

were kept at work every day, out of season. If owners of broodmares would insist on patronizing the sires that are in the harness and kept at work daily, the result would be profit to the owners of stallions, and also to the patrons, as the offspring would be stronger, and there would be an improvement in the feet and legs of our horses; also in endurance and constitution.



MR JOHN BROMLEY,  
An English Tenor, appearing with Mr W. B. Parkyn at the Opera House.



[By HURM].

TROTTING FIXTURES.

August 10, 14 and 16—N.Z. Metropolitan T.C. Spring.  
NOMINATIONS.

July 26—N.Z. Metropolitan T.C. Spring.  
HANDICAPS.

August 2—N.Z. Metropolitan T.C. Spring (first day).  
August 12—N.Z. Metropolitan T.C. Spring (second day).  
August 15—N.Z. Metropolitan T.C. Spring (third day).

ACCEPTANCES.  
August 6—N.Z. Metropolitan T.C. Spring (first day).  
August 12—N.Z. Metropolitan T.C. Spring (second day).  
August 15—N.Z. Metropolitan T.C. Spring (third day).

Mr O. S. Howell, after a long occupancy of the President's chair of the Plumpton Park Trotting Club, has resigned. Mr J. L. Carl is the new president. Mr Howell remains in office as a vice-president.

The Tahuna Park Trotting Club last week paid over the sum of £500 to the Tahuna Park Recreation Company, as the price of the purchase of the latter's lease and improvements at Tahuna Park (says "Director"). The lease has five and a half years to run, with compensation for certain improvements if the lease is not renewed.

One day recently Mr L. Wilson, of London, Teddington, had the misfortune to lose his standard-bred trotting sire Huon. The horse has been ailing for some time (says "Director"), evidently suffering, and his owner had made up his mind to put the animal out of his misery, but

a friendly bullet was not required. Huon was bred by C. Y. Hamlin, of Buffalo, New York, in 1879, and was sired by Hamlin's Almont Junior, out of Polly, by Hamlin's Patchen, out of George M. Patchen. Huon's sire was a son of Almont, whilst his granddam was Miss Minchin, by Young Woolful. Huon was imported to New South Wales by Dr Slade, who has paid several visits here. Huon was a capital performer, and holds a mile record of 2min 28½sec. He sired, amongst others, Huon Junior, Judge Huon, Huon Prince, Polly Huon, Silvie Hue, Narragansett, and Uranus, all good to fair performers. Mr Wilson purchased the horse a few seasons ago, and his stock, the oldest of whom are now rising two, are distinctly promising. Huon showed a lot of quality. His head partook of a thoroughbred character, and he possessed rare shoulders, strong back and loins, and good all-round bone. During the past few months the horse would not lie down, and, owing to easing his injured near hind-quarter, his off-leg filled. An examination of the limb showed that the round hip-bone had slipped out of its socket, the latter showing signs of decay. Though the horse would not, in the natural order of things, have lived much longer, Mr Wilson deeply regrets his loss.



Photo by A. L. Cleave, Ellerslie.  
TAMAKI B M (BY Cuirassier—Katipo) who goes to Honolulu shortly.

Australian Racing.

THE V.R.O. GRAND NATIONAL HURDLE RACE.

On Saturday last the great Winter Carnival of the V.R.O. was inaugurated at Flemington. This year special interest was taken in the event by New Zealanders, and more particularly by Aucklanders, for their champion, Record Reign, was engaged in the Grand National Hurdle Race, and though he had been weighted by Mr Dakin with the staidier of 12.12, the majority of punters in Auckland would have him on their side, with the result that it was difficult by mid-day on Saturday to back him at 5's, and some of the "ring" refused to lay Castor's son at all. He ran a gallant race, as the subjoined account will tell, but found the task of giving away 43lbs to a well-bred one like Shoddy (Trenton—Chintz) just too much. Though beaten, Record Reign was far from disgraced, and that he made a good impression on the cognoscenti was evidenced by

the fact of the cables being set to work on Saturday night to ask Mr Dan McLeod to set a price on his horse. Whoever buys him will get a good, honest horse, who can always be relied upon to do his best. The following was the result of

