

Mr. F. J. McManemin has in his charge at Ellerslie, just now Celtic, Maheno, Turbine, Cambrian, Cardene, Haydn, Scotty, Dogger, Bank, Pohutu, Nestator, the gelding by Leolantia—Castenet, the gelding by Culrassier—Monoquil, the gelding by Eton—Peace, the filly by Souk—Lottia, and the filly by Hotchkiss—Cressy.

Professor Lichtwark, the horse trainer, whose name is well known throughout New Zealand, was found dead on the North Road, Invercargill, last Monday morning, with his throat cut in two places. It is supposed to have been a case of suicide. "The Lancer" had a profound respect for the Professor, whose patent running rein enabled the writer to master one of the wildest buckjumpers and the most beautiful mare he ever put a leg over, without any difficulty. Professor Lichtwark was at the top of the tree as a horse trainer.

The high jumping of the mare Ruby, one of the horses performing nightly with O'Neill's buckjumpers, is probably unequalled in New Zealand. The little mare clears a bar at 6ft 9in over which she can hardly put her nose. The jump is taken from out of about two inches of sand, covering soft earth, and is equal to quite 7ft or over from a firm take-off. Another of the jumpers, the ex-hurdler Whate-rox, accomplishes the fine leap of 6ft 6in under the same circumstances.

At the V.R.C. Grand National Meeting, held at Flemington on Saturday last, three jockeys were injured. One of them, F. Crocker, has succumbed to his injuries. Another, D. Mahoney, has a fractured leg.

While contesting in the Dousta Galla Hurdle Race at Flemington on Saturday Australia fell, and breaking his neck, met with instantaneous death.

The New Zealand horse Contender was amongst the starters for the Lawn Handicap, in which he was weighted with 8st 7lb. He beat all the field save Montague (7st 7lb), who won by two lengths.

Lion Heart has been allotted 10st 5lb in the Caulfield Grand National Hurdle Race, and Swimmer's impost in the Grand National Steeplechase is 10st 4lb.

Exmoor and Maui were scratched at nine a.m. on Monday for all engagements at the Grand National meeting.

Phaeton is striding along in fine style at Riccarton. The Phaeton gelding is not to be sent to Wellington.

A statement is current to the effect that the steeplechaser Loch Fyne is to be shipped to Sydney at an early date. It is therefore unlikely the horse will be a contestant in the New Zealand Grand National Steeplechase.

Advices from Wellington state that Rangitoto has been struck out of all engagements at the Wellington meeting.

Nadador is not expected to fulfil her engagement in the Wellington Steeplechase.

Merriwal, No Shot, and Gold Dust were schooled over hurdles in company last week at Hastings, and with the pace on No Shot led Merriwal a length at the finish, with Gold Dust almost level with Merriwal.

Early in the week Needlework gave a pleasing display over the big fences at Hastings, but he has been an absentee for several mornings, and it would seem as though all is not well with him.

Seddon, the two-year-old full-brother to Wairiki, who was expected to be a starter in the Myross Handicap, run on the opening day of the V.R.C. Grand National Meeting, did not fulfil his engagement in that race.

The latest report from Sydney regarding the Gisborne racehorse Mahutonga is that he is standing his preparation well. If it is found that the son of Quil can maintain steady work his old trainer, M. Maher, will probably go over to Sydney next month to lend a hand in getting him ready for spring engagements. Mahutonga is under the charge of Frank McGrath.

Percy Martin, well-known in turf circles during the last fifteen or twenty years, has turned publican at the Criterion, Napier.

The nominations for the positions of office-bearers of the Auckland Racing Club closed last Saturday. The Hon. E. Mitchellson was the only nomination received for the presidential chair, and Mr. H. T. Gorrie for the position of vice-president. Five members are required for the committee, and the following have been nominated:—Sir Robert Lockhart, Dr. E. W. Sharnian, Messrs. James Coe, Walter Davies, R. W. Duder, George Dunnet, Charles Grey, John Marshall, M. McLean, and N. Alfred Nathan.

