

surely then have not been spared for nothing. But Musket was no mere "one-horse" sire. Carbine was, of course, his greatest success. None will dispute this. But how many other great performers sprang from his loins it would be difficult to say off-hand. It is certain, at all events, that no sire that ever came to this part of the globe made a greater hit at the stud than he. And he had not only left racehorses behind him. He also gave us sons capable in their turn of begetting great gallopers, and also daughters who after their racing days were over, nearly one and all proved themselves at the stud. And the best of it is that there is so much real life and vitality in the blood that it is carried through from generation to generation without losing any of its strength. Thus it is that his great equine tribe is still prominent to-day, not only in Australasia, but in many other parts of the world as well. And, as we have said, it will be something like a calamity if the claims of this stout, hard-fighting, docile strain of blood is ever, even for a season, overlooked.

#### COLONIAL HORSEMEN IN ENGLAND.

According to turf statistics received by the mail, the Sydney boy, F. Wootton, was second on the list of winning jockeys with 129 successes, not 126, as was cabled out previously. D. Maher topped the pole with 139 winning mounts, and W. Higgs was third with 124. During the season Maher had 491 mounts. He rode 91 seconds and 56 thirds, and won in stakes for his patrons £59,388. His longest losing sequence was 17. His percentage of wins was 28.30. Wootton rode more frequently than Maher, having 601 mounts. He was second on 102 occasions, and third on 91. His longest losing sequence was 18. His percentage of wins was 21.46, and the stakes won for his patrons amounted to £33,686. Maher's record all round was therefore better. Fortune, however, decidedly favoured Maher (writes "Sporting Life"), in the removal by a month's suspension of his formidable rival, that wonderful boy, Frank Wootton, for there can be little doubt but for this the latter would have been at the head of affairs. Stanley Wootton, brother of Frank Wootton, rode three winners out of six mounts; the Sydney apprentice, W. Lea, seven winners out of 91 mounts; W. Evans, another Australian, was once successful out of nine tries; while J. E. Pike rode two winners out of 19 mounts. The New Zealand jockey, L. H. Hewitt, rode 21 winners out of 231 mounts.

#### JUDGING AT SHOWS

At a recent show in America a novelty was introduced in the horse exhibits by which the stereotyped judge was eliminated and the awards made by the exhibitors. Each one voted on the merits of other horses except his own, the exhibitor whose horses were under inspection being disqualified to vote on his own entries. In this manner an expert judgment was obtained of each exhibit in competition with all the other competitors and the horse receiving the highest number of votes was awarded the prizes. It was a unique innovation in judging horses in the show ring, and gave every exhibitor an impartial verdict on the merits of his entries as compared with competitive exhibits. The system operated to the entire satisfaction of exhibitors, and will be repeated next season. The idea seems an excellent one, and if it was generally adopted it would do away with much of the grumbling against the awards that invariably goes on at every agricultural show.

#### CALIFORNIA'S ANTI-BETTING BILL

This is the latest Bill against race betting to be introduced into the Californian Legislature:—Every person who, within the State of California, for himself, or as agent for, or employee of, any person or persons, firm, company, or corporation, sells, or offers for sale, buys or offers to buy, issues or offers to issue or in any manner, whether by agents or themselves, disposes of, purchases or acquires any interest in any pool, or in any pool ticket, certificate, writing or other evidence of payment, acceptance or deposit of money or other thing or things of value, staked upon the result of any running, pacing or trotting race or contest between horses, mares or geldings, or makes or offers to make any bet or wager laid

on the result of such a race or contest, or receives or pays over any money or article or thing of value, the ownership or right to possession of which has been, or is to be determined by any such race or contest, or rents or leases any building, structure, room, apartment, place or premises whatever, or permits the same to be occupied for any of the above purposes, is guilty of a misdemeanour and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars, nor more than one thousand dollars, or by imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding one year, or by both such fine and imprisonment. It is thought the Bill will pass both Houses.

