

I am sorry to report that Mr J. J. Russell is still confined to his room through illness.

The name of Taranaki has been bestowed on Mr S. McGuinness' Howitzer gelding, the name Francotte having been disallowed.

It is reported from Melbourne that Bobadil has again gone wrong. He has been withdrawn from the Newmarket Handicap, Oakleigh Purse and Oakleigh Plate.

The Egmont Racing Club notifies in this issue that bookmakers, their clerks or agents, will not be admitted to the grounds of the Egmont Racing Club on Wednesday and Thursday, February 20 and 21.

Boreas was left out of the Century Stakes to be run at the Autumn Meeting of the A.R.C. by mistake. Advance will probably be in Australia, but in the Sou'-wester gelding the Porirua stable will have a doughty representative.

Maltster has been backed to win about £5,000 in the Newmarket Handicap. It is not known whether the support came from the stable. The dual Derby winner has also been backed with freedom for the Australian Cup.

Formula has not been pleasing in her work lately. Probably the filly is feeling the effects of the continual strain. The long postponement of the Takapuna Meeting must have its effect upon those horses who were being wound up for the 29th ult.

Mr J. A. Drake, the American owner, who is said to have made a million dollars out of his racing ventures in England, says "English horses race in plates that weigh 2lbs apiece. My man, Wishard, puts on aluminium plates, and my horses, not being encumbered, run more easily and win."

The stewards of the English Jockey Club, having examined certain other starting machines that have been submitted to them, have approved the Barrasford Starting-gate Machine. Hitherto Gray's Australian starting apparatus has been used in England.

At last the Takapuna Jockey Club has decided upon the dates for the Summer Meeting. The first day's racing will take place on Saturday next, the second on the day declared to be the public holiday in honour of the Anniversary of Auckland, and the last day is fixed for Saturday week, February 16. I suppose the Papukura Racing Club will now postpone the meeting which was fixed for the latter day.

The acceptances for the C.J.C. Midsummer Handicap are poor indeed. Only five horses are left in the big handicap of the Summer Meeting. Paladin 9st 3lb is left, while Strathnairn has gone out, Cameo 8st 11lb, Skobelev 8st 4lb, Huku 7st 11lb, and Scottish Minstrel 6st 12lb are the other contents. The topweight and Skobelev will probably fight out the issue, though if Scottish Minstrel is ever to justify the admiration of his party he has, with 6st 12lb, a big opportunity to so distinguish himself. I fancy that the weight may tell with Cameo, and I also believe that Paladin is quite able to give him 6lbs over a mile and a-half. Gossip from Wellington seems to infer that Cameo and Mr Victor Harris' horses ran for each other at the mutt, but I expect both Paladin and Cameo will go for all they are worth in the Midsummer Handicap.

During the course of a hurdle race at Tamberumba last week (says the Sydney "Mail") some well-intentioned people re-erected some hurdles that had been knocked down by the competitors, and when the field came round the second time the obstacles had to be negotiated in their original state. At the conclusion of the race a protest was lodged on the ground that no one had a right to interfere with or re-erect the fallen hurdles. The matter has been sent on to the A.J.C., and though that club has no rule directly bearing on the point, the secretary, Mr Oliborn, finds that according to the Grand National rules in England hurdles or fences must be left untouched and unrepaired during the course of a race. Precedent here supports the protest, for on one occasion at Randwick the late James Ashworth re-erected some hurdles, and was reprimanded by the A.J.C. towards for doing so. Mr Oliborn considers it one of the unwritten laws of racing that hurdles or fences should not be interfered with from the time a race is started until it is finished.



ROTORUA JOCKEY CLUB.
ANNUAL RACE MEETING, FEBRUARY 27, 1901.

NOMINATIONS for the following events close on Saturday, February 2, at 10 p.m.:—
HANDICAP HURDLES, of 25 sovs. One mile and a-half. Nomination, 12s 6d; acceptance, 12s 6d.
MAIDEN HANDICAP, of 15 sovs. One mile. Nomination, 7s 6d; acceptance, 7s 6d.
PONY HANDICAP, of 12 sovs. Six furlongs. Nomination, 6s; acceptance, 6s.
ROTORUA CUP, of 40 sovs. One mile and a-quarter. Nomination, 20s; acceptance, 20s.
ELECTRIC HANDICAP, of 20 sovs. Six furlongs. Nomination, 10s; acceptance, 10s.
HACK HURDLES, of 12 sovs. One mile and a-half. Nomination, 6s; acceptance, 6s.

Handicaps about February 6.
Acceptances February 15 at 10 p.m.
Nominations must be accompanied by the necessary cash.

For further particulars see posters.
O. E. CLARKE, JUNR.,
Hon. Sec.

Anticipations.

THE TAKAPUNA J.C. SUMMER MEETING.

[BY PETRONEL].

