

Stevens. They came here with a big reputation. Flyers of the first water, they are, to be sure. But you must bear in mind that everything will be new to them—path, men, and tactics; then they are hardly acclimatized. (It is true that they are so fresh from their country that they had not time to lose their form either). On the whole, whatever their quality, they will be at a slight disadvantage. But it is quite impossible to form a correct estimate of their merits as compared with those of the Continental riders until we have seen more of them. They cut a fine figure on the saddle in their practice work, and look like champions, that's all."

"Major" Taylor, the colored comet of the United States, has challenged the world to a match for any part of £1000, best two out of three heats. The most, if not all, the American cracks have drawn the color line against him. It would, perhaps, be more correct to say it's the speed line, for the "Major" is a great rider. He talks of coming to Australia, where I have no doubt he could get a match or two. If not, there are plenty of events to compete in, and be beaten, like most of the other world's champions who tried their prowess against Australian athletes.

Dr W. Close Erson, the popular Mayor of Onehunga, has forwarded a telegram to the Hon J. G. Ward worded as follows:—"As Mayor of this borough and representative of local authority, shall be glad if you will facilitate the passing of the Cycling Bill this session, which will not only relieve local authorities, but will also encourage general physical development of the young residents of our town and the Auckland district. (Signed.) Dr Close Erson, Mayor of Onehunga."

The Hon William T. Jennings last week sent the following telegram to Mr J. A. Cooper:—"Second reading of Cycle Bill comes before Council this afternoon. Will probably pass this session as many are in favour.—William T. Jennings."



[BY SPINNAKER.]

The Northern Rowing Union have decided to open the rowing season on Saturday next, October 13, by a procession of boats from all the Rowing Clubs. Mr W. Swinnerton has been appointed captain of the day, and to arrange the programme.

Mr Seymour Thorne George, vice-patron of the St George's Rowing Club, has with his usual generosity notified the Committee of his intention to present a silver cup for competition in stump outriggers during the coming season.

The date of the annual meeting of the New Zealand Amateur Rowing Association is fixed for Saturday, 3rd November.

A cable from London states:—"Hellings, the New South Wales swimmer, won the 100 yards championship of the Southern Counties in 55 1-5th sec, beating Rubell, the Austrian champion, by a yard.

The third annual meeting of the delegates to the Northern Rowing Union was held at the rooms of the Amateur Sports Club on October 3. Mr W. Swinnerton occupied the chair. The report and balance-sheet showed the Union to be in a good position, the balance to credit for the year being £10 3s 7d. The officers for the ensuing year were elected as under:—President, Mr J. H. Witheford, M.H.B.; vice-presidents, as last year, with the addition of His Worship the Mayor (Mr D. Goldie), and Messrs O. Ranson, A. Kidd, H. Bratt, A. H. Nathan, L. D. Nathan, B. Logan, J. McKail Geddes; hon secretary and treasurer, Mr J. Thomson; auditors, Messrs A. G. Fookes and A. M. Patterson.

The Wellington Rowing season was formally opened on Saturday, September 29, by the Governor. The weather was not at all favourable, which rather damped the proceedings.

The Northern Rowing Union intend to hold a regatta on December 15.

The death of George H. Hoamer is reported from Carney Hospital, Boston, Mass., on August 28, after a lingering illness. He was at one time a prominent oarsman in America.

The Lyttelton Rowing Club held their twenty-second annual meeting last week.

The general committee of the Auckland Anniversary Regatta Club are to meet every Monday evening, we hope all the members and delegates will attend regularly and make the 1901 Regatta a success.

The Parnell Sailing Club's first series of races are set down for November 16.

November 9th is fixed for the formal opening of the yachting season in Auckland.

A meeting of the general committee of the Auckland Yacht Club was held last week. There was a full attendance. Mr J. Wiseman (commander) in the chair. The resignations of Mr C. P. Murdoch (vice-commander), Mr W. Jagger (rear commander), and Mr R. Masefield (member of committee) were read. After some discussion it was resolved, "That the resignations be not accepted to-night; that the gentlemen be requested to consider their decision; and that Messrs Haines, Hardy, and Edgcumbe interview Messrs Murdoch, Jagger and Masefield, as a deputation from the committee on the matter." The race programme for the season was fixed as follows:—Class O (46 footers), Class D (30-footers), 24 footers, 18-footers, and Patikia, March 9; general handicap. Thelma Cup, March 23. Club cruises, December 8 and February 23; club picnic, January 19. It was decided to accept the Parnell Sailing Club's measurement rules for Patikia—The sum of £38 10s was allocated for prizes for club races in addition to the Cups presented. Two delegates were elected to represent the club in the Auckland Anniversary Regatta Committee, also the Sports Club.

The Auckland Rowing Club have altered their uniform which will now be scarlet and black singlet, with black trousers and black cap with club's monogram worked in scarlet.

The annual meeting of the Ponsonby Regatta Club was held in the Ponsonby Club Hotel last Friday. Mr R. Masefield presided, and there was a fair attendance. The balance-sheet, showed that the receipts, including trophies valued at £41 12s, were £272 17s, and the expenditure £251 0s 2d, leaving a balance in hand of £21 16s 10d. It was resolved to hold the usual regatta on December 15. Mr Thomas Peacock was re-elected patron, and Mr James Kirker president. The vice-presidents of last year were re-elected, with the addition of Messrs C. McMaster, J. O. O'Brien, T. Warnock, W. Webber, and J. Clave; treasurer, Mr S. D. Hanna; secretary, Mr A. Cooke; committee, the committee of last year was re-elected, with the addition of Messrs Redmond, A. Wilson, W. H. Cooke, J. I. Knight, O. Riley, Winthorpe, Mr T. T. Masefield was elected permanent chairman of the committee.

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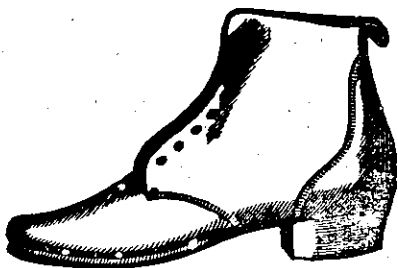
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