

10.6, Merriwai 10.3, Auratus 10.2, Cavalry 10.0, Asteroid 9.11, Le Beau 9.10, Bonheur 9.8, Ben Jonson 9.8, Levant 8.5, Lull 9.4, Sen Sim 9.8.

GENERAL ENTRIES.

THE ARO HACK SCURRY of 100sovs. Five furlongs. Weight 9st.—Strathcona, Barley, Truthful, Naumal, Sedgemoor, Tawhera, Toa Tuhi, Vale, Martyrum, Greenleaf, Warlock, Oblivion, Strathcona, Ancyle, Waihuka, William, Aotea, St Killian.

TRIAL PLATE of 100sovs. Six furlongs; weight-for-age.—Defeat, Royal Star, Master Leslie, Wallasy, Don Carlos, Blue Bell, Alluvial, Flint Gun, Yoram, Lucretius, Merry Zetland, King Post, Nukuthi, Blue River, Speciosa, All Red, Monkey, Grand Circle, Hill-spring.

TURF RESULTS.

VICTORIA RACING CLUB'S GRAND NATIONAL MEETING.

STEEPLECHASE DAY.

DIVHAM EFFECTS A SURPRISE.

The V.R.C. Grand National Meeting was concluded last Saturday at Flemington. The following was the result of the principal event:—

THE GRAND NATIONAL STEEPLECHASE, a handicap sweepstakes of 20sovs each, with 1500sovs added; the owner of the second horse to receive 300sovs, and the owner of the third 150sovs out of the stake. About three miles and a furlong.
 Mr. G. Hodgkinson's br g Divham, aged, by Hamilton—Diva, 10.5 (Ray) 1
 Mr. H. Kelly's br g Maine, aged, by Mainsail—Bangor, 9.0 (A. Williamson) 2
 Mr. G. Mawley's b g Boomerang, 6yrs, by Firelock—Vindictive, 10.3 (Deeble) 3
 Sixteen horses started.

Betting: 8 to 1 against Decoration, Cardinal, Boisdale and Boomerang, 10 to 1 Bellis and Danjuuro, 16 to 1 Swimmer, 20 to 1 Divham, 33 to 1 Maine.

From a fair start The Trick was best away from Swimmer, Cardinal, and Springfield. Cardinal lost his rider at the first fence, and Swimmer fell. The Trick was headed by Divham at the abattoirs, where Decoration fell, and at the sixth fence Western came down. At the second fence in the straight The Trick came to grief, which gave Divham the lead, and he led over the treble and past the stand from Boomerang and Warfield, after whom came Danjuuro and Boomerang, with Boisdale nearest of the others. Divham was still in the van as they swept past the sheds where Seymour fell. Divham landed into the straight with several lengths' lead from Springfield, then came Maine, Boomerang, Bellis, Danjuuro and Mayo. In the run home Divham easily held his own and won by six lengths. Time, 6m. 36½s.

The Victorian Grand National Steeplechase winner, Divham, competed unsuccessfully in the same race last year, when Decoration won. His only successes during last season were at Mentone and Williamston. Realm, winner of the Hurdles at the last-named place, afterwards won the Grand National Hurdles, and it is singular that a year later Divham should be successful in the Grand National Steeplechase. At Mooney Valley, on June 29th, Divham (a name made by conjoining parts of the names of the sire and dam) won the Steeplechase, but was disqualified for running inside a post. Divham, a country-bred horse, is trained by his owner, and was sired by Hamilton, a South Australian-bred horse, by Richmond—Success, who was raced by James Scobie, the well-known Ballarat trainer. Hamilton was full brother to Prosperity, a successful performer in South Australia, and dam of winners.

INTER-PROVINCIAL.

(From Our Own Correspondents.)

CANTERBURY.

Harvest Scratched for Winter Cup—Pretty Maid Scratched for National Hurdles—Maui and Romany King Scratched for All Engagements—The Mohican—Phaeton to be Sold—Cross Battery Doing Well—Favourites for Hurdle Race and Winter Cup—Manjess and Others to be Sold—Idasa Fancied for Wellington Hurdles—De Witte and Clanchattan—Ivanoff Beats Pas Seul—Leeside Goes to Wellington—The Canterbury Contingent for Wellington—Lady Annie, Buccleugh, Lapland, Don Orsino, Czar Kolokol, Pas Seul, Ivanoff, Silkweb Doing Good Work—Praise for Evenlode—Wet Blanket, Jolly Roger and Deerslayer Jumping Well—Waitarere Reported Sore.

