



(By "Scrutator.")

The following are the fixtures for the New Zealand Representative Team:—

- July 18—Against New South Wales.
- July 22—Against Combined Country Team.
- July 25—Against New South Wales.
- July 29—Against a City Team.
- August 1 to 8—Against Queensland Representatives.
- August 12—Against Combined Northern Districts of New South Wales.
- August 15—Against Whole of Australia, at Sydney.

AUCKLAND RUGBY UNION.

FIRST ROUND COMPLETED.

CITY LEADING FOR THE CUP.

The first round of the competition for championship honours for 1903 was concluded on Saturday afternoon, when all three first-grade Rugby matches were played at Alexandra Park, the meeting between Grafton and Ponsonby on No. 1 ground attracting a large attendance. The game was stubbornly contested, and ended in a win for Grafton by eight points to three. On the No. 2 ground City beat Suburbs by twenty-two points to nil, and on the No. 3 ground Newton defeated Parnell by thirteen points to nil. City now hold a lead for the Cup, having won five of the six matches played, the remaining game, that against Newton, played at the opening of the season, resulting in a draw.

PONSONBY V. GRAFTON.

Ponsonby and Grafton met on No. 1 ground. Mr Katters had charge of the game as referee. Grafton won the toss, and Ponsonby kicked off. Loose play followed, the blue and blacks pressing their opponents down the line. A passing run by Kiernan, McKenzie, McGregor and King took the leather into Ponsonby's 25. King looked very like scoring before being collared by Ussher. Soon after Ponsonby was penalised, and Huddleston had a shot at goal, and the ball striking the upright bounced into play. The Grafton backs then put in a neat passing run, McKenzie kicking out near Ponsonby's 25 flag. Huddleston had another unsuccessful shot at goal, from a penalty, and Ponsonby again forced. A few minutes later Kiernan marked, and Luckie again failed to score. Laing picked up the leather from the loose play that followed, and passed to D. McGregor, who transferred to McKenzie, and Robinson in his turn receiving the ball dashed down the field, and fell on the leather before he was over the line. Following the kick-off Ponsonby rallied, and with a sweeping rush carried the leather into their opponents territory. From a scrum near the line Lendrum got possession, and dashed over the line, scoring the first try for Ponsonby. Francis failed to convert. (Ponsonby 3, Grafton 0). A succession of rushes by the Ponsonbyites kept the leather in Grafton 25. Kiernan then relieved by a free kick. Soon after McKenzie marked and punted over to Lendrum, who sprinted up the field, and sent the ball out into Grafton 25. Grafton then forced. A few minutes later the bell rang, terminating the first spell.

From the kick-off it was to be seen that Grafton was making a more determined attack. With a forward rush they sent the ball out into Ponsonby 25. Give and take play then followed. Soon after Lendrum made a fine run, and kicked the leather over the Grafton line, where Matheson relieved by kicking the ball over the dead-ball line. The Blue and Blacks headed by Doran, then dribbled into Grafton 25. A succession of free kicks enabled Grafton to transfer the leather into safer quarters. Soon after Kiernan picked up and ran right through the Ponsonby backs, scoring for Grafton. Cullen failed to register a goal. (Grafton 3, Ponsonby 3). For the next few minutes Grafton kept the ball in their opponents territory. Polson then relieved by forcing. A passing run by Kiernan, McKenzie, and King took the play into Ponsonby 25. Not long after D. McGregor dashed over the line and grounded the ball between the posts. King took the kick and landed a neat goal. (Grafton 8, Ponsonby 3). Time was called soon after with no addition to the score.

NEWTON V. PARNELL.

(Newton 13, Parnell nil.)

Newton and Parnell met for the first time this season on No. 3 ground. The match was a very interesting one, and resulted in an easy win for Newton by 13 points to nil. Soon after the start W.

