

ADVERTISEMENTS

OPERA HOUSE.
THE DAMPIERS

AND THEIR
FAMOUS DRAMATIC COMPANY,
In a
SERIES OF POPULAR PLAYS,
TO-NIGHT AND EVERY EVENING.

THIS WEEK'S PROGRAMME:—

TO-NIGHT (THURSDAY), 26th—"ROMEO AND JULIET."

FRIDAY, 27th—"AS YOU LIKE IT."

SATURDAY, 28th—Rolfe Boldwood's "ROBBERY UNDER ARMS," for Four Nights.

IN PREPARATION,
"FOR THE TERM OF HIS NATURAL LIFE."

Admission—4s, 2s 6d, and 1s. Box Plan at Wildman's.
Day sale at Tobacconists.

LIEUT. M. ROSE, Business Manager.
GEORGE BULLER, Acting Manager.

Music, Drama.

(BY ORPHEUS.)

Spectatum admissi risum teneatis amici?

THE DAMPIER SEASON.

SINCE my last notice this clever combination has been playing to much better houses. On Wednesday and Thursday evenings Henry Pettitt's and George Conquest's strong drama 'The Green Lanes of England' won high appreciation. The piece is less melodramatic and more natural than the ordinary transportine productions. The interest is sustained from start to finish, every act containing good writing and strong situations. Miss Lily Dampier made her *debut* before an Auckland audience as Margaret Wheatstone, a rôle affording opportunities for power, passion, pathos and grace, which the talented young actress seized with unflinching tact and ability. Miss Lily Dampier, besides a charming stage presence, is gifted with a good voice, a natural and easy style, and no ordinary intelligence. She is still in her first youth, and with more experience will reach a high standard. Mr Alfred Dampier as 'Gentleman George' had one of those characteristic parts which he plays to perfection. While he is on the stage no play could possibly drag. His 'gags' and ready wit sparkling through imperturbable good humour are bound to make things 'hum,' and yet there are unmistakable signs of talent of a much higher order, which require the legitimate drama to shine in. Mr Edward Holloway played splendidly as Martin Wheatstone, the proud and honest old father of 'Meg,' who is torn by conflicting emotions of love for his erring daughter and passionate fury at the disgrace of his name. Miss Julia Merton played Mrs Selby with great discernment and discretion. Mr Rolfe's Captain Selby was a really fine conception and portrayal of a somewhat weak and unnatural rôle. With instinctive skill he glossed over the feeble traits and made the most of the stronger points of a character which Aristotle would certainly term 'akrates' if not 'akolastos.' Miss Carrie Bilton (Clara Selby) and Mr G. Buller (Gustavus Jones) made capital fun together and caused roars of genuine merriment. Both deserve unequalled praise. Mr A. Harford's 'Bill the Slogger' is another feather in the cap of that really good actor. Mr G. Rosier had another villain's part as Clement Flint, which he played well. Mr Newing (Dudgeon), Mr J. H. Ainslie (Splayfoot), and Mr C. Otway (Modgett) all played small parts very capably. Miss Katherine Russell as Martha Flint showed herself in a new light revealing power and passion, for which her previous light comedy parts had not prepared the regular playgoer. Little May Renno played the child-part of 'Nellie' very naturally and spoke with distinctness and correct emphasis. This reminds me of her father, the clever mechanist, whose stage effects are so neatly managed that I am tempted to 'pick a pocket' by declaring that the stock-stage machinery of the Opera House has been artistically Renno-vated. In the 'Black Flag,' of which I shall be able to give only a brief notice, the change of scene depicting a small dingy on a lumpy sea is quite a triumph. On Friday evening Mr Dampier's own dramatised version of Mrs Henry Wood's novel 'East Lynne,' proved itself in my opinion far and away the best stage rendering of the popular tale. The action moves rapidly, the situations are strong and well led up to, and the dialogue is enriched by many clever bits. The comic element is

lavishly introduced, and with excellent effect, relieving as it does the somewhat gruesome monotony of the ordinary versions. Mr A. Rolfe's Archibald Carlyle, Mr Dampier's Captain Levison, Mr Buller's Richard Hare, and Mr Holloway's Lord Mountsevern are all excellent impersonations. As Mr Justice Hare Mr Rosier was fitted with a congenial part, and made every point in capital style. Mr Harford's Lawyer Dill was immense, and the scene in which he and Cornelia Carlyle (most humorously acted by Miss Julia Merton) appear from their opposite bed-room doors in their *robes de nuit*, quite convulsed the house. Henri, by Mons. Tische; and Joyce, by Miss Carrie Bilton, added to the strength of an even performance. Miss Lily Dampier achieved a triumph in the dual rôle of Lady Isabel and Madame Vine, acting throughout with power and refinement.

On Saturday and Monday evenings 'The Black Flag,' previously performed in Auckland as 'The Coast Guard,' was excellently staged and acted.

Being accorded more space than usual I gladly add a few particulars of 'The Black Flag.' Mr Alfred Dampier's impersonation of Harry Glyndon is beyond all praise. The high-minded, witty, generous and rollicking 'vagabond,' who vicariously suffers for the sins of his polished scoundrel of a brother, is so natural a portrayal that one is almost convinced of Mr Dampier's possessing a disposition overflowing with the same genial and noble qualities. Mr Rolfe's 'John Glyndon' quite confirmed the good opinion I had formed of his powers. His gestures and facial expression were extremely natural, while no fault could be found with the tone and style in which his lines were spoken. Mr E. Holloway's 'Owen Glyndon' is a masterpiece. I cannot imagine a stronger or better rendering of the character. The scene in the third act between father and son outside Portland Gaol was a magnificent display of power alternating with pathos. Another inimitable likeness was 'Lazarus' in the hands of Mr A. Harford. Without the customary exaggeration of the typical stage Hebrew, an exact presentment of the shrewd, calculating, vulgar money-lending 'toff,' who has no objection to shady transactions so long as his own fingers are not burnt, strutted on the boards. His characteristic courting of Topsy Carroll (Miss Katherine Russell), his altercation with the stern Owen Glyndon over the forged p.n., and his antics when working as a convict in sack-cloth and broad arrow deservedly won tremendous applause. The aper-per-plectical fit was immense—so was the entire business with the Warder (Mr Patterson). Lazarus will not soon be forgotten by those—would that they had been thousands—few hundreds who enjoyed his clever acting. All the ladies in the cast scored well. Miss Lily Dampier made a charming Naomi Blandford, infusing genuine pathos into a part which is eminently suited to her genius. I think she might with advantage throw a rather more forcible passion into the scenes with John Glyndon and his father Owen. Miss Katherine Russell's 'Topsy Carroll,' the attractive widow and landlady of 'The Red Lion,' was in every respect admirable. Miss Julia Merton played 'Ruth Glyndon' with true power and effect. In conclusion a few words of warm praise are due to Miss Carrie Bilton for her affecting picture of the poor sailor boy 'Ned,' whose heart Harry wins by kindness, and who gladly sacrifices his life to save that of the protecting hero. Occasionally Miss Bilton spoke rather too low for the back part of the theatre.

MR. LACHLAN MCGOWAN'S BENEFIT.

ONLY a sparse attendance patronised the City Hall on Wednesday evening, when an excellent entertainment of a mixed character was given for the about laudable object. It was a pity that so deserving an artistic effort did not prove a greater financial success.

"'Tis not in mortals to command success,
But we'll do more, Sempronius—we'll do
without it!"

The ingenious and brightly-written trifle 'A Capital Match' was well played by Miss Georgie Leighford (Mrs. Singleton), Mrs. Cooper (Rosamund), Mr. Lachlan McGowan (Mr. Sunnyside), Mr. Seaton (Captain Tempest), and Mr. Bonfield (John). Mr. Harry Hill, who possesses a rich baritone voice, sang Stephen Adams' charming song 'The Garonne.' Miss Bronton followed with the soprano setting of Cowan's 'The Old and the Young Marie.' Although I think this fine song better suited to a contralto voice, Miss Bronton displayed a pure voice and cultured taste in her rendering.

Mr. George Reid, in perfect voice and with a selection 'Here upon my Vessel's Deck,' which suited the singer admirably, made a tremendous hit, and substituted 'My Love is like the red, red rose,' which almost won another encore. Mrs. Cooper chose the humorous Scottish, 'Get up and bar the door,' which she rendered with great dramatic emphasis. As an encore she again delighted the Scottish element with 'Annie Laurie.' Mr. R. Greville in a sweet and nicely-modulated baritone sang 'Loch Ahoj' with great taste and effect. Miss Rosie Andrews instead of the song assigned to her on the programme gave 'Annie Rooney,' winning an encore. An octette of little Scottish boys and lassies, beautifully arrayed in the Gaelic garb, danced two reels, and deservedly won an encore. Their talented trainer, Mr. Duncan Simpson's 'Sword Dance' was one of the features of a capital variety interlude. The entertainment concluded with the screaming old farce 'My Turn Next.' Mr. Clitherow's Taraxacum Twitters would have made a cat laugh. Mr. Foster (Tim Bolus), Mr. Harry Hill (Tom Trap), and Farmer Wheatear (Mr. Field) ably supported the little chemist, while the ladies—including Miss Eldon, who made a capital Mrs. Twitters; Miss Rose Andrew, who looked sweet and acted nicely as Cicely; and last, but not least, Miss Georgie Leighford's terrible get up and comical entries as Peggy—were quite as good as the gentlemen. The farce alone certainly deserved a full house.

MADAME BAHNSON'S SECOND CONCERT.

The City Hall was well filled on Tuesday evening by an appreciative audience, who listened with manifest pleasure to every item of a really splendid programme. Messrs T. M. Jackson and G. M. Reid began with Gabussi's favourite duo 'The Fisherman,' and again proved how perfectly their voices blend. Miss Katherine Hardy, whose return to the concert platform to which she is as great an ornament as she has proved herself upon the dramatic stage was hailed with enthusiasm, next sang Kyjruhl's 'Last Night.' The singer infused delicacy and tenderness into the sustained and plaintive melody, and her enunciation, expression and intonation were all of the highest order, but there was a slight tendency to overdo the use of the *portamento*. Still the number proved a splendid success, winning an enthusiastic encore, in response to which Miss Hardy sang Hope Temple's lovely song 'When we Meet' in perfect style and taste. An instrumental trio for flute, clarinet and oboe, by Saint-Saens, was next given by Messrs Innes and the brothers Jackson, with Miss Harding at the piano. The work, a caprice on Russian and Danish airs, is a quaint and characteristic study yet severely classical in form, partaking largely of the fugal character. It is full of scholarly writing for all the instruments, the distribution of answering passages being impartial. The performers individually and collectively played with excellent taste and almost faultless technique. Madame Steinhauer-Bahnsong then sang Weber's glorious 'Softly Sighs' in German with a steady and true phrasing, refined taste and facility of execution which could scarcely be bettered. True the volume of voice was not that of Tietjens or Rudersdorf, who in their day had almost a 'mortgage' on the great Der Freischutz aria, but in every other respect the rendering was eminently satisfactory. In response to an ovation Madame Bahnsong sang the simple negro melody 'Nellie Gray,' in which the tremolo was perhaps a trifle prominent, but the contrast of the selection with Weber's masterpiece was artistic, and delighted every listener. Mr T. M. Jackson next sang Schubert's immortal Serenade with delicacy, taste, and finish, but a slight deficiency in power was noticeable in the lower register. Being vociferously encored the singer gave 'Tell her I love her so,' marking the contrasts of light and shade deliciously. The second part opened with a charming duo sung in German by Madame Bahnsong and Miss Hardy. The music is sustained and plaintive in character, and the *ensemble* was admirable. A well-merited encore brought the ladies back with Mendelssohn's lovely duet 'Greeting,' exquisitely rendered. Mr T. M. Jackson made an excellent selection in Birch's 'I am waiting,' which suits the singer's style and voice *à merveille*, and scored another success, being encored, and singing Wallace's 'There is a flower that bloometh,' with smoothness and taste. Madame Bahnsong next sang two songs by Mr Frederick Clutsam, which won high praise on a previous occasion. I need only say 'ditto' to my criticisms

