

Visitors to the Thames and those travelling through en route to the Upper Thames and Te Aroha districts will find the Governor Bowen Hotel both central and well appointed. Mr J. S. Shanks, under whose capable management the hotel is gaining in popularity, is ever on the alert to do his best to secure to his patrons the utmost comfort and civility, and those who give this hotel a trial will find everything to their liking.

The "Melbourne Punch" says Jaques Inaudi, the "mental marvel," who has been arousing great interest in Sydney at the Tivoli Theatre, is an Italian, being a native of Beziers, where he started life as a shepherd boy. His great gift of calculation was first discovered during a row between two cattle dealers, who came to blows during an argument over some sums of money that were to be paid. The disputants were taken before a magistrate who, whilst considering his judgment, was startled and surprised by the young Inaudi, who had forced his way into the court, and insisted on pointing out the man who was in the right and by calculations proving the correctness of his judgment. Amongst scientific men the youngster with the unique gift attracted much notice and caused discussion, and has always continued to do so, his faculty for figures being so extraordinarily abnormal as to perpetually be a puzzle to scientific and unscientific folk alike. Dr. Charcot, an eminent French brain specialist, holds that Inaudi has two brains.

The Brouchs, by latest advices, were finishing a season in Calcutta; after which they go on to Hong Kong, via Rangoon. The tour closes on the 28th April.

## LATE RACING.

### OTAHUHU TROTTING CLUB'S SUMMER MEETING.

There was a good attendance at the Otahuhu Trotting Club's Meeting at Alexandra Park, when some interesting sport was witnessed. Results was as follows:—

**TRIAL TROT HANDICAP**, one and half miles.  
Ross ind, 31sec, Greenwood ... 1  
Jingo, 24sec, Bird ... 2  
Won by five yards. Dividends, £1 3s and £3 16s.

**EPSON TROT HANDICAP**, one and a half miles.  
The Autocrat, 1 sec, Sandall ... 1  
Waitekauri, 3sec, Bird ... 2  
Won by ten yards. Dividends, £4 10 and 13s.

**SUBURBAN PONY HANDICAP**, six and a half furlongs.

Annoyed, 10 3, O'Coa ell ... 1  
St Leonada, 8 9, Buchanan ... 2  
Won by half a length. Dividends, 16s and 8s.

**SUBURBAN TROT HANDICAP**, two miles.  
Little Ben, 35sec, Lowe ... 1  
Harold Abdullah, 19sec, Chatteris ... 2  
Won by fifteen yards. Dividends, £2 13s and 15s.

**TELEGRAPH TROT HANDICAP**, one mile.  
La Grand, 22sec, Greenwood ... 1  
Sir Robert, 17sec, Patton ... 2  
Miss Huon, 16sec, Lowe ... 3  
Won by fifteen yards. Time, 2min 50sec. Dividends, £2 13s and 15s.

**TRAMWAY TROT HANDICAP**, one mile and half.  
Jingo, 26sec, Bird ... 1  
Bert, 29sec, Forber ... 2  
Duchess of Rothschilde, 31sec, McBride ... 3  
Won by twenty five yards. Time, 4min 11 1/2 sec. Dividends, £1 13s and £1 5s.

**ALEXANDRA HANDICAP**, five furlongs.  
Inspiration, 6 10, V. Cotton ... 1  
Ukase, 7 7, Rose ... 2  
First Whisper, 7 13, Jenkins ... 3  
Won by a length. Time, 1min 7sec. Dividends, £7 5s and £2 15s.

**HIGH-CLASS TROT HANDICAP**, one mile and half.  
Sierra, 10sec, Bird ... 1  
Thorndean, 15sec, Murfit ... 2  
Duke C. 6sec, Cotton ... 3  
Won by three yards. Time, 3min 58sec. Dividends, 15s and £2 4s.

### METHODS OF HORSE SWINDLERS

Probably in no business are so many tricks and wiles practiced as in horse dealing. It is safe to affirm that thousands of horses are sold throughout the country every year under false conditions, and so skilful have "fakers" become that it takes a very clever and experienced man to detect the doctoring tricks of those who are anxious to sell a bad animal to the best advantage.

