

The death is announced in Queensland of the veteran stallion Newbold, who has sired so many winners. He was bred in 1868 by Mr W. A. B. Greaves, N.S.W., and was by Kelpie (imp.) out of Dora, by Sir Hercules—Old Dora, by Beresford's Camel (imp.)—Annette, by Toss (imp.). He won several races in New South Wales, and was brought to Queensland in 1876 by Mr W. H. Kent, from whom he passed to Mr John Finnie, who raced him in the "banana colony." In April, 1877, he carried off the Governor's Cup and two large handicaps at Warwick; the Stewards' Cup at Ipswich; the Craven Plate and Epsom Handicap at Brisbane; and the Town Plate at Toowoomba. As a sire he achieved a great success, among his progeny being such big performers on the racing track as Honest Ned, Miss Newbold, Bendigo, Ben Bolt (winner of the Caulfield Cup), Master Walter, Goldenstone, Newbolt, and, last but not least, the Hon. D. S. Wallace's Megaphone.

Reuben with 9.4 ran second to Idle Boy 10.3 in the Steeplechase at Sydney Tattersall's Meeting. Reuben is an aged son of Hornby and Deceit, who was taken from Christchurch to Sydney some time ago. He won some decent up-country races in Canterbury. The ex-Welingtonian Death steered Idle Boy to victory.

Alcinous with 8.12 was second to Captain Cuttle 7.0 in the Cranbourne (Vic.) Handicap, one mile, on the 29th ult.

Whitefoot, whom W. H. Keith took over to Australia at the same time as Tayforth, was second with 9.4 to Target 9.0 in the Welter Handicap, 7 furlongs, at Aspendale Park (Melbourne) on the 31st ult. Oudeis' brother Renata carrying 9.0 and ridden by White was unplaced in the same race. What a 'frost' this horse has been in Australia! *Egyptus*, 7.13, was third to Seacombe, 7.12, and Maggie, 7.2, in the Aspendale Park Handicap, one mile and a furlong, Alcinous, 7.10 being unplaced.

At the Queensland Turf Club's meeting on the 31st ult. a couple of races were won by Euroka, who is by Wheatmeat—My Fancy, and is therefore half-brother to the dual Dunedin Cup winner Lady Emma, now in the Hon. G. McLean's stud.

Calista, starting 43sec behind scratch, was second to Best Policy 14sec in the Handicap Trot, 2 miles, at Oakleigh (Melbourne) on December 30.

His Excellency Lord Hopetoun exhibited his interest last year in hunting in no unmistakable manner when he presented half a dozen couples of hounds to the Melbourne Hunt Club. Lord Hopetoun has still further emphasised his interest in the 'king of sports,' and to his order there will arrive in a few days eleven couples of hounds from the best packs in the old country, and these also will be presented to the Melbourne Hunt Club, of which institution his Excellency is not only a staunch supporter, but also an ardent follower.

T. Sanders had his first mount since the removal of his disqualification on Lord Hopetoun, when he got second to Ascot Vale in the Standish Handicap.

Annesley, who this year finished second to Hopetoun in the Bagot Handicap, occupied the same position in the same race last year when Portsea won. Power rode him then and this jockey was now up on his conqueror. Another Victorian record was broken at Flemington in this year's Bagot Handicap, when Marvel's 2min 49½sec was fractured by Hopetoun running the thirteen furlongs in 2min 49½sec, and right throughout the pace was wonderfully sound, the only slow portion of it being the first furlong, which occupied 15½sec. The last mile and a half was run in 2min 34sec, the mile in 1min 43sec, and the last six furlongs in 1min 16sec. The last five furlongs were run in 1min 2½sec, and the last half-mile in 49½sec, thus showing the race to have been a truly run one for the last twelve furlongs, thanks to the splendid pace made by Cressy and Newman, two of the Ballarat candidates.

Alas! how are the mighty fallen! Perhaps the dishonor accorded poor Plausible, who ran third to Malua and Commotion in the Melbourne Cup and afterwards won the V.R.C. Handicap at the same meeting, is more terrible than ever was previously laid upon the back of a great racehorse. On Boxing Day at Tallangatta (the birthplace of Glenloth) poor old Plausible once more made his appearance at the post, but in a *hack race*, and even here he could only run third to a couple of commoners.