of both singer and composer in these columns some eighteen months ago. Mr S. Jackson's clarinet solo, Scena Dramatica, by H. Panofka, proved a delicious *morceau*, rendered with all that sensibility, purity of tone, and accuracy of technique which everyone now expects from the gifted soloist. Miss Katherine Hardy's singing of Tosti's 'Good-bye' would have won the heart of the genial old composer. While displaying refined taste in making every contrast, the attack was crisp, and remote intervals were hit with unflinching intonation. The use of the *portamento* was judicious, and the entire rendering combined sympathetic singing with thrilling passion. Packer's sweet little ditty 'Listening,' proved a happy encore choice. Madame Bahnsong's splendid singing of Macfarren's 'Pack clouds away,' I have before praised in these columns. Her rendering was again a perfect triumph of vocalisation, and Mr S. Jackson's sclarinet obbligato merited and received a full share of the honours. Other encore songs graciously given during the evening by the gifted *diva* were Benedict's 'Carnival' and 'La Veritable Manola,' with their wonted success. Both ladies received numerous lovely bouquets. Miss Harding again played all the accompaniments in almost faultless style. I must also congratulate Madame Bahnsong on the excellent form displayed by her pupils Miss Katherine Hardy and Mr T. M. Jackson, both of whom reflect infinite credit upon their accomplished teacher.

MISS ALICE SYDNEY BURVETT, a pianist who comes with quite a European reputation, having performed in England and on the continent with brilliant *clat*, is now in Auckland, and will shortly give a series of recitals. Miss Burvett spent many years of study in Paris under the ægis of the Paris Conservatorium. She is a friend of and has played many duets with that great pianist Henri Kowalski.

MR GEORGE DARRELL, who has recently been touring in South Africa, has arrived in Melbourne from Hobart, having travelled to the latter port from Capetown by the Tongariro. Mr Darrell was accompanied by his son and mother-in-law, Mrs Peachey. His company did very big business throughout the Cape Colonies, and the tour would have been most pleasant throughout had it not been for the untimely death of Mrs Darrell at Johannesburg. Mrs Darrell died from acute dysentery, the end coming within five days from the outbreak of the malady. A pathetic incident marked the deathbed scene of Mrs Darrell, as shortly before she died she sang two verses of "The Cuckoo Song," which she had sung so often in the production of her husband's drama, "Hue and Cry." Mr Darrell has, it is stated, purchased the rights for the colonies of two new English dramas, and it is possible he may bring a company to New Zealand this year.

MR J. J. KENNEDY'S Dramatic Company are in the Otago goldfields districts. The *Cromwell Argus* in recording their five nights' season there, says that it was both an agreeable one to the public and a financial success for Mr Kennedy. At the beginning of the week Miss Lily Hill was too ill to appear, and Mrs Foley had to take her part on short notice. Little Ruby Kennedy made fast friends with the Cromwell little folks, who mustered in force to see her as the little lord on Friday night. The company comprises Messrs Kennedy, Saville, Norton, Foley, Joe Kennedy, Sedger, Mrs and Miss Hill, Mrs Foley, Miss Sheridan, little Ruby Kennedy, and the scenic artist, Mr Barry Knowles.

MANY old Australians and New Zealanders will remember Mr. Clarence Holt, and all Australians and New Zealanders, young or old, know his talented son, Mr Bland Holt. Regret will therefore be felt for the burning of the Lincoln Theatre, by which Mr Holt, sen., is a heavy loser. The fire occurred while Mr Clarence Holt and his company were playing "Lost to the World." Only the contents of the dressing rooms, which were divided from the main building by an iron door, were saved, everything in the place being entirely destroyed, including Mr Holt's properties, over £400 worth of scenery belonging to the lessee, Mr Rass Challis, and the properties of a new play just ready to start on tour. The damage amounts to between £2000 and £3000, and only the building is insured.

It is reported in Melbourne that Malolo has changed hands but will remain in Foulsham's stable.

THE OFFICIAL CALENDAR

SPORTING FIXTURES, ETC.

AUCKLAND RACING CLUB.

The Sporting Review has been appointed the Official Calendar for the publication of all programmes in the Provincial District of Auckland, in terms of Rule 17 of the Rules of Racing.

Rule 17 reads: "The programme of each meeting in which the added money is £100 or upwards must be advertised in full once at least in the Official Calendar."

COLOURS. (Registered with the Auckland Racing Club.) Mr. Marangai ... First colours—The Huia: Black jacket, old gold collar, white armlets, black cap, white peak.

PROGRAMMES PASSED. Poverty Bay Turf Club Summer, January 10 and 11. Gisborne Racing Club, January 17 and 18.

DISQUALIFICATIONS. The following disqualifications by the Te Aroha Jockey Club have been endorsed by the A.R.C.:

JOCKEYS' LICENSES. Licenses have been granted by the A.R.C. to the following jockeys: W. McLean, Gisborne; T. Hodson, Ellerslie; A. E. Munro, Papakura; Dennis Morrison, Ellerslie; Alex. Williams, Ellerslie; F. Burns, A. E. Byers, W. Bird, W. Powell, D. Creamer, R. Collins, J. Carey, J. Dawson, C. Coleman, S. Ferguson, Martin Grace, Alfred Bay, W. Gallie, J. Golding, Augustus Manning, T. Steward, R. Hall, W. Hammond, K. Heaton, C. Tutt, J. Katters, W. McMinamin, H. Priest, W. Quatermain, W. Smith, F. Dodd, J. Pennel, J. Frye, Alf. Patterson, E. Reid, Ambrose C. Dixon, W. Bayner, W. Gillie, J. Rae, G. Donovan, W. Shaw, T. Taylor, C. Weal, H. Weal, W. Beaumont, D. Wright, E. Williams, W. Wilmot.

WM. PERCIVAL, SECRETARY. LIST OF RACING CLUBS UNDER A.R.C.'S JURISDICTION. Club. Secretary. Alexandra Racing Club ... Wm. Searancke.

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.

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.

COMING EVENTS.

Table listing racing events: Jan. 28, 30 Takapuna Jockey Club Summer; Jan. 30 Bay of Plenty; Feb. 9 Te Puke Jockey Club; Feb. 16 Rotorua Jockey Club; Feb. 15, 16 Egmont Racing Club; Feb. 22, 23, 25 Dunedin J.C. Autumn; Mar. 9, 10 Wanganui Jockey Club; Mar. 11 Mangatangi Racing Club's Annual; Mar. 16, 17 Hawke's Bay J.C. Autumn; Mar. 17 Papakura Races; Mar. 17 Ohinemuri Races; Mar. 23 Dunedin J.C. Anniversary; April 1, 3 Auckland Racing Club Autumn; April 8 South Auckland Racing Club Autumn; April 10 Egmont Racing Club Winter; May 24 Takapuna Jockey Club Winter; May 27 Dunedin J.C. May Meeting; June 27 Hawke's Bay J.C. Winter.

NOMINATIONS.

Table listing nominations: Feb. 1 Rotorua Jockey Club; Feb. 11 Rotorua Jockey Club; Feb. 11 Dunedin J.C. Autumn; Feb. 15 Papakura Races; Feb. 25 Egmont R.C. Sires Produce Stake; April 28 Takapuna J.C. Winter; May 19 Takapuna J.C. Winter.

WEIGHTS APPEAR.

Table listing weights: Jan. 28 Takapuna Jockey Club Summer; Feb. 4 Egmont Racing Club Hacks; Feb. 14 Rotorua Jockey Club; Feb. 15 Egmont Racing Club; Feb. 16 Rotorua Jockey Club; Mar. 3 Papakura Races; May 12 Takapuna Jockey Club Winter.

ACCEPTANCES DUE.

Table listing acceptances due: Jan. 28 Takapuna Jockey Club Summer; Feb. 9 Rotorua Jockey Club; Feb. 11 Egmont Racing Club; Feb. 15 Egmont Racing Club; Mar. 10 Papakura Races; May 19 Takapuna Jockey Club Winter.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

Table listing subscription rates: 3 Months 3/-; 6 Months 6/-; 12 Months 10/-; Payable in Advance.

NOTICE TO OUR READERS.

The SPORTING REVIEW may be purchased from the following agents:—

Table listing agents: WILDMAN & LYELL Shortland Street; G. IVIE Queen Street; R. FINCH Queen Street; H. ELLISON Queen Street; H. MACRAE Queen Street; C. MACKAY Queen-street; UPTON & CO. Victoria-street; E. A. COLSON Victoria Street; H. FRANK Near Three Lamps, Ponsonby; MRS. LEACH Newmarket; F. SYKES Grahamstown; J. R. SAWYER Thames; D. MCINTYRE Hamilton; F. C. JURY New Plymouth; E. J. BERRSFORD Napier; H. AAMODT Wanganui; R. T. SMYTHE Hastings; FIDEL MEYER Opatiki; JAMES GAHEY Hastings; JOHN BATES, Tobacconist Dannevirke; JUBAL FLEMING Palmerston North; THOS. QUINNLYN JUNE Woodville; A. C. COURTNEY Whangarei; S. J. JACKSON Ohungu; GEO. MCGONAGLE Otahuhu; H. W. YOUNG Wellington.

Sporting Review.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 1893.

THE New Zealand Jockey Club proposal did not find favour at the Conference held in Wellington on Tuesday—indeed the would-be promoters of it were content to abandon their scheme. While giving Captain Russell—who asked leave to withdraw the motion standing in his name on the order paper, which leave was granted—every credit for his sincerity for the resolutions he and some other of the delegates intended to carry if possible, we cannot help thinking still that the proposals were a lot too cumbersome. Had they been divested of some of their superfluity they might have found more favour than was the case on Tuesday, and with the Auckland Racing Club and Dunedin Jockey Club standing out it was probably just as well for the welfare of the Turf in New Zealand that Captain Russell took such a graceful attitude in asking leave to withdraw his motion and that the Conference delegates assented to it.

