

The death is announced in the Chatham Islands of Middleton, who was by Traducer from the Towton mare Lady Florence, and who in Mr W. C. Webb's colours won the C.J.C. Metropolitan Handicap.

Mr Richard P. Hurren, the originator and compiler of "Centaur's Index," died on the last day of the old year. Says "Olympus":—"Quiet and unassuming, no one has ever thought of paying him the credit undoubtedly his due in connection with the building-up of that world-known institution the Melbourne Cup; but that 'Centaur's Index' had its share—and no inconsiderable share either—towards giving publicity to that event in the days when publicity was most wanted is beyond question.

The owner of St. Hippo and The Dancer received a cablegram from Melbourne yesterday apprising him of the safe arrival there of both these horses.

Mr P. Mangan purposes taking his trotting stallion Imperious and his two yearlings to Australia at an early date.

I am sorry to hear that the old-time jockey J. Wattie is dangerously ill.

The secretary of the Takapuna Jockey Club makes an announcement in our advertising columns with reference to the means of transit to that club's meeting on Saturday and Monday. The first race on Saturday will start at 1.15 p.m.

J. B. Williamson, after being beaten by Folly at Ngarua wahia, came to arrangements with the owner, and she has since been added to his string.

The cause of Pinfire's non-acceptance for the Takapuna Cup was his being cast in his box.

Sweetheart and Topsy, in charge of Koss Heaton, have arrived from the Waikato, to fulfil their engagements at the Takapuna Meeting.

St. Clair (so says Mazzeppa) has been used this season for nearly all the Hon. G. McLean's thoroughbred mares. The first of the Musketeer's stock have turned out so well as to justify this course being followed. The mares put to him are Lady Emma, Legerdemain, Lady Gertrude, Dione, Mountain Lily, Lady Florence, Indolence, Mistral. Malice was served by St. Clair and Gorton. The other Warrington mare, Lady Evelyn, who had such a bad time of it in foaling to Maxim, is having a rest from maternal responsibilities this season.

The Wellington Cup winner is a half sister to Reflector, the winner of the Great Northern Foal Stakes, being by Apremont out of Iris. She was bred by Mr. Stead, who now owns her dam, one of the best-proved Traducer mares left in New Zealand. Mr. Stead raced Retina as a youngster but not liking her he weeded her out and Mr. Martin bought her at public auction. Not long after he had purchased her she won the Birthday Handicap at Dunedin. Since then she has earned a bit of stake money, but has borne the reputation of being somewhat jady. What a nice brood mare Mr. Martin will possess in Retina when she leaves the post for the paddock. That strain of Apremont on Traducer comes out on top, as witness Cynisca, Pygmalion, Cajolery, Whakawatea, &c.

Brockleigh, by Goldsbrough from Ethel, winner of the Welter at the A.J.C. meeting, was a short time back raffled at 10s. a member. He is a splendid-looking colt and a good one. Three times he has been returned a winner, and was only beaten by a head in the other.

Day Dream carried 8.3 when she ran unplaced behind Towton, 7.12, in the Ellesmere Welter Handicap of 187 sovs, six furlongs, run on Nov. 28th. There were thirteen starters. Towton's price was 100 to 12. Towton is a son of Master Kildare.

Miss Letty has been thrown out of training and turned out at Sylvia Park.

Goddard (the Australian) v. Maher.

THERE was never a good fight in America that caused less betting than that of December 8, at the Coney Island Athletic Club between Joe Goddard, the unbeaten and alleged champion of the Barrier, and Peter Maher, called the Irish champion. Such bets as were made varied from 2 to 1 to 5 to 4, with Goddard always the favourite.

The fight was as fierce as it was short. The scene at the end of the first round, when it appeared that Maher might possibly win, was one of the most exciting ever witnessed in a prize ring. For the short time it lasted it was one of the bloodiest and fiercest battles on record. Goddard was covered with blood from almost the first blow. He lacked science, but he was much the stronger

man, the difference in weight in his favour badly handicapping Maher.

It was 9.40 o'clock when Joe Goddard, wearing around his trunk the colours that the Columbia Athletic Club of New York had presented him, appeared in the ring. Jim Gibbons, of Passaic, N.J.; Billy Madden, Alexander Greggains, of San Francisco; and Lou Morris, of the Columbia Athletic Club, were behind him. Maher's handlers were Jack McVey, of Philadelphia, Corbett's former co-worker; Buffalo Costello, Greggains' recent opponent; Jimmy Carroll, of Brooklyn, and Jimmy McGrath, of Dublin. Maher wore green trunks. The weights of the men were given out officially as—Maher, 175lb; Goddard, 187lb. Maher probably weighed 180lb, and Goddard 195lb.

Maher won the toss for the choice of gloves, and there was another roar that showed what a favourite the Irishman was with the mass of the spectators. John Eckhardt was the referee, and Bob Stoll, of the New York Athletic Club, held the watch. The fight by rounds is as follows:—

Round 1.—It was lightning work from the very start. The men went at it hammer and tongs, slash and crash, with Maher the scioned man, and Goddard only a bull-dog. The blows were all for the head. Few body blows were struck, two or three being given by Goddard. Maher went to his knees once, but got up, and tried it again, but it was no go. Goddard landed on him with right and left missing many times, but getting there often enough.

Round 2.—There was more punishing and smashing. Maher got in two tremendous blows on Goddard's face, staggering the Australian each time. Goddard looked a bit groggy after two rights on the cheek, but he clung to his meat with tenacity, and smashed the Irishman on the ribs three times before he let go. Then Maher fell to his knees again, and stayed down for four seconds, his head shaking like a leaf. He jumped up, however, and went at Goddard again. He got in a blow on the breast and Goddard fell back to the ropes. Maher ran after him, but swung his right wildly. Instead of touching the Barrier man on the jaw, he went away beyond his ear. Goddard dashed at Maher and gave him a fierce blow on the breast. The Irishman fell back under its effect, and the bell sounded before Goddard could land again.

It had been a tremendous round. Both men had worked apparently for a knockout blow, Goddard in his heavy and strong style, Maher in a form that showed little of the neatness that he had displayed in New York for weeks after his arrival from Ireland.

On coming out from their corners for the third round Maher looked tired and Goddard surly. Goddard made a lead for the breast, and was neatly stopped. Maher let go his right, but swung wide. Maher tried the same thing again, and this time caught Goddard on the ear, though the blow was not hard. Goddard seemed maddened. He dashed at Maher, and with his right and left cracked him hard on both sides of the head. Maher's legs began to wobble, and Goddard dealt him a stiff punch on the neck. Maher went down, never to rise again in that battle. Ten seconds were counted, and Maher was still on the floor, the final blow having been administered fifty seconds from the beginning of the round.

When Peter did not get up he was helped to his corner by many hands, none more willing than those of Billy Madden, who went over from Goddard's corner to assist his whilom protege. Maher did not seem to be much done up by the experience he had gone through, nor did he appear to be especially pained mentally. Perhaps he did not comprehend that he had been whipped, but, anyhow, he smiled complacently when told that it was all over.

Goddard was pretty well winded when the show was over. He had some very fast rounds. Probably no man—not even Choynski—had ever given him such a crack as that which sent him against the ropes in the second round.

Wellington Racing Club Summer Meeting.

FIRST DAY.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

WELLINGTON, 23rd January.

THE opening day of the Wellington Summer Meeting was a grand success. The weather was magnificent, and the attendance numbered quite 4000, including a large proportion of ladies, whose

bright costumes made the grand stand look quite gay. Among the visitors were the Hons. Captain Russell and J. D. Ormond, Mr. W. Douglas and Dr. Reed from Hawke's Bay; Mr. C. Redwood and Dr. Cleghorn from Marlborough; Messrs. Buchanan, M.H.R., and W. E. Bidwill from the Wairarapa; Mr. G. H. Clifford from Canterbury; Messrs. J. Paul and Parsons and Dr. Earle from Wanganui; Messrs. W. Percival, H. H. Hayr, Adams, and C. F. Mark from Auckland, and hosts of others well known. I also noticed on the ground—though I must say they did no betting—four well known Auckland bookmakers, Messrs. Blaikie, McLeod, Davidson and Philpot. The arrangements were generally first-class, and the only trace of unpleasantness was a written protest from about a dozen owners, against the running of the horses whose entries were sent to Dunedin by mistake of the Post office, and received as valid after closing time, which was sent to the stewards before the races began. The stewards took no formal notice of it. Rebellion, the winner of the Telegraph Handicap, was one of the late entries, and it is said that a lawsuit is to be instituted for the recovery of the stakes by Mr McKinnon, who ran second with Loch Ness. The sport generally was excellent, and as the course was in capital condition the times recorded were generally fast. Of course the Cup overshadowed all other events, and it is not too much to say that it was the most interesting ever run at Wellington. All ten candidates were well backed, the favourite being Queen of Trumps, with 379 investors, and Rosefeldt, the outsider, with 76. Next to Rosefeldt in friendliness was the local mare Retina, whose chance of victory was scoffed at by most people. "Vigilant," in the New Zealand Times, on the morning of the race, tipped Merrie England to win, but added "that Retina was one of the fittest animals in the race, and if a surprise was in store she would effect it." His words came true, and Merrie England being second made his prophecy a very good one. It was generally agreed when the ten competitors paraded in front of the grand-stand before the race that a better and fitter lot of horses had never faced the starter's flag at the Hutt, and Merrie England, Queen of Trumps, Crackshot, and Retina bore the palm for perfect condition. Krina looked very pretty, but she was on the big side and sweated profusely in her preliminary canter, notwithstanding she was very heavily backed, possibly because of St. Katherine's success in the first race, the Anniversary Handicap. She was done with at a mile, and Boulanger and Rosefeldt also ran very badly. Queen of Trumps flattered her admirers for a mile and a quarter, for which distance she led, but Retina and Merrie England both fairly outstayed her. Retina's final spurt in the straight was a very brilliant one, for she was leaving her field at every stride for the last fifty yards, and finished full of running in 2min 40sec dead. She has hitherto been a most disappointing mare, and Mr Martin, at the beginning of this season was seriously thinking of throwing her out of training. She was trained by Mr. E. Cutts, at Christchurch, Mr. Martin having given her to that veteran at the back end of last season. Her last victory before this was in the Geraldine Cup, about three months ago. The total put through the three totalisators by Mr. Joseph Ames and his assistants was £8,547, which is about £150 more than was put through on the first day last year. This is considered very satisfactory, and if it is anything like kept up on Wednesday the club will make a good profit. The trophy which is really the Wellington Cup was not presented to the winner on the course after the race as it was last year. The reason of it was that the cup has been ordered in London this year, and has not yet arrived. Mr. W. V. Jackson, a well-known Wellingtonian now in England, has been commissioned to purchase it, and it is expected in about a month's time. The following are the details of the racing:—