At the settling up of the Whatawhata Race committee on Saturday last, the accounts submitted showed a debt balance of 15s 4d. Votes of thanks were accorded to the hon. sec., to Messrs. McCutcheon and Rothwell, and Mr. G. H. Carter for their exertions in forwarding the interests of the Club at the recent races. Mr. McCutcheon lodged a protest on behalf of his horse Life Buoy, in respect to the Maiden Plate, and it will be considered at a meeting to be held to-morrow (Friday).

The weights for the Bay of Plenty Jockey Club's races which come off on the 30th inst., will be found in another column. Owing to Mr. Evett not being supplied with the official list of entries, he was unable to declare his handicaps till Friday, and consequently the Club have put back their acceptance day till Saturday next.

The programme of the Papakura Racing Club's annual gathering is advertised in this issue. The customary date, March 17th, has been chosen, and £265 is to be given away, which sum is similar to that given last year. The Papakura Cup Handicap of 60 sovs.—a "tenner" less than last year—and the Steeplechase Handicap of 60 sovs.—the same amount as last year—are the principal items. Nominations close on February 24. Mr. J. O. Evett is handicapper, and Mr. G. Cutts will wield the starter's flag.

The entries for two of the events of the first day's racing at the Hawke's Bay Jockey Club's Autumn meeting closed on Tuesday in the shape of the Hawke's Bay Cup and Railway Handicap. Though not quite as good as some of the lists Mr. Luckie has previously had to present, still they are by no means small, 28 appearing in the Cup and 30 in the shorter race. Auckland is only represented by Scot Free and Loch Ness, and the South Islanders muster poorly with but Crackshot, Awarua Rose, Cruchfield and Crown Jewel, Retina and Paramo.

According to late Melbourne files our old Auckland mare Mitrailleuse has foaled a filly to Mentor, and Fancy Free, by Musket—Fancy, has produced a colt to the same sire. Sierra, by Apremont—Hammock, who was purchased by the Hon. D. S. Wallace at the dispersal of the Middle Park Stud, has produced a colt to Nordenfeldt's brother Enflade.

A very important rule just passed by the American Turf Congress is that horses with a possibility of obtaining a place in a race are in future to be thoroughly ridden out.

At East Louis (United States) the other day a starter named China did not do his work to the satisfaction of the stewards, so they secured another man's services. China snatched the flag from the new man, the latter appealed to the police for protection, and China drew a knife and was about to use it when a policeman shot him. His recovery is doubtful.

Ahna's half-sister Omaha, who has been winning several races in and around Melbourne lately, has been stinted to Sinking Fund by Tim Whiffler (Eng.)—Jessie, by Maribyrnong. We have, says the *Sportsman*, had several instances of mares who have possessed pace but, not caring to exhibit it in public, doing so after being on visits to horses, amongst the late ones being Litigant, who won the late V.R.C. Handicap; but perhaps the most notable instance of a mare in foal being successful was that of Twilight who won a steeplechase at Flemington five or six months after being stinted.

There were only four runners for the Normanby Stakes of 400 sovs, five furlongs, which was the principal two-year-old event of the Victoria Racing Club's Summer Meeting on New Year's Day. The contestants were the Maribyrnong Plate winner, The Sailor Prince, who had 14lb penalty, Gloria, Bung Bung and Patron. 2 to 1 was laid against Gloria, the same price against Bung Bung, 5 to 2 against The Sailor Prince, and 6 to 1 against Patron. Gloria, who belongs to the Hon. W. A. Long, won easily by a length from Bung Bung, who was a length in front of Patron, The Sailor Prince a length off. The time was 1min 4sec. Gloria is by Cuirassier's brother Trenton out of Aureola, and Aureola is full sister to Onyx and Robinson Crusoe. Mr Stead's mare Auray is by Rapid Bay out of Aureola.

Tom Field, who raced last season with very indifferent success in Australia on behalf of Crackshot's owner and was then brought back to Christchurch has been "added to the list." He is by Johnny Faulker out of The Fly.

From Sydney comes word that Mr W. Lyons has disposed of the well-known pony Secret to Mr R. Phillips, the Victorian bookmaker. Secret is now located at Caulfield.