Perhaps the commonest of all faking or bishoping, as it is called—a term derived from a man named Bishop, who during the eighteenth century obtained a great reputation for making old horses appear young—is in relation to a horse's teeth.

At full age a horse has forty teeth, and not until the fifth year are they all visible. Six months later the "nippers," or front teeth, become marked by a natural cavity, and it is the presence or absence of these marks that certifies the animal's exact age.

As the horse gets older these marks wear away, and it is then that the copper or faker sets to work to make fresh cavities as found in a horse of the age he wishes to represent. The surface of the teeth is cut out with a steel tool, and the black lining of the groove, which must be visible, burnt in with nitrate of silver or some other chemical. In this way horses which are often over eight or nine years of age are sold as five-year-olds.

The age of a horse is often increased as well as reduced by means of faking the teeth. A three-year-old will often be transformed into a five-year-old by means of chiselling out the side milk teeth with which horses are furnished up to their third year, when they are supplanted by the permanent ones. The extraction of the former, of course, brings on the latter much quicker than would be the case in the natural order of things, thus making a horse appear much older than it really is.

The faking of broken-winded horses is an art in itself, so to speak. It is generally accomplished by means of faking the teeth. A three-year-old will often be transformed into a five-year-old by means of chiselling out the side milk teeth with which horses are furnished up to their third year, when they are supplanted by the permanent ones. The extraction of the former, of course, brings on the latter much quicker than would be the case in the natural order of things, thus making a horse appear much older than it really is.

The groom will thereupon explain how the animal got loose and ate a bushel of oats and half a truss of hay in the night, and that he was afraid of losing his place if he said anything about it. This explanation will in nine cases out of ten satisfy the intending purchaser, and remove any doubts which he might have had.

Doping is a term usually applied to the trick of making horses appear spirited and high-steppers by means of drugs and chemicals. An animal is often made to pick up its legs in the quick nervous style of a thoroughbred by having the back tendons of the leg rubbed with turpentine, cow itch and ammonia, which burns like fire, and makes the animal prance with pain.—("Breeder and Sportsman.")

### THE PRIMITIVE HORSE.

Some weeks ago a report came from the West that the party supported by the William C. Whitney Fund, which is exploring for relics of extinct horses had made important discoveries. The fossils of a herd of five small horses had been found. They belonged to the species of three-toed horses, which hitherto had been known only from fragments of skulls and limbs. The party now in the West had found four fore limbs and ten rear limbs in a perfect state of preservation, several skulls and one skeleton nearly complete. The fossils were shipped to the Museum of Natural History, New York. Prof. Osborn, of the museum, said that the find would add an important stage to the history and development of the horse in America.

There was a period when naturalists looked upon the horse as a very isolated and singular creature, because it walked so differently from the other animals, and the naturalists, therefore made it an order by itself, under the title of "Solid hoof." Prof. W. H. Flower, F.R.S., director of the natural history department of the British museum, asserts that knowledge obtained during the past fifty years as to the comparative anatomy of the horse, and as to the myriads of extinct forms of animal life, has shown that the horse was only one of a large group of animals. The professor says that he is compelled to assume Darwin's theory of derivation or descent of one form of animal from another. The group of animals known as the hoofed animals are divided into two great and distinct groups. One group comprises the horse and its most immediate allies, such as the donkey and the various forms of zebras, which are practically almost the same in their structure

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Entrance 2s. Post Entries.

Steamers leave Ferry Tee at 10.45 a.m. and 1.30 p.m., calling at Devonport, and returning at 5.30 p.m.

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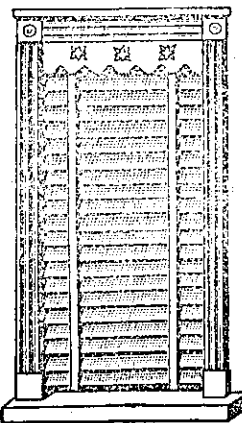
ALEXANDRA PARK,  
SATURDAY, MARCH 21.

### EVENTS—

Bending Race  
Polo Ball Race  
Polo Cup, four furlongs  
Potato Race  
Hurdle Race, one mile  
Ladies' Bracelet—Costume Race  
Electric Race, three furlongs  
Waterloo Melee

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