

THE FOOTBALL WORLD.

BRITISH TEAM'S PROGRAMME.

IN NEW ZEALAND.

July.

- 11—Wanganui Union, at Wanganui
- 15—Taranaki Union, at New Plymouth
- 18—Auckland Union, at Auckland
- 25—NEW ZEALAND, at Auckland

IN AUSTRALIA.

August.

- 5—New South Wales, at Sydney.
- 8—New South Wales Team for England, at Sydney.
- 12—Western Union, at Bathurst.
- 15—Metropolitan Union, at Sydney.
- 19—Northern Union, at Newcastle
- 22—New South Wales, at Sydney.
- 26—Queensland, at Brisbane.
- 29—Queensland, at Brisbane.

September.

- 2—Queensland, at Brisbane.

AUCKLAND R.U. FIXTURES.

- July 11: Representative trial match.
- July 18: Auckland v. British team.
- July 25: Third test match, New Zealand v. British team.
- August 1: Auckland v. South Canterbury.
- August 8: Auckland v. Marlborough (suggested).
- August 15: Auckland v. Wellington.
- August 22: Auckland v. Taranaki.
- August 29: Auckland v. Southland.
- September 5: Auckland v. Otago

The second inter-union match of the season was played at Alexandra Park on Saturday, when the Thames representatives tried conclusions with the Auckland fifteen. Perfect football weather prevailed throughout the afternoon, and about 3000 enthusiastic Rugbyites assembled at the Park to witness the contest between the two old rival teams. Owing to the slippery state of the ground the game proved rather uninteresting, being a repetition of the match of the previous Saturday when Auckland met the Goldfields, play consisting for the most part of a struggle between the forwards, back play being brought into operation on but rare occasions. Despite the fact that the Auckland team had suffered defeat at the hands of the Goldfields representatives, blue and white barrackers were fairly sanguine of them placing a win against the Thames, and as regards this score they did not disappoint their supporters, the game ending in favour of the home team by 13 points to 6. Taken throughout there was not a great deal of difference in the relative sides, Auckland being a trifle stronger in the forwards, while the Thames back division showed out slightly better than the local men. A noticeable feature of the game was the want of combination exhibited by either side, any brilliant work that was brought off being mostly confined to individual efforts. The back divisions of both teams were a bit on the weak side, and consequently were responsible for only a fair exhibition, although little fault could be found in their fielding and kicking of the ball. A disappointing feature which characterised the play of both the home team and the visitors was an apparent failure on their part to make use of the opportunities afforded them, there being something clearly wanting in this respect. This was particularly noticeable on the part of the Thames men during the first spell when several excellent chances were lost as the result of players falling when an opportunity presented itself to put it to advantage, while the same may be said of the Auckland men during the earlier stages of the second half.

The teams lined out as follows:—Auckland: Fullback, D. Miller three-quarters, Renwick, Murray, Carlaw; five-eighths, Bater, Blakey; halfback, Keirnan (captain); forwards, McDonald (wing), Herring, Griffen, Walsh, McGuire, Waddell, Hall, and Hooper. Thames: Fullback, L. Smith; three-quarters, Harrison, J. Duffy, L. Snowling; five-eighths, R. Keating and C. Rockley; half, C. Winder; wing, F. Hayward; forwards, W. Doyle, R. McKeown, R. McDuff (captain), J. Griffin, J. Crawford, H. Hayward, G. Clark.

Thames winning the toss took advantage of the strong breeze blowing,

and were able to make good use of the line. Shortly after the commencement F. Hayward headed a forward rush carrying play into Auckland's 25, but Miller saved the situation with a well-judged kick. After a repeated attack by the Thames men, Murray, the Auckland centre three-quarter, intercepted a pass by the visitor's backs, and kicking upfield, Bater secured the ball as the result of fast following up and dashed for the line, but was tackled by Duffy when within about five yards of it. Good work by the visitors, in which the Hayward Bros. were prominent shifted play into the blue and white's territory, where Winder took a neat mark. Duffy was entrusted with the kick, and was successful in landing a creditable goal from a difficult angle. A period of play followed in which both teams took it in turn to attack, and during the course of which Duffy had two shots at goal from marks, both attempts proving fruitless. Thames attacked hotly, and the Aucklanders were placed in a dangerous position until Murray relieved. The blue and whites being penalised the leather was again carried into Auckland's territory, and a passing run by Rockley and Snowling, resulted in an excellent chance of scoring being lost by the latter player kicking too hard, the blue and whites forcing. The Thames kept up a determined attack, and Auckland were compelled to force on more than one occasion. Finally Bater intercepted a pass, and making a fine run up to the full-back, kicked over his head, but F. Hayward came to the rescue with a powerful kick. A vigorous rush by the Thames forwards followed, Clark getting over in the corner and securing a try. Duffy failed with the shot at goal. Just before the close of the first spell Renwick distinguished himself by obtaining possession of the ball and making a clever run, but slipped when a score seemed a certainty, and the bell sounded for half-time with the score: Thames 6, Auckland 0.