#### THE WELLINGTON STAKES.

The big event on the programme for to-morrow at Wellington is the Wellington Stakes, a five-furlong dash for two and three-year-olds. Armlet and Gipsy Belle are the only two of the latter age engaged. Armlet, when running in Auckland, managed to effect a surprise by beating the crack two-year-old Broadsword, and it will be of interest to note whether that was only a flash in the pan or whether Mr. Greenwood's filly is capable of repeating the victory. Those left in at the time of writing, are the following, but of course the number will be considerably reduced:—

Mr. W. E. Bidwill's b g Expansion, by Birkenhead—Immersion, 2yrs  
 Sir Geo. Clifford's br c Applegarth by T. admill—Gold Leaf, 2yrs  
 Sir Geo. Clifford's b c Broadsword, by Clanranald—Sageard, 2yrs  
 Sir Geo. Clifford's ch c Sharpshooter, by Clanranald—Weather-eye, 2yrs  
 Sir Geo. Clifford's b c Kilwinning, by Kilcheran—Success, 2yrs  
 Mr. T. H. Lowry's br c Meriwa, by Merriwee—Lady Helen, 2yrs  
 Mr. Highden's ch f Celano, by Pilgrim's Progress—Aello, 2yrs  
 Mr. J. Monk's b f Gipsy Belle, by Stepniak—Belle Clair, 3yrs  
 Mr. P. P. Neagle's br c Theodore, by Merriwee—Heavenly Twin, 2yrs  
 Hon. J. D. Omond's br c Xylophone, by Birkenhead—Banjo, 2yrs  
 Mr. H. Whitney's b f Aema, by Stepniak—Couronne, 2yrs  
 Mr. J. R. McDonald's ch c Kina, by St. Ambrose—Seashell, 2yrs  
 Mr. H. Gaisford's b c Tawhaki, by Menschikoff—Armillia, 2yrs  
 Messrs. W. G. and G. L. Stead's br c Nautiform, by Multiform—Rattler, 2yrs  
 Mr. C. Machell's br c Cymbiform, by Multiform—Saucer, 2yrs  
 Mr. G. D. Greenwood's b f Armlet, by Menschikoff—Armillia, 3yrs  
 Mr. O. S. Watkin's br f Sea Queen, by St. Ambrose or Grand Circle—Sequin, 2yrs  
 Mr. E. J. Watt's blk c Bally Shannon, by Merriwee—The Shannon, 2yrs

#### ELLERSLIE TRAINING NOTES.

#### GETTING READY FOR THE TAKAPUNA MEETING.

#### TUESDAY.

Nearly all the work was done on the grass track, which was in capital condition. The Takapuna Cup horses are in good form. Pohutu did a good solid gallop on the tan, running round in 2m. 3 2-5s.

Advocate, Lord Seaton and Epsom Lass were associated together for six furlongs, the former two finishing together in 1.21 3-5.

Leonator and First Gun, assisted by Master Delaval for the first five furlongs, took 2.0 3-5 to finish nine furlongs. First Gun seemed unable to pace it with Leonator.

Paritutu did the best gallop of the morning running round the track in 1.54. Maheno and Rimlock did like tasks in 1.55.

Dainty finished in front of a stable mate in a six furlongs' sprint in 1.22 4-5. Manapouri, alone, knocked 4-5sec off this time.

Blue Mountain and a companion galloped once round in 2.1, the former in front. Tuku Tuka was leading Rose-like and another, but stumbled, and was just beaten over half a mile in 53 1-5.

Rarata beat Censure over six furlongs on the sand in 1.20 1-5. Michaeloff easily held The Heathen over a solid-run six furlongs on the sand in 1.20 3-5.

Hard Rock and Imprimus spurted four furlongs on the sand in 50 2-5, finishing together.

Mentira and Bully were companions over nine furlongs. Mentira bolted away, and got a big break; the round took 1.57 4-5.

