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**Sporting & Dramatic
REVIEW**

AND
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Standard.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1907.

THE AUSTRALIAN CUP.

Matters are somewhat slack locally as far as racing is concerned, so that the attention of sportsmen is turned elsewhere. The big autumn handicap at Flemington, the Australian Cup, is looming up in the near future, and a good deal of interest is being taken in it, as an Auckland Cup winner figures among the acceptors. Of the handicap, the well-informed "Terlinga" writes:—"West Australia has the honour of owning the top-weight in the Australian Cup. May King has 2lb less than he won the Perth Cup with, and he has 6lb more than Poseidon, who is asked to carry 15lb over weight for age. Poseidon's is not the heaviest weight ever given a three-year-old in the Australian Cup. In 1898 Aurum, who had previously run third with 8st 6lb in the Melbourne Cup, was given 9st 3lb. Although he did not win that Melbourne Cup, Aurum's performance was the best ever accomplished by a three-year-old in the great race. He was beaten by Gaulus and The Graftor, to whom he was giving 12lb and 13lb respectively. Both were old horses and weight-for-age horses. Bundook, the fourth, had 6st 11lb, and Positano, the favourite, was sixth with 7lb. He had won at weight for age in Sydney. Considering the good horses that ran in this race with light weights, it can, I think, be put down as the hardest Melbourne Cup we have had to win, save that of 1885, when Sheet Anchor (7st 11lb), Grace Darling (7st 12lb), Trenton (7st 13lb), and Nordenfeldt (7st 5lb) were the first four horses. Aurum only ran third in his Australian Cup, but he would have done much better if he and Battalion had not been kept right out of it until Ayrshire had obtained a winning break. Poseidon had 7st 6lb in the Melbourne Cup, but he won easily, and the horses running just now are not up to the form of the old ones Aurum had to give weight to." The scratching pen has, however, been put through Poseidon's name, and he will doubtless be reserved for the Champ'on Race and St. Leger. With him out of the way Antonius has a good winning chance. "The consideration due to age is being extended to Revenue, who has been dropped to 8st 4lb. The old fellow has shown no form for years; but is a regular worker at Caulfield. Solution has been treated as a non-stayer. The best has, probably, been seen of Blue Spec; but he and Proceeder are not badly off with 8st 9lb. Misty Morn is decidedly a very useful young horse over a distance; but 8st 4lb is enough for him. Collarit is allowed 14lb from Poseidon. How form changes! This time last year Collarit would have had to give Poseidon 21lb. Benbow only gets 8lb from May King for a bad beating in the Perth Cup; but the handicapper could not go below 6st 7lb. Dyed Garments was racing like a useful stayer in the spring, and 7st 6lb is a handy weight. Booran and Kaffirpan are another pair that are leniently used, but, as far as that goes, everything from Booran down to Mira, at 6st 9lb, seems flatteringly treated. Realm, at 6st 13lb, has only hurdle form at present; but the Flemington people say he can make time good enough for the flat, and we know he can stay. Realm met with a mishap about Cup time, and was on the shelf for a time. He may turn out another Marmont."

An Australian writer seems doubtful as to Putty's staying ability, but has evidently overlooked the fact that he won the Auckland Cup run over two miles, beating a good field, for Mahutonga, Armistice, Quarryman, Paritutu, Gladstone, and Melodeon were among those who finished behind him. Antonius is in the same stable as Putty and may be preferred to him, but if really at his best the son of St.

Leger should have a chance with 7st 12lbs. He has, however, not been run to advantage for some time. Another Auckland-bred horse is in the race in Ellis, who, with 7st 3lbs, has a chance if he can stay over the long journey. The race will be run on March 5.

NOTES.

(By "The Judge.")

The Waiuku Racing Club will hold a meeting on the 28th inst.

Bonomiana, who won the Papakura Cup on Saturday, has been nominated for the South Auckland Cup.

Scotty and Pearl Necklet figure among the entries for the Taranaki Cup.

The attendance at the Papakura meeting on Saturday must have been a record for the course.

Judging from the way the Papakura special was rushed on Saturday, it looks as though two trains will be necessary for next year's fixture.

Excellent nominations have been received for the South Auckland R.C. Meeting, which takes place on March 2.

A good word is said for Aeolus, who ran so well at the C.J.C. Summer Meeting. The son of Euroclydon should win again before long.

General Soult is the name which has been bestowed upon the handsome yearling by Soult from Hotcherina.

Poseidon, who was a short-priced favourite for the Australian Cup, has been scratched for that event, and Antonius now stands at the head of the betting quotations.

Handicaps for the Wanganui Cup are due to see the light on the 16th inst. The result of Mr. Morse's cogitations on the subject is eagerly looked forward to.

That good pony Lucrece, together with Lucio and Morahi will be offered by auction by Messrs. Buckland and Sons at the Haymarket Yards on Friday.

The Aucklanders, Le Beau, Pearl Necklet, Fretwork, Engraver Integrity, and Aqua Regia are down competing at the Egmont Meeting. Soultmaid was to have gone, but could not be shipped.