ANNIVERSARY HANDICAP of 100 sovs; second horse to receive 10 sovs from stakes. One mile. 118 Hon. Capt. Russell's br m St. Katherine, by Stonehurst—Kate Ferguson, 3yrs, 7.11, J. Murphy ..... 1 106 Mr. J. Freeth's ch m Violence, 5yrs, 7.9, H. Reed ..... 2 80 Hon. J. D. Ormond's ch g Free Lance, 4yrs, 7.7, Price ..... 3 184 Mr R. E. McRae's br g Torpedo, 6yrs, 9.0, Derrett ..... 0 141 Dr. Reed's b m Dreamland, 5yrs, 8.5, Moraghan ..... 0 77 Mr. McKinnon's b g Scot Free, aged, 8.3, Gall ..... 0 167 Mr. E. Halward's b g Swordbelt, 4yrs, 7.12, Brown ..... 0

76 Mr. J. Kennedy's b m Ngatioma, 4yrs, 7.4, Johnson ..... 0 53 Mr. P. F. Tancred's ch g Senator, 3yrs, 7.0, Connop ..... 0 1002 Good finish; won by a head. Ngatioma fell. Time, 1min 44 3/5sec. Dividend, £7 10s. HURDLE HANDICAP of 100 sovs; second horse to receive 10 sovs and third horse 5 sovs from the stakes. Two miles. 270 Mr. J. Kennedy's br m Paradox, by Patriarch—Parera, aged, 10.9, W. Laing ..... 1 166 Mr. J. A. Wilson's br g Disturbance, 6yrs, 9.0, Mitchell ..... 2 47 Mr. J. O. Driscoll's b g Jacob, aged, 9.10, baulked first hurdle, Seccombe ..... 0 171 Mr. J. Freeth's gr g Mutineer, 5yrs, 9.2, fell, Harris ..... 0 654 Won all out by half a length. Time, 4min 4sec. Dividend, £2 2s. HACK HURDLE HANDICAP of 30 sovs; second horse to receive 5 sovs from the stakes. One mile and a half. 183 Mr W. Strang's br m Twilight, by Mangle, 6yrs, 9.12, Proctor ..... 1 139 Mr F. Seccombe's b g Jimmy, aged, 9.12, Seccombe ..... 2 204 Mr J. Pringle's br g Roger, aged, 11.2, Greenough ..... 3 182 Mr R. Campbell's g m Traitress, aged, 10.2, Hilder ..... 0 68 Mr F. Hiley's b g The Link, aged, 9.7, Harris ..... 0 776 Won by two lengths. Time, 3min. Dividend, £3 15s. WELLINGTON CUP, a piece of plate of the value of 100 sovs, with 400 sovs added; second horse to receive 40 sovs, and the third horse 20 sovs from the stakes. One mile and a half. 115 Mr F. Martin's br m Retina, by Apremont—Iris, 6yrs, 7.7, Ross ..... 1 361 Mr H. Lunn's br h Merrie England, 5yrs, 8.7, Clark ..... 2 379 Hon. J. D. Ormond's g m Queen of Trumps, 5yrs, 7.5, Price ..... 3 142 Mr J. Paul's b h Boulanger, 6yrs, 9.4, McKeague ..... 0 245 Mr V. Harris' b h Crackshot, 5yrs, 9.3, Derrett ..... 0 76 Mr W. Douglas' b m Rosefeldt, 4yrs, 8.2, Moraghan ..... 0 208 Mr J. Freeth's ch g Revolution, 5yrs, 7.12, H. Reed ..... 0 241 Mr D. O'Brien's b c Captive, 3yrs, 7.5, Leeson ..... 0 146 Mr D. McKinnon's br h Loch Ness, 6yrs, 7.4, Gall ..... 0 319 Hon. Capt. Russell's br m Krina, 4yrs, 6.11, Murphy ..... 