CHRISTCHURCH, July 16.

Harvest was scratched for the Winter Cup at 11.25 a.m. on Thursday; Maniapoto at 4 p.m. on Friday, for the same race. Pretty Maid was scratched for the Grand National Hurdles at 12.45 p.m. on Thursday; Exmoor, Maui, and Romany King have been scratched for all engagements at the National Meeting.

The Mohican, who is in the National Hurdles at 10.10, has just done a season at the stud, but it is safe to say he

will not be ready to start in the big race next month. Prior to going to the stud The Mohican became unsound, but it is reported that he is likely to stand another preparation.

The Trenton horse, Phaeton, sire of Phaetontis and other well-known performers, will be sold by auction at Timaru on Saturday next.

I hear that Cross Battery is doing good work, and quite lately cut out a fast five furlongs at Ashburton; the mare is very well, and it is freely stated that the Winter Cup will be her next mission.

Phaetontis has been installed favourite for the Grand National Steeplechase; Parututu, Kremlin, and Mahoe are popular fancies in the Hurdle Race; and Cross Battery, Kuku, and Lady Annie in the Winter Cup.

E. J. Smith, of Timaru, has decided to sell his horses Manjess, Boscastle, Petard, Ciemantine, Quoiness, Kitty Z., and Polyphon by auction at Tattersalls, Christchurch, on August 16.

Idasa is greatly fancied at Riccarton for her Hurdle Race engagements at Wellington.

De Witte and Clanchattan, who have both gone to Wellington, were sent for a strong gallop over a mile last Saturday; the former had most to say at the finish. On the same day Ivanoff was too good for Pas-Seul in a gallop over a similar distance. Hobbs has these two members of his team well forward, and both are regarded as starters at the National Meeting.

Leeside, who I stated a week ago was doing good work over hurdles, will go up to Wellington for the second and third days' racing.

I hear that Phaeton is will not after all go to Wellington; it was thought in many quarters that the horse would be given a run in one of the steeplechases at Trentham, especially as he had not been raced since last National Meeting.

Those who are qualified to express an opinion are well satisfied with the weight allotted to Phaetontis in this year's Grand National.

The Canterbury contingent for Wellington will include Evenlode, who will make his first appearance in public over steeplechase country; Idasa, who has yet to start in a hurdle race, De Witte, and Clanchattan, two well-known performers; Vale, Master Leslie, a couple of horses who so far have not done much even in second-class hack company; and Leslie, a well-known hurdle racer.

Lady Annie, Buccleugh, Lapland, Don Orsino, Czar Ko'shol, Pas-Seul, Ivanoff, and Silkweb, all Winter Cup candidates, are doing solid work at Riccarton. I think I can safely name this bunch as almost certain starters at the National Meeting; while at least five of them are being trained for the Winter Cup.

Evenlode has been schooled over steeplechase fences since my last, and has given two highly creditable displays. This horse is a fine jumper, he is fast, and can stay any distance. A short while back he was not quite right, but if he stands up to his work I feel sure he will take a lot of beating in the Grand National Steeplechase. It will be interesting to note how he shapes at Trentham next week, when he will make his first appearance over country.

Wet Blanket and Deerslayer are jumping steeplechase fences really well; the latter, who is one of the finest jumpers at Riccarton, is giving some fine exhibitions.

Jolly Roger is being kept at jumping business, and continues to show improvement.

Patty Pan, Canton, and Crespino, are all jumping well for beginners.

In the Parliamentary Handicap, Marguerite was set to give three pounds to Lady Annie; while in the Winter Cup there is a difference of eleven pounds between the two mares. Both races are run over a mile, and Lady Annie is greatly fancied at Riccarton for the big winter flat handicap.