THE GRAND NATIONAL HURDLE RACE, a handicap of 15 sovs each, with 1,000 sovs added; second, 200 sovs; third, 100 sovs. Three miles.  
Mr B. Ledgerwood's Shoddy, by Trenton—Chintz, 9.11, Powell ... 1  
Mr C. Chaloner's The Pirate King, by The Admiral—The Fortune-teller, 11.8, Ferguson ... 2  
Mr A. Miller's Carbinier, by Carbine—Barley, 11.7, Mooney ... 3  
Mr D. McLeod's Record Reign, by Castor—Winnie, 12.12, Moore ... 4

Other starters: Cynic, 11.1; Beau Brummel, 10.12; Repeater, 10.12; Nansen, 10.11; Mystery, 10.9; Eight Honourable, 10.5; Mine, 10.3; Bickshaw, 10.0; Dictator, 10.0; The Rock, 9.12; Forest, 9.12; Bruce, 9.12; Arcadia, 9.9; Gray Ronald, 9.9; Korowai, 9.5; President, 9.4; Bingara, 9.0; British Peer, 9.0; Sodawater, 9.0.  
Betting: 9 to 2 against Carbinier, 10 to 1 Arcadia, 7 to 1 Beau Brummel, 12 to 1 The Pirate King, 14 to 1 Record Reign, 20 to 1 Shoddy.

From a good start The Pirate King was first away, and with Shoddy made most of the running, with Record Reign in a good position all the way. The Pirate King passed Shoddy at the last hurdle, and looked all over a winner, but Shoddy's light weight stood him in good stead, and the son of Trenton finishing gamely, forged ahead amid a scene of intense excitement, and won by three quarters of a length. Carbinier and Record Reign had a good go home for third honours. Carbinier (under the whip) securing the position by a head. A length and a half separated the second and third horses. Time, 5min 52½sec. Arcadia struck the hurdles heavily in the last round, and was thrown out of the race.

WINNERS OF V.R.O. GRAND NATIONAL HURDLE RACE.

Yr.	Owner.	Winner.	Wgt.	Tm.
1881	Mr M. Loughlin	Sir Peter	11	4 5 42½
1882	Mr T. Naghten	Rhesus	9	12 5 41
1883	Mr M. D. Foster	Dizzy	9	4 5 48½
1884	Mr D. S. Wallace	Don Quixote	11	18 5 18½
1885	Mr C. H. T. H rt	The Agent	11	6 0
1886	Mr J. Moffat	Ocean	9	4 5 35½
1887	Mr S. G. Cook	The Yeoman	9	8 6 25½
1888	Mr J. O. Inglis	Malna	11	7 6 7
1889	Mr S. Miller	Redleap	9	8 5 54½
1890	Mr R. Phillips	Ellerslie	11	1 6 10
1891	Mr G. Glascock	Crusoe	9	12 6 20½
1892	Mr S. Miller	Redleap	11	12 5 58½
1893	Hon. G. Davis	Tim Swiveller	11	0 6 22½
1894	Mr T. P. Mahifold	Apsley	9	8 0
1895	Mr J. E. Brewer	Emmalea	11	6 5 53½
1896	Mr J. Farrell	Buzzi	9	0 5 52½
1897	Mr J. Farrell	Buzzi	9	11 5 57½
1898	Mr J. E. Brewer	Fat	11	0 6 0
1899	Mr J. Farrell	Valdis	10	0 6 7½
1900	Mr A. McKerzie	Aquarius	9	0 5 52½
1901	Mr Ledgerwood	Shoddy	9	11 5 52½

Shoddy, in the latest files of the Sydney papers, was quoted at 20 to 1 for the race. The previous week he was on the 50 to 1 list. Meanwhile he had run a poor third at Moonee Valley, finishing twenty lengths behind the winner, and that is so far as I can ascertain his only metropolitan performance. The winner was bred by Mr James Wilson at Geelong (Victoria), and is by Trenton from Chintz, who is a daughter of that old warrior, First King. Although the rich prize did not come our way, there is a crumb of comfort in the fact that the sire of the winner was bred in Auckland by Mr Thomas Morrin, and thus the New Zealand thoroughbreds are kept green in the memory of the Australian public.



MR W. B. PARKYN  
"The Cornish Entertainer" now appearing at the Opera House.

