

Now that J. B. Williamson's trio of racers have struck form (Aqua Regia, Fretwork, and Engraver) they should be worth watching both at the Woodville and Taranaki meetings.

Cambrian, who lightened up very much after the A.R.C. Summer Meeting, is now freshening up and should give a good account of himself at the Easter gathering.

The two Cup horses, Scotty (Taranaki) and Master Delaval (Wanganui) were saddled up on Saturday morning for a mile on the sand. The former led throughout, and finished under a pull in 1.46 3/5secs. Both had light weights in the saddle.

The Dunedin Cup was won by Stepdancer, with Cross Battery second and Lapland third. The winner paid a dividend of £5 4s and Cross Battery 16s. The Champagne Stakes was won by Bonny Glen, Glencloch running second and Janangir third. Narcissus was first home in the Hurdle Race, Will Cat finishing second place and Wonderful third.

Omati is down for engagements at the Taranaki Summer Meeting. On the first day he meets the flying Kitchenmaid, besides others in the Flying Handicap, conceding weight to the lot. He is also top weight (10st.) in the Race.

On Saturday morning Delania, who has been on the shelf since Christmas, was given four furlongs in company with the 2-year-old Pohutu. They got over the distance (on the sand) in 51 3/5secs., finishing up sound.

The veteran Mark Ryan probably does more track riding than any other jockey at Ellerslie. He is to be seen constantly in the saddle before and after breakfast, and on all sorts and conditions of equines.

At the recent sale the A.R.C. secured all the allotments running parallel with the race track from the stone wall to the five furlong post, with the exception of three that were purchased privately.

On Saturday morning Omati put in a nice track gallop on the sand. Slipping away from the 6 furlong post the old fellow made it a merry pace, finishing up the last 5 furlongs in 1.31 1/5secs.

Landlock, in company with Ben Johnson, on Saturday morning, jumped a couple of the small hurdles and was then put over the higher ones. The beginner shaped like an old horse, and with his pace he must prove an awkward customer to meet later on.

Double books have been opened on the Wanganui Cup and Flying Handicap. The present fancies in the Cup locally are Paritutu, Master Delaval, and Marguerite, coupled with Delamere, Kitchenmaid and Contender. 100 to 1 to 100 to 1 is offered on the field.

Returned visitors from Egmont speak very highly about the way Marguerite won the Cup, and predict that she will be hard to settle in the Wanganui Cup.

The pony Present pulled up lame on Thursday morning, and will not be seen out for some time to come.

Gaiety, who was well backed away from the course in the Flying Handicap at the Poverty Bay J.C. gathering, was left alone when she annexed the Farewell handicap, paying the nice dividend of £7 1s.

Major Loder was the first military man to win the Derby since Colonel Townley's success with Kettledrum in 1861—45 years ago. Mr P. P. Gilpinu is similarly the first amateur trainer to claim a Derby success. A gentleman jockey has yet to succeed in any classic event—Mr George Thursby has been thrice second.

The most successful jockey in Germany last season was O'Connor, who with 183 mounts, won 74 races and scored 44 seconds, a great record.

Writing to the "Times" to advocate the writing in the "Times" of the totalisator, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., says: "To abolish betting on horse-racing would be as impossible as to close the Stock Exchange. Wagering is inherent in all classes of society, and the Legislature does not declare betting in itself to be illegal. The great danger of betting is doing so on credit, and the immense advantage of the totalisator would be that it would have the effect of making gambling on horse-racing a ready-money transaction. Thus, the argument of the working and middle classes against Lord Davey's measure would fall to the ground, and our great voluntary institutions could be benefited by the funds derived from this system."

Mr E. J. Watt has withdrawn all his horses from the Taranaki Jockey Club Meeting.

The Live Stock General Insurance Co. of New Zealand is now accepting insurances up to £2000 on any one animal at especially low rates. Further particulars are advertised.

The Northern S.S. Co. advertise an excursion to the Opotiki Show and races on February 27 and 28. The s.s. Waio-tahi leaves Auckland on Monday next at 3 p.m., and returns on Sunday, March 3rd.