The appearance of weights for the Grand National Steeplechase, Hurdle Race, and Winter Cup has livened up matters considerably in the racing world. Starting with the Steeplechase, Mr Henrys has set Kiaterere a severe task in asking him to carry 13.3, but on his form in the Great Northern Steeplechase the son of Castor could not very well have got off with much less. The Riccarton country is stiffer than anything in New Zealand; and admitting that Kiaterere is a great steeplechaser, I cannot say that I fancy his chance much. Phaetontis

There are woods of high mercantile value, Rare woods of great beauty and price, And woods of such close grain and hardness As resist all white ants, rats, and mice. But the Woods of all woods to be lauded, (You all will agree, I am sure), Is the Woods to whom mankind's indebted, For the only Great Peppermint Cure.

strikes me as being a much better investment if he goes on in the right way, but I really cannot pick a horse in the race to beat him. He is jumping better than ever. He will be the hardest horse to beat. Waitarere is reported to be sore, but Evenlode will have to be reckoned with. I hear good accounts of Needlework, and both Rangitoto and Hikairoa must be given a chance. To try and select the winner in three, I shall name Phaetontis, Irish, and Needlework. I really must confess that I do not flatter myself that I can name the winner of the Grand National Hurdles, even in half-a-dozen picks, so full of quality is the field. There will probably be a big weeding out on acceptance day, when owners intentions will be more generally known. At present I like the chances of Cruesot, Kremlin, Mahoe, Black Reynard, Merriwai, and Le Beau. In the Winter Cup I shall expect to see Cross Battery, Lady Annie, Jolly Friar, and Te Aroha (I started) run well.

WELLINGTON.

Trentham Loose-boxes Rushed—The Influx of Racehorses—Prospect of Large Fields—Hurdle Racers Waiting for the C.J.C. Meeting—Owners Dissatisfied over Early Issue of C.J.C. Weights—Interest in G.N. Handicaps—Phaetontis First Favourite, Kiaterere and Waitarere Next—Haydn an Outside Price—Cuiragno, Landlock, and Le Beau Well Supported.

WELLINGTON, July 16.

Trentham has never borne such a busy appearance as at present, the whole of the Racing Club's fifty loose boxes having been engaged by owners of visiting horses, and another 25 boxes recently erected at the Trentham Hotel have been bespoke, and will be tenanted before this reaches your readers. Considering that 111 horses have continued their engagements for the seven events on the club's first day's programme, it must be highly satisfactory. With so many horses at Trentham there is every prospect of capital fields contesting the events on the second and third day, and an interesting meeting should eventuate.

Obviously some of the top-notchers engaged in hurdle racing have been kept in reserve for the C.J.C. thousand-pounder. Cuiragno, Cruesot, Shrapnel, Landlock, Black Reynard, Irish and Rookby were each allotted less weight for the Wellington Winter Hurdles than they are asked to carry in the Grand National Hurdle Race. A comparison of the programmes disclosed the fact that the owner of the second horse in the Grand National Hurdle Race will receive 200sovs, whilst the winners of the hurdle race at Trentham only secure 250sovs, and as winners have to put up a 10lb penalty for the C.J.C. thousand-pound stake, the defection of a number of horses can be easily accounted for.

I alluded in my last notes to the dissatisfaction expressed by owners of North Island horses at the action of the executive of the C.J.C. in issuing their handicaps prior to the decision of the principal events at Wellington. Quite a number of owners from the Far North have had, by reason of the penalty conditions imposed by the C.J.C., to pass a number of otherwise enticing stakes offered by the W.R.C.

The declaration of the handicaps for the Grand National Hurdle and Steeplechase events, within a few days of the appearance of the Wellington handicaps caused intense interest to be taken in the various adjustments. One enterprising sporting scribe published the respective handicaps in parallel columns, since when many racing experts lost few opportunities of airing their knowledge of racing form. General regret has been expressed that an arrangement was not arrived at whereby the Canterbury and Wellington handicaps could have been declared simultaneously. Two sets of independent adjustments would thus have reached the racing public.