THE Metropolitan Clubs' delegates have at last been content to read carefully the handwriting on the wall—by which we mean that they have carried a resolution, "That it is desirable that country clubs should have some voice in the Conference." And then, with the desire to give this some practical effect, the Hon. J. D. Ormond gave notice of motion for the next Conference, "That country clubs should have representation at future Conferences." And at the same time he intimated that the Hawke's Bay Jockey Club would draft proposals to give effect to the motion. We are glad that, though somewhat tardy in the matter, the Metropolitan Clubs have at length arrived at the conclusion that country clubs racing under their jurisdiction have some claim to consideration when the laws for their government are framed. This is what we have never ceased to advocate, and therefore it is particularly gratifying to the SPORTING REVIEW. We can imagine, too, what a smile of satisfaction will irra-

diate the face of Mr Sydney James, the secretary of the Dunedin Jockey Club, when he finds that, although his Club declined to take part in the Conference, the proposal re the country clubs, the principle of which the D.J.C. have always stood firm to, has been carried into effect.

WE mentioned the other week that the Dunedin Jockey Club at their annual meeting had been compelled to submit a report which was not satisfactory from a financial aspect, and we then pointed out that the receipts for the past year as compared with the previous year showed a falling off of £2,591 14s. 6d. The full text of the report now before us regrets "that for the first time during many years the accounts show a loss on the operations of the twelve months." The report further says:—

The revenue for the year has amounted to £14,945 15s. 11d., while the expenditure has been £16,310 18s. 8d., showing an actual loss of £1,365 2s. 9d. The serious shrinkage in the receipts is accounted for by the fact that the investments in the totalisator during the year were less by £20,811 than those of the previous year. This may be attributed, to some extent, to the fact that we were exceedingly unfortunate in the weather at some of our meetings, but there is no doubt that it is more directly a consequence of the lessened spending power of the community. It will be noted that no less than £999 18s. 9d. has been paid to the Government during the year under the new totalisator tax. Out of this £774 14s accrued from the first four meetings in the year, and was paid by the club out of its own revenue. At the Spring Meeting, however, owing to the serious deficiency that was apparent in the club's accounts for the year the totalisator tax at that meeting, amounting to £225 4s 9d, was paid to the public. When the deposits fell in during the year the committee withdrew £954 10s, and placed it to the credit of the current account. Notwithstanding this there was a balance at the debit of the club with the bank at the end of the year of £1667 3s 10d. This we can hardly expect to wipe off next year without further encroaching upon the deposit account.

And then the report went on to say that—as we have already announced—the club's committee had decided to curtail the number of racing days for next season by three.

WE have quoted in previous issues the strictures of the Canterbury Times—which, by the way, is in its politics a staunch supporter of the Ballance Government—on the action of the Colonial Secretary in granting permits to use the totalisator to both the Northern Wairoa and Whangarei Clubs in defiance of the verdict of the Auckland Racing Club. Our contemporary thus returns to the charge in dealing with the disqualification by the Auckland Racing Club of all the horses that competed at the meetings mentioned:—

It will be remembered that the Auckland Metropolitan Club refused to pass the programmes of the Clubs in question, whereupon these bodies applied to the Colonial Secretary for a permit to use a totalisator. The Minister acceded to the request. The meetings were held, the totalisator used, and now comes the inevitable disqualification. What will be the outcome of this deadlock remains to be seen. The action of the Colonial Secretary was, to say the least of it, ill-judged. The Auckland Racing Club had given very full and cogent reasons why the programmes should not be passed, and it was clearly the Minister's duty to listen to the Committee of the metropolitan body first. Then, again, the authorities which preside over the fortunes of the Northern Wairoa and Whangarei Clubs, and the owners and trainers who ran their horses at the meetings, went into the business with their eyes open. Directly the Colonial Secretary granted the use of the totalisator, the Auckland Racing Club announced that disqualification would surely ensue, and even went so far as to publish a warning to trainers and riders against taking part in the meetings. The meetings are now over, a certain number of trainers and jockeys have been very properly disqualified, and the future action of the Colonial Secretary in the matter will be watched with interest. He can hardly refuse to support the two country clubs in their difficulty, and he will be pretty certain to find it unwise to continue a struggle in which he will be opposed by the full strength of the Metropolitan Clubs.

At last has the Weekly Press and Referee, which poses as the "Official Calendar of the Metropolitan Clubs of New Zealand," and which has always been a staunch supporter of such metropolitan bodies in its writings, taken up the attitude assumed by this journal and several others in regard to Metropolitan Clubs' conferences. We have pointed out in previous issues that there was "much cry and little wool" about the numerous conferences that have been held by the Metropolitan Clubs' delegates at the various centres of the colony, albeit at the same time we always freely admitted that there was some need for such conferences. But we have altogether objected to the principle on which they were managed, and in previous issues, and also in our last week's impression we stated plainly our opinion that the secretaries of the various Metropolitan Clubs could, if they conferred together, do the business far

more expeditiously and far more effectively than it has so far been performed. And in our issue of September 22 last, in alluding to the increase in added money which the conference just previously held had adopted, we said—

While reiterating our approval of the major part of the business they (the conference) then transacted we again express our opinion that it would tend to the fostering of far more amicable relations between the Metropolitan Clubs and the racing bodies under their jurisdiction if some arrangement could be devised by which country clubs who, say, hold three days' racing in the year, could be represented at future Conferences and have a voice in the framing of the laws which govern them. It would be impossible for every small club to be represented, but the status of clubs holding three days' racing in the year is sufficient, in our opinion, to warrant their being represented at future Conferences. We hope to see such a provision inserted at no distant date in the Rules of Racing.

If we may judge from the remarks of our contemporary in its issue of Thursday last, as "Official Calendar of the Metropolitan Clubs of New Zealand," has at length come round to the same opinion. We are glad that though the Canterbury Jockey Club at its last committee meeting instructed its delegates to agree to the formation of a New Zealand Jockey Club provided the proposal is unanimously supported by all the Metropolitan Clubs in the North Island (vide Weekly Press of the 12th inst.) our contemporary, after ascertaining that the Auckland Racing Club would not acquiesce in the proposal for the formation of a New Zealand Jockey Club, has backed under, and now in its leading columns of last week practically admits the force of the argument we have already taken up. After stating that

The first resolution, having for its object the formation of a New Zealand Jockey Club, is hardly likely to be carried in the face of the opposition from the Dunedin Jockey Club and Auckland Racing Club, and the question will from present indications have to be hung up indefinitely. The advantages to be gained by the formation of a thoroughly representative Racing Association should ere now have received the fullest attention at the hands of the Metropolitan bodies, but as they are not agreed we shall not be surprised to find minor clubs throughout the colony taking up the question of the formation of a Racing Association for the whole of the colony at no distant date. On the West Coast of the North Island from Palmerston to Taranaki; in the Wairarapa and in the Northern districts of Hawke's Bay and Wellington, there is likely to be a strong effort made by the clubs to attain representation at future Conferences, and as other districts in the North, and also in the South, have been asking similar concessions, the Metropolitan Clubs will have to consider this side of the position if they desire that the machinery of racing is to run smoothly without the co-operation or support of the country and suburban clubs difficulties stand in the way, and it is now believed in some quarters that no governing body would give satisfaction to the racing people of New Zealand as a whole, unless it included representatives from leading country clubs. The fact is that many of the clubs have so grown in importance as to outstrip some of the Metropolitan Clubs, and they seek a voice in the control of the sport and are prepared to contest the question if needs be. Should they fail to obtain the recognition they consider due to them, we shall probably find them taking the line of action adopted in the northern districts of Auckland, from which quarter comes news, as we write, to the effect that the North Auckland Racing Association has been formed as the result of the endeavour of the Auckland Racing Club to compel the clubs within its jurisdiction to conform to the rules adopted by the Conference of Metropolitan bodies.

Inter-Provincial

[FROM OWN CORRESPONDENTS.]

WELLINGTON.

[BY WIRE.]

January 24th. THE Manawatu Racing Club have issued the programme for their Autumn Meeting on 1st and 2nd of March. The principal race on the first day will be the Racing Club Handicap of 200 sovs, 1 1/4 miles, and that of the second day the Newmarket Handicap of 100 sovs, six furlongs. There are 14 races on the programme, and the total prize money amounts to £720.

Mr Henry has declared the following weights for the Egmont Summer Meeting:— EGMONT HANDICAP of 200sovs, 2 miles.—Boulangier 8.13, Fraterrite 8.4, Brigand 8.3, Rangiaupuhi 8.2, Retina, 8.1, Palliser 8.0, Rosefeldt 7.13, Morion 7.12, Prestige 7.12, Pinfire 7.11, Queen of Trumps 7.8, St. Katherine 7.6, Regal 7.2, Krina 7.1, Lottie 7.1, Variety 7.0, Free Lance 7.0, Musket 7.0, Kotuku 6.13, Ida 6.12, Tit 6.10, Paradox 6.9, His Worship 6.9; Ngatioma 6.8, Spinfeldt 6.8, Kapua 6.8; La Petite Fille 6.7, Senator 6.7, Durus 6.7, Fortune 6.7, Rangitira 6.7. WAIMATE HANDICAP of 60sovs, 7 furlongs.—Torpedo 9.7, Recluse 8.9, Prestige 8.9, Cretonne 8.7, Rangiaupuhi 8.7, Ua 7.9, Ngatioma 7.7, Tulloch 7.7, Free Lance 7.7, Strephon (Tilly's) 7.7, Bay King 7.3, Stranger 7.0, Poinsettia 6.12, Vivat 6.11, Monte Carlo 6.10, Compack 6.10, King John 6.9, Spinfeldt 6.8, Whimsical

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. Middleton was, soon after he won the race, taken to the Chatham by Mr T. Ritchie, and he sired several nags who in that out-of-the-way spot were able to hold their own in the annual races.

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. When I first became acquainted with Dick Hurren he was foreman at the Herald Jobbing Office, just above the Post Office, in Bourke-street. Hurren and a young fellow named Jones (Albert Jones I think it was) first conceived the idea of bringing out an Index yearly, giving the past performances of the various animals entered in the Great Metropolitan Stakes and Melbourne Cup, and, alone and unaided, with none too great a store of rule-of-thumb education on either side, and with exceedingly limited means of obtaining information at command, these twain would compile, compose and print 'Centaur's Index' between them. I tell you they were only a couple of humble typos in their way, and yet in that way they accomplished equally as much as ever James Gordon Bennett did in his. He founded the New York Herald: they established 'Centaur's Index.' He made a fortune for himself and family; they, I dare be sworn, have enabled many a man to land a big coup through studying racing form. Those who knew Dick Hurren will mourn the loss of a genuine friend, whose success in worldly matters was unfortunately not on all fours with his deserts."

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 *Mazeppa*) has been used this season for nearly all the Hon. G. McLean's thoroughbred mares. The first of the Musketeer horse'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 Traitor, 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, £7 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-cutchon—Leonessa, 9.0, McKeague 1
- 81 Hon. J. D. Ormond's ch f Spinaway, by Nordenfeldt—Spinner, 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 Fleta, 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

race the same day to carry 7lbs penalty. Three quarters of a mile.

450	Mr J. Freeth's ch h Rebellion, by Treason—Mischief, 6yrs, 9.0, J. Reed	1
241	Mr D. McKinnon's br h Loch Ness, 6yrs, 8.7, Wilmott	2
117	Mr J. Kennedy's b m Ngatioma, 4yrs, 7.7, Johnson	3
149	Dr. Reed's b m Dreamland, 5yrs, 8.8, Moraghan	0
172	Mr E. Halward's b g Swordbelt, 4yrs, 8.5, Brown	0
139	Hon. J. D. Ormond's ch g Free Lance, 4yrs, 7.8, Price	0
29	Mr G. Ward's ch g Leo, 5yrs, 6.12, inc. 2lb over, Attwood	0

1297 Won by a length. Dividend, £2 11s. Total amount put through machine £8547.

TIPS FOR TO-DAY'S RACING.