Fitz-Grafton was beaten in the Cooch Behar Cup by the English mare, Paddy's Darling, but the Queenslander was giving the winner nearly 3st. Fitz-Grafton's time for the Viceroy Cup (3m. 3s.) was a record for the race.

By the Victoria Leonator was shipped to Sydney on Monday. The son of Leolantis figures among the candidates for the Doncaster Handicap to be run at Randwick at the end of next month.

At a meeting of the Metropolitan Racing Committee held on Tuesday, trainers licenses were issued to the following:—J. J. Pennell, W. A. Scott, R. Neave, H. Rayner, and H. Phillips, and jockeys' licenses were issued to the following: H. Rayner, R. Harper, F. Moran, J. P. Collins, and apprentices' licenses to G. A. Webster and T. Perry.

The programme for the Te Puke Jockey Club's meeting on February 22, and the Waiuku Racing Club's meeting on February 28, were approved.

Bonomiana is by no means a beauty to look at, but she can gallop a bit when in the humour. The daughter of Soult was backed down to 6 to 4 in the Papakura Cup, and punters smiled when the good thing came off. Uhlander and Geordie gave the mare a good go for it at the finish, half a length separating the three.

That there is many a slip 'twixt cup and the lip was evidenced in the Maiden Plate at Papakura. Dogger Bank was an odds on favourite, and at the entrance to the straight looked a sure winner. The Soult gelding Kaitangata came with a rush at the end, and his opponent stopping all to nothing won by over a length.

RACING CALENDAR.

NEW ZEALAND.

FIXTURES.—1907.

- February 13 and 14.—Egmont R.C.
- February 14 and 15.—Poverty Bay T.C.
- February 16, 20, 23.—Otahuhu Trotting Club
- February 20, 21, and 23.—Dunedin J.C.
- February 20 and 21.—Woodville J.C.
- February 26 and 27.—Rotorua J.C.
- February 27 and 28.—Taranaki J.C.
- March 2.—South Auckland R.C.
- March 5.—Akaroa County R.C.
- March 6 and 7.—Dannevirke J.C.
- March 8 and 9.—Wanganui J.C.
- March 9.—Waihi J.C.
- March 13 and 14.—Napier Park R.C.
- March 15 and 16.—Tolaga Bay J.C.
- March 16 and 18.—Ohinemuri J.C.
- March 18.—Opunake R.C.
- March 18 and 19.—Greymouth J.C.
- March 18 and 19.—Horowhenua Hack R.C.
- March 20 and 21.—Southland R.C.
- March 20.—Waipawa County R.C.
- March 21.—Waimate R.C.
- March 21 and 22.—Masterton R.C.
- March 21 and 24.—Thames J.C.
- March 22 and 23.—Westport J.C.
- March 30 and April 1.—Wairarapa R.C.
- April 1.—Patea Racing Club.
- April 1, 2 and 6.—Auckland R.C.
- April 20, 24.—Avondale J.C.

NOMINATIONS.

- February 22.—A.R.C. (special events)
- February 22.—Ohinemuri J.C.
- March 11.—Patea R.C.
- March 15.—Auckland R.C.
- March 29.—Avondale J.C. (special events)
- April 5.—Avondale J.C.

HANDICAPS.

- February 15.—Taranaki J.C.
- February 15.—South Auckland R.C.
- February 16.—Wanganui J.C. (special events)
- February 23.—Wanganui J.C.
- March 5.—Ohinemuri J.C.
- March 11.—A.R.C. (special events)
- March 18.—Patea R.C.
- March 19.—Auckland R.C.
- April 1.—Avondale J.C. (special events)
- April 8.—Avondale J.C.

ACCEPTANCES.

- February 22.—Taranaki J.C.
- February 22.—South Auckland R.C.
- March 1.—Wanganui J.C.
- March 8.—Ohinemuri J.C.
- March 15.—A.R.C. (special events)
- March 22.—Auckland R.C.
- March 25.—Patea R.C.
- April 12.—Avondale J.C.

REMINDERS TO OWNERS.

Nominations for the Easter Handicap, Brighton Hurdles, St. George's Handicap, Autumn Handicap, and Autumn Steeplechase to be run at the Autumn Meeting of the Auckland Racing Club close with Mr. Hartand, the secretary, on February 22, at 9 p.m.

Acceptances for the Easter Handicap Brighton Hurdles and Autumn Steeplechase are due on March 15, on which date general entries for the A.R.C. Autumn Meeting are also due.

Nominations for all events to be decided at the annual meeting of the Patea Racing Club (other than local events) close with Mr. R. W. Hamerton, the secretary, on Monday, March 11, at 8 p.m.

Nominations for all events to be decided at the annual meeting of the Ohinemuri J.C. close with Mr. H. Poland, secretary, Paeroa, on Friday, February 22, at 9 p.m.

Nominations for the Avondale, Autumn, Steeplechase, and Railway Handicaps, to be run at the autumn meeting of the Avondale Jockey Club, close with Mr. H. H. Hayr, the secretary, on Friday, March 29, at 9 p.m.

General entries for the Avondale J.C. Autumn Meeting close on Friday, April 5.

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