

programme for Boxing Day, not to exceed £350, and for the Autumn Meeting not to exceed £1000, and report to next meeting. The mode of country club representation at the Racing Conference was discussed, and it was decided on the following course:—Each club to send the name of a gentleman whom they may select as a candidate to the secretary of the Taranaki Jockey Club on or before —; that a list of these names will be forwarded to each club in the district, who will proceed to vote (the Egmont Racing Club to have 3 votes, all the other clubs 1 vote each), and return their vote to the T.J.C. not later than —; the candidate receiving the greatest number of votes will be declared elected and hold office for one year; in the event of two or more candidates receiving the same number of votes the Metropolitan Club will have a deciding vote.

August 27.

In my last letter I made an error in stating that McLauchlan was still in Mr Keswick's stable, as that lad is now in Mr Rathbone's stable in Hawke's Bay.

The colt Westmere is fancied along the coast for the New Zealand Cup. Report states that he and Boulianger are putting in good work at Wanganui.

D. Crozier, who rode two seconds at Takapuna on Despised, is now training a couple of horses here. I wish him luck in his operations.

J. Russell's team at present is rather numerous for a small place like New Plymouth. He has Union Jack (by Liberal), Belle (by Australian), three-year-colt by St. Leger—Musket Maid, Lord Onslow (Governor—Mokamoka), Lady Onslow (Governor—Mokamoka), and a young colt got, I think, by Lionel. Lady Onslow is turned out, having hurt a leg some time ago.

## WELLINGTON.

August 21.

The Foxton Racing Club's annual dinner has been fixed for Friday, the 8th September.

The Manawatu Racing Club has offered the new trotting club in that district the use of its course at a charge of £25 per diem, £10 to be deposited to cover any damage that might possibly be done to the grandstand or the accessories. At the Club's last committee meeting the Stockboy case was considered. Mr Fitzherbert was present on behalf of Mrs Lyons, the nominator of the horse, and stated positively that the case against the man who sold the horse would come on at the next sitting of the District Court. Under these circumstances the stewards agreed to postpone further action until after the sitting of the court. Mr C. Diamond, owner of the racing mare Jewel, disqualified at the March Meeting, wrote as follows: I beg respectfully to ask your committee to re-consider the disqualification of myself and mare, and to ask that you will remove it, as I think it is hard lines that I should suffer for other people's actions. It was decided that the committee could see no reason why the disqualification should be removed. Correspondence was read from the Rangitikei Club with regard to the constitution of Metropolitan Clubs, and stating that they were of opinion that the Metropolitan Club should be constituted of representatives of each club in the district, such representation to be based on the amount of stakes given. After a lengthy discussion the opinion was unanimously expressed that some action should be taken with reference to the formation of Metropolitan Clubs, and it was resolved that a meeting of all country clubs on the west coast of this Island, also the Wairarapa and Hawke's Bay districts, be held in the Commercial Hotel, Palmerston North, on Thursday, September 14th, at 2 p.m., to discuss the advisability of country clubs being represented on Metropolitan committees, and that each country club in the above districts be invited to send delegates. A request was received from the Horowhenua Jockey Club to join them in forming a Hack Racing Association for the Wellington Province, with power to deal with all matters affecting hack racing totally independent of the Metropolitan Club, and with equal power of dealing with racing matters. No decision was come to on the matter.

The Pahiatua Racing Club has decided to hold its first meeting on the 4th January.

Betting on the New Zealand Cup has been fairly brisk here during the last week. St. Hippo is still steadily backed, but it is difficult to get more than 8 to 1 about him. Response is at 10 to 1, and most of the Wellington bookmakers have laid her to some hundreds. The stable

commission is said to have been fully £3000. Hippomenes, Riversdale, Outpost, Prime Warden, St. Katherine, Saracen and Thame are those next in favour at from 100 to 10 to 100 to 6.

[The above reached us too late for last issue.—ED.]

[BY WIRE.]

Tuesday.

The committee of the Wairarapa Racing Club in its annual report congratulates the club on its present position, the good state the course and property are in, and the success of the past season. Instead of a falling off in the totalisator returns, such as most of its contemporaries have experienced, the club can show an appreciable increase. There was also a very marked increase in the revenue from privileges. The resolution of the Racing Conference that the totalisator tax should in future be borne by the clubs will not give the club any cause for anxiety. The committee thinks the amount of representation proposed to be given to country clubs at the Conference is hardly fair, also that country clubs should have representation on metropolitan clubs' committee. The club's receipts for the year (including £435 brought forward) came to £3,147, and there is a balance of £157 2s 9d in hand. During the season over £900 has been spent in improvements to the grand stand, lawn, saddling paddock, and river protection works and course. To pay for this a loan of £500 was procured, £200 of which has already been paid off.