The postponement till to-day of the second day of the Wellington Racing Club's Summer Meeting gives me an opportunity of indulging in some vaticinations. Paradox has had a bit of weight flopped on to him in the Hurdles, and I doubt his ability to get home with such a big burden as 11.10, although he only has a couple to beat—Disturbance 10.0, and Jacob 9.10. I give my vote for Disturbance.

The Wellington Racing Club Handicap, one mile and a quarter, has an acceptance of ten. Boulanger, Merrie England and Crackshot are placed on the same mark at 9.0, and of this trio I like Boulanger best, but I shall look further down the list for the winner. Retina, 8.6, and Revolution, 8.4, are not to my liking, but Queen of Trumps, 7.12; Rosefeldt, 7.11; and St. Katherine, 7.8, all read well. Ditto Loch Ness, with 7.3, but I have no fancy for Captive, 7.0. I select St. Katherine to win, with Queen of Trumps and Rosefeldt in the other places.

Westmere is an undeniably good colt but I hardly think he can carry such a big weight as 9.10 to the front in the Juvenile Handicap, so I shall go for Busbody.

Torpedo is a good 'un at 6 furlongs but 9 10 should stop him in the Metropolitan Handicap. My fancy is for Swordbelt, 8.2, with Free Lance, 7.7, next best.

There are only four left in the January Handicap of a mile and a furlong, and though the distance is a bit out of Torpedo's compass, perhaps, I shall look to him to carry his 8.12 home successfully. SIR LAUNCELOT.

Metropolitan Clubs' Conference.

(BY WIRE—FROM OWN CORRESPONDENT)

Wellington, January 24.

DELEGATES of the various Metropolitan Clubs met here this morning, pursuant to notice issued, and the undermentioned gentlemen were present:—Hons. Captain Russell and J. D. Ormond (Hawke's Bay Jockey Club); Mr W. Pervical (Auckland Racing Club); Mr W. H. E. Wanklyn (Canterbury Jockey Club); Dr Newman (Wellington Racing Club); Mr Higgin (Wanganui Jockey Club); Mr Gascoine (Nelson Jockey Club and Grey-mouth Jockey Club), and Mr Griffiths (Marlborough Racing Club). The Hon. J. D. Ormond also represented the Taranaki Jockey Club. Mr Luckie was in attendance as secretary.

Captain Russell mentioned the resolution standing in his name with reference to the formation of a New Zealand Jockey Club. After pointing out the advantages to be derived from the formation of such an institution, he said he regretted that owing to the action of some of the Clubs he was compelled to ask leave to withdraw the motion standing in his name. Leave to withdraw the motion was accordingly granted by the members present.

The Hon. J. D. Ormond moved a resolution, which was carried, "That it is desirable that country clubs should have some voice at the Conference." He intimated, also, that he would move at the next sitting, "That country clubs should have representation at future Cooperatives, with full power to act in this matter." He also gave notice that the Hawke's Bay Jockey Club would draft proposals for giving effect to the foregoing motion.

It was resolved, on the motion of Captain Russell, "That at future Conferences no delegate shall represent more than one club."

Captain Russell proposed, in accordance with notice given, "That no salaried official shall be entitled to act as a delegate at any future Conference," but this was negatived, the delegates from Auckland, Christchurch, Marlborough, Greymouth and Nelson voting against it.

The question of the "walking totalisa-

tors" next cropped up, and on the motion of Mr Griffiths it was decided "That the attention of Metropolitan Clubs be directed to the Rule of Racing 25, and clause 6 of Rule 154, under which takers as well as layers of odds are liable to disqualification, and that it is desirable to take stringent action to enforce these rules."

Mr. Wanklyn, as representing the C.J.C., moved the motion standing in that Club's name, viz., "That Rule 22 of the Totalisator be struck out, and that the following words be added to Rule 14 after the word 'commission' in the second line, 'less the amount of the State tax;' the proposed amendment to take effect at the close of the current racing season. The Hon. J. D. Ormond moved an amendment to this which was carried:—"That it is not desirable to lay down any decision pending future action of the Conference."

The members carried the following resolution on the motion of the Wanganui Jockey Club's delegate:—"That it is desirable to publish the 'New Zealand Stud Book' under authority and supervision of Metropolitan Clubs, and that Metropolitan Clubs be invited to furnish the next Conference with their views upon what lines such publication should be prepared, and also what steps should be taken to defray the expense of the publication"

The Conference adjourned to a date in July next, to be fixed by the chairman.

Wellington Trotting Club's Summer Meeting.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

[BY WIRE.]

Tuesday, January 24.

THE Wellington Trotting Club held their Summer Meeting to-day in beautiful weather. About 500 people were present, and Mr. F. N. Jones, of Nelson, who worked the totalisator, put through £1218. The meeting cannot be called a success for some very glaring irregularities occurred. The worst was a flagrant case of pulling which occurred in the Selling Trot, and over which the stewards held an enquiry, and disqualified the horse Cotherston and his rider D. Corrigan for 12 months. The results of the various events were as under:—

Maiden Handicap Trot, saddle or harness, of 20sovs, 2 miles: Maud, 25s, 1; Madcap II., 10s, 2; Dodger, 25s, 3. Won by 50 yards. Time, 7min 10sec. Dividend, £4 4s.

Electric Handicap Trot, in harness, of 20sovs, 1 1/2 miles: Rarus, scratch, 1; Fragment, 11s, 2; Cotherston, 28s, 3. Won easily. Time, 3min 28 1-5 sec. Dividend, £1 10s.

Pony Handicap Trot, in saddle, of 15sovs, 2 miles: Starlight II., 65s, 1; Silvertail, 45s, 2; Cliquot, 40s, 3. Won by 50 yards. Time, 6min 46 2 5 sec. Dividend, £3 17s.

Wellington Trotting Club Handicap, in saddle, of 50sovs, 2 1/2 miles: Spider, 23s, 1; Fragment, 26s, 2; Tuesday, 50s, 3. Won easily. Time, 7min 4 1-5 sec. Dividend, £1 17s.

Selling Handicap Trot of 20sovs, 2 miles: Poppett, 50s, 1; Cotherston, 20s, 2; Dodger, 50s, 3. Dividend, £1 18s.

Stewards' Stakes Handicap Trot, in harness, of 30sovs, 2 miles: Rarus, scratch, penalised 6s, 1; Fragment, 18s, 2. Won easily. Dividend, £1 4s.

Consolation Handicap Trot, in saddle, of 15sovs, 2 miles: St. James, 40s, 1; Tuesday, 25s, 2; Conway, 40s, 3. Won easily. Dividend, £3 7s.

Ngaruawahia Races.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Saturday, Jan 21.

THE annual race meeting under the auspices of the Ngaruawahia Racing Club came off to-day in Mr. Clows' paddock. I regret to say it was not the success that it should have been, but this was through no fault of the Club. For several days before it had been raining heavily all over the Waikato; railway communication was partially stopped, and at one time it was feared that the races would have to be postponed. The club, however, determined to go on with the sport, and when the morning broke fine it seemed as if fortune would favour them, but just after the racing commenced rain began to fall, and continued at intervals throughout the afternoon. Nevertheless the attendance fell little short of expectations, but the sport was indifferent, and Messrs. Adams and

Andrews, who worked the totalisator, only handled £248 at 10s tickets. The various officials worked hard to make the meeting a success, and succeeded as far was possible under the damp surroundings.

With the exception of Tupara, 11.0, and Sandy Muir, 10.5, nothing was backed with any spirit for the Handicap Hurdles of 25 sovs, 1 1/2 miles. Sandy Muir led for half the journey, when he gave way to Tupara and Fort-a-Bras, but Tupara soon came away and won very easily from Fort-a-Bras with Sandy Muir in third place.

The Maiden Plate of 15 sovs, about 1 mile, brought out a field of half a dozen, and Caprice, 8.11, who is in the same stable as the hurdler Yum Yum, was made a warm favourite, but she could only get third to Duchess, who won easily from Le Roy.

After her victory in this race Duchess could hardly be expected to contest the mile and a half of the Ngaruawahia Cup, and with her scratched as well as Ingorina and Transit, four were left to face the starter. Among these, I may mention, was Raglan, the half-brother to Pegasus, who had a good covering season in the Waikato, and was manifestly suffering from the effects thereof. In his old form he would in all probability have donkeylicked the field opposed to him, but he was the outsider of the lot in the "tote." Folly, 6.12, the lowest weighted of the lot, assumed command as soon as the flag fell and led all the road, winning in a canter from Orini, 7.12, with Waltzer, 8.7, third. Waltzer and Orini were the favourites. Raglan was done with at the end of three-quarters of a mile, and was then pulled up lame. Folly is by Captivator, out of the Jilt, and is therefore half-sister to Eve. She has before now performed well in the Waikato.

Wilfred was the favourite for the Novel Race of 20sovs, w.f.a., about one mile, and he nearly squeezed home, Ingare (who was getting 2lb from him) beating him a head. Mr T. Wise bought the winner when she was submitted to auction for £15.

Seven competed for the Ngaruawahia Plate Handicap of 15sovs, one mile and a quarter, and the bulk of the money went on to Transit and Folly, each of whom was weighted at 7.4 originally, but Folly had to put up 7lb penalty for her Cup win. However, that did not stop her, and she again won in a canter, paying a dividend of 19s.

Though there were five starters for the Selling Hurdles of 15 sovs, about 1 1/2 miles, only Hopeful Kate, 12.11, and Sandy Muir, 12.4, were really backed, there being 16 investors on the former and 20 on the latter out of a total of 41. These two fought out the best race of the day, Hopeful Kate just getting home by a neck from the Scotchman with Taffy a bad third.

J. B. Williamson's bad luck at the meeting stuck to him to the finish, for he again ran second with Orini in the Flying Handicap of 15 sovs, about 6 furlongs, which proved another good thing for Folly. She won easily from Orini—who is another daughter of Captivator—and Minnie was third.

How they Break the Records.

REFERRING to the many wonderful performances of last year on the American turf, the Toronto (Canadian) Empire remarks:—

"Record after record, both of horses, men and machines, has been smashed into smithereens ever since the first day of 1892 dawned upon us. Historians of the future will point to it with pride as showing the progress of this nation in the glories of Columbus, and the sporting part, even though ignored by students of political economy, will be duly recognised by all who delight in the progress of our horses, our athletes, our pugilists; yes, even the very vessels that connect us with the old world.