Respecting the lowering of the Flemington fences, that once brilliant rider, Jas. Scobie, says:—"In the old days at Ballarat, a horse was often schooled for two years before he was started in a race. In the making they were not taken to the course and raced at fences straight away. The progress was something after the style adopted in Ireland. They were made to jump small things without a man on their back. Then they did some point-to-point work. When Scobie began changing Blue Mountain into a chaser, he would get on him and go straight from his house to Burrumbeet, taking everything that came in the way. When Blue Mountain had done this two or three times a week for a while he was taken to Dowling Forest, and given a go over the fences at racing pace. Scobie's idea is that if horses were trained as they used to be trained they would be able to negotiate the last fences as well as the first; but he hates two-mile races, in which they go pell-mell from the start. Over three miles—or more—the jockeys would get a chance to show whether they could ride, and the horses would have to be trained. And he would have the 'crouching' style of riding strictly barred in jumping races."

Ringlet, the winner of the Minock Two-year-old at Caulfield recently, is a New Zealand-bred youngster, by the flying Menschikoff from Armilla, and at the yearling sales brought 280 guineas. Armilla was herself a fine performer, having won a number of races, including the C.J.C. Oaks, A.R.C. Musket Stakes, and Wellington Exhibition Handicap, and is by Castor from Necktie, by Musket from Locket, by Thunderbolt, so that she is a sister of Collarette, Cravat, and Coronet. Ringlet ran three times early in the season, but his form was not promising.

Although Achilles has been entered for the N.Z. Cup, it is still uncertain whether or not he will be started or sent to the stud. A number of owners have declared their intention of utilising him for stud purposes.

Lady Nannie, bred in Auckland, was just beaten for the "Ascot Five Hundred" last week. She carried the top weight, 10.2, and was only beaten by bad luck, as she got a bump at the most critical stage of the race when she looked all over a winner. The Melbourne correspondent of the "Referee" thus describes the event:—"The Ascot Pony Five Hundred, the biggest stake ever given for a pony race, was won by Chestercob, who was bred in Tasmania, and is by Chesterman. There were 21 starters, and a favourite was found in the New Zealand-bred mare, Lady Nannie, who, despite her burden of 10.2, was reckoned to have a decidedly good chance. But for a bump at a critical stage of the race, her victory would have been assured. Other ponies in strong request were Riot, Chance, Chestercob, and Cheeky, whilst good support was also awarded the Sydney pair, Sygnet and Flying Colours. Little Jack, the champion lilliputian, was not fancied, and was allowed to start at 50 to 1. The winner was purchased in the Newmarket salesyards some months ago by his present owner, who bought him at a ridiculously low price. Lady Nannie and Riot filled the other places."

Boniform, the two-year-old full brother to Sungod, who has not carried silk since he won the Breeders' Plate in September last, is again in work, and according to reports he looks in capital fettle for the time.

The Papakura trainer, H. French, has half-a-dozen horses under his care, namely, Ingli's (by Hotchkiss), Perfect (by St. Hilda), Hughie (by Souk), and a trio of rising two-year-olds by Souk.

Mr. J. B. Red's, the Sir Artegaal (Stephank—Britomart), entered for the A.J.C. Derby, is in the hands of W. J. Taggart, at Riccarton, and is highly spoken of as a most promising youngster. He may be heard of in the two-year-old races this year.

The following paragraph is taken from "Sport," a racing weekly that astonished Wellingtonians some five years back by its extraordinary success in tipping winners. It relates to R. S. Servier, the racing man who has just had a disqualification of the English Jockey Club removed from him:—"The expenciller, Robert Servier, heads the list of winning owners in England for the flat-racing season just ended. We were present when the erstwhile bookie punched the head of Lord Deerhurst (Bulletin), Beerthirst at the National Hotel, in Bourke Street, Melbourne. Servier has betted in Australia, India, and England, and his forceful character has turned him into the biggest winning owner of the season. Practically all the money was won by his mashing filly, Sceptre."