On Saturday afternoon an interesting hurdle race took place on the Island Bay course, and attracted a large concourse of spectators, including many of the leading citizens and quite a bevy of legislators. The race was a match between Mr C. P. Skerrett's Halicore and Dr. Gillon's Ginger. Both owners are members of the United Hunt Club, and Halicore won the Hunt Club Steeplechase and Ginger the Maiden Steeplechase at the recent Hunt Club Steeplechase Meeting. There was a little betting, mostly at evens. The conditions were 2½ miles over eight hurdles, owners up. This gave Mr Skerrett about a stone advantage as regards weight. The start was a good one, but Ginger refused the first jump, and Halicore had gone half a mile further before his opponent again got under weigh. Halicore lost a lot of his advantage by running round a hurdle, but continued the second round with a good lead. He then ran round the same hurdle again, and Ginger, coming on, passed him just before he got over and led into the straight for home by ten or twelve lengths. Dr. Gillon thinking it all over rode very leisurely along the straight, but about a hundred yards from home Halicore came up very fast, and the doctor hearing him coming tried to rouse Ginger to finish, but amid great excitement Mr Skerrett just got up and won by a little over a length. Dr. Gillon admits that he was caught napping. After the match, which was for a trophy and the loser to pay £5 to the Hunt Club, a scratch race took place once round the course, about nine members of the Hunt Club and their friends taking part. The horses kept well together for half the distance, when a chestnut mare belonging to Mr Geo. Humes, of the Wairarapa, shot out and won easily. The course was in a terribly muddy condition, and the riders in the race on returning were in a pretty pickle.

Mr Waddington, who lately came up from Christchurch with several trotters, has sold two of them to Ngahauranga residents. One of them, Seesaw, won a maiden at Heathcote some time ago. The other is a maiden. Mr Waddington tells me he intends bringing up two or three more trotters from Christchurch.

I hear there are likely to be further unpleasant developments over the Dick-Tinker disqualification in the Wairarapa.

Mr Halward's Houp La, by Remington, a well-known local hack, was shipped South yesterday, having been sold to an Oamaru sportsman who wants him for hunters' races.

In the annual report of the Marlborough Racing Club the outgoing committee recommend that the new committee arrange for a spring as well as an autumn meeting.

Some days ago Mr J. Freeth's four-year-old Revolt, by Treason, broke away from the boy while being led at the Hutt course and bolted for nearly two miles. Fortunately he was unhurt when caught.

The annual meeting of the Otaki Maori Racing Club was held at Otaki on Saturday evening. The report and balance sheet showed receipts £1085 9s and expenditure £882 7s, leaving a

balance of £203 2s for the coming season. Last year's officers were unanimously re-elected, and a rough programme for 1st January, 1894, was drawn up and adopted for submission to the Metropolitan Club.

The annual meeting of the Wellington Racing Club, which was to have been held on Thursday, 31st inst., has been postponed until Wednesday, 6th September.

Response, St. Hippo, and Riversdale have been in request for the New Zealand Cup, but prices have not materially altered.

## NAPIER.

August 26.

Money is still being taken about St. Hippo, who stands at 100 to 15.

Mr Gollan's Namoa could not get a place in a selling race at the V.A.T.C. meeting the other day with 7.5 up.

J. Rollo has shipped Kupenga, the Thompson Handicap winner, to Gisborne.

Strephon is doing good work at Hastings. If he is fit and well on New Zealand Cup day—I don't care what he meets—he must get a place.

A gentleman who saw Division win the Balaclava Stakes at the V.A.T.C. meeting writes me that the son of Robert the Devil is in splendid nick and will be galloping in the Caulfield Cup—if he is any judge—when the rest are stopping.

## OUR SYDNEY LETTER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

August 17.

Rosehill, next to Randwick, is always to be relied on for the thoroughness with which everything is arranged for the sporting public. The inaugurating meeting of 1893-94 on Saturday was most enjoyable from every point of view, combining a large and fashionable gathering with interesting racing and superb weather. His Excellency the Governor (a thorough sportsman) with his suite were in attendance, and ladies in the latest styles of enchanting dresses gave a charm to the scene only to be witnessed to be remembered. Ministers of the Crown, M.L.A.'s, and the pick of prominent persons were also to be seen enjoying the favourite sport of the day, and a little more perfected railway arrangements would have been appreciated, for there is nothing more desirable than getting home quickly as soon as the last race is run.

For the Flying Handicap 19 silks were sported, and our absent leviathan's Utter was made a strong favourite. Taking the lead from the fall of the flag, Delaney never allowed his mount to be headed, and won by half a length from Blue Blood, and many good judges are of opinion that had the latter been better ridden he would have won. Torpedo was third. Waratah and Vanguard divided the honours of the ring for the Hurdles, and eleven went to the post. Sailor, unbefriended by punters, came as a boon to the books, for he made the whole of the running and won easily, Vesphane second, Waratah (who will win shortly) third. A large field of twenty-three turned out for the Welter, and on his previous running Torpedo was backed for a pile of money, and finished at two's. Cornet, Peri and Opher made most of the running, but when fairly in the straight Torpedo showed great speed, and won from Killarney by half a length, Marshall Ney third. Brocade and Escort fell.

