucking boxes where the feathers are taken from the birds; the baby ostriches in a house artificially heated; the young birds in a paddock by themselves; and the veterans of the farm, most of whom were born there—and some of them were a bit aggressive too. In a paddock close to the house was grazing an old friend in the shape of Lovebird, whom I first saw at Mr. Stead's, when she was imported from England in company with Steppe, etc. The daughter of Macaroni and Better Half is looking well on it, although she is now seventeen years old according to English time. There are so few Macaroni mares in the colonies that Lovebird is very valuable, but she has not hitherto been a success at the stud, the only one of her progeny that has achieved any success at racing being Leopold, who was undoubtedly an honest little fellow of his class. For Lovebird, with St. Valentine at foot, Mr. Nathan gave 210gns at the N.Z. Stud Co.'s sale. She was when I was at Whitford Park heavy in foal to St. Leger, to whom she has since foaled a filly. Cuirassier will be her mate this season. A most pleasant day was terminated by a look at some of Fabulous' progeny out of half-bred mares, that are most creditable productions and augur well for this horse's success at the stud when Mr. Nathan places him at public service next season. And then, after a cup of tea "homeward bound" was the order, and we arrived in town in the gloaming exquisitely pleased at the time we had spent among the thoroughbreds and the ostriches.

V.R.C. Spring Meeting.

THIRD DAY—THURSDAY, NOV. 3RD.

THE Victoria Racing Club's Spring Meeting was continued on the above date in fine weather. The track was, however, a bit heavy after the previous rain.

Business commenced with the Flying Stakes, weight-for-age, 7 furlongs, for which the following went to the post:—Bungebah, Paris, Autonomy, Calculus, The Captain, Incaminca, The Dauphine, Fairfield, Meg, and Salutation. In the betting Bungebah and Autonomy had the call, 5 to 2 being taken about each, while Paris was supported at 6 to 1. Bungebah got home by half a length with Autonomy a moderate third. Bungebah and Paris each carried 8.11, and Autonomy had 8.0. The seven furlongs were cut out in 1min 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ sec.

The Oaks Stakes of 500sovs, one mile and a-half, for three-year old fillies, brought out the following quintette:—Trieste, by Chester—Tempe; Insomnia, by Robinson Crusoe—Nightmare; Etra Weenie, by Trenton—Nellie; Urith, by Newminster—Marchioness mare; and Gaillardia, by Trenton—Paresseuse. Odds of 2 to 1 were laid on Trieste, 4 to 1 being offered about Insomnia, and 6 to 1 about Etra Weenie. Insomnia led till the home turn, where she was collared by Trieste, and the pair ran a ding-dong race home, Etra Weenie winning by half-a-length from Mr. "J. B. Clark's" filly. Insomnia was third. Time, 2min 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ sec. A protest was entered against the winner on the ground of interfering with Trieste, but it was dismissed after a lengthy hearing. Etra Weenie, who won the Maribyrnong Plate last year, is by Cuirassier's