Those people who advocated the brushing of the fences at Flemington have now all the best of the argument, seeing that there was not a single spill in the Steeplechase at the Victoria Racing Club's Summer Meeting.

Ascot Vale in the Standish Handicap took down Newstead and Cranbrook's Victorian record of 1min 14½sec over six furlongs, for he did the journey in 1min 14sec. Old Newstead still keeps "pegging away," and only four days before Ascot Vale's big performance he won the Selling Race at Mount Gambier (S.A.). It was as far back as November, 1884, that the son of Neckersgat defeated Malua at weight for age when he made his record up the Flemington straight in the Flying Stakes.

Last year Ted Power, on Annesley, was just beaten in the V.R.C. Bagot Handicap, and this year that jockey had the satisfaction of defeating the same unlucky horse. Hopetoun, who was trained by Power, is probably the only horse that has been prepared for an important event in the colonies and afterwards steered to victory by the same light-weight jockey. It was good luck for Power, but terribly hard for J. Scobie, the trainer of Annesley, to be beaten in record time.

I mentioned last week that Titan had been removed from W. Hickenbotham's care by the Hon. D. S. Wallace. This is what "Cranbrook" of the *Sportsman* has to say on the subject:—"Titan has been removed from W. Hickenbotham's care, and that trainer, although not sorry to have such a brute out of his hands, feels somewhat sore over the treatment dispensed to him by the gelding's owner, Mr D. S. Wallace. 'After training horses for that worthy gentleman for the past ten years,' stated Hickenbotham to me on the Flemington training ground on Saturday morning, 'it comes pretty hard that, because I happened to have Comedian running in the V.A.T.C. Hopetoun Cup and Mr Wallace's horse Titan as well, I should be so shabbily treated.' 'But,' said I, 'surely the fact of your having a horse competing in an event along with one belonging to another person, but trained by you would not make any difference to a man like Mr Wallace, who surely by this time could not have any doubts about your honesty. Why, had you cared to have acted otherwise, could you not have "sent him" kite high by giving Carbine, on more than one occasion, to some of the metallic gentlemen whom I could name to lay?' 'Well,' said Walter, 'all I can say in the matter is that at Caulfield Mr Wallace came to me before the Hopetoun Cup was run and asked me what I was going to do with my horse and his.' 'Send them both, and may the best one win,' was the reply. 'At that he (Mr Wallace) waxed wroth, and ordered me to send Titan back to Queenscliff on the following morning.' Truly some men are indeed grateful and generous to a fault!"

The same writer says:—"No one will begrudge Mr H. Oxenham his win with Pilot Boy in the Carrington Stakes. The plucky fiddler—and backer—had the bad luck to lose Buzzard, who broke his neck in the first race he started in, and Linwood, another of his recent purchases, finished second in the Hurdle Race last week. Pilot Boy was well backed when over here in the springtime by his owner, but the son of Gozo always had bad luck, notably at Moonree Valley. Then Kathleen's son finished fourth to Sunshine in the A.J.C. Handicap the other day, when he went out third favourite. Mark Thompson, who trains for Mr Oxenham, deserves a turn of Dame Fortune's wheel, for, beyond a small handicap won by Pilot Boy and a Selling Race carried off by Profit, his last trip over here could not have been a very profitable one. By the way, he has a colt named Solanum, by Somnus (imp.) from Blue and White, engaged in the next V.R.C. Derby."

In Christchurch on the 7th inst., Van Buren, by Vanguard (sire of Skirmisher) out of Wild Rose (dam of Grand Duke and Rosalind) and his full sister Roseguard were offered for sale. Van Buren was passed in for 150 gs, but Mr V. Harris, the owner of Crackshot, gave 100 gs for Roseguard.