The opening day of the above gathering is now definitely fixed for Saturday next, February 9, when, given fine weather, there should be a large attendance of the public. Everything is ready for the people, who will find that their comfort has been well looked after. The course and surroundings are looking very fresh and green, and the going should be in first-class order if no more rain falls between now and Saturday. The postponement from January 29 may have affected the chances of some of the horses engaged, and it may have been of value to others. I do not suppose, however, that the delay will have made a very big difference in the form. The second day's racing is not yet fixed beyond this, it will take place on the day declared to be a public holiday, and the meeting will be concluded on Saturday, February 16. The T.J.C. expressed the intention of inviting the Imperial troops to witness the racing, but on Wednesday the Reception Committee conferred with the committee of the Auckland Racing Club, and the latter body agreed to let the committee have the use of the Ellerslie Course and Stands, so that there will be a sort of military fair, to which the public are to be admitted on payment of one shilling. Seeing that the Anniversary Day has always been one of the Takapuna Jockey Club's racing days this arrangement seems rather strange. However, the soldiers may prefer play to work, so those who go to Takapuna may not be denied the pleasure of having a look at them. I do not know that I can make any alterations in my selections for the various races. I still prefer Bluejacket for the big race. He has been moving and doing well since last writing, and providing the course is not heavy I think he will win. I shall select as place-getters on the various races the following:—

Takapuna Cup.

BLUEJACKET	1
DAYTREE	2
ST URSULA	3

Maiden Plate.

THE FRENCHMAN	1
DONNYBROOK	2
BALBIERNIE	3

Calliope Handicap.

CRESSY	1
HIKIPNE	2
DESPAOTH	3

Hurdle Handicap.

TIM	1
NOR'-WEST	2
VOLTRIGER II	3

Zealandia Handicap.

ST OLGA	1
LADY AVON	2
TOMMY ATKINS	3

Hack Handicap.

THE WASTER	1
BALBIERNIE	2
BACCHUS	3

Pony Handicap.

FIRST WHISPER	1
CUISINE	2
IVAN	3

Stewards' Handicap.

ROSELLA	1
WINSOME	2
VAL ROSA	3

TARANAKI J.C. AUTUMN MEETING.

[BY PETRONEL].

Next Wednesday this popular meeting commences, and if the promise of success is borne out then the executive members will be heartily congratulated. The handicaps of Mr Evett and Mr Parry have brought forth good acceptances on the whole, though the Flying Handicap has only six contestants out of the twelve nominated. Cora Linn's absence is probably due to the fact that she is now the property of Mr Victor Harris, and I shall expect to see her name in the entry lists for the C.J.C. Midsummer Meeting. The owner of Strathnairn, Paladin and Co. is a very shrewd gentleman, and he will most likely win a race with the Foulshot mare at the next gathering at Riccarton. For the big race on the opening day of the Taranaki Meeting the acceptors number seven. Coronet has kept his place, and as he is very well I believe he will run a good race. Tortulla may have improved since the racing at Wellington, and if she has I think she will go very near winning. Last season she ran better than she has done so far this term, but the Porirua trainer has such sterling trying tackle that I do not think the Torpedo mare would be left in unless she had a big chance of scooping in the 300 sovs going to

the first-place-getter in the Taranaki Cup. Battleaxe is given a good chance—perhaps the chance of his lifetime—with 7st 10lb. Still he is not the horse he used to be, or rather he has not for a long time run up to the form he used to show. He has not won a race since he was disqualified at Wanganui Mr Watson had a turn of luck at the Wellington fixture, and as it never rains but it pours—especially has this old adage been proved in Auckland lately—he may score a well-deserved win with Battleaxe on Wednesday. Materoa, 7st 8lb, is nicely weighted, and on her Wellington running should have something to say at the finish of the race. This pretty little mare has run very well on several occasions, and I am rather in favour of the idea that she is better now than she was at the Hutt Will-o'-the-Wisp has been in the dark for some little time, and though he is so well treated that he may effect a surprise, I should like to see him put in a performance before taking him on my side. I think that Legion of Honour and Brown Bill will be probably outclassed, and I shall give the places to—

TORTULLA	1
CORONET	2
MATEROA	3

For the other races my selections are as follows:—

Stewards' Handicap.

OKOARI	1
TOMMY ATKINS	2
FULL CRY	3

Henui Hack Handicap.

TUPARA	1
LIABLE	2
TUKAPA	3

First Hurdles.

WAIWERA	1
TROUBADOUR	2
WHEU	3

First Hack Hurdles.

PUANGA	1
HAUTONGA	2
MAMAKU	3

First Hack Handicap.

DARTMOOR	1
BOWMAN	2
WATERFORD	3

Flying Handicap.

FULL CRY	1
TOMMY ATKINS	2
OKOARI	3

[BY OUR TARANAKI CORRESPONDENT].