P. WALSH, the Auckland forward, who is playing consistently good football this season.

With the wind conditions in their favour in the second half little doubt was entertained as to the chances of the Auckland men running up a score, but during the first quarter of an hour the blue and whites spoilt several good opportunities of scoring by faulty work. The ball being dribbled into Auckland's 25 by F. Hayward, one of the Thames forwards rushed it over the line and touched down, but the referee ordered a scrum McDonald transferring to Blakey, the ball was handled in turn by Bater, Murray and Carlaw, the latter player, with a speedy run from half-way, outwitting the Thames backs and scoring behind the posts, thus securing Auckland's first try. Kiernan landed a sure goal. The blue and whites then kept up the pace of open play, and after a number of exciting rushes, the Thames were penalised as the result of Smith lying on the ball. Kiernan took the kick, and was successful in his attempt.

The Auckland men continued to make matters lively, keeping their opponents busy defending, but several likely looking attempts to score were thrown away through erratic passing. Finally Herring secured the leather and dashed over and registered the blue and white's second try. Kiernan was again successful with the kick at goal. For the remainder of the game play was of an uninteresting character, and neither side obtaining a further score, the Auckland men left the field victorious by 13 points to 6.

Of the Auckland forwards none grafted harder than Walsh, who played solidly from start to finish. Hall was always anxious for work and generally managed to get in the thick of it. Herring worked hard throughout, and rendered his side good service. McDonald, on the wing, was responsible for a serviceable game, but found a tough opponent in F. Hayward.

Of the Auckland backs Kiernan did not show up too well at half, but his goal-kicking proved highly successful to his side. Blakey at five-eighths, was not up to representative form, and was responsible for only a fair exhibition. Bater acquitted himself well, and at times put in some really tricky work. Murray was the pick of the three-quarter line, and shone out on both the attack and defence, his powerful kicking being of invaluable use. Renwick did not have a great deal to do, but got through all that was asked of him in a capable style. Carlaw was not too sound on the wing three-quarter, but justified his inclusion by the clever try he obtained. Miller at full-back played his usual safe heady game, and made the impression that there is little doubt he will occupy that position during the course of the big matches.

H. Hayward was the most prominent of the Thames forwards, playing a sterling game right through. R. McDuff made good use of his weight, and rendered good service. F. Hayward, on the wing, took a hand in everything and was responsible for a willing exhibition.

Winder at half was the star of the Thames back division, and got through a great amount of work in a highly creditable manner. Snowling gave a good account of himself on the wing three-quarter, and put plenty of vim into his work. Duffy at centre was only moderate, his strong kicking being the best part of his display.

NOTES.

A Southern scribe in commenting on the display of the New Zealand team in their second match against the Britishers says:—The Otago representative, Patterson, is a splendid forward, and his meteoric career caused a lot of discussion. Though new to the elements of big football, the Zingari player should soon develop into the Seeling type.

A popular Rugby official in Southland has shown his broadmindedness by sending a liberal donation to the Baskerville benefit fund. In forwarding the cheque he expresses his appreciation of the energy and ability displayed by the late Mr. Baskerville in organising the professional tour in the face of powerful opposition, and his regret at the untimely death of the promoter.

An unrehearsed incident which might easily have resolved itself into a tragedy, occurred during the progress of the Thames-Auckland match on Saturday. One burly spectator whose only post of vantage was a corner of the balcony adjoining the grand-stand, became so excited at a critical juncture, that in his wild enthusiasm, he lost his balance—in more ways than one—and toppling over with gyrations that made more than one onlooker hold his breath, was only saved from a broken neck by a friend who seized him by the

extremities with more force than politeness and hauled him back again.

A friendly game of football was played at Panmure on Saturday between teams representing the "Sporting Review" and the "Auckland Star," the former team being returned victors by 12 points to 8 after a close and exciting match. Before leaving for town both teams dined at the Panmure Hotel where Host Bell regaled the players with a recherche repast. On Saturday next the "Review" team will try conclusions with the "Herald" fifteen at Panmure.



G. MURRAY, the Auckland centre-threequarter, who has been showing great form this season.

and in the evening the players will dine together at the Panmure Hotel.

The injury received to his arm in the inter-island match will probably be the means of preventing Thomson, the Wellington three-quarter, from donning the jersey again this season.

Wrigley and Callum, two members of the late professional team, have left Wellington for Sydney. The former is going Home to play for Runcorn, while Callum intends to settle in Australia.

The result of the second Test match has done a great deal to revive interest in the British team's tour. Whatever may be the result of the intervening provincial games, the final struggle at Auckland on July 25 is certain to arouse a lot of attention.

In its account of the match played at Sydney by the Maori footballers, in which they defeated the local team by 23 points to 20, the "Sydney Morning Herald" contains the following:—Apart from the casualties the most remarkable feature of the game seems to have been the "hurdle-jumping" tactics, of Asher, the Maori captain. The excitement of the crowd at times reached a high pitch. Asher was everywhere. He lost part of his guernsey, and he tore the sleeves off, but Messenger objected to him playing thus. Another guernsey was brought out, and it was found to have but one sleeve.

Allan Adams, Otago University and Otago representative three-quarter, was a spectator on the occasion of the second test match at Wellington. He left for England last week, and has been induced by Tuan Jones, captain of Guy's Hospital team, to consider the advisability of going to Guy's instead of to London Hospital.

The second test has been played—and drawn. The result came as a surprise to every follower of the game in the Dominion, but few—I venture to say—were displeased with it (says "Shinpad" in the "New Zealand Times"). There is no doubt that interest in the tour was on the wane. The defeat of the visitors by the only three big unions they had