The ex-New Zealander Grand Rapids who was taken to West Australia about 15 months ago by C. Moore, returns to Flemington to join that trainer's string.

Entries close on Friday, March 1, with the secretary, Mr E. Goodbehere, for the Second Feilding Stakes, of 500 sovs., to be run at the Spring Meeting of the Feilding Jockey Club on November 29 and 30. It is open to horses two years old and upwards at the time of starting. It is a weight-for-age event, with penalties and allowances. Winners after March 1st are subject to the conditions enumerated in the advertisement. The right is reserved to withdraw this event in the case of not more than fifty entries being received.

Arthur Nightingale, writing his reminiscences in the "Sportsman" (E.) says:—"I agree with the pronouncement that it is impossible to lay down hard and fast rules (on paper or elsewhere) with regard to steeplechase riding. We can only acquire skill, as intimated, by constant practice of the right sort, by cultivating our natural aptitude to the fullest degree, by indomitable perseverance and pluck. One should sit as still as possible when riding over a country, and never drive a horse at a fence unless he is a slug. He may jump better if he is not interfered with at the critical moment. The great art in riding a beaten horse is to put your whip down and not ride him into his fences, while assisting him as much as you can with your hands. I have no special faith in the efficacy of spurs. I use what are called "dummies"—that is, spurs with no rowels at all. When I won the Grand National on Ilex he was never hit or touched, and had not a mark on him at the end of that long tiring journey."

One of a famous racing family, Lord Delaval Beresford, was killed in a railway accident. "Intense and universal sympathy is felt for Lord Charles Beresford, Lord Marcus Beresford, and all the Waterford family in the acute grief into which they have been thrown," writes "Ashplant." Lord Delaval Beresford was the youngest of five brothers, all real good men and true. The late Marquis of Waterford, the late Lord William Beresford, Lord Charles the sailor, and Lord Marcus, now extra equerry to His Majesty and manager of His Majesty's stud. Three, the late Marquis, Lord William, and Lord Marcus, served their sovereign as soldiers. Lord Charles does so still with world-wide distinction as a sailor. Lord Delaval, of a more roving disposition, chose the wilds of Mexico and America, wherein to prove what he was made of. At the time of his death he possessed immense tracts of land out there (some of the best stocked ranches in the world) and was a very large employer of labour."

A peculiar experiment has been tried in America with Lou Milton, the dam of the great trotting mare Lou Dillon. She has been mated with a Jack, or stallion ass, and the progeny will be a mule. It seems incredible that the owner of the dam of the fastest trotting mare the world has produced should not go on breeding horses from her (writes Rothschild). It will certainly be interesting to await and see what the progeny will be in the way of speed. Allowing it turns out a flier it cannot breed, or start in horse races, and its usefulness will be confined to exhibitions. It looks like sacrilege to throw away such a good mare.

At a meeting of the Auckland Rowing Association held on Tuesday evening, it was decided to hold a gala at Kohimarama on Saturday, March 9. The various clubs are giving their best support, and it is anticipated that the number participating will eclipse the record created last year, when 240 rowers took part. It was also decided to hold the Association Regatta on Saturday, March 23, at Lake Takapuna. The following preliminary programme was approved:—1. Novice Fours (under 21 years age); 2. Maiden Fours (10 stone and under); 3. Maiden Fours (open weights); 4. Junior Fours (10 stone and under); 5. Junior Fours (open weights); 6. Senior Fours (best and best boats); 7. Maiden Double Sculls (10 stone and under); 8. Maiden Double Sculls (open weights); 9. Junior Double Sculls (open weights); 10. Senior Double Sculls (best and best boats); 11. Senior Double Sculls (open weights); 12. Sculling Handicap (Marshall Cup).

Uhlander, the runner-up in the Papakura Cup, is just now looking hard and muscular. The South Auckland Cup looks a fair thing for the Uhlan gelding.

