

Savoury is reported to be showing signs of knee lameness. He was a great disappointment to his last owner, and may be to his present one.

Solution has a very runaway victory in the Hawke's Bay Cup yesterday, the four-year-old daughter of Sout and Problem winning by six lengths from Rose Madder, with Mobility third.

Cadence, the exceedingly handsome filly which "Mr. Arnold" bought for a hundred guineas at the last sale of the Cambria Park yearlings, is now being broken in by French. If appearances go for anything, she was one of the bargains of the sale.

Another filly just taken in hand by French is the one by Eton from Guinevere. She belongs to the gentleman who races under the name of Mr. Morgan.

The cross-country rider S. Howie is back again from Sydney.

Mr. H. T. Gorré has been appointed master of the Pakuranga Hunt Club.

It must not be overlooked that all notices of motion to be dealt with at the Racing Conference must be sent to Mr. Wanklyn by the 31st inst.

The Pakuranga Hunt Club held the first meet of the season on Saturday. A luncheon was held at the Otahuhu Hotel, after which a move was made to Mr. Gray's farm at Papatoetoe, where a good run was obtained.

Gladstone has been scratched from the T.J.C. Empire Handicap, and Lady Hune from the Maiden Hurdles.

B. Carter and T. Cole sued H. H. Hayr at the Magistrate's Court on Saturday for 28s, being the amount of dividend payable on the winner of the Handicap Steeplechase at Avondale. It was proved in the evidence that the ticket was unstamped, and the plaintiffs were non-suited.

While in Sydney, Mr. Bent stated that Mr. S. O. Wood, who is going to England, has been given authority to spend £3000 in horses for the Victorian Government.

The English horse Velasquez, the sire of the Maribyrnong Plate winner, Murillo, was recently destroyed on account of blindness. Velasquez was by Donovan, and was a good performer.

The Rev. J. Campbell, the breeder of the smart Australian two-year-old Antonius, has got a yearling filly sister to the colt, which he considers more promising than Antonius was at the age.

Gladsome is being treated to a short but well-deserved spell, and she will not race in Sydney in the spring.

The Johannesburg Turf Club gave away £38,000 in stakes last year, and in entrance fees alone received a return of £12,400. This seems rather severe on the owners.

Our photographer made a special trip up to Papakura to obtain the portrait of Cambrian, which appears on another page, and a glance at it will show that he managed to obtain a particularly good likeness of Auckland's crack two-year-old, and of his rider, Mark Ryan. Although Cambrian was defeated by Kirriemuir and Huascar in the G.N. Foal Stakes, his subsequent running has shown that he has improved out of all recognition, and he is probably the best two-year-old colt in the colony to-day.

With so much wet weather it is very doubtful if the new course at the five furlongs' post at Takapuna will be ready for use. This is a pity, as it would have been a big improvement on the old order of things, but the delay will greatly benefit the new track.

Victoria last week lost one of its best racing men in the death of Mr. William Bailey. Though he resided at Ballarat, the best of Mr. Bailey's horses were trained at Randwick by T. Payten, who won quite a number of classic events for him. The principal winners prepared for the Victorian by T. Payten were Mitford, Cocos, Coil, Hautain, and Hautvillers. With the horses mentioned he won the Caulfield Guineas, Maribyrnong Plate, A.J.C. Champagne Stakes, Derby, V.R.C. Derby, Australian Cup, and a number of other events. During the late years of his life Mr. Bailey was seldom seen on any of the metropolitan race tracks.

The three-year old brown filly Operetta, a daughter of Merriwee and Variety, won the Autumn Handicap at Hastings yesterday. She was well backed for the race.

It is said that Mr. Crick has refused an offer of 3000 guineas for the crack two-year-old Collarit.