"The thoroughbreds have cut a wide swath through the figures of fastest time. Two of the most important turf records smashed this year occurred at the fall meeting at Morris Park on the same afternoon, Saturday, October 1. Everything was favourable to fast time, as the track was in perfect condition, and a powerful wind was blowing directly in favour of the runners, which it was estimated accounted for a second or a second and a half of the fast time made. Dr. Hasbrouck ran five furlongs in 57sec, admirably ridden by Dogget, and easily beating Correction, the runner-up. This knocks a clean two seconds off the pre-

vious record for the distance, held by a half dozen sprinters. The second record to go by the board in the afternoon was that of the six furlongs. Yemen did the trick, after a hard race with Estelle, the time being 1min 9 3/4sec. Had M'Cafferty ridden Estelle with more judgment the latter would have got the race and perhaps a still better record, as she has oceans of speed at the finish, and was running much faster than the winner. M'Cafferty kept Estelle back in the ruck until the last few jumps, and then it was too late. The speedy thoroughbred began his devastations of time early in the year, when Toano, on January 8, at North Bergen, carrying 116lb, made a record of 54sec for four and a half furlongs. Kildeer greatly increased the gait for a mile, when in the actual race over the straight course at Monmouth Park, August 13, she made the record of 1min 37 1/4sec for the distance. In giving this record due allowance is made for Salvator's trial against time the preceding year. He was specially prepared for it, and had everything in his favour. It was a great run, that of 1min 35 1/2sec, but was not made in a race. Yo lambein's mile and a sixteenth in 1min 45 1/2sec, at Washington Park, Chicago, July 19, is another record, also that of Lorenzo, at Garfield Park, August 12, for a mile and three-sixteenths, the time being 1min 59 1/2sec. Lamplighter chopped a quarter of a second off a mile and a half record on August 9, at Monmouth Park, when he ran 2min 32 1/2sec.

"Nancy Hanks electrified the world when she knocked spots out of Maud S's record of 2min 8sec by trotting a mile in 2min 5 1/2sec. A couple of weeks later, when Nancy did the mile in 2min 4sec, the astonishment was world wide. Since then Nancy has tried to discount this performance, but has failed, 2min 5sec being the best she could do. Nancy Hanks has not done all the record-breaking in the world by any means. At Nashville, Tenn., on October 21, the black stallion Storm stepped off a mile in 2min 8 1/2sec, giving him the stallion record, which Stamboul afterwards tied in California. Last Saturday Kremlin clipped off another fraction, trotting in 2min 8 1/4sec at Nashville. At the Nashville meeting in October, Little Albert, in the Free-for all Stakes, forced the four fastest heats that were ever trotted, the times being 2min 12sec, 2min 10 1/2sec, 2min 11 1/2sec, and 2min 10 1/2sec. Several other records went by the board at the same meeting. Directum established a new record for three-year-olds by reeling off a mile in 2min 11 1/4sec. On the same day a yearling pace record was established by Mill Lady going a mile in 2min 30sec. The day before (October 17) at the same track, a Lexington bay filly, Nellie A, knocked the spots out of the trotting mile record for yearlings by doing a mile in 2min 20 1/2sec. The best previous record for the age was 2min 35 1/2 sec, made by Leone at Chillicothe."

Owners, Note!

ROTORUA JOCKEY CLUB.

The undermentioned nominations are due on Wednesday next, on the 1st February, for this Club's annual races on the 16th prox. :—

Hurdle Handicap of 25 sovs, 2 miles, 15s
Rotorua Jockey Club Handicap of 30 sovs, 2 miles, 15s

EGMONT RACING CLUB.

At 9 p.m. on Wednesday next acceptances are due as under for the Egmont Racing Club's Summer Meeting :—

Waimate Handicap of 60 sovs, 7 furlongs, 1 sov
First Handicap Hurdles of 100 sovs, 2 miles and a distance, 3 sovs
Egmont Handicap of 300 sovs, 2 miles, 2 sovs
Hawera Welter Handicap of 50 sovs, 1 mile, 1 sov

Acceptances will be received either by Mr H. H. Hayr, SPORTING REVIEW office, by Mr A. T. Danvers, Napier, or by the Club's secretary, at Hawera, and owners should not forget that the telegraph office at Hawera closes at 5 p.m.

TAKAPUNA JOCKEY CLUB'S SUMMER.

The following acceptances are due at 10 p.m. on Saturday next for the second day of this Club's Summer Meeting :—

Handicap Maiden Hurdles of 50 sovs, 1 1/2 miles, 1 sov
Suburban Handicap of 50 sovs, 5 1/2 furlongs, 1 sov
Hobson Handicap of 50 sovs, 5 1/2 furlongs, 1 sov
Takapuna Jockey Club Handicap of 150 sovs, 1 1/2 miles, 3 sovs
Anniversary Handicap of 60 sovs, 7 furlongs, 2 sovs

Coming Events.

[BY SIR LAUNCELOT.]

TAKAPUNA JOCKEY CLUB'S SUMMER MEETING.

THIS popular club will commence their Summer Meeting on Saturday and bring it to a conclusion on Monday (Anniversary Day). Mr Knight did his handicapping so well for the first day's events that the percentage of non-acceptors has been very small indeed. Large prices were paid on Friday at the sale of the privileges, and with fine weather—which generally seems to be a perquisite of the Takapuna Jockey Club—there should be a large concourse of spectators on both days, especially on the Monday, which will be observed as the Anniversary Day holiday.

Business will be commenced on Saturday with the Handicap Maiden Plate of 30sovs, one mile, for which Mr Knight scored a rattling record in the matter of acceptance, for every one of the fourteen weighted by him accepted. This shows the popularity of these Maiden Handicaps which, as I have before mentioned, might be introduced with advantage into some of the programmes of the South Island clubs. This by the way, though, I adhere to the opinion I expressed last week that, with a start, Waltzer will win, and if he is beaten I opine that either Stanley or Muriel will be his conqueror.

The Handicap Hurdle Race of 70 sovs, two miles, comes next, and with only Belmont, Tupara, and Ilma eliminated, the good field of ten remains. Commenting on the handicaps last week, I expressed my opinion that whatever beats Aorere will win, and I picked Marechal Neil as next best. Now to put in another to supply the other place I shall pick Bombardier, and shall place them—Aorere, 1; Marechal Neil, 2; Bombardier, 3.

The Zealandia Handicap of 50sovs, five furlongs, is the succeeding item. Here we have only a couple of non-acceptors, which leaves 13 "contents." It should in justice to the handicapper also be mentioned that St. Clements, one of the non-acceptors, met with an injury the other day which rendered him incapable of being further trained for the present. If His Worship be started for this in preference to reserving him for the Takapuna Cup, he should just about win, but I expect the Cup will have more attraction for his owner. Waltzer is another entitled to great respect, if he be not a competitor in the Maiden Plate. As the acceptors are at present, Warrior heads the list at 8.4, and though he has run a good five furlongs on the course I think the weight will anchor him now. Lady Belle would have a show at 8.2 if she had been up long enough, but as she has not I must discard her. When writing last week I expressed the opinion that Tamar would get a nice 5 furlongs with 7.8 in the humour. That little "if" again comes in, but, nevertheless, reckoning that some of them may go out before the numbers are hoisted, I shall have Tamar on my side. Stamford, 7.0, may effect a surprise, but I shall go for Tamar to win, with His Worship or Warrior (whichever is sent from the stable) next best, and Stamford third.

The Takapuna Cup of 200sovs, one mile and a-half, which is the *piece de resistance* of the day's card, has an acceptance of 11, the absentees being Impulse (who was scratched soon after the weights appeared), Pinfire, Regel, Stranger, Tulloch, Lady Belle, Waltzer, and Sir Roland. When the weights appeared I selected Impulse, Pinfire, and Ingorina to supply the winner, with Ida as a good outsider, and I must say I was extremely surprised at the defection of Impulse and Pinfire—the latter especially. The respective stables in which they are trained have, however, curiously enough, each left in another representative, Kean's being represented by Lottie and the Papakura establishment by Glaucus. Glaucus I will not have at all, and though perhaps Kean has supplied what looks like a strong tip by withdrawing Impulse and leaving Lottie in, I think Coalscuttle will beat the daughter of Muskapeer, wherever they may finish in the race. It must not be understood, though, that I am much enamoured of Coalscuttle's chance. Far from it, for unless her form in the A.R.C. Handicap was all wrong she cannot have much show now. Morion has lately been so much of a disappointment that I must decline to stand him at 8.10. Ingorina, 8.0, and Ida, 7.8, I intend to stick by, though, and I cannot help

thinking that Tit, 7.8, will be able to cut out a decent mile and a half. Of those below her I would certainly stand to His Worship if I thought he would run, and if he start I expect him and Tit to fight out a battle for third place behind Ingorina and Ida, whom I fancy will finish first and second in that order.

The Calliope Handicap of 70sovs, six furlongs, for two-year-olds, only had one malcontent, and that was the minimum weight Jennie. Thus a septette is left. I thought that perhaps Eve's 9.2 would not be agreeable to her owner, but though well weighted up to her best performance, he has not shirked the contest with her. While I think she will run well in spite of her big weight, I expect, as I indicated last week, that both Royal Rose and Captivity will beat her, Captivity for choice.

The Handicap Maiden Steeplechase of 50sovs, about three miles, has a dozen acceptors, Nero and Ilma being the only two that have dropped out. Maritana, 10.12, and Blue Ribbon, 9.12, are the pair I stick to, and if they are beaten it may be by Kate.

The Borough Handicap of 30sovs, six furlongs, is rather a difficult race to pick because many of the ten engaged have accepted for other races during the day, and there is therefore a doubt about what will start. All in, Acacia and Muriel seem to me most worthy of support, and with that expression of opinion I shall leave it.

Mr Knight has every reason to feel highly gratified at the fact that only one horse has declined his adjustment for the Stewards' Handicap of 65sovs, six furlongs and a half, and that is St. Clements, who is at present *hors de combat*. The splendid acceptance of 17 leaves us with a puzzle extremely hard to pick—the more so as there are earlier engagements for several of the nags to fulfil. Warrior, Waltzer, and His Worship all read dangerous at the weights allotted them, but perhaps it will be better to select a fresh horse and go for Stranger, and Como, who is a bit handy over a short course, may be next best.

The only items of the second day's card with which I can deal (the weights will not be declared till Saturday night) are the Takapuna Stakes for three-year olds, one mile one and three quarter furlongs; and the Handicap Steeplechase of 150sovs, about 3½ miles. For the former various circumstances have contributed to reduce the field to a trio, Brown Alice, His Worship and Sir Roland, and after her Great Northern Derby form Brown Alice should have little difficulty in beating the brace opposed to her.

The Handicap Steeplechase is likely to have a good deal of light thrown upon it by the results of the Hurdle and Maiden Steeplechase on the Saturday, but as the weights at present stand I feel inclined to divide my suffrages between the two top weights Aorere and Fishmonger, with Carronade for an outside chance.

The privileges for the meeting were sold on Friday by Messrs. Tonks and Co., and realised the following prices:—Outside booth, sole right, £81, Mr P. Quinlan; grand stand bar, £61, Mr James Hawkins; refreshment stalls, £14 15s, Mrs McIntosh; cards, £42, Scott Printing Company; gates, £145, Mr E. W. Alison.

OTAHUHU TROTTING CLUB'S MEETING.

THE Otahuhu Trotting Club will again solicit public patronage on the 11th prox, when they will bring off a programme of seven events with a total of £250 in added money. The entries received on Friday night are fairly numerous, though not quite up to expectations. There are 18 in the Maiden Trot, 20 in the Maiden Pony Race, 14 in the Trotting Club Cup, 16 in the Flying Stakes, 9 in the Harness Trot, 8 in the Hurdle Handicap, and 8 in the Electric Trot. The handicaps are due to appear to-morrow.