0 2232 Won by two lengths; good third; Loch Ness fourth. Time, 2min 40sec. Dividend, £17 4s. NURSERY HANDICAP of 100 sovs; second horse to receive 15 sovs from stakes. For two-year-olds. Six furlongs. 251 Mr. J. Paul's br c Westmere, by Es-cutcheon—Leonessa, 9.0, McKeague ..... 1 81 Hon. J. D. Ormond's ch f Spinaway, by Nordenfeldt—Spinaker, 7.4, Price.. ..... 2 38 Mr. G. Matthews' ch f Busybody, by Apremont—Tell Tale, 7.8, Connop.. ..... 3 83 Mr. H. Lunn's b f Persuasion, by Apremont—Flattery, 7.8, Higgott ..... 0 87 Hon. Capt. Russell's b f Noyade, by Lord of the Isles—Lorelei, 7.7, J. Murphy ..... 0 83 Mr. K. McKenzie's ch c Purepo, by Remington—Mascotte, 6.7, H. Reed ..... 0 623 Won easily by a length. Time, 1min 19 1/2sec. Dividend, £2 4s. HACK HANDICAP of 30 sovs; second horse to receive 5 sovs from stakes. One mile and a quarter. 123 Mr. T. Ray's ch g Welcome Nat, by Johnny Faulkner—Lady Florence, 5yrs, 8.8, J. Reed ..... 1 203 Mr. J. P. Belcher's ch h War Cry, 4yrs, 8.6, McKeague ..... 2 151 Mr. C. R. Bidwill's ch m Thalia, 4yrs, 8.8, Seccombe ..... 3 88 Mr. J. E. Pilbrow's br m Puni, 5yrs, 8.4, Gillet ..... 0 148 Mr. W. Harland's b g Houp La, 5yrs, 8.0, Farrar ..... 0 17 Mr. R. Campbell's g g Nimrod, 6yrs, 7.4, Bates ..... 0 136 Mr. A. W. Cave's b g Sea Serpent, 3yrs, 7.4, Connop ..... 0 63 Mr. J. Pringle's br g Ben Bolt, aged, 7.9, inc. 5lb over, Leeson ..... 0 75 Mr. W. Strang's br m Twilight, 6yrs, 7.5, inc. 1lb over, Price ..... 0 9 Mr. H. O'Donoghue's b g Dunlow, aged, 6.12, inc. 5lb over, Higgott .. 0 1013 Won by half a length. A protest was entered for foul riding, but was dismissed. Time, 2min 17sec. Dividend, £7 6s. WELTER HANDICAP of 80 sovs; second horse to receive 10 sovs from stakes. One mile and a quarter. 159 Mr R. E. McRae's br g Torpedo, by The Australian, 6yrs, 9.12, Derrett.. ..... 1 65 Mr D. McKinnon's b g Scot Free, aged, 9.7, Wilmott ..... 2 242 Mr J. Paul's br m Fleeta, 5yrs, 8.6, McKeague ..... 3 95 Mr R. Kingan's b h Bay King, 5yrs, 9.7, Kingan ..... 0 136 Mr J. Kennedy's br m Paradox, aged, 8.10, Brown ..... 0 56 Mrs W. H. Reed's b m La Petite Fille, 5yrs, 8.7, Mitchell ..... 0 123 Mr J. Freeth's ch c Revolt, 3yrs, 8.4, J. Reed ..... 0 46 Mr G. Redwood's ch c Prince Cole, 3yrs, 8.2, Williamson ..... 0 28 Mr J. K. Hamilton's b g Angler, aged, 8.0, Boyle ..... 0 950 Won comfortably by a length; two lengths between second and third. Time, 2min 14sec. Dividend, £5 5s. TELEGRAPH HANDICAP of 100 sovs; second horse to receive 10 sovs, and the third horse 5 sovs from the stakes. The winner of any previous