An earlier generation attached more importance than we do to trifling characters in the horse. An old writer says: "The 'Roman sword,' so called from its resemblance to the sword used by the ancient Romans, is, in fact, nothing more than a long feather, or a kind of furrow formed by the hair being inverted, running along the top of the neck near the mane. This mark is very rare, and accounted a great beauty, for which reason those horses which have it are bought up at almost any rate by those who pique themselves on being uncommonly curious in particular about a horse's coat. The 'feather'—the point where the hair parts as from a centre—on the forehead, breast, or belly was regarded by some experts as a sign of merit. Many Eastern races attach great importance to the position of the whorl or feather on the face."

F. J. A. was in very poor condition when landed at Colombo, but Nightfall was quite herself. The accommodation given the horses on the big German liner Frederick der Grosse is said to have been very bad, the stalls being not more than 3ft wide.

ELLERSLIE TRAINING NOTES.

THURSDAY.

Nearly all the work was done on the grass track. Delania gave Lockbue a beating over four furlongs in 48 1-5 sec. Haydn and Sol were mates for a circuit, finishing up the last six furlongs in 1.33. Gladstone and Lady Hune spurted four furlongs in 52sec on the sand, finishing together. Discovery gave Apologue a start in four furlongs, but gained very little in 52sec on the sand. Strathavon and Hillflower ran nine furlongs in company. Waitati alone did a taking sprint for three furlongs in 36 4-5 sec on the grass. After breakfast Wai-puna slipped over four furlongs in 52 1-5 sec. Tambourine was associated over the same course in 47 4-5 sec; the former led. Girton Girl took 39 2-5 sec to leave three furlongs behind. Bonomiana and Omati jumped seven schooling hurdles nicely. Engraver and Fretwork ran six furlongs on the sand in 1.20 4-5; the former led. Cavalry and King Paul ran about 1 1/4 miles over seven flights of hurdles, shaping well. Mid Cyr, Silicia and Cuiragno did a similar task, but Silicia did not seem to relish his task. Irish and Brigham had a round over the steeplechase country, but the latter tired very much and toppled over the stone wall, his rider (Nesbitt) getting a shaking. Several others worked.

SATURDAY.

On Saturday morning a good deal of work was got through, principally of a sprinting order, most of the stables being content with short three, four and five furlongs' sprints on the grass. Tambourine slipped over three furlongs in 37 sec. Cannongate had a couple of rounds on the sand track. The old 'chaser is coming on slowly. Leonator, who looks well, had a four-furlong flutter in 53 sec. Landlock got over nine furlongs at three-quarter pace. Discoverer proved too slippery for Sonoma for four furlongs in 52 sec. Delania and another rattled off the same distance in 48 4-5 sec. Strathavon had the ancient Hillflower settled over the same track in 58 sec. Gladstone and Lady Hune spurted five furlongs in 1.7 1/2, the former in front. Waitati got over the same ground in 1.6 2-5. Forth, Sir Hector, Mechanic, Takaroa and others also worked. After breakfast Girton Girl left four furlongs behind in 55 sec on the sand. Geordie, who gallops short, had a couple of round, but was no use to Sir Gilead. Haydn, Hakaria, Ake Ake and Hippowai were started at the sod wall to negotiate the big country, but the latter disgraced himself by falling at the stone wall (the third jump, and did not go any further. The other three acquitted themselves very well. Cavalry, with King Paul, jumped the batters the reverse way, and the former led throughout. Bonomiana and Omati followed, and the latter pair bowled along in good style over seven flights of hurdle s. Nervine, Baltimore, Carl Rosa and others did useful work.

COURSING.

(By "The Judge.")

The following nominations have been received in connection with the North New Zealand Coursing Club's meeting, to take place at Auckland on June 16 and 23:—Maiden Stake: Mr. C. Hannigan, two nominations; Mr. W. Gurneck (Huntly), one; Mr. W. C. Griffiths two; Mr. G. Mills, two; Mr. J. Smith, one; Mr. A. Higgins, two; Mr. W. Parker (Ngaruawahia), one; Mr. E. Jones (Papakura), one; Mr. S. Barnes, one; Mr. F. Wyatt (Netherton), one; Mr. J. Collingwood, two; Mr. S. Bright (Panmure), one; Mr. J. Coulson, one; Mr. H. Brierly, one; Mr. T. Buckland, one; Mr. A. Gordon, one; Mr. B. Lynch, one; Mr. A. J. Searle (Hamilton), two; Mr. A. Wood, one; Mr. A. Goddard, one; Mr. J. Witheridge, one; Mr. T. Bassett, one; Mr. J. Elliot, one; Mr. E. Crawford, one; Mr. F. Pearce (Thames), one; Mr. J. W. Edgar, one; Mr. T. Coughlan, one; Mr. — (Frankton), two; Mr. J. Riddlemore, six; Mr. W. T. Tilsley (Thames), one; Messrs. Tap-Bros., two. This makes a very satisfactory list, and augurs well for the success of the inaugural meeting at Otahuhu.

Mr. Witheridge has leased from Mr. McCredie a beautifully-bred black bitch, which claims close relationship to the New South Wales Derby and Oaks winners, Bulwark and Balmy Breeze.

The dates for holding the North New Zealand Coursing Club's opening meeting have been changed to June 16 and 23, the reason of this being that otherwise it would have clashed with the Auckland Racing Club's winter fixture.

The Canterbury Coursing Club will bring off its next gathering on May 31 and June 2. A Maiden Stake and the Sockburn Cup will be the chief events.

Among the many coursing clubs formed during the present season, one of the newest is the Wairau Coursing Club, with its headquarters at Blenheim. At its first annual meeting the following officers were elected:—Patrons, the Hon. C. H. Mills, Messrs. G. P. Richardson, G. Watts, Joseph Redwood; president, Mr. S. M. Neville; vice-presidents, Messrs. J. Quane, C. G. Teschmaker, W. Pollard, Weld, R. McCallum, Captain Falconer; committee, Messrs. J. K. Vail, C. P. Nash, A. Hammond, T. O'Leary, S. Tapp, sen., W. Draper, L. Griffiths, J. Penny, R. McCallum; secretary, T. Howell; treasurer, Mr. A. Wiffen; auditors, Messrs. E. F. Healy and Harold Mills.

The Wairarapa Coursing Club will hold a meeting on May 16, 17 and 18.

A coursing meeting at Martinborough takes place to-day and to-morrow.

The veteran Rooty Hill courser, Mr. S. Bladon, has won both the New South Wales Derby and Oaks, pulling off the two classic events with the aid of Bulwark and Balmy Breeze. These two came from the same litter, and were got by the Leopold dog Braddon's Elot from that good bitch Bloomee, by Goldsmith—Bloomer. The Woodstock Stakes at the same meeting was won by Le Blot, a daughter of Braddon's Blot and La Carabine, which, by the way, put out Mr. Bladon's Braggadocio in the second ties.

Concerning the meeting, "Amesbury," of the "Sydney Referee," says: The result of the running was a veritable triumph for Mr. Bladon, who won both Derby and Oaks, and but for his crack, Braggadocio, being sore, would probably have scored "the treble." It is really remarkable that with the first mating of Braddon's Blot and Bloomer's daughter Bloomee, Mr. Bladon should get a Braggadocio and a Best Blend, whilst at the second mating the progeny should include such puppies as Bulwark, Balmy Breeze and Bold Prince. After the Kensington Encourage Stakes the general opinion was that Bold Prince was the fastest—in fact, the pick—of Mr. Bladon's puppies; but, personally, I favoured Bulwark. Mr. Bladon may still be the only one to know which of his dog puppies is the better, but, at any rate, Bulwark was last week, despite that Bold Prince was the better favourite. Both are fine-looking dogs, with great pace and stamina, and the further the winner went in the stake the better he ran, his exhibition in the decider being a veritable eye-opener.

INTER - PROVINCIAL.

(From Our Own Correspondents.)

CANTERBURY.

Christchurch, May 9.

Mr. Stead has sold Delaware to a Melbourne owner.

One thousand pounds will be the value of the Grand National Steeplechase this year.

Porceiaín is considered to have the Hawke's Bay Stakes at his mercy. Unless tse Hawke's Bay two-year-olds Loftus and Zimmerman, and the Wellington colt Moscow show something better than they have already done, the Yaldhurst colt should win comfortably.

Ability is doing a lot of solid work, and was sent over a few flights of hurdles on Monday. He jumped as well as usual, and seems to take kindly to the game.

Silkweb, whom T. Cotton, jun., brought down from Auckland, was tried over hurdles one day last week. The Sout horse shaped fairly well for a first attempt.

A number of Yaldhurst yearlings were out at Plumpton on Saturday. One, a full brother to Sungod named Bonaform, at once caught the eye, and if he does not turn out a good one it will be a surprise to many who saw him on Saturday.

D. J. Price will probably go over to Australia shortly with Savoury and Melodeon. Messrs. Price and Nettlefold did very well out of Machine Gun, and expect to get their money back and a little besides before parting with Savoury and Melodeon.

Chivalry and Tirole, who have not been raced for some time, competed at the Christchurch meeting, but although they ran well, failed to score a win. Chivalry had to give the winner of the Flying Handicap, Alexis, nearly three stone.

The Ashburton Racing Club's autumn meeting will be held on Thursday and Friday. The following should run well on the first day—Longbeach Hack, Assegai; Fairfield Welter, Bombastes; Ashburton Handicap, Makaroff; Selling Handicap, Merrymaker; Grove Farm Handicap, Zetland or Manjess; Trial Handicap, Stepmar; Lagmor Plate, Franc.

The committee of the Canterbury J.C. met on Tuesday last. The disqualification of G. J. Pine by the North Canterbury J.C. was increased to six months. A. Thompson, an apprentice, having left his employer's service without notice, owners were warned against employing him. The programme committee report was adopted. It recommended that no alteration be made to the New Zealand Cup, but the Grand National Steeplechase be increased to 1000sovs, an addition of 100sovs be made to the August Handicap, and 50sovs each to the Hanbers Flat Race, Beaufort Steeplechase, and Sydenham Hurdle Race; also, that the Second Hunters' Hurdles be struck out, its place being taken by the Spreydon Hack Hurdles of 100sovs. Altogether an additional £550 will be given away in stake money at the Grand National meeting. The committee intends dealing severely with any cases of excessive punishment occurring on the racecourse. The following transfers were approved:—W. Hayes to H. H. Pyne, br c, 1yr, by Stepniak—Firecross; G. Palmer to J. Montgomery, ch g Handel; T. Shannon to S. Tapp, b c, 2yrs, by Hillstone—Spring Rose; G. Stead to J. Montgomery, ch c Equiform; H. Friedlander to W. O. Rutherford, Makaroff.

The Christchurch Racing Club had fine weather for its meeting at Plumpton on Saturday. The racing was quite up to the average. The Christchurch Autumn Handicap brought out a field of eight, as follows:—Convoy 9.6, Terrapin 8.10, Tirole 8.8, Czarevna 8.8, Pas Seul 8.2, Beau Seaton 8.2, Makaroff 8.1, Tsitsihar 6.13. Beau Seaton was made a better favourite than Terrapin. Makaroff and Beau Seaton led out at the start, with Pas Seul at the head of the others. This trio piloted the field to the seven-furlong post, where Convoy moved up into third place. Makaroff was first into the straight, and easily holding his own, won by two lengths from Beau Seaton, who was a neck in front of Tirole, while Czarevna was another neck away fourth.

The Maiden Handicap, seven furlongs, was won by Korea (Stepniak—Illusion), who led all the way, defeating Whakaraupo by three lengths.

The High-weight Handicap, one mile, fell to Assegai (Benzoin—Fireside), Farley Grove running second, Cannie Chiel third. Assegai won by three lengths.