Heath registered Newton's first try, which Eaton converted: Newton 5, Parnell nil. A little later J. Heath, by a really brilliant piece of work, scored, Eaton failing to add the major points: Newton 8, Parnell nil. Parnell got on a good passing run from an opening by Smith, the Maroons nearly scoring. Shera got a run in from Parnell's 25, and dodging several of his opponents was thrown out of touch. A lot of line-out play followed. Rowe saved Newton from the pressure, and Pillenger was also prominent. H. Rowe made a pretty run to the corner flag. Brash got over the line, but lost the ball, and Parnell forced. G. Murray made a run, and passed to Eaton, who, however, lost the ball. The latter made another opening, and passed to Long, the latter transferring to Heath, who was collared in time to avert a score. Parnell had to force again a little later from a long kick by Brasl. Rallying a little Parnell got on two good runs, headed by Twiname, but both failed, and the Maroons were again on the defensive. Pillenger started a rush, and passed to Long, who beat three or four men, and scored cleverly between the posts, Eaton converting: Newton 13, Parnell nil. The game ended without further score, Parnell rallying from time to time, but without avail. Mr Knox had charge of the game as referee.

CITY V. SUBURBS.

(City 22, Suburbs nil.)

On No. 2 ground City met and defeated Suburbs, after a one-sided game. Mr Blakey had charge of the whistle. The Red and Blacks got quickly to work from the kick-off. After a little play at centre Asher took the oval on the bounce

ness the second meeting this season between Rovers and Native Rose. The match was the best of the season, being both fast and willing, and when the bell rang Native Rose were the victors by 3 points to nil. In the first spell Native Rose had the best of the game, but in the second half Rovers had decidedly the upper hand, and pressed their opponents repeatedly, Native Rose having to save several times. Rovers kicked off, and play was very open for a time. A splendid passing run was put in by Native Rose backs, and play was in Rovers' quarter. Here Graham picked up smartly, and, eluding the opposing backs, got over and scored, but the attempt at goal failed. Play ensued on the Rovers' side half-way. In the second spell a forward rush by Rovers took play to Natives' quarter, but Price was the means of relieving, and the ball was sent out at Rovers' corner flag. They relieved and took play back, Keating showing prominently. Rovers kept the play close to Natives' lines for some time, but Thompson eventually got the ball away by a long kick, and for most of the time play was in the centre. Near the end, however, Rovers pressed, and Natives saved several times. No other score was made, however, and Natives were the winners of a well-contested match. Mr Polham, of Auckland, acted as referee, and his decisions gave entire satisfaction.

The first junior match, Rovers II. v. Turua, resulted in a win for the former by 18 points to 3. Reed, Lawson, and Newland each scored tries.

In the second juniors True Blues beat Rovers III. by 6 points to nil. Adams and Hindman each scored tries for the winning team.

and a try), beat Old Boys, nil. Albion won from Lyttelton by default. At Dunedin, on Saturday, University (twelve) beat Southern (five), Kaitorai (twelve) beat Union (nil), Zingari (three) beat Dunedin (nil), Alhambra (fourteen) beat Pirates (nil).

THE NEW ZEALAND TEAM FOR AUSTRALIA.

The four representatives appointed by the New Zealand Rugby Union to select twenty-two players to represent the colony in the tour of New South Wales, and Queensland have chosen the following players:—Backs: R. McGregor, Asher, and Kiernan (Auckland); Wallace (Wellington); D. McGregor, Wood, and Harvey (Canterbury); Stalker and Duncan (Otago); Stead (Southland). Forwards: Tyler, D. Gallagher, Nicholson, and Long (Auckland); Armstrong, Udy, and McMinn (Wairarapa); J. Spencer (Wellington); Cook and Fanning (Canterbury); Porteous and Given (Otago).

ROTORUA UNION MATCHES.

The third series of Cup matches in the second round of the Rotorua Rugby Union competition were played on Saturday. City met Whakarewarewa, and won by twenty-seven points to nil. Kahukura beat Arawa by eleven points to eight.