Good average acceptances have been received for the Taranaki Cup Meeting next week. Seven remain in the Cup, with final payment due next Saturday night. The various events may result as follows:—

Stewards' Handicap.

OKOARI OR SCOUT.	
SULTANA	1
COMA	2
ST ADA	3

Open Hurdles.

WAIWERA	1
WHEU	2
GOWEIE	3

Hack Hurdles.

MAMAKU	1
AVANTE GABDE	2
HAUTONGA	3

Taranaki Cup.

MATEROA	1
TORTULLA	2
CORONET	3

Mill Hack.

TUKAPA	1
WATERFORD	2
BOWMAN	3

Flying Handicap.

FULL CRY OR SCOUT.	
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THE CHRISTCHURCH J.C. SUMMER MEETING.

[BY PETRONEL].

This fixture takes place on Thursday and Saturday in next week. For the big race on the first day—the Midsummer Handicap—there is a poor acceptance, only five horses remaining in. The acceptances for the five other handicap events are not due till later on. My choice in the various events rests with the following:—

Midsummer Handicap.

PALADIN OR SKOBELEFF.	
Halswell Hurdles.	
ILEX OR DEERY.	
Hornby Welter.	

FASHION	1
ISMENE	2
CADET	3

Middle Park Plate

STEAD'S ELECT	1
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Lyttelton Plate.

STEAD'S ELECT	1
CALIBRE	2
BATTLE	3

Craven Plate.

BLAZER	1
FORMOSAN	2
HERMOSA	3

Inter-Provincial.

[BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.]

HAWKE'S BAY.

IMPROVEMENTS TO THE NAPIER PARK COURSE—IDALIA—CROWN PRINCE—MR R. PATERSON'S CASE—HAWKES' BAY J.C. BUSINESS.

February 5.

The Napier Park Racing Club have accepted tenders for the alteration to the weighing room, and the erection of a new stewards and Press stand, also secretary's office.

Mr T. H. Lowry of Okawa is having a couple of rising two-year-old fillies broken in. One of them, by Sou'-wester—Bijou, was bred by him, the other is by Stepniak from Madder, and was recently acquired at Mr J. F. Reid's sale of yearlings. Arthur Goodwin is supervising the youngsters' education.

Old Idalia, she was in her thirty-first year, passed away the other day at her owners, the Hon J. Ormond's, headquarters at Karamu. During her location there, a period of about ten years she only produced two foals, Mount Ida by Apremont, and Sir Launcelot by Dreadnought. The latter was one of the best, and Mount Ida gave to the Turf that genuine edition of horse flesh Ideal.

Trooper R. McCullough, the owner of Black berry, is weathering the contest all right in the Transvaal, as recent letters received from him contain the welcome intelligence that he was never better in health and spirits.

Though Crown Prince was taken to Pahiatua to run in the Cup there, it was deemed advisable, owing to the state of the track, to scratch him for his engagement. He was the only horse enquired for locally for the event, and the determined manner in which he was backed gave colour to the idea that it was all over in his favor bar shouting.

The Hawke's Bay Jockey Club will remove the disqualification from R Paterson on the 9th of April.

Messrs Stearn and Kennedy appealed to the Hawke's Bay Jockey Club from the decision of the Woodville District Jockey Club in paying the stakes in the Hack Scurry to Robin Gray, contending that the rider of that horse could not draw the weight when he weighed in. The Woodville Club wrote forwarding the evidence taken in the matter, and on that evidence it was resolved that the decision of the Woodville stewards be upheld.

The following business came before the Hawke's Bay Jockey Club last Friday:—H. Fairbrother wrote asking the Committee to investigate certain charges made by Mr Caulton concerning his riding of the gelding Warwick at the last meeting of the Club. Resolved that the secretary interview Mr Caulton, and if he wished to lodge any complaint it will be investigated at the next monthly meeting. The Wanganui Jockey Club wrote forwarding a letter addressed to that body by T. Quinlivan, senr., and asking if the Hawke's Bay Jockey Club committee had anything further to add to their letter of December 12 last. It was resolved that this committee has nothing to add to the letter of December 12, except they consider the forfeits due for The Frenchman now on the unpaid forfeit list should be paid before the question of granting a trainer's license to Quinlivan is considered. The following new members were elected:—Dr Cleghorn and Messrs H. A. Bonner, T. Bennett, D. C. Campbell, C. Canning, G. Ebbett, J. Hart, M. Herrold, E. D. Holt, A. Johnstone, D. T. Murfitt, Mini Taretahi, P. Sainsbury, H. G. Smith, and E. White. It was resolved that the stakes be paid over to Mr E. W. Patterson in accordance with the decision of the Appeal Court, and that the owners to whom these stakes had been paid be requested to refund the same.

It is with pleasure that I have to place on record that the Summer Meeting of the Hawke's Bay Jockey Club resulted in a profit of £353.

Mr W. Beilby, who has for a number of years so ably occupied the position of clerk of the

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