At this same V.R.C. Summer Meeting, Tayforth, with 9.9, was unplaced in the Hurdle Handicap, 2 miles, which—wonderful to relate for a hurdle race—resulted in a dead heat between Havilah, 11.5, and Busaco, 10.12. All There, with 7.7, and Ilium, with 7.5—two New Zealand-bred ones—were unplaced in a field of 19 in the Standish Handicap of 300 sovs, six furlongs, which fell to Ascot Vale, by St. Albans—Solitude, 8.13, who won in the "record" time of 1min 14sec. He started second favourite at 5 to 1, Lord Hopetoun, 8.6, being favourite at a point shorter. Ascot Vale won by a short length from Lord Hopetoun, with Mr S. G. Cook's horse, The Harbour Light, 7.8, third. Sir W. J. Clarke won the Steeplechase, about two and a half miles, with Claret, 11.11, who easily disposed of five others.

There were 17 starters for the Bagot Handicap of 1000 sovs, one mile and five furlongs, among them being the Melbourne Cup winner Glenloth, 9.4, on whom White had the mount. Portsea, 8.11, seemingly quite recovered from the effects of his accident in the Melbourne Cup, was avouree at 4 to 1, Ducrow, 7.12, coming next at 9 to 2. Hopetoun, 8.3, won by half a length from Annesley, 8.5, with Norbert, 8.1, inc. 10lb penalty, third. Hopetoun's starting price was 8 to 1. He was ridden by that sterling horseman E. Power, who has been dead out of luck for some time. Trenton's daughter Nada—to whom I alluded last week as having won at Caulfield—annexed the Criterion Handicap of 300 sovs, for two-year-olds only, six furlongs, beating a field of 11.

On the first day of Sydney Tattersall's Meeting—December 31—Mr Hordern's Nordenfeldt—Sister Agnes colt Cannon, 7.0, was unplaced behind Pilot Boy, 8.3, inc. 5lb penalty, in the Carrington Stakes of 700 sovs, six furlongs. Veno, 6.10, was second, and Rockwall, 7.7, third, heads dividing each of the placed horses. Pilot Boy, who started at 12 to 1, is by Gozo out of Kathleen, and belongs to Mr H. Oxenham, the leviathan metalician. Marvel, with 10.0 up, was beaten by four lengths by E.K., 8.7, in the Turf Club Handicap of 150 sovs, one mile and a quarter. He swerved in the straight when finishing well. On the second day of the meeting Cannon, with 7.4, again ran unplaced in the New Year's Gift of 150 sovs, six furlongs, won by Buccleugh, 6.4. We have already learnt by cable that Chatham, 7.12, won the Tattersall's Club Cup of 800 sovs, two miles, with Realm, 8.6, second, and Oxide, 8.7, third. The last-named was ridden by the old New Zealander, "Chum" Pearson. There were 14 starters, Little Bernie, 8.4, inc. 10lb penalty, being favourite at even money. Chatham's starting price was 20 to 1. He beat Realm (who belongs to Mr S. Hordern) by a head, and Oxide was another head away. Little Bernie was fourth.

A Tasmanian correspondent of the Otago *Witness* says:—"Dan O'Brien's racing cast-off Town Moor, by St. Leger, by Miss Laura, is quite the champion showyard thoroughbred over in these parts. The handsome chestnut has been exhibited at all the principal shows in the island, and so far has only been beaten once—that was by old Meteor by St. Albans—and the decision of the judges on this occasion was received rather unfavourably."

Our Letter Box.

[We do not necessarily identify ourselves with the opinions expressed by our correspondents, though, at the same time, we gladly afford space to all communications on matters of public interest to the sporting community.—ED. SPORTING REVIEW.]

THE PROTEST AT WARRENGATE.

(To the Editor SPORTING REVIEW.)

SIR,—The protest at the late Warrengate races against Outer for the Final Handicap is one of the meanest and most unsportsmanlike actions that has ever yet been seen on a racecourse, and I can only think that the trainer of Eve must have been greatly influenced by the backers of Dr. Bennett's mare in the machine, which would never have taken place if the Dr. had been present.

Seeing the race as I did, after travelling through the immediate district I can assure you that the greatest dissatisfaction was universally felt at the result of the Stewards' decision, and I fancy that a change of stewards would give decided satisfaction to the district in general.

I travelled over forty miles the day after the races in question, and came across no man who was not annoyed at the way that the Stewards had given their decision in the case.

To mention the irregular way that things are done here; as regards the Electric Handicap I am led to believe that Slip, the winner, is partly owned by Mr Chapman, the starter, and I think it would have been more advisable for Mr Chapman to have handed over the flag to some disinterested party.