SECOND FIFTEENS.

City won from Suburbs by default. Parnell beat Newton by eight points to nil. Ponsonby won from Grafton by default.



C. W. Fuller, Photo

A Scrum.—Ponsonby v. Grafton.

PAEROA UNION MATCHES.

The Rugby Union contest last Saturday was between West and Suburbs, and resulted in a win for the former by six points to nil. Tries were scored by Casley and J. Silcock. Mr Power, of Waiohonga, acted as referee.

The schoolboys' match was between True Blues and Black Rose, the latter winning by nine points to nil. Tries were secured by J. Shaw (two) and McArthur.

HAMILTON UNION MATCHES.

In the Hamilton Rugby Union senior competition, on Saturday, the No. 1 team defeated Suburbs by eleven points to seven. For the winners, tries were scored by T. Moore, G. Moore, and A. Evans, one being converted by Hughes. For Suburbs, Roach scored a try, and Livingstone potted a goal from the field. The junior match was drawn, the teams being Suburbs and No. 1 second fifteen. There was no score.

SOUTHERN CUP MATCHES.

At Wellington, on Saturday, Old Boys and Wellington drew (twenty-two points each), Ponoka beat Oriental by five points to nil, and Melrose beat Athletics by eleven points to nil.

At Christchurch, on Saturday, Linwood nine points (goal from a try and a mark), beat Christchurch, three points (a try); Sydenham, five points (a goal from a try), beat Merivale, four points (potted goal); Canterbury College, twelve points (a goal from a try, goal from a mark,

THIRD FIFTEENS.

Ponsonby A won from Grafton by default. City A beat Suburbs by twelve points to three. Parnell B won from Ponsonby B by default.

SECONDARY SCHOOLS' MATCHES.

King's College I. beat Prince Albert College I. by twelve points to nil. St. John's College I. beat Grammar School I. by three points to nil. King's College II. beat Prince Albert College II. by thirty-six points to nil. Grammar School II. beat St. John's College II. by twelve points to nil.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS' COMPETITIONS.

A Grade. Nelson-street beat Beresford-street by six points to nil. Parnell beat Richmond Road by eighteen points to three. Wellesley-street beat Napier-street by default.

B Grade.

Bayfield beat Remuera by three points to nil. Newmarket beat Ellerslie by eleven points to nil. Chapel-street beat Mount Roskill by fourteen to nil.

from a long kick, and cleverly beating three men scored in a good position. Scott converted. (City 5, Suburbs nil.) The game was confined to the forwards for quite a spell. Suburbs rallied, and their vanguard got into City's 25, the Red and Blacks forcing from a long kick. City's forwards got together, and worked back to Suburbs' territory, where Asher scored from a passing run by the back division. He nearly scored, but was penalised for holding the ball. City continued on the aggressive, and after a sturdy defence on the part of Suburbs. Young passed out from a scrum near goal, and transferred to George, who in turn passed to Gladding, on the wing. The latter scored a rather easy try. Scott failed to convert, the wind spoiling a good attempt. (City 8, Suburbs nil.) City's forwards rushed through shortly after, and Morrin scored near the goal. Scott added the major points. (City 13, Suburbs nil.) Within a few minutes the Red and Blacks again got a dribbling run on, and W. Tyler scored. Scott made a good attempt, but failed to convert. (City 16, Suburbs nil.)

About a-quarter of an hour after the opening of the second spell City's attack was effective. George took the ball on the bounce, near goal, and dashed over, scoring a neat try. Scott failed to convert. (City 19, Suburbs nil.) Asher made an opening, and the backs got a run on. Gladding scoring a nice try. Scott made a poor attempt. (City 22, Suburbs nil.) The whistle sounded at this stage.

THAMES UNION MATCHES.

There was an excellent attendance at Parawai last Saturday afternoon, to wit-