BAY OF PLENTY JOCKEY CLUB.

JUDGING by the acceptances and entries received and by the interest evinced in Auckland and Tauranga sporting circles, racing in Tauranga under the auspices of the Bay of Plenty Jockey Club is this year likely to "boom" once more. And we Aucklanders would be glad to see it do so, for the Tauranga people are real good sportsmen, and many an Auckland and many a Southerner too—myself among the latter—have pleasant recollections of a day or two's stay in Tauranga, where, I can assure my readers, you can get, what to an epicure is a luxury, the best fish breakfast procurable

in New Zealand, or, with the exception of Geelong (another place of which I have similar pleasant recollections), I might say throughout the whole of the Australasian colonies. Tauranga is, like Nelson and Geelong perhaps, somewhat of a "Sleepy Hollow," but there are some pretty surroundings to it, and for the sake of the scenery, the good hospitality met with, and the racing, I am sure many more Aucklanders would have gone there than intend to owing to Takapuna races falling on the same day, January 30th.

The Club (who, by the way, are racing under the Metropolitan Clubs' Rules; have, I am pleased to see, received good acceptances and entries for all the events that have, so far, closed. Out of seven entrants for the Hurdles, four have accepted; out of 13 weighted for the Bay of Plenty Handicap—the principal item of the card—10 have paid up; and the general entries read as under:—Maiden Plate 7, Settler's Plate the same number, and Ladies' Purse also 7.

CANTERBURY JOCKEY CLUB'S SUMMER MEETING.

THE entries for this meeting are fairly numerous, but there is a smaller contingent than usual from Dunedin, and the Hon. J. D. Ormond, with North Atlantic and Thame, and Mr F. Martin with Retina, are the only North Islanders represented. I am rather surprised not to find a single Dunedin horse entered in the handicaps, but Mr Mercer has left his two-year-old Beadonwell in the Middle Park Plate. In this latter the further payment has been made for nine, all two-year-olds. Where are the three-year-olds? There are 14 nags entered for the Hornby Welter Handicap, 13 for the Midsummer Handicap, 11 for the Selling Race, and 21 for the Craven Plate.

DUNEDIN JOCKEY CLUB'S AUTUMN MEETING.

IN reviewing the handicap for the Dunedin Cup I pointed out what a bad lot Mr Dowse had had to bring together, and considering their quality, I was hardly prepared, even though the veteran had made a good handicap, to find 11 accept. This number has, however, since been reduced by one owing to Dilemma being scratched for all engagements at the meeting. The top weight Occident, who won last year, has been eliminated, which leaves Prime Warden, 8.11, at the head of affairs. In reviewing the handicap I expressed the opinion that the distance is a bit above the compass of the brother to Sultan, and to that opinion I adhere, though I must at the same time state that he is a bit better class than the majority of those engaged, and I also observe that his stable have taken Saracen out, and are therefore content to rely on him alone. Clanranald, 8.7, is another that has not hitherto shown a partiality for a distance of ground, but it must not be forgotten that his connections backed him for a lot of money for the New Zealand Cup. He went wrong, though, at the end of the winter, and did not see the post. Cruchfield, 8.0, is much more to my liking. He was a good three-year-old, and Ted Cutts (who has had charge of him ever since he first went into training) has patched him up since when he had a very suspicious leg, and has won good races with him. He may now score with him once more, and no victory would be more popular than that of the "blue and gold chequers" of Mr G. H. Clifford, who, though a staunch supporter of the game, has not had a decent one lately carrying his colours. I don't care for Scot Free at 7.9, but at the weight—7.6—I like Crown Jewel. She has not, however, run at all well this season, and at Hororata the other day, when a warm favourite for the Cup, she was badly beaten, and afterwards met with defeat by her solitary opponent in the Consolation. If Butler happens to "nick" her on the day I think she will have a big show judging by her form of last season, but on this season's form she cannot be in it. I hardly know what to make of Thame, 7.5. Here is another member of the weaker sex who has shown that she can stay, but she has lately done nothing, and still her owner keeps paying up for her. Perhaps the hon. gentleman thinks that in such a weak field anything may get home, and therefore he thinks it good to take the risk of a further payment, in which perhaps he is right. I will not have Captive at 7.1, but the fact of Awarua Rose, 7.0, being paid up for would lead one to infer that he has recovered from the injury he met with in the New Zealand Cup race, and, if so, he will be handy on the day. He has a

nice handy weight, and the distance should not stop him. In him and Cruchfield—who are both owned in entirely different interests—Ted Cutts has a nice pair to handle. What a smile of satisfaction will oer'spread the burly veteran's features should he have the satisfaction of leading either one of them back to scale a winner, for does not Mr H. Redwood, his oldest master, own the "Rose," while Mr Clifford, for whom he has won so many races, notably with Stonyhurst, owns Cruchfield. With Occident taken out, Tempest, 6.11, is the only representative of Mr J. Stephenson's local stable, and this erratic lady will, I am afraid, find a mile and a quarter of the journey quite enough for her. Wyvern, 6.9, I discard, and at present, presuming he will stand a preparation, I like Cruchfield best. The final payments are not due till the 20th prox., so we can afford to "bide a wee."

Mr Dowse's adjustment for the Publicans' Handicap, 7 furlongs, has met with the good acceptance of 17. Two Aucklanders, The Workman and Quadrant, have gone out, but we are still represented by Loch Ness and another North Islander whose name is seen in North Atlantic. If this colt should come back to his two-year-old form he will be very dangerous. Hippomenes, 8.11, now heads the list, and as I have often pointed out this brother to Regel takes a lump of doing over a short course. I do not care for Cruchfield, 8.7, Morpheus, 8.7, or Kulnine, 8.5, but I have a bit of respect for Vogengang, 8.4. This colt was a rattling good two-year-old, and though he went off before New Zealand Cup time he managed, though a bit off, to run second to Quadrant in the Farewell Handicap at the same meeting, when Quadrant was conceding him but 1lb. I thought Sheenon would have paid up for him in the Cup but as he has not done so I like his chance all the better in the Publicans'. Loch Ness, 8.2, was one I selected when the weights appeared; and another I took to be well in was Lady Zetland, who ran second in the same race last year with 1lb less, but, as I remarked "since then she has been to Australia, and I fancy the knocking about has been a bit detrimental to her." She may be all right for aught I know at present, and if so she will run well forward, but the stable have another representative in Saracen, 7.7. This colt is rather of the "soft" order, I think, judging by his running. He shouldn't be so, for he is bred "as hard" as the proverbial "nails," being by Chester's brother St. George out of Sir Modred's half-sister Fair Nell. However, he has shown a weak spot on more than one occasion when the money has been on, and he may do so again. I would sooner stand Lady Zetland than him if it came to a pinch and they were running in different interests. I expressed a partiality, when I reviewed the weights, for Heather Bell, 7.2, and I see she remains in, and I think she holds safe all those below her. If asked at the point of the bayonet at the present moment to select a trio to furnish the winner I should pick Hippomenes, Vogengang and Heather Bell. There is no further acceptance for this event I may remark.

Entries for four of the minor events of the meeting also closed on Thursday night, with the following results:—Hurdle Race, 11; Tally-ho Handicap, 9; Hurdles (3rd day), 9; Stewards' Welter, 26. The weights for the first day's Hurdles and Stewards' Purse are due on the 3rd prox.

A curious history attaches to Two Up, which won the Villiers Stakes with the greatest of ease at Randwick during the holidays. According to a Wagga Wagga exchange, he was bought originally for £9, and carried a shearer's pack about the country, winning a hack race here and there. Two Up, while carrying the pack, was once offered to a publican for 30s. and the pack thrown in. The publican refused the offer, and remarked that he would be sorry to give a "caser" for the "moke."

A statement has been prepared showing the amount of money won at Sydney race meetings during 1892. Altogether the prizes distributed reach the value of £90,039, of which £65,709 went to support the legitimate sport of horse racing, and £24,330 was disbursed for trotting and pony and galloway meetings. The Australian Jockey Club heads the list with £35,413, then comes Rosehill with £8,545, of which the sum of £3,015 was given to pony and galloway winners; Moorefield, £7,790 (£3,555 for ponies and galloways); Canterbury Park, £6,980 (£2,945 for trotting and pony and galloway racing); Warwick Farm, £6,625 (£2,625 for small horses); Sydney Driving Park, £5,000 (trotting, pony, and galloway racing); Tattersall's Club, £4,975; Sydney Turf Club, £4,921; Lillie Bridge (pony racing and trotting), £3,990; Hawkesbury Race Club, £2,600; Liverpool (horses, ponies, and galloways), £2,370; Royal Agricultural Society of New South Wales (trotting), £400; Botany Pony Club, £300; and New South Wales Trotting Club, newly-established, £130.

All-round Sport

CRICKET.

THE second round of the Cup matches commenced on Saturday last, but a nor-westerly downpour, which set in after about an hour's play, sent the knights of the willow to their homes disgusted with the spoilt afternoon.

SENIORS.

AUCKLAND v. PARNELL.—The former winning the toss, sent in Wilson and T. Neill, who made a promising start, scoring rapidly until Wilson, having made 14, was unfortunately run out. Harkness came in, and a few more runs were added, when Neill shied one of Carson's to leg, which Lawson judged and held splendidly. The on-going batsman was credited with a freely-hit 22. D. Clayton joined Harkness, but after making 3 was bowled by Lawson. Howard, who followed, after making a single, went out to Lawson, and was easily stumped by King. R. Neill came in, but soon lost Harkness, who fell to a good one from Lawson. J. Arneil was in with R. Neill, each with a single, when rain stopped the match, five wickets being down for 59.

ONSLAW v. UNITED.—Some delay in starting this match occurred through a discussion as to ONSLOW'S right to play Messrs. Field and Foster, of the Bentley Company. In the end United withdrew the objection, and play commenced, ONSLOW batting first, with Robinson and Grierson facing the bowling of Macpherson and Miller. Robinson, Grierson, and W. Whelan were soon disposed of, the first and last bowled by Miller and Grierson by Macpherson. London, however, hit out in fine style, compiling 24 not out; Foster brilliantly caught off Macpherson by C. Harris in the long field for 13, being the only other batsman who gave any trouble. When play ceased the score stood at 50 for six wickets.

JUNIORS.

BELMONT v. AUCKLAND II.—Only seven Aucklanders turned up, and they were speedily demolished by Smith and Morrison, who equitably shared the six wickets. The total was only 16, to which Beale and O'Keefe contributed 6 apiece. Belmont's innings, owing to the weather, was postponed to Saturday next.

NORTH SHORE v. GORDON II.—This match was played at the Shore, and not a few visitors journeyed across to witness it. Gordon, batting first, put together 88, Arthur Williamson, who is an improving player, carrying out his bat for a good 31; Jackson 11 and Doctor Egan 10 were the other double figures. Challes secured four wickets. The Shore had one wicket down for 15. This match should furnish an interesting game next Saturday.

WANDERERS v. PITT STREET MUTUAL.—When the rain stopped play, Pitt-street had scored 55 for 8 wickets; Rowe 14, Nicholson 12, getting double figures. Mills captured four wickets.