Escamillo easily held Hyperion in a fast-run four furlongs in 50 3-5. Carmania and another sprinted.

After breakfast Miss Time beat Tarina over four furlongs in 50 3-5. Lochbuie easily held Luscombe over nine furlongs in 2.4 2-5.

The Stepniak colt beat Sunneton and Fighting Fish over four furlongs. Ben

Johnson's half-brother led The Stroller over once round in 2.0 4-5.

Explosive galloped freely on the tan. Waihuka easily held Octoroon for half a mile in 52 4-5. Zinna and Aristos finished together over four furlongs in 50 2-5.

#### ALL-ROUND HORSEMEN.

A recent sporting sensation in England last week was undoubtedly "Danny" Maher's sudden and quite unexpected determination to distinguish himself over hurdles, which he duly did by winning on Dafila at Kempton Park. Maher has not the remotest intention of taking to cross-country work as a profession, and, moreover, is not in the least likely to figure in the pigskin again during the present jumping season. The Kempton Park performance originated in a chaffing challenge on the part of Defila's trainer, Frank Hartigan, who made a small wager with Maher that he would not accomplish the feat of riding a winner over hurdles. In the past many jockeys have, of course, shown themselves equally proficient at both branches of the sport. An example which suggests itself is, of course, that of W. Halsey, who reversed the usual order of things, for he rode innumerable winners over a country before he set himself seriously to acquire fame on the flat. At the present time, however, Hare and Aylm are in the habit of figuring at both games, though the latter's flat-racing is nowadays confined to the Continent. As regards a bygone generation, it is recorded of Fred Archer, who was one of the best men over a hunting country that ever crossed a fence that he won a steeplechase at Bangor when a boy of eleven; while his rival and contemporary, Fred Webb, steered The Scot into fourth place for the Grand National while yet in the zenith of his fame as a flat-race jockey. In Auckland we have a fine instance of an all-round horseman in Brady, who is equally at home on the flat, over hurdles, or across country.

#### THE JERSEY LILY SELLS OUT.

That Lady de Bathe should see fit to dispose of her breeding stud may cause sundry expressions of regret, but it certainly cannot occasion much surprise (says an English exchange). The breeding of racehorses, as the famous actress so well puts it, is a "game for millionaires," and though to those who can afford to produce their own thoroughbred stock the pursuit must be a very fascinating one, it can scarcely be expected to pay from a commercial point of view. Moreover, Lady de Bathe has experienced the wisdom of purchasing what may be termed "ready-made" racehorses for though her ladyship has had very bad luck with animals bred by herself, she has picked up some extraordinary bargains at the sale ring and elsewhere. Few owners can ever have done so well with three purchases of this sort in one season as has "Mr. Jersey" with Yentoi, Maud Mackintosh, and Briole, the latter, who cost no more than 450 guineas at the sale of Lord Wolverton's horses in training, being probably the biggest bargain of the lot.

#### THE OUTSIDERS' YEAR.

The flat racing season in England which has just concluded, has indeed been an exceptional one (writes the "Australasian's" London correspondent). Interest has, as usual, been chiefly centred in the doings of the three year olds, and after their performances in the spring and early summer it is strange indeed to find Your Majesty and Langwm standing out as undoubtedly the two best of their age. The pair have not once met throughout the season, but neither has suffered a single defeat since Ascot. Your Majesty, who was badly beaten in the Two Thousand Guineas, did not run in the Derby, but Langwm only managed to finish a poor third in the Blue Riband of the turf, and it then hardly appeared possible that he would eventually prove himself vastly superior to Signorinetta and Primer, who finished first and second on that occasion. Only a month ago Langwm actually gave Primer 21lb and a neck beating over a mile and two furlongs; whilst Signorinetta has not even been placed in any of the three races which she has contested since the Epsom meeting. Her astounding double event in the Derby and Oaks stands out as one of the most inexplicable occurrences in the history of the turf. Amongst the older horses the same variation in form has shown itself, and the three Cup performers—The White Knight,