Hewitt, the ex-New Zealand jockey, surprised the English racing public lately by winning the Salisbury Juvenile Selling Plate on Raven Tresses by Black Sand—Doncellita. He won in a field of 21 on an any price outsider.

A funny story is told of a former Archbishop of York. He was driving on the box seat into Doncaster during race week, and thinking probably about anything rather than horseflesh, when the driver pulled out his watch with the remark:—"We'll be in time after all, I think."

"In time for what," asked the parson, a little absently.

"Why, the St. Leger, of course."

"The St. Leger? Oh, yes, to be sure! But I never go to race meetings."

No one would ever have supposed from his appearance that he did. The driver was nonplussed for a moment, but he soon excused his passenger by saying:—"Ah, well, you're like me, I suppose. I always d'd like a real good cock fight a sight better."

Bonnie Glen, 3 yrs, by Stepniak—Crest, is showing fine form at Riccarton, and promises to turn out one of the best of his class during the coming season.

We cordially endorse the following remarks of Mr W. Gasscock, a splendid man over fences in his day, who says of steeplechasing accidents:—"You certainly will not reduce the risks of steeplechasing by lowering the fences, as has been suggested. When the jumps at Flemington were 4ft 6in, or 4ft 8in, men had to steady their horses and give them a chance to jump. It was very seldom that there was a bad accident then. To my mind there is no doubt that the low jumps now used have been the cause of the increase in accidents. As long as the fences are low they will race over them. It is all owing to suburban fences being so small."

Sans Souci II., who won the Grand Prix de Paris on Sunday, was successful in the Prix Daru in Paris, on May 9, starting at 112 to 10. The "Field," in referring to the race, said:—"Sans Souci II. is a bad-tempered horse. He was led down to the post, and required all the tact and energy of Henry to make him win from Second Sight and La Serqueuse, whose quality has certainly not been enhanced by their defeat by a simple handicap horse. The three-year-olds are not first quality in France, and there will probably be a vast deal of in-and-out running to record before the end of the year."

Although no intimation of the fact was given to the press until the day following the race meeting, it transpires (writes "Coronach") that the stewards of the Tasmanian Turf Club had three jockeys before them subsequent to the last race of the day on June 3. Percy Williams, rider of The Trick in the Steeplechase, was disqualified for two years for going the wrong course, giving false evidence, and being impertinent to the stewards. Arthur Goss was disqualified for six months for giving false evidence with regard to the protest against The Trick; and Thomas Rouse was severely reprimanded for being under the influence of drink on the course.

Mr. Godfrey Watson, a well-known Australian sportsman, says:—"Accidents in steeplechases are certainly much more numerous, as well as more serious than they used to be. That is due to the conditions under which such races are now run in Australia. During the last 15 or 20 years the tendency has been to reduce the height of the fences, until in some cases they have become absurdly low. The object has been to secure good fields, and to let the inferior class of jumper in. People with horses which are too slow for the flat, and not good

enough for hurdle races, enter them for races over low steeplechase courses. I have not gone into statistics, but I have little hesitation in asserting that since the introduction of low fences in Victoria there have been three times as many fatal accidents as there were previously."

In response to a request from the Rangitikei Racing Club, the Master-ton Racing Club has instructed its delegates to the Conference to protest against Manawatu's third day's racing at Christmas time. The motion was carried on the initiative of Mr. Caselberg, seconded by Mr. Cooper.

The following comparison in the weights allotted for the Wellington and Grand National Steeplechases will prove interesting:—

Trentham, Riccarton.	
st. lb.	st. lb.
Kiatero	12 3
Phaetonis	12 0
Haydn	10 13
Eclair	10 10
Watarere	10 9
Irish	10 8
Nadador	10 8
Romany Lad	10 5
Loch Fyne	10 5
Taniskillen	10 4
Silica	9 10
Rangitoto	9 9
Evenlode	9 9
Romany King	9 8
Pawa	9 7
Comfort	9 7
Needlework	9 7
Carona	9 7

The horses engaged at Riccarton not handicapped at Trentham are Slow Tom (11.0), Hutana (9.7), St. Koringa (9.7), Hikairoa (9.7), Kanaka (9.7), and No Shot (9.7).