To a "Telegraph" interviewer Captain C. B. Steele of the Indian Army, transport officer of the Bareilly Brigade (commanded by General Spens), thus delivered himself on the subject of horse supply from Australia:—"The stamp of horse most suitable for cavalry was one that had good breeding, and India depended very greatly on Australia for a supply of these chargers. The Arab had been tried, but it is not considered that the seriously rivals the Australian of good pedigree. The Australian cob has given intense satisfaction because of his hardy nature. Long backed and tall horses are not regarded with favour." The most mark-worthy thing he said was (in answer to a question), that it would be satisfactory to all parties concerned, if the Government was able to give a stamp of approval to horses which were sent to India. Sometimes the middleman exploited the market, and many of the horses were condemned by the remount authorities. If an Imperial officer, acting for the Imperial Government, carefully inspected the horses before they were shipped, and give what would practically be a government stamp of approval, it would have the effect of preventing inferior horses being sent to India.

The Duke of Westminster is without a nomination in the English Derby of 1907, owing to some informality having occurred in connection with his entries. His Grace states that there is no foundation for the statement that the last has been seen of the St. Leger winner, Troutbeck, on a racecourse.

It is reported that during the last season's racing in England the King attended at meetings on thirty-five days.

FEILDING J.C.'S EASTER MEETING

The Feilding Jockey Club has arranged a very enticing programme for its Easter Meeting, to be held on April 1 and 2; £2850 is offered in prize-money, and eight events will be run each day. The Feilding Cup (1 1/2 miles) is worth £500. Another big event on the first day is the Mangawone Stakes, of £300, distance six furlongs. The Trial Plate, over seven furlongs, is worth £100. The Kawakawa Hurdles, of about two miles, carries a prize of £200. It is followed by the Taonui Hack Hurdles, of £100, one mile and three-quarters. The Orepuki Hack Welter is over a mile course, worth £100. Seven furlongs is the distance of the Halcombe Welter, carrying with it prize-money to the value of £200. The Ongo Hack is over five furlongs, for a stake of £100.

An equally attractive programme is that arranged for the second day, the Easter Handicap, of £350 (over 1 1/4 miles), being the principal event. Entries close with the secretary, Mr. Goodbehere, on Monday, March 4.

THE THAMES JOCKEY CLUB.

The autumn meeting of the Thames Jockey Club takes place on Saturday, March 23, and the programme will be found in our advertising columns. From this it will be seen that a very interesting bill of fare has been compiled, the items being the Maiden Plate of 25sovs (6 furlongs), the Hurdle Race of 40sovs (1 3/4 miles), the Autumn Stakes of 50sovs (one mile), the Welter Handicap of 30sovs (7 furlongs), the Steeplechase of 50sovs (2 1/2 miles), Railway Handicap of 35 sovs (6 furlongs), Hack Race of 25-sovs (6 furlongs), Final Handicap of 30sovs (4 furlongs). This seems to fit all requirements, and therefore Mr. Potts, the popular secretary, should have a good entry for the meeting. All nominations close on Friday, March 8, at 8 p.m., either with the secretary, P. O. Box No. 7, Thames, or with Mr. H. B. Massey, 10, High st., Auckland.

THE BETTING MARKET.

Messrs. Ross and Bradshaw (Wellington) report the following business on the WANGANUI CUP AND FLYING HANDICAP.

600 to 2	—Montigo and Splendid Idea
500 to 17	—Marguerite and Delamere
500 to 7 1/2	—Apa and King Billy
500 to 5	—Apa and St. Claimer
400 to 2	—King Billy and Tupono
400 to 1	—Advance and St. Claimer

GREAT EASTER AND GREAT AUTUMN HANDICAPS.

1000 to 5	—King Billy and Grenade
900 to 6	—Bucclough and Truce
700 to 8	—Munjeet and Submarine
500 to 5	—Cross Battery and Ghoorka
500 to 2	—Pink-un and Ghoorka
500 to 1	—Submarine and Eden
500 to 1	—Intelligence and Lapland

TROTTING.  
THE OTAHUHU TROTTING CLUB'S SUMMER MEETING.

FIRST DAY.

