

having a strong wind against him all along the straight.

Fine weather prevailed each day, but the strong east wind proved very disagreeable. A start was made on Thursday with the Trial Stakes (one mile), six horses lining up at the barrier. Mango, 8.2, was sent out a better favourite than Ilarita (7.11), Don Orsino, 7.11, Monkey Puzzle 7.11, were a duo well backed. Ilarita got best of the start, and soon got clear of the field, eventually winning by three lengths from Harvest (8.2), who was a length in front of Mango.

The Hornby Welter (seven furlongs) brought out five starters, of whom Blythemaidd (9.12) and De Witte (9.5) had the best public form to recommend them to backers. Count Gorton (8.8), Ordnance (8.0) were in the lead during the first quarter, but once fairly in line for home De Witte came through and romped home an easy winner six lengths in front of Blythemaidd, who was a neck in front of Farley Grove.

The Filly Stakes for 2 and 3-year-olds only drew four starters—Aimee Soult (8.10) being backed to such an extent as to suggest the other three had no chance of winning. As very frequently happens when such a red hot favourite is sent out, misfortune followed, for after giving some trouble at the post the favourite turned the wrong way when the barrier went up, and when she was got going others had a commanding lead. Athena (6.10), Amboise (7.2) ran together most of the way, when the former drew out at the distance and won by two lengths, Aimee Soult being a dozen lengths away third.

In the next race—Midsummer Handicap—a new regulation passed by the committee of the C.J.C. on the previous Tuesday was enforced for the first time. This was to the effect that in the event of a horse delaying the start of a race beyond a reasonable time the starter should be directed to send such horse back to the paddock and start the race without him. As only too well known to supporters of Chokebore Stable, Signalman is one of the worst horses that has ever faced a starter in New Zealand. His owner applied to the stewards to send a man out on horseback to lead Signalman up to the barrier or to allow the trainer to go to the post to assist in keeping the horse straight but the stewards declined both requests. Signalman gave a much quieter display than usual, but when the barrier went up was turned the wrong way, and his backers had the poor satisfaction of seeing him once again left at the post. The race is easily described. Chryseis (7.7) took up the running at the start, and making every post a winning one had no difficulty in running home an easy winner, two lengths in front of Lapland (7.7). Thunderer (7.7) was close up third, just clear of Stepdancer (7.12) and Idasa (7.12).

The Lyttelton Plate for two-year-olds run over six furlongs resulted in Bonny Glen (8st) gaining an easy

victory from Rose Noble (8.2), Williwau (7st) being four lengths further away third. Paragon (8st), The Lybian (7.3) and Mercy (7st) were the other starters.

In the Craven Plate Tessera (6.12), after bolting twice and galloping six furlongs the wrong way each time, was ordered back to the paddock, while Balsam (7.8) was left at the post. Golden Cairn (7.9) and Buccleuch (8.7) ran neck and neck for two-thirds of the distance, when the former drew out only to be tackled by Aeolus (8.1) at the distance. In a slashing set to the Euroclydon gelding, who finished up his task with marked gameness, beat Golden Cairn by a head. Buccleuch was two lengths away third.

A field of seven saddled up for the Halswell Welter (1 mile), Watershoot (9.2) and Tahu (7.7) being very evenly backed. Gypsohel (9.5), who has gained quite a reputation for her smartness in getting, hopped off in front and led round the top turn, Tahu and Watershoot being at the head of the others. Entering the straight Gypsohel retired, leaving Tahu in command. Watershoot came through from the distance, and easily settling Tahu won by two lengths from Farley Grove (8.3), who came with a late run and beat Tahu by a length for second place.

SECOND DAY.

Racing on the second day was little better than that on the first, but the way some of the horses ran suggested that they were either very backward in condition or were merely out for an airing. In one race, the St. Alban's Handicap, Cross Battery's running was reviewed by the stewards; L. W. King, who rode the mare, being cautioned as to his future riding. The mare's running was deemed peculiar in the eyes of the stewards, and it seems strange that they did not ask the owner and trainer for an explanation.

Proceedings opened with the Richmond Plate for two-year-olds. Cocks-shell (8.5) took the public fancy, and she was sent out a strong favourite. Nothing had a chance with Amboise (7.7), who, after leading all the way won easily by three lengths from Tremulous (6.7), who beat Cocks-shell by two lengths for second place.

In the Linwood Welter, Watershoot (9.2) ran into front place at the end of the first quarter, and easily stalling off a challenge by Thunderer (9.8) in the straight, beat him easily by a couple of lengths. Stepdancer finished third four lengths behind Thunderer.