Comparison of weights for the Wellington R.C.'s Hurdle Race and the C.J.C. Grand National Hurdles:—

Trentham, Riccarton.	
st. lb.	st. lb.
Cuiragno	11 11
Exmoor	11 9
Lady Hune	11 3
Creusot	11 0
Prospector	10 9
Paritutu	10 9
Shrapnel	10 9
Pushful	10 9
Kiatero	10 8
Irish	10 8
Maui	10 6
Evenlode	10 6
Landlock	10 6
Merriwal	10 3
Auratus	10 2
Ability	10 2
Black Reynard	10 1
Gold Dust	10 1
Rookby	10 0
Cavalry	10 0
Asteroid	9 11
Romany King	9 11
Le Beau	9 10
Bonheau	9 8
Aqua Regia	9 8
Sardonix	9 8
Levant	9 5
Florio	9 5
Lull	9 4
Sen Sim	9 3
Te Uira	9 0
Aroha	9 0

The V.R.C. Grand National Hurdle Race winner Bribery, competed unsuccessfully in the Hurdle Race won by Lion Heart at Mooney Valley on June 29th. He carried 10.7 and won by eight lengths in 3m. 51½s. The Leolantis gelding started first favourite at 5 to 4 against. J. E. Carter had been engaged to ride Lion Heart in the race he won, but E. Stevenson, who owns the horse, decided to let the New Zealand rider, W. Young, have the mount, and on Carter complaining to the stewards, they ordered Stevenson to pay the jockey £5—equivalent to a winning mount.

Carona is reported to have gone wrong at Riccarton, and is therefore unlikely to fulfil his Wellington Steeplechase engagement.

NOMINATIONS, HANDICAPS AND ACCEPTANCES.

HANDICAPS.

WELLINGTON RACING CLUB'S WINTER MEETING.

STEWARDS' HANDICAP of 100sovs. Six furlongs.—St. Clair 10.5, Gawan 9.12, St. Bill 9.10, Platypus 9.6, Jolly Friar 9.6, Chicane 9.4, Makikihi 9.2, Kaiuku 9.2, Silver Shell 9.0, Pardon 9.0.

MIRAMAR HACK HANDICAP of 100 sovs. Seven furlongs.—Te Arai 10.2, Truthful 10.0, Compass 10.0, Tangaroa 9.9, Warlock 9.9, Pearlle 9.8, Clem 9.4, Vale 9.0, Gold Guard 9.0, Scenery 9.0, Nero 9.0, Wakaraka 9.0, Lady Storm 9.0, Grand Circle 9.0, Papatawa 9.0, Hinupai 9.0.

FIRST HACK HURDLES of 100sovs. One mile and three-quarters.—Auratus 11.2, Kaipetpeti 10.7, Matakohiri 10.7, Golden Comb 10.7, Top Rose 10.4, Southern Cross 9.13, Regulation 9.11, Oasis 9.10, Stayboy 9.10, Idasa 9.10, Royal Blue 9.7, St. Albert 9.7, Waipu 9.7, Playmate 9.4, Black Squall 9.4, Dulcinea 9.2, Rahui 9.0.

PARLIAMENTARY HANDICAP of 300sovs. One mile.—Kuku 10.4, Aeolus 10.4, Montigo 10.2, Narcotic 10.2, Kurawaka 9.11, Whakawahi 9.11, Chatterer 9.11, Clanchattan 9.11, Seaman 9.10, Intelligence 9.8, Mataari 9.8, Lady Warwick 9.7, Hatley 9.7, Shrapnel Shell 9.5, Ellerton 9.3, Naphtha 9.0, Rosgrove 9.0, La Torpedo 9.0.

WINTER HURDLES HANDICAP of 300sovs. Two miles.—Prospector 10.9, Pushful 10.9, Paritutu 10.9, Evenlode