Auckland Regatta.

A general meeting of the Auckland Regatta Committee was held on Monday, when the report of the sub-committee in regard to the courses of the various races was read. It was resolved that the course for races for largest sized yachts and fishing boats should be from the flagship, round the mark-boat off Orakei Bay, thence to a mark-boat three miles north of Rangitoto Reef, thence round the buoy off Orakei Bay, round the s.s. Arawata, finishing on the south side of the flagship, twice round. The course of yachts of 5 tons and under was fixed the same as the previous one, but only once round. The course for yachts 3 tons and under and the smaller fishing boats was fixed to be from the flagship round mark-boat off Orakei Bay, round the chequered buoy in Rangitoto Channel, round mark-boat off Orakei Bay, thence to the s.s. Arawata, finishing on the south side of the flagship, twice round. For open sailing boats the course is to be from the flagship round the mark-boat off Orakei Bay across to the Sandspit buoy, thence round the s.s. Arawata, finishing on the south side of the flagship; twice round. The committee's recommendation for the maiden, junior, and senior whaleboat races was that the course should be one mile, one and a-half miles, and two miles, a straight course; the course to be fixed on the day of the race so as to arrange for smooth water. The course for races for gigs, whalers, etc., is to be from the flagship, round the s.s. Arawata, round

H.M.S. Goldfinch, finishing on the south side of the flagship; once round. The rule of the Auckland Yacht Club re the sailing races is to be adhered to, which is to the effect that the competing boats will have to stay round the various mark-boys. Mr Thomas was appointed starter for the rowing races at Pine Island.

The following entries have been received for the Auckland Regatta:—

MAIDEN GIG RACE (under 10 stone).—North Shore R.C. (No. 1 crew), North Shore R.C. (No. 2 crew), Auckland R.C., West End R.C., St. George's R.C.

AMATEUR SCULLERS.—F. Burgess, M. Keefe, E. G. Bailey, A. Bailey.

JUNIOR GIG RACE.—St. George's R.C., Star of Manukau R.C., Waitemata Boating Club.

SENIOR GIG RACE (under 10 stone).—City R.C. (No. 1 crew), City R.C. (No. 2 crew).

MAIDEN WHALEBOAT RACE.—Waitemata Boating Club, Star of Manukau R.C.

SENIOR GIG RACE.—Auckland R.C., St. George's R.C., City R.C., Waitemata B.C.

SCULLING RACE (for the Marshall Cup and Gold Medals).—H. Cramond, A. Dacre, E. Edwards, H. J. Bailey, W. Cossar.

MAIDEN GIG RACE.—Auckland R.C., Star of Manukau R.C., West End R.C., St. George's R.C., City R.C., Waitemata B.C.

JUNIOR GIG RACE.—Auckland R.C., St. George's R.C., City R.C.

FISHING BOATS (4 tons and under).—Venice, Rialto, Brothers.

FISHING BOATS (over 4 tons).—Mabel, Caprera.

YACHTS (7 tons rating and upwards).—Muritai, Awara, Spray, Rona, Maratea.

YACHTS (5 tons rating and not exceeding 7 tons).—Miharo, Aorere, Rogue.

YACHTS (above 3 tons rating, and not exceeding 5 tons).—Tangaroa, Toroa, Kotiro.

YACHTS (3 tons rating and under).—Rogue, Corina, Yum Yum.

OPEN SAILING BOATS (16 feet and up to 20 feet).—Pet, Eileen.

OPEN SAILING BOATS (over 13 feet and up to 16 feet).—May, Elfin, Olive, Toy.

OPEN SAILING BOATS (13 feet and under).—Una, Mary, Bt-of-Blue.

MAIDEN WHALEBOAT RACE (under 10 stone).—North Shore R.C., West End R.C.

JUNIOR WHALEBOAT RACE.—Star of Manukau, St. George's R.C., Waitemata B.C.

SENIOR WHALEBOAT RACE.—St. George's R.C., Waitemata B.C. (No. 1 crew), Waitemata B.C. (No. 2 crew).

There were no entries received for the Five-oared Whaleboat Race, Ship's Gig Race, and Naval Cutter Race.

For the various events of Saturday's racing "Gloriana" sends us the following tips:—

Maiden Gigs (under 10 stone)—St. George's Rowing Club, 1; North Shore, 2.

Amateur Scullers—O'Keefe, 1; Bailey, 2.

Junior Gigs—Waitemata, 1; St. George's, 2.

Senior Gigs—Waitemata, 1; St. George's, 2.

Maiden Whaleboats—Star of Manukau, 1; Waitemata, 2.

Senior Gigs (under 10 stone)—City No. 1 crew, 1; City No. 2 crew, 2.

Scullers' Race for the Marshall Cup—H. Bailey, 1; Dacre, 2.

Maiden Gigs—St. George's, 1; Waitemata, 2.

Junior Gigs (under 10 stone)—Auckland, 1; St. George's, 2.

For Monday's events "Gloriana's" selections are:—

Yachts over 7 tons—Arawa, 1; Spray, 2; if a light wind, Rona.

Yachts, 5 to 7 tons rating—Aorere, 1; Miharo, 2.

Yachts, 3 tons rating and under—Yum Yum, 1; Rogue or Corina, 2.

Fishing Boats, 4 tons and under—Venice.

Open Boats, 16 to 20ft.—Eileen, 1; Pet, 2.

Open Boats, 13 to 16ft.—May, 1; Toy, 2.

Boats, 13ft. and under—Una, 1; Mary, 2.

Fishing Boats over 4 tons—Caprera, 1; Mabel, 2.

Maiden Whaleboats—West End, 1; North Shore, 2.

Junior Whaleboats—Star of Manukau, 1; Waitemata, 2.

Senior Whaleboats—Waitemata No. 1.

James Barron, of Sydney, made his debut before an American assemblage in the California Athletic Club on November 25th. His opponent was Robert Dobbs, who had gained considerable reputation in California during the last three months by vanquishing George McKenzie and Johnson. The battle was for the possession of 1000dols. The San Francisco Chronicle reports of the contest:—"It proved to be a hurricane affair, lasting just one round and a half. In the middle of the second round Barron swung his right with terrific force. It landed on the point of Dobbs' chin, and the coloured gladiator went down like a flash. After being down about 5sec he made an effort to get up. After several ineffectual attempts he managed to get on his feet, but fell over again, and was counted out."

As instancing the ignorance displayed by the English and American press on the subject of some of the athletes of the Australasian Colonies, the appended, which recently appeared in the *Toronto* (Canada) *Empire*, is too good to lose:—"Professional oarsmen in this country are accidents, so to speak, but the production and training of scullers is a business in the country of Beach and Searle and Stanbury, and Long John McLean, says an exchange. The great wilds of Australia are scoured for likely material, just as the pine forests of our own country are searched for choice trees for special purposes. When promising material is found it is hewn into shape and quickly cast aside if not satisfactory. Rich backers in Australia have 'stables' of scullers as they would have of racehorses. Everything is provided for the sculler, who is given all the stake won and the added money, while his 'supporter' recoups himself by betting. He has only to eat, sleep, and row, and he could not do anything beyond this if he tried. Of such is James Stanbury, the Champion of the World, a hulking giant, who never wore shoes until he was found to be worth taking up. Even now he despises this portion of the ordinary man's apparel, and late advices from Australia said there was some doubt about his starting in the handicap race on the Parramatta on account of an injury received while playing football in his bare feet."

Down in Australia they breed men with iron jaws, if Jim Burge is a fair sample (says an American paper). Visitors from the antipodes assert, however, that Burge is an exceptional man in that respect. On November 23rd Billy Mahan, a Californian man, brought his dukes encased in light gloves against Burge's jaw in lightning succession for over one hour and a half. He rained down all kind of blows, from round arm swings to savage jabs, but that did not disturb the equanimity of the Australian in the slightest degree. Burge smiled, and the harder Mahan hit the broader the grin on the face of the "Cornstalker." Mahan kept on battering Burge through twenty-five long rounds, and in the twenty-sixth fell dead to the world from sheer exhaustion, the result of his vain endeavours. Mahan is not the first man who has fallen by the wayside in the attempts to fracture Burge's jaw.

The signatres of Griffo and Marshall have been affixed to articles by which they agree to fight for the featherweight championship of the world. The contest will take place at the Californian Club on February 28, for £200. Both lads are to scale within the featherweight limit, 9st, and whichever exceeds that weight will have to forfeit £25. Griffo is full of confidence. He admits that he seriously under-estimated Marshall's abilities in his first fight, and does not intend to neglect the important work of training. He will, he says, commence exercise shortly, and will not relax his exertions until he has reduced himself to 9st, and is as fit as his trainer can make him. He still suffers much pain from his injured ear, but the split has almost healed up, and he does not anticipate any trouble on the night of the fight. Marshall, too, is sanguine of success. He is glad Griffo has come to the scratch, because he wants to gain the belt, not by claiming it, but by beating its present holder. He has every confidence that he can knock the Rocks lad out in about 15 rounds. "I have measured his strength," says Jerry, "and I am satisfied he can't hit hard enough to beat me. I have stood severer punishment than ever Griffo inflicted, and I have given more punishment than Griffo could ever take. I think I'm sure to win. However, I don't intend to be too sanguine, and I won't reckon the fight mine until I see Grif, lying on the boards before me. You can tell the Melbourne people that I'm worth backing, for should I not knock the champion out the contest is sure to be a draw—provided, of course," he adds, with significant emphasis, "the referee knows what he is doing."

Mr G. Arneliffe, a prominent member of the Ballarat Cricket Club, has received a letter from Alfred Shaw, the well-known cricketer, who visited Australia with Lord Sheffield's team last year. The letter was written from Assiout, on the Nile. The writer speaks hopefully of the future of cricket both at home and in the colonies, and concludes by saying that should he not change his mind he (Shaw) will probably visit Australia again at the end of this year with another All England Eleven.

No less than £1663 3s was taken at the gates during the four days of the

match between Victoria and New South Wales. It is estimated that 40,000 people witnessed the play during the four days.

A letter has been received in Chicago by the World's Fair authorities from the Secretary of the New Zealand Rugby Football Union, in conjunction with a letter of endorsement from our Premier, Mr Ballance. The letter has been handed by the recipients to the Chicago Athletic Club. The New Zealand Secretary suggests, on behalf of his proposed team, the arrangement of matches with Yale, Harvard, Princeton and others. His letter has been submitted to several prominent Yale players, who are of opinion that the radical difference between the American inter-collegiate game and the English Rugby would render difficult the arrangement of international games. However, rules might be drafted satisfactory to both. The date, January, 1894, mentioned by the New Zealanders, would be eminently unsatisfactory; the World's Fair would be just over, and January is not a football month.