A fairly strong field went out to contest the Middle Park Plate. The San Francisco colt Elevation looked the picture of health and condition, but the public went strongly for Sir George Clifford's combination, Golden Cairn and Glenculloch. Elevation lost whatever chance he had of winning by turning round when the barrier went up, thereby losing fully a dozen lengths. Glenculloch was soon in the lead and running along in front all the way he never let the others get near him, winning easily by half a dozen lengths from his stable companion. Gold Crest was two lengths further away third, just clear of William I. The start for the St. Alban's Handicap was considerably delayed owing to Signalman refusing to face the barrier. When the tapes went up this unruly brute, who is probably the worst-tempered animal in the whole of New Zealand, lost several lengths, the others getting away on even terms. Chryseis (8.4) was first to show out, and she led down back well clear of Harvest (6.7), and Stronghold (8.9),

Signalman (9.5) having been rushed into fourth place with Cross Battery last. Coming into the straight with a clear lead Chryseis held her own to the finish, winning by a length from Stronghold, who was a neck in front of Submarine (8.13), Signalman and Cross Battery being together just behind the son of Torpedo.

Alexis easily accounted for the opposition in the Selling Race, winning easily by a couple of lengths from The Seer, who was a similar distance in front of Athena.

The Flying Handicap brought out 7 starters, Buccleuch, 9.0, and Sea King, 7.11, both being strongly backed. The top weight was always well in front, and stalling off a strong challenge by Sea King at the distance, beat him in the run home by four lengths; Tahu (6.7) was third.

The Post Handicap (one mile) gave Aeolus (9.7) an opportunity of giving onlookers a taste of his quality. Ilarita (8.4) was leading the field at the distance when she was tackled by Balsam (8.4) and Aeolus. The latter finished very strongly, soon settling Balsam, and beat him by a clear length, with Ilarita four lengths away third.

THE BETTING MARKET.

Messrs. Ross and Bradshaw (Wellington) report the following business on the

WANGANUI CUP AND FLYING HANDICAP.

- 600 to 3—Truce and Delamere
600 to 3—Montigo and Full Rate
500 to 5—Eden and King Billy
400 to 6—Marguerite and Full Rate
400 to 2—Multifid and Grenade
400 to 2—Apa and Tupono
400 to 4—Master Delaval and Delamere

GREAT EASTERN AND GREAT AUTUMN HANDICAPS.

- 1000 to 4—Buccleuch and Chryseis
1000 to 3—King Billy and Red Gauntlet
900 to 11—Cross Battery and Cross Battery
800 to 5—Sea King and Cross Battery
500 to 5—Cross Battery and Munjeet
500 to 4—King Billy and Eden.

Messrs. Barnett and Grant (Christchurch) report the following business on the

EASTER AND AUTUMN HANDICAPS.

- 500 to 10—Cross Battery and Cross Battery
500 to 7 1/2—Munjeet and Marguerite
500 to 4—Buccleuch and Cross Battery
500 to 4—Chryseis and Eden.

INTER-PROVINCIAL.

HAWKE'S BAY.

NAPIER, February 13.

Waipunehu and St. Albert are still enjoying themselves in the paddocks at Te Mahanga. The appearance of the pair leads to the conclusion that their holiday is agreeing with them.

Boomerang has been taken up again. His respite from labour has had the desired recuperative effects, and Merriwee's son now looks the personification of ruddy health.

His trainer, T. Quinlivan, jun., has also got amongst others the Carbine—Revelry colt Campfire in commission, and his satisfactory replies to the questions put to him so far augur well for good results in his future career.

The half-brother to Mecca by Torpedo, who fell to the nod of Stewart Waddell when the last batch of Te Mahanga yearlings were put up for disposal, has been emasculated.

T. Quinlivan, jun., left Hastings on Friday for Hawera with Gazeley and White Lie, who are both engaged at the summer venture of the Egmont Racing Club.

King Billy leaves next week for Taranaki, and will be met there by Quinlivan, who will put him through his final facings there for the Taranaki and Wanganui meetings.

Mr. E. J. Watt has sold Tumut (Merriwee—Osmanie) to the Opaki trainer, M. McGrath. The same educator has also leased Osiris, the half-brother by San Fran to Tumut, from the squire of Karamu. The pair left Hastings last week for their new abode.

Zimmerman, who got galloped on in the Wellington Cup at Trentham last month, is still on the invalid list.

One of the most improved horses who are at present following their studies on the preparing ground at Hastings is Tigris, the two-year-old daughter of Birkenhead and Tigress. The filly, who is one of Verney Collelo's pupils, bids fair to develop into a performer above the average.