Radium, and Torpoint—have beaten each other in turn. An undoubted champion in the unbeaten colt Bayardo has certainly been found among the two year olds, but with regard to the big handicaps, in and out form has again been remarkable, and not within the recollections of the oldest racegoers has there ever been such a sequence of successes for rank outsiders. Indeed, in the twenty handicaps which have attracted chief attention since the season opened in March last, only two favourites have proved successful, and with the victories of Elmstead (Stewards' Cup), Simonson (Duke of York Stakes), Marcovii (Cambridgeshire Stakes), Santeve (Liverpool Cup), and Old China (Manchester November Handicap), together with those of Rubio (Grand National Steeplechase), Norman III. (Two Thousand Guineas), and Signorinetta (Derby), the season of 1908 will long be remembered as the "Outsiders' Year."

#### THE WELLINGTON CUP.

The Wellington Cup was run for at Trentham yesterday, and the result must have been something in the nature of a surprise. The splendid field of nineteen lined up at the barrier, a result that must have been particularly pleasing to Mr. Pollock, the club's handicapper. So far as Aucklanders were concerned, the issue was considered to be largely between All Red, Husbandman, and Sir Frisco, although Sir George Clifford's crack three-year-old had gone somewhat out of favour owing to some rather indifferent gallops on the training track. Ikon was another who had a good many supporters, but the actual winner was not fancied locally at all. This proved to be one of the light weights in Blue Ribbon, who, coming with a fine run at the finish, beat Muskerry by a neck after a very exciting finish, with Husbandman in third place. The winner is a four-year-old chestnut mare by the Auckland-bred stallion Bluejacket from Yattaghan, by Nordenfeldt—Yattacy, by Yattendon—Ecstasy, by The Marquis—Lady Exeter, by New Warrior. Last season Blue Ribbon started on eight occasions, her solitary victory being in the Wakanui Handicap at the Ashburton autumn meeting.

#### A FAMOUS WAR HORSE.

"Old Faithful," of the Fifth Field Artillery, United States army, has been ordered to be put on the retired lists with all the honours due to long and faithful service (says the "Breeder and Sportsman.") Old Faithful, who used to be known as Putnam, and later as Peking, is a horse, and there is not an officer or enlisted man in the entire service who has not listened to the stories of this old horse's wonderful intelligence and his splendid battle record.

At the beginning of the Spanish-American war Putnam, as he was then called, was young and strong, and was earning a livelihood as a draught horse in New Haven, Conn. The Yale Battery was then organised, and among the animals procured for pulling the ordnance of that command was Putnam. Putnam took to army life as a duck does to water, and in less than six weeks what he didn't know about pulling an artillery gun carriage was not worth knowing.

The fame of the animal spread throughout the regular and volunteer armies, and as one of the regular commands ordered to Cuba needed a first-class intelligent artillery horse, Putnam was transferred to the regulars, and went to Cuba in time to take part in the campaign that ended in the capitulation at Santiago. He made such a fine record at El Caney and in the assaults on Santiago proper that when the war was over Putnam was brought back to the United States and sent to Fort Hamilton, in Brooklyn, as a "casual" to recuperate from the strenuous service he had gone through.

A few months at Fort Hamilton made a new horse of Putnam, and early in 1899 he was ordered to Manila as one of the artillery horses of Battery F of the Fifth Field Artillery, under command of Capt. Reilly. The fall of 1899 was one of the most strenuous in the history of the Philippine war, and during October and November of that year old Putnam did the work of half a dozen horses, participating in every engagement that the troops under General Swan fought in the expedition through Cavite Province.

The following year came the Boxer outbreaks in China and the organisation of the allied armies for the rescue of the Peking legations. The Ninth United States Infantry and a battery of field artillery were sent to China to represent the United States in that