The Auckland Lawn Tennis Club met the Whangarei representatives on Friday. Messrs. Barton and Reyburn, of Whangarei, played Messrs. J. P. Stevenson and W. Bruce, and beat them badly, the scores being 6-3, 6-3, 6-2. In another match Whangarei was represented by Messrs. Cooke and Carruth, and they easily beat Messrs. C. R. Chapman and Scherff. On Saturday the Whangarei representatives went out to Devonport (North Shore), and had some good games. Two matches were played. Messrs. Barton and Reyburn, on behalf of Whangarei, first met Messrs. Whitaker and Hill, and won—6-3. The Devonport men won the second set—6-3. Devonport also won the next set without their opponents scoring a game. The visitors were much hampered by the wet weather, but nevertheless played up well in the final set, only losing by 5 to 7. The score at the conclusion of play thus stood in favour of Devonport—3-6, 6-3, 6-0, 7-5. In another match Messrs. Cooke and Carruth, for the visitors, beat Messrs. Mason and T. Macky; scores—6-3, 6-4, 6-1.

On December 1, Charlie Mitchell surrendered himself at Bow-street for the purpose of undergoing the sentence of two months' hard labour imposed on him for assault on an old man. Mitchell had previously appealed, but decided not to go on with it. Sir John Bridge, who was on the bench, however, held that the sureties were bound to prosecute the appeal. Further, that once notice of appeal was lodged the commitment lost all power. Mitchell then left the Court with his friends. Before going, however, he said to a reporter:—"Tell them I have surrendered because one of the witnesses in the case does not like to come forward. His position is too good. Another reason is that I want to be out in time to give Hall three weeks' training for his fight with Fitzsimmons, and to train myself for my fight with Corbett. The money is now up." On application at Pentonville prison a London *Sportsman* reporter was informed that Mitchell had attended during the afternoon and surrendered to the Governor. That official, however, declined the responsibility of detaining the boxer, who at the end of about half an hour left the building.

A singular fatality (says a Melbourne paper) seems to attend the big matches of the last few seasons, a Victorian and a New South Wales player having been called home last year by sudden deaths in their families, while on Sunday (Jan. 1) the brothers Jarvis, of the South Australian team, received news of the sudden death of their father. On Monday, too, H. Blinman, of the same team, was recalled to Adelaide through receiving news of the dangerous illness of his father, who died on the following day.

The *Argus*, in its report of the cricket match between New South Wales and Victoria, says that the effective repetition by Moses in the second innings of New South Wales of his first innings batting feat emphasised the regret which everyone must feel that so fine a batting career should be closed by a succession of accidents. If this was his last match, he had determined that it should be one worth remembering. Moses evidently suffered severely from the injury he received, for in walking he simply dragged his leg along the grass. It was a marvel under the circumstances how he got so much power into his hits. Once or twice after missing his stroke he fell quite helplessly. Although his leg seemed to get more painful the longer he batted it had no effect on his hits, and his exhibition was above all else an illustration of pure pluck.

The Rev. C. G. Lane, a well-known English cricketer and oarsman, passed away on the 2nd November. As recently as 1887 Mr Lane figured in a cricket match of importance, playing for the Veterans against the M.C.C. at Lord's on the occasion of the centenary of that club, but it was as long ago as 1856 that he played for Oxford against Cambridge, appearing again in the team in 1858, 1859, and 1860. In two of these years Mr Lane also assisted his university in the boat race, rowing No. 3. Mr Lane, who was in his 57th year, was a member of the famous Surrey County Cricket team of the early sixties. As the most capable judges of his time always ranked Mr Lane as one of the best batsmen in Surrey County there can be no doubt that he was a very fine player. As a fieldsman he was also famous, cover point and long leg being his favourite positions. Now that he is dead there are only four survivors left of the old Surrey Eleven that twice defeated the full strength of England. These four are William Caffyn, H. H. Stephenson—for many years past coach at Uppingham school—Mr F. Burbidge, and Mr E. Dowson. The others—Lockyer, Mortlock, Griffith, Sewell, Julius Cæsar and F. P. Miller—have all passed away.

The gross takings in connection with the two intercolonial cricket matches recently played at Metbourne—Victoria v. New South Wales, and Victoria v. South Australia—amounted to £3301, and the expenses to about £700, thus leaving a very handsome balance to the credit of the Association.

Our Wellington correspondent wires that at the Palmerston North Sports on Monday the Putting-the-Weight record, 38ft 9in, established by T. O'Connor, of Auckland, was beaten by O. McCormack, who covered 39ft 4in.

In referring to the Ten Mile Handicap for veterans over fifty years of age, promoted by Sir J. D. Astley, and decided at Stamford Bridge Grounds, London, on November 28th, "Maggie" writes as follows in the London *Globe*:—"It is not vouchsafed to every man to possess such a cast-iron constitution as that of Sir John Dugdale Astley, whose whole being is permeated with a love of sport that positively amounts to fanaticism. Sir John Astley ran races under the guns of Sebastapol, and laughed at the Russian artillerymen the while he was sprinting home with his brother officers. He is built of the same material as the young Etonian described by poor Whyte Melville, who, when the Russians retreated after a sortie from the besieged walls of the Crimean citadel, ran after them and threw stones at them. But Sir John should remember that we cannot be always young, and that there is no sadder spectacle than the sight of senility attempting to ape youth. No doubt pure goodness of heart, combined with idolatry of sport, inspired Sir John to promote the ten mile race for pedestrians of fifty years of age and over at Stamford Bridge on Monday, but take it all in all it was not a comforting spectacle to gaze upon the majority of the old men, wrecks of their former selves, who took part in the display. There was Bill Lang, upright and resolute, trying to look like the Bill Lang who, years ago, ran a mile down hill in 4min 2sec, and made a dead heat of it in a mile race with Richards in 4min 17½sec, which record, by the way, stood in the book for many years, until W. G. George annihilated it. There was old Jackson, the 'American Deer,' now seventy-one years of age, who used to star on pedestrian tours with 'Deerfoot'; Moorehouse, the 'Waterloo Pet,' seventy-three years old; J. Reynolds, better known as Joe Spencer, seventy-two years of age; and many other veterans whose ages topped threescore; and although to many of these the old adage of 'There's life in the old dog yet,' would apply, yet I contend it was a melancholy sight to view these resurrectioned athletes running in a ten mile race. Neither Lang nor Jackson did anything but disport themselves on the track, as each retired early in the race, which was won by the scratch man, Choppy Warburton, fifty years old, in 61min 39 1-5th sec. W. Shipley, fifty years old, the other scratch man, was second, in 67min 34 1-5th sec, and R. Bullivant, fifty-four years old, 200yds start, was third, in 71min 5 4-5th sec. After all expenses had been met, there remained £182 to be divided amongst the thirty-seven competitors. Warburton received £50 and a gold medal, Shipley £20 and a gold medal, Bullivant £10 and a gold medal, Jackson (American Deer), originator of the race, £10, Moorhouse (eldest man in the race) £5, and the remainder sums ranging from £4 to £1."

The remains of William O'Connor, the celebrated oarsman, were interred in St. Michael's Roman Catholic Cemetery, Toronto, on Nov. 26. The pall-bearers were Edward Hanlan, William Kennedy, Fred Mossop and Joseph Rogers. Speaking of the dead oarsman an English paper says:—"O'Connor became a rower by a sort of accident. He held a post in the Toronto office of the Grand Trunk Railway, but his health breaking down he was ordered by his doctor to go in for plenty of outdoor exercise. Thereupon he joined a boating club, and it soon became apparent that he was much above the ordinary run of scullers. He was only 29 years of age at the time of his death. He was a genial gentlemanly young fellow, and his sorrow for the death of his antagonist friend, Searle, was real and touching."

Alluding to the movement for shifting the headquarters of the Swimming Association from Auckland to Christchurch the *Canterbury Times* says:—"It appears as though the removal is not to be accomplished without some decided opposition from Auckland. Naturally Auckland feels the motion for the removal very keenly as the Association was started there, but Northern swimmers must admit that Canterbury is far ahead of Auckland both as regards clubs and membership. As to the charge that the movement is prompted by provincial jealousy and personal feeling there is not the slightest foundation for it. The Canterbury Clubs feel that in view of the large and increasing number of clubs and the greater interest taken in swimming matters here, added to the fact that there are more clubs in Canterbury than in the whole of the North Island the change of headquarters is highly necessary."

Professional rowers (writes "Trident" in the Sydney *Mai*) seem to be having a very quiet time indeed, and no matches are spoken of. Stanbury has gone inland erecting telegraph poles or fences. Dutch is at his trade with the anvil and sledge. Neilsen is enjoying a rest and looking after his boathouse at Mortlake. Lambert, I think, is farming, and Kemp is at his home on the Hawkesbury. Sullivan is on one of the northern rivers, and will row at Coraki at the end of the month.

With a view of selecting a team of athletes to compete at the New Zealand Amateur Athletic Association's annual championship meeting to be held at Wellington, the committee of the Canterbury Amateur Athletic Club have decided to hold a trial meeting to-day (January 26). The events set down for decision are as follows:—100yds Flat, 400yds Flat, 880yds Flat, One-mile Flat, 120yds Hurdles, 440yds Hurdles, One-mile Walk, High Jump, and Throwing 16lb Hammer. All events are handicaps.

Ball is training hard for the forthcoming Test Races, under the mentorship of Taylor. Farquhar is being carefully looked after by McDermott. Johnson is doing steady work at the Shore. Beale will not be among the starters in the Test Races. Martin and Hackett are still doing good work under the capable supervision of S. Goodman. Roberts is suffering from a bad leg and will probably be among the non-starters. Creamer is practising steadily on the off-chance of Burton not being a competitor.

The New Zealand Cup winner British Lion has come down in the racing scale indeed. He ran at the Kumara (Westland) meeting on the 4th inst. and finished last of four starters in the Kumara Handicap, one mile and a half, won by J. E. Pilbrow's Flywheel, well known in the Nelson and Marlborough districts. Harkaway was second and Miss Ann third. Harkaway carried 9.11, British Lion 9.6, Flywheel 7.10, and Miss Ann 7.3. Harkaway got home by a head only. British Lion's only other appearance at the meeting was in the Consolation, when carrying 7.2 he failed to give Tyrant 9lb.

After a lengthy retirement, Cruchfield's younger brother Lord Aston made his re-appearance under silk in the Bangor Plate Handicap, one mile, run at Hororata (Canterbury) Meeting on the 13th inst. He put up 7.8, and was just beaten a head by Au Revoir, 6.7, the property of "Patsy" Butler, who has been out of luck so far this season. Au Revoir, who is by St. George—Farewell, and is therefore full brother to Marlborough, paid the nice dividend of £10 8s. On the strength of his victory, his stable companion Crown Jewel, 8.5, was made favourite for the Hororata Cup Handicap of 55sovs, one mile and a-half, in which she was opposed by a quartette, but she was beaten half-a-mile from home, and Cajolery, 8.12, won by a length from Inez, 8.2, with Warrington, 7.13, third. Au Revoir, with 7.0, could not improve on the position of third to Maria Martin, 6.7, and Warrington, 8.9, in the New Year's Gift, six furlongs, and Crown Jewel, 8.11, was beaten half-a-length by her only opponent Rosehill, 8.0, in the Consolation Handicap, one mile. I had almost forgotten to mention that the big dividend of £67 5s. was paid over the victory of a piebald pony called Muses in the Trot.

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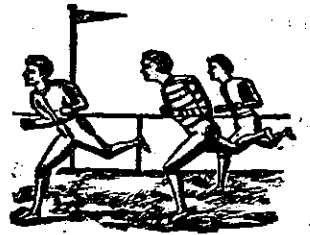
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