A similar case, at the late V.R.C. (Melbourne) Spring Meeting occurred in the finish for the Oaks race between Trieste and Etra-Weenie, and the decision of the V.R.C. Stewards was that it could not affect the result of the race.

I am, &c.,
A SPORT.

Coming Events.

[BY SIR LAUNCELOT.]

DUNEDIN CUP.

WHAT THE TURF SCRIBES THINK.

OUR contributor "Sir Launcelot" delivered himself last week of his opinion on the handicap for this race (for which acceptances close to night), and we now append some opinions of sporting scribes nearer the scene of action.

"Castor, in the *Canterbury Times*, says:—"Occident, 8.13, who is top weight, has 17lb more than he carried to victory last year, whereas Prime Warden, 8.11, has 9lb more than the weight with which he finished a bad third, and Cruchfield, 8.0, will have 10lb more than he carried into second place. Next day, however, it must be remembered that Cruchfield, with 8 0 on his back, defeated Occident, 8.11, in the D.J.C. Handicap; therefore, with an exactly similar difference in the weights Mr Clifford's horse must be regarded as having slightly the best of the handicap. However, both horses have been in retirement so long that it is difficult to gauge their form, but in such a weak field of stayers, both should be dangerous, and Cruchfield has, of late, been doing capital work on the training tracks. Clanranald, 8.7, has so far accomplished nothing to prove him a stayer. Still it must be remembered that he was a winter favourite for the New Zealand Cup, and although his appearance hardly suggests him to be capable of getting to the end of a mile and a distance, in such a weak field the son of St. Leger may run well. Vogengang, 7.12, is another that will be troubled by the distance, while I do not care for the appearance of Morion 7.11, Scot Free 7.9, and Flinders 7.7. Dilemma, 7.7, however, if sufficiently recovered from his late indisposition, should be extremely dangerous—in fact, if I thought that Mr Reid's horse would be landed at the post thoroughly fit and well, I should look no further for the winner. Crown Jewel, 7.6, has apparently lost her form of last season, but she may return to it during the Autumn, and if she does, the daughter of Miranda can certainly stay. Neither Thame 7.5, North Atlantic 7.4, nor Johnny Faa 7.2 strike me as likely to be dangerous, but Captive, 7.1, is improving, and Don Pedro, 7.0, has been performing well of late in the country districts of Otago, while if Awarua Rose, 7.0, has recovered sufficiently from the accident he met with when running in the New Zealand Cup to accomplish a thoroughly sound preparation, he should be dangerous. I have no liking for any of the horses further down the list, and shall select the following half-dozen to furnish the winner:—Occident, Prime Warden, Clanranald, Cruchfield, Dilemma, and Awarua Rose."

WELLINGTON RACING CLUB'S SUMMER MEETING.

THE Wellington Racing Club's Summer Meeting will be commenced on Monday next, and continued on Wednesday. The minor events on the first day have been accepted for pretty well, but I am sorry to say there are a very small number of "contents" in the Wellington Cup, the principal event of the meeting. Though perhaps from a sporting point of view the gathering does not promise to be a big success, it is always a popular one with the public, more especially as one of the days set apart is that of the anniversary of the foundation of Wellington. Therefore Secretary Lyon is pretty certain to be confronted with a big crowd on Monday, if not on Wednesday—always providing, of course, that the weather is propitious.

Dealing with the events in the order in which they appear on the club's programme, I first of all come to the Anniversary Handicap of 100sovs, one mile. Torpedo, 9.0, is well known as a brilliant horse up to this distance, but though I do not look on him as out of it, I am inclined to glance further down the list for the winner. I think 8.5 will stop Dreamland over a mile, neither can I recommend Scot Free with 2lb less. I like Swordbelt at 7.12, though, and passing by St. Katherine and Violence at 7.11 and 7.9 respectively, I place a "dangerous" mark against Free Lance, 7.7. The local people speak of Ngatioma, 7.4, as an improving horse, and therefore he may be entitled to respect, but as I know little about him I shall discard him, as well as the pair below him in the handicap, Prince Cole, 7.3, and Senator, 7.0.