

grant. Upon this crowding of strong strains came Multiform, who belonged to the same female line (18) as Trenton, and was by Hotchkiss, a son of Musket (3), by Toxophilite (3), and was out of a mare by Oxford (12), son of Birdcatcher (11); while Multiform's dam was by Sterlingworth (3), a son of Sterling (12), by Oxford (12), son of Birdcatcher (11), and his granddam was by Rosicrucian, son of Beadsman (13)—same family as Goldsborough—who was by Weatherbit (12), son of Sheet Anchor (12), by Lottery (11), by Tramp (3). Fisherman ran back to a mare by Whisker (1), to whose family Sir Hercules and Musket were very inbred. Multiform's dam ran back to a Whisker mare, and Rosicrucian's dam traced back to a mare by Middleton (1), