

Sir Percivale, who won the Ashburton Cup, is a five-year-old chestnut gelding by Sir Lancelot from Trentalto. The Hon. J. D. Ormond, who bred him, sold the gelding to his present owner for a hundred guineas.

One doesn't often see a walk-over nowadays, but this occurred in the Hunters' Heavy-weight Steeplechase on Saturday, when no one was found willing to oppose the Sou-wester gelding Brigham.

The fact of Manlapoto going amiss on the eve of the A.J.C. Spring Meeting is a bit of bad luck for the owner, as the son of Sout was galloping in great style.

The spring meeting of the Wanganui Jockey Club will take place next Thursday and Friday.

The Otahuhu Racing Club will hold a meeting on October 10.

The Auckland Racing Club has accepted the tender of Mr. W. Casey for the erection of a new totalisator house. It will be 140ft in length, 25ft in width, and will hold fourteen machines. There will be no less than 26 paying-out windows, so there should be no delay for investors in receiving their dividends. The contract price is £1595.

The committee of the Auckland Club has decided that Mr. H. H. Hayr shall carry on the totalisator as before. There did not seem any valid reason for a change, as the business has always been managed in the most straightforward fashion.

Mr. August Belmont has sent eighteen yearlings from America to England to be prepared for engagements in the last-mentioned country.

In reply to H. T. (Newmarket), when Mobility won the Burke Memorial Stakes at the Hawke's Bay meeting last season there were 218 tickets on him, the dividend being £5 3s.

The anti-gambling section always allude to Tattersall's Consultations as taking so much money out of the colony, but they never refer to the sums received. For instance, the three big prizes in the Adelaide Grand National Hurdle race all came to this colony. The first prize went to Mr. John McNamara, of Westport, the second prize to No. 3 Syndicate, Raetihi, and the third to Mr. J. H. Robertson, De Carl St., Dunedin. These three prizes alone amounted to £9000 coming to the colony, irrespective of numerous cash prizes in the same consultation.

Mr J. George has arrived to take part in the Avondale Meeting and has brought up the New Zealand Cup favourite Paritutu, and the two-year-old Ney by Sout—Inamorata. The young one, although on the small side, is very neatly built and seems forward. Paritutu looks blooming and in great heart, and with a few starts in public prior to the Cup should strip for the irace of his life.

Idol, by Seaton Delaval—Ida, who has been turned out during the winter months in the Matahura Estate, succumbed to a bad attack of influenza. The gelding never once gave his purchaser the shadow of a hope of ever being even moderately useful.

When the last mail left England Per-simmon headed the winning sires' list, twelve of his progeny having won 19 races of the total value of £13,223. Carbine was next with six winners of eleven races, value £12,182, but, of course, Spearmint's French winnings were not reckoned in that amount. Ayrshire was third with £12,097, and Gallinule next with £11,493.

The Boulder (W.A.) Club stewards concluded their inquiry into the circumstances (says a W.A. paper), surrounding the smash-up that recently occurred at that course. Hardy, the rider of Luke, complained that Peters, on Altona, crossed in front of him before he was the required safe distance in front. The stewards found that accident was caused through Luke crossing his legs, and falling, and that there was no blame attachable to any of the riders.

Judging by the following returns, the English Government are doing very well in the way of fines imposed upon those found guilty of street betting. It is reported that one bookmaker had been fined 54 times in three years, 21 had been fined 18 times, 26 had been fined 17 times, etc. The total number of convictions during the last three years in the Metropolitan Police district alone was no less than 6263.

TROTTING.

THE AUCKLAND TROTTING CLUB.

The spring meeting of the Auckland Trotting Club will be held at Alexandra Park on Saturday and Wednesday, October 20 and 24. For this a good programme has been drawn up, which will consist of the following items:—First day: The Maiden Trot of 25sovs, one mile; Onehunga Handicap of 40sovs, six furlongs and a-half; Spring Handicap Trot of 60sovs, two miles; Middle-class Trot of 30sovs, one mile and a-half; Stewards' Handicap Trot of 35 sovs, one mile and a-half; Pony Trot of 25sovs, one mile; October Handicap of 30sovs, five furlongs; Electric Trot of 40sovs, one mile.

On the second day the events to be decided are the Novel Trot of 25sovs, one mile and a-half; Alexandra Handicap of 60sovs, one mile and a-half; Remuera Handicap of 40sovs, six and a-half furlongs; Ladies' Bracelet Trot, one mile; Innovation Trot of 30sovs, one mile; High-class Trot of 50sovs, one mile; Junction Handicap of 30 sovs, five furlongs; Insulation Trot of 40sovs, one mile. This seems a well-thought-out programme, which should appeal to reinsmen and pony owners. These should bear in mind that the nominations for all events close with Mr. C. F. Mark, the secretary, on Friday, October 5, at 9 p.m. The response should be a liberal one.

ANTICIPATIONS.

THE AVONDALE JOCKEY CLUB'S SPRING MEETING.

(By "The Judge.")

Next Saturday the Avondale Jockey Club will commence the season's racing with the spring meeting, and this will be continued on the following Wednesday and Saturday. The meeting at Avondale has often been spoilt to a certain degree by the weather, for the fixture comes at the time of the vernal equinox, when boisterous atmospheric conditions often prevail. There are few more pleasant places than Avondale on a really fine day, and it is greatly to be hoped the club will be favoured in this respect. To enable patrons to get out to the ground the Railway Department will run special trains, leaving Auckland at 11.15 a.m., 11.35 a.m., and 12.20 p.m., returning from Avondale at 5.40 p.m., 6.0 p.m., and 6.13 p.m. These trains will only stop at Newmarket and Mount Eden. A train also leaves Auckland for Avondale at 1.20 p.m. Once on the ground, which, by the way, is looking exceedingly well just now, it will be found that Mr. H. H. Hayr, the secretary, and his staff have made very complete arrangements for the comfort of visitors, and everything will be in "apple-pie" order for a good afternoon's sport.

The opening event, which commences at 12.30 p.m., is the Maiden Plate, six furlongs, for which seventeen have accepted, so there seems a prospect of a big field. The recent running at Cambridge seems to give Cachuca a great chance, while the disappointing Pearl Necklet has been galloping well on the tracks. Perhaps places may go to

CACHUCA
PEARL NECKLET
KEEP STEP

There are seven left in the First Handicap Hurdles, two miles. Sol has top weight with 11st 7lb, and if at his best will take some beating. Aqua Regia is shaping very well in the morning gallops, and if she can jump may run well. Perhaps the safest to trust to are

DEFENDER
SOL
SWAGSMAN

Much interest will centre in the Avondale Stakes of four furlongs, this being the first classic race of the season in which the juveniles will make their debut. They will be eagerly scanned and criticised with a view to future engagements. Seventeen are engaged, and as all will be perfectly green at the game, it is next to impossible to forecast the result. Perhaps the most advanced ade Quadroon (Menschikoff—The Slave), Bluefire (Bluejacket—Radiant), Carmania (San Francisco—Campania), and Hierarch (Phoebus Apollo—Eve). To take a pure shot in the dark I will go for

CARMANIA
QUADROON
BLUEFIRE

Next follows the Avondale Cup, one

mile and a-quarter. In this eight still remain. Gladstone is in pride of place with 8st 7lb, and the chestnut has been hitting out in good style at Ellerslie, so must have a chance. If he is slipped for this Ironmould ought to beat Gladstone's brother; that is, if there is anything in his Cup pretensions. Geordie is very well, and he should be well suited by the easy going. Apologue has not been showing to advantage in his training work. Akarana is well treated, and this is a favourite course of the Messrs. Duder's horse. Hautapu is a wonderfully good hurdler, and his present impost will seem a feather to him. He should hold his own on the flat. Kola Nip and Franklin appear hardly good enough to win. The judge may place them as follows:—

GEORDIE
IRONMOULD
AKARANA

The Plunket Handicap, seven furlongs, has the nice field of fourteen engaged, and the winner seems well concealed. The N.Z. Cup favourite, Paritutu, is in the list, and has the big impost of 11st 1lb. The three I like best are

MILLIE
WAIKATO
BONOMIANA

Then follows the Steeplechase, three miles, for which there are but four acceptors. If old Cannongate does not break-down he should nearly win, and they may come home like this—

CANNONGATE
HAKARIA
LOCH FYNE

Five are engaged in the First Pony Handicap, six furlongs. Although Herculean won on Saturday at Alexandra Park, it was only in a rerun race, and forms no line to go upon. The numbers may go up for

GIRTON GIRL
STORYTELLER
HERCULEAN

The last event is the Flying Stakes, six furlongs, for which eleven have been left in. Some of these are engaged in other races, so that it is difficult to say for which they will start. It should be a fine race, and places may fall to

BEN JOHNSON
MISS WINNIE
LUCRECE.

TRAINING NOTES.

ELLERSLIE.

THURSDAY.

Most of the work took place on the sand track. Baltimore and Inglis were first out, and took 1.35 1-5 in this order for seven furlongs. Lochbuie seemed no use to Celtic in a five furlong flutter in 1.5 1-5. Kola Nip with Gall in the saddle finished a mile in 1.48 1-5. Gladstone and Scotty strode over nine furlongs in a shade under 2min. the former showing to most advantage. Apologue and Conductor ran a mile out in 1.46 1-5. Leonator, who keeps improving, kept Landlock pegging away for six furlongs in 1.18. Master Clements seemed too speedy for Claremont in a slow sprint. The speedy Hopscotch was in front of Forth for five furlongs in 1.6 2-5. Sonoma, Girton Girl, Lady Hune, Sweet Alice, Carl Rose, Duart, Loongana, The Warbles, The Middy, Bonomiana, Rose Lawn, Soultfish, The Scotchman, Hakaria, Aqua Regia, Pretwork, Loch Fyne, Perseverance also worked.

After breakfast Cannongate and Kruger had a couple of rounds separately. Daffodil ran seven furlongs in 1.37. Discoverer ran four furlongs in .52 2-5. Ben Johnson with Omati and Pylades (in this order) ran the best five furlongs of the morning in 1.3 3-5. Ironmould and Geordie were restricted to half pace work with a short sprint. Delania could have run over Intombi for 4 furlongs in .51. Dogger Bank, who started, tailed off. Sir Regal who started, tailed off. Sir Regas, who is jumping much cleaner, had a bout over the schooling hurdles with Swagman, finishing together. Zara jumped the steeple jumps in the centre of the course, but fell at the double; the mare always seems to turn turtle. Quadroon, the Aleger colt, and Blueflight fluttered over three furlongs in .39, and were so placed. Hierarch and Silkie's brother skipped over two furlongs in .26. The speedy Norana pulled over a companion in a four-furlong sprint in .52 2-5. Lady White, Waitati Mataura, Haydn and others also worked.

SATURDAY.

The sand track was again used and, although slushy, was not heavy. Inglis was no use to Pearl Necklet for five furlongs in 1.5 4-5. Celtic, Lochbuie and Duart did half-pace work in Indian file. Mechanic getting away from Kola Nip kept the advantage for

four furlongs in .51 3-5. Tambourina spurted three furlongs in .39. Gladstone, Scotty, and Apologue finished as above in a mile journey in 1.47 3-5, the latter four lengths to the bad; Scotty was not hustled. The two-year-old Necktie had a slight lead of Lady Nannie for three furlongs in .39. Sweet Alice, who is coming on, left four furlongs behind in .51 3-5. Lady Hune took two seconds longer. Conductor did a taking six furlongs, beating the seasoned Landlock in 1.19 4-5. Omati sprinted four furlongs alone in .51. The three moderates, Claremont, Soultfish, and Bonomiana battled out five furlongs in 1.6 4-5, the former in front. Leonator easily accomplished five furlongs in 1.8 3-5. Hopscotch, ridden out, just finished in front of Forth from the four furlongs post in .52. Master Clements alone ran six furlongs in 1.21 1-5. Defender, Loongana, Parraquet, Rosé Lawn, did moderate work. After breakfast Freemount galloped four furlongs for a pipe opener in .52. (and subsequently won at the Hunt Club sports). Cannongate and Kruger had a couple of rounds and then spurted, the old chaser in front. Bluestone spurted with Bright Spark for three furlongs in .39. Girton Girl finished in front of Lord Seaton, on sufferance, over four furlongs in .53. Cavalry, Waitati, Lady Annie, and Lady Cressy all did easy tasks. Geordie had a couple of canters up the centre of the course and afterwards galloped a mile with Ironmould in 1.47 4-5, the New Zealand Cup horse finished in front. Frontino spurted three furlongs on the course proper in 40 3-5. Daffodil did the same distance on the sand in 40 3-5. Baltimore left six furlongs behind in 1.24 1-5. Pylades ran seven furlongs with Lindsay up in 1.37 2-5. Ben Johnson only spurted two furlongs. Swagsman finished in front of Sir Gilead over a mile in 1.50 4-5. Sol and Hakaria jumped a few hurdles and afterwards had a circle on the tan. Hierarch (Speakman) and the Lady Moth colt (Mark Ryan) had a three furlongs flutter in .39 2-5. Delania allowed Intombi to remain in front for five furlongs in 1.9 2-5. Discoverer slipped over four furlongs in .54 1-5. Jolly Tar beat a mate from the seven furlong post to the five furlongs in .26 1-5. The Bangle colt beat the Young Polish colt in a short sprint. Heywood jumped the small sticks. Jess, Sir Regal, Metallist, Newtown, Nervine, and others also worked.

TUESDAY.

Before breakfast quite a number of owners were present at Ellerslie to see the work performed. The Cup horses Gladstone and Apologue were associated together for 8 furlongs, and the latter seemed outpaced from the jump off in 1.55 3-5secs. Kola Nip, another Cup candidate, had the assistance of Mechanic for the last 6 of 8 furlongs, and finished up fairly well; the time for the three-quarter of a mile occupied 1.23secs. Mr J. Marshall was present to see Pearl Necklet finish her 6 furlongs in 1.20 secs, in which she gave Inglis his quietus. Bonomiana finished in front of Claremont and Soultfish over the same track in the same time. Tambourina did a very respectable 4 furlongs spin in 5secs. Enggraver easily held Colleen, what from the same post could have improved the time. Aqua Regia, who seems to have improved by her recent racing, got to the end of 9 furlongs without any trouble in 2.4 4-5secs. Lunetta, Lochbuie, Fortification, Foremost, Girton Girl, Celtic, Sir Regal, Duart, Forth, Intombi, The Middy, Kruger and Scotchman all did sprinting work. Defender fencing boldly was too solid for Hakaria in a round over the schooling hurdles. After breakfast the two-year-olds had a flutter on the course. The first to commence was the Sout—Lottie filly and Froitero, the latter had not quite foot enough and was defeated in 39 3-5secs for 3 furlongs. Jolly Tar and the Bluejacket—Young Polish colt, sprinted 2 furlongs in 26 3-5 secs. Quadroon and Blueflight spurted over 3 furlongs in a tick under 40secs, with little between the pair. The Hotchkiss—Alegar, and Lady Ferris also sprinted separately. Necktie, Hierarch, and Carmania also fluttered over the same distance in 40secs well together. Other 2-year-olds were exercised. Lord Seaton finished 5 furlongs in 1.5 3-5secs, and Lady Cressy, who assisted over the last 4 furlongs had a credit of 51 3-5secs., the young lady seems to have settled down contentedly to her daily toil. Baltimore alone finished up 7 furlongs in 1.35secs. Delania, Pylades, and Discoverer finished together in a 6 furlong tussle in 1.21 secs., the former going the easiest. Ben Johnson pulled over Sweet Alice for the same distance with one second to the good. Paritutu had his juvenile stable mate Ney with him for two furlongs in 25 1-5secs. The New Zealand Cup horse then continued on alone and completed the circuit leisurely. E. George was up and there must have been nearly rost in the saddle. Omati spurted 5 furlongs in 1.9 3-5secs. Geordie had an advantage of Ironmould from the mile post in 1.49