The first juvenile race of the year induced thirteen to start, and from the good account of what Hirondele had done with 'Bungey,' she was backed down to 6 to 4. Regina was also fancied, but not much faith was put in the two candidates running in the syndicate interest. Hirondele looked for the most part of the time to be certain of getting her backers home, but she was done when the pinch came, and Mr Payten's Moorongie beat her by two lengths, Enid third. Eleven timber toppers faced the starter for the Steeple, but many belied their calling, and the race was a chapter of accidents. Castlebar lost his rider; Bassanio turned turtle; Egyptian struck, cut himself, and lost his jockey; and Ensign II. fell over the palings and out of the course. No serious harm was done to the jockeys. The August Handicap, connected with which was a consultation with between three and four thousand subscribers, brought out a strong field of seventeen, including such promising ones as Pulvil, Panoply, Delaware, Chatham and Climax. Climax was chosen favourite at 3's. Tommy, King Orry and Brightlight were

the chief pace makers until the distance was reached, when Climax came with a rattle and won with ease. Barnaby Rudge just beat Brightlight for second place, Chatham fourth. Selkirk fell.

Randwick will have to look to its laurels, as Rosehill on Saturday gave a proof that the pretty course near the Parramatta River is becoming more popular every meeting. One of the advantages of having a real good 'boss of affairs.'

It would be doing the public a kindness, besides being generally acknowledged what ought to be done, if owners would bear in mind the names of sires and dams when naming their two-year-olds, and call them appropriately. Another thing, too—the sooner the youngsters are given their 'handles' the better.

Marshall Ney showed good form at Rosehill on Saturday. He is not only a racer, but handsome into the bargain. Mat Harris rode him for Mr T. Brown.

Bad luck seems to follow a little too persistently in the track of some men. Regina, owned by Mr J. J. McManus, and greatly fancied by him for the Rosehill Juvenile Stakes, was left at the post. This makes the second race 'Little Mac' ought to have won within the last week or two.

Moorongie, winner of the first Juvenile Race of 93-4 in N.S.W., and Merrywing, a similar winner in Victoria, are both by Robinson Crusoe.

Madras, another in the Syndicate stable, won the first two-year-old race at Rosehill last year, after a dead-heat with the greatly improved Pharamond.

Hirondele has a great reputation already for pace, and should win a race ere long. Some of the youngsters started last Saturday were very green.

Egyptian was the first horse to pass the post for the Steeplechase, but being riderless Mr Kelso did not score a win.

Ensign II. jumped in great form, and Mr Terry had bad luck when the horse bounded sideways and fell with a great crash over the white palings on to the flat, as he would most likely have won.

The riderless horses interfered greatly with those left with chances in the Steeple, and every jockey must have been glad when the race was over.

One horse that was placed in the August Handicap was running without 'a bit to nothing' in the small consultation open on the race.

The Climax connection, who must have gone down at Moorefield when he lost the Stewards' Mile after having two tries, are said not to have backed the son of Trenton—Corday in the August Handicap, yet he started favourite at 3's. Someone knew something evidently. One well known metalician did not have much trouble to carry his swag home.

Climax, with 6.10 (he incurs no penalty for the Rosehill win) in the Melbourne Cup may be said to have a not-to-be-forgotten chance.

Utter incurs a 10lb penalty for winning on Saturday, and this brings his weight up to 8.4 for the Epsom Handicap. Too much.

Two of the wounded were in evidence at Rosehill on Saturday. Death, who is progressing favourably, was on crutches. Garland has now gone over to the ponies with his arm in a sling, through the accident at Kensington.

McGill, a lad in Lamond's stable, had his leg broken by Oxide lashing out. The boy was exercising Australian Bird-catcher at the time.

Selkirk, who will be remembered as running good races at Randwick, Hawkesbury, Cootamundra and Bourke, broke his back when he fell in the August Handicap, and had to be destroyed. Consequently he is scratched for all engagements.

A man named Hart was sent to prison for one month for running a 'tote' in Broadway, Glebe. On the way to the Central Station he was taken with a fit, and treated at the Hospital. He soon recovered, and is now doing his time.

A few more 'monthly lessons' dealt out carefully and consistently among Sydney 'tote' runners are also absolutely necessary, and if one or two of the other magistrates would follow Mr Addison's example instead of gliding through that business of 'Prisoner pleads guilty, fined five pounds, £1 6s 6d costs; next case,' they would be doing good to their fellow men, and not appear as they do now as allowing these illegal gambling dens whilst they have power to crush them.

No double runners have been caught within the last week or so. Don't think there is a diminution in the business. Oh, dear, no! Suppose the boys in blue require a rest after their late King-street exertions in that direction; or do the