Ruaton, the half-brother by Mahaki to Moifad, Rhyt, Defoe, and Abergeldie, is now being used as a hack in

the Takapau district. The gelding, who has been having a long rest, naturally looks big and lusty.

Mr. R. Te Hianga, of Waipukurau, is now training his own horses, Tutaki and Ka.

Hazel, a younger full sister to Brenda, passed out last week at Takapau, an internal rupture being the cause of her death. The mare, who was the property of Mr. C. Symons, gave promise of developing into a more than fair sort over the obstacles.

The stewards of the Woodville District Jockey Club have appointed their secretary, Mr. E. J. Gothard, as a candidate for the country clubs' representative in the Racing Conference. A better selection could not have possibly been made, for Mr. Gothard's knowledge of racing is of an extensive nature, and is coupled with a lot of common, sound sense on matters generally.

The Takapau Racing Club made a good profit over their late race meeting; in fact, the venture was the most successful the club has had for years.

Olympus, who cost Mr. E. J. Watt 375 guineas when the 1901 crop of Wellington Park yearlings were sent up for sale, is at present being used by his owner, Mr. Gregory, for hacking purposes. The half-brother to Impudence is a rare-winded horse, and as he is sound, it is reasonable to presume that he will soon quit his humble, though useful, sphere for a course of studies on the preparing tracks.

British Navy, who downed the opposition at Woodthorpe on Saturday in three events, is a half-brother to Saracen, Loyalty, Bonnie Scotland, Moral, Arait-te-Uru, Kula and Co., by Torpedo. The gelding, who was bred at Mangatarata station, was bought as a yearling by Mr. E. J. Watt for 165 guineas. Up to Saturday British Navy was a maiden. His present owner, Mr. A. T. Ellingham, recently leased him to a couple of Puketapu sports.

OTAGO.

DUNEDIN, Feb. 13.

The Dunedin Cup Meeting takes place next week, and there is every prospect of the club experiencing a successful gathering. The acceptances have not fallen due, but at the present Cross Battery is fancied in both the Cup and Publican's, and she should about win which event may prove her mission.

The Tahuna Park Trotting Club also hold a two days' meeting, and the meeting has attracted a liberal nomination.

A remarkable feature of the C.J.C. Midsummer Meeting was that the yellow and black racing banner of Mr G. G. Stead was not unfurled at the gathering. Mr. Stead's colours are generally very conspicuous at Riccarton, and owning large studs and training stables does not necessarily mean owning a lot of cracks. Apparently the fighting force under Mason is at present hors de combat, or being held in reserve; and what makes the absence very remarkable is the fact that the stable had no less than 15 engaged in the Middle Park Plate when the nominations were declared.

The North Otago Jockey Club continues to add to the attractiveness of its programmes, and for Cup Meeting, which is to be held on May 23 and 24, the principal items are to be the Oamaru Cup of 230sovs, the Tokarahi Handicap of 120sovs, the Victoria Handicap of 150sovs, and the Otekaikae Handicap of 100sovs.

During the currency of the Midsummer Meeting Mr. J. B. Reid sold Sea King to 'Mr J. Case' at a figure which is understood to have been in the neighbourhood of £800, and purchased Watershoot at £300.

Aeolus, who displayed excellent form at the Midsummer Meeting, was bred by Mr. J. S. Thomson, and was got by Euroclydon out of Santa Clarina (a daughter of St. Leger and Puwerewere). He was one of the best horses seen at the meeting, and should be well worth watching in the future.

The two Cross Batteries is a combination likely to receive good support for the Easter and Autumn Handicaps.

Royal Artillery, who was one of our most brilliant horses under silk, has been slow in making a name for himself as a sire; but the form of Watershoot should give him a boost in the estimation of breeders. The filly Tremulous is also a promising sort that should prove a favourable advertisement.

Some of the riding which was displayed at Riccarton was not to be compared to the enviable reputation possessed by Caesar's wife. There



OTAHUHU TROTTERING CLUB.

SUMMER MEETING.

FIRST DAY, SATURDAY NEXT, 16TH INST.

FIRST RACE STARTS AT 1.15 P.M.

Admission: 1s Each.

F. D. YONGE, Secretary.

THE HAYMARKET.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, At 12 Noon.

For Absolute Sale, on account of owner giving up racing,

THE FOLLOWING WELL-KNOWN THOROUGHBREDS—

- LUCRECE
LUCIO
MORAHI.

ALFRED BUCKLAND AND SONS.