Needless to say that owing to the magnitude of betting operations the C.J.C. G.N. events have come in for the greatest amount of criticism. Bookmakers' double charts (always a strong indication of backers' opinions) show the Canterbury horse Phaetontis in the position of first favourite for the Steeplechase. Kiaterere and Waitarere are quoted at slightly more liberal odds, and outside the trio long odds are obtainable almost any combination. A leading metallician states that the bulk of the doubles enquired for begin with Phaetontis, as last year's winner meets Kiaterere on the same terms as when he defeated him twelve months ago, and with the scale of weights 17lb higher, there would seem ample reason for the Canterbury horse's favouritism. Old

Haydn, who is surely past the age when improvement can be expected, has 5lb more than he carried when he failed in the same race two years ago. The veteran is quoted at an outside price. With all the best backers engaged in the G.N. Hurdle Race, the layers should meet with brisk business. Cuiragno, Landlock and Le Beau have plenty of supporters. Quite a number of other horses have admirers, and have been coupled with the favourites in the Steeplechase.

A visit to Trentham discloses the fact that accommodation has already been engaged for upwards of one hundred horses, and applications are still coming forward. The number of horses competing during the Wellington winter meeting will considerably exceed that which assisted at the club's summer meeting, and there is every prospect of good fields for the second and third day's racing. The Porirua horses in charge of Mr. Prosser reached Trentham today. Marguerite, Waitarere, Kuku, Playmate, Kurawaka, All Red, William, Aotea and Gauze comprise the team, and if appearances may be taken as an indication, they should run well.

Exmoor and Maui are disabled, and have been thrown out of training. Pawa is also unsound and may not race again this season. The Trentham and Hutt-trained horses have been indulged in sound work during the week; Aeolus, Shrapnel (Shell, Compass, Seaman, Levant, Sardonyx, and some lesser lights have given their trainers every satisfaction. Visiting trainers will find the tracks in capital order, and some interesting gallops should be witnessed during the next few days. The weather is now beautifully fine, and there is every prospect of its continuance.

OTAGO.

St. Korings Hurts His Knee—Santa Claus With a Bruised Foot—Somateria Injured, but Recovers—Magical on the Big Side—Obligado—Miss Betty Filly Sprinting Well—St. Korings Supported for National Steeple.

DUNEDIN, July 16.

Mr A. Moss is quoting business on the National treble at 1000 to 1.

St. Korings, the local candidate for National honours, struck one of his knees whilst being schooled recently, but the mishap is not regarded as being a serious injury.

Santa Claus bruised one of his feet a few days ago, but a brief spell is expected to put him right again.

Somateria struck himself whilst doing a gallop last week, but fortunately he made a complete recovery after being a bit lame for a couple of days.

Our National Hurdler Magical, the brother to Slow Tom, continues to do good striding work at the Forbury, but he looks rather big in condition.

The Obligado—Miss Betty filly is shaping well in her springing at the Forbury.

Mr J. Loughlin leaves for Wellington this week, and after spending a few days in the Empire City, travels on to Sydney.

Since the declaration of the handicaps for the principal events to be decided at the Riccarton National Meeting, the selections made by double backers are somewhat varied, and by no means confined to a few names. There is, however, with the wisecracks a disposition to go for Waitarere and Phaetontis in the Steeples and Cuiragno in the Hurdles.

St. Korings is being supported for the National Steeples in doubles and trebles, principally because he is credited with having a jumper's chance.

HAWKE'S BAY

Ashplant Going Well Over Country—Rechabite in Work Again—No Shot Defeats Merriwai and Gold Dust in a Go Over Hurdles—Wainku Pony for Sydney—A. Vincent goes with Him—Nadador Doing No Work—Napier Park B.C.—Hastings Stakes for 1907—Hawke's Bay Guineas for 1907.

NAPIER, July 16.

Ashplant, the half-brother to John Peel, of T. Quinlivan, junr's team, has been performing creditably over the country at Hastings during the week; the gelding will be a candidate in events confined to the hunting classes.

Rechabite has been taken in hand again by Paddy Raynor; Jacobite's son looks in ready health, and his trainer anticipates that he will be able to get him well enough to do him credit. Raynor has also received another addition to his team, the new-comer being Wonderbohm (Wonderland—Searchlight).

I noticed an old-time horseman in Kaiser Myers perambulating the streets