The summer gathering of the Otahuhu Trotting Club commenced at Alexandra Park on Saturday. The morning was showery but before the first race the rain cleared off, and the afternoon proved fine, although dull. The attendance was excellent, and that the public had come prepared with the sinews of war was shown by the fact that £2998 10/ went through the machine, as against £1675 10/ on the corresponding day last year. Mr. O'Connor acted as starter, and Mr. R. L. Absolum as judge. Mr. F. Yonge, the secretary, had everything so well arranged that the proceedings passed off without the semblance of a hitch.

The sport was commenced with the Maiden Trot (one mile), and of the thirteen trotters Flora Mac was made a warm favourite. Mack led for some time, but a bad break let Agnes B past, and Mr. Brady's mare making no mistake won easily by 50 yards from Mack, with Flora Mac a poor third.

Wairere and Plaintiff were the popular fancies in the Pony Trot (1 1/2 miles). Plaintiff was in front all the way, and coming home in good style won by 25 yards from Fibre, with Wairere a moderate third.

For the Pony Cup (6 1/2 furlongs), but three carried silk, and all were well backed, Glenora carrying most money. Matama was smartest away, but soon the favourite supplanted her, and holding her own easily won the straight the daughter of Scout up by two lengths.

Nine went out to contest the Otahuhu Trotting Cup (2 miles), Weyer Willie and Stranger being the popular picks. Miss Dunmore took command, followed by Redleaf and Macquarrie. The leader more than held her own, but Red Leaf lost his position owing to a bad break. The daughter of Albert Victor romped home 40 yards ahead of Duke C, who finished fast with Young McKinney a fair third.

For the Sylvia Park Trot Cora Victor was more fancied than Huon Leal. These two were out in front for a time, when Olive got into second position, Cora falling back. Huon Leal, however, was not to be caught and he won easily by 30 yards from Olive, with Day Dawn a moderate third.

There were four starters for the Class Trot (1 1/2 miles), Waitekauri being a strong public fancy. Robex was soon in front, and he led the favourite by a few yards down the back. The pair fought out a capital finish up the straight, but the outsider just stayed it out long enough to win by three yards, with The Mooress third.

Glenora was a trifle better fancied than Mighty Atom for the Flying Stakes (4 1/2 furlongs), there being nine runners. L Annie jumped off smartly, but Mighty Atom soon took up the running, and led Glenora and a bunch down the back into the straight. Glenora made a great effort up the straight to catch the leader, but failed by a length. Merri-manu being two lengths off third.

The day's proceedings terminated with the Electric Trot, which fell to Colenso, who won by 20 yards from Huon Leal, Black Rose, a red-hot favourite, being third. The particulars were as follows:—

MAIDEN TROT HANDICAP. One mile.

Mr T. Brady's b m Agnes B., aged, 13sec (Hunt) . . . . .	1
Mr. S. Tanner's blk g Mack, aged, 13sec (Tanner) . . . . .	2
Mr. S. Hamilton's ch m Flora Mac, 4yrs, 12sec (Hamilton) . . . . .	3

Also started: Harold Huon 12sec, Rutland 13sec, Janitor 13sec, Manxman 13sec, Miss Sage 14sec, Mayton 15sec, Ingha 17sec, Wee Pony 18sec, Huon Clair 18sec, Tuxton 18sec.  
Time, 2min 50sec. Dividends, £3 19s and 16s.

PONY TROT HANDICAP. One mile and a-half.

Mr. T. Barker's b g Plaintiff, aged, by Judge Beldon, 24sec (Scott) . . . . .	1
Mr. J. G. Lecky's gr m Fibre, aged, 15sec (Orange) . . . . .	2
Mr. A. Williamson's b m Wairere, aged, 17sec (Hird) . . . . .	3

Also started: Silver Girl scratch, Cleveland Pride 9sec, Special Light 12 sec, Jersey Lily 18sec, Awhiowho 28 sec.  
Time, 4min 22sec. Dividends, £1 10s and 11s 6d.

OTAHUHU PONY CUP. For ponies 14 hands 3 inches and under. Six furlongs and a-half.

Mr. H. Barr's b m Glenora, 4yrs, by Scout-Nora, 6.7 (Whietaker) . . . . .	1
Mr. A. Morrow's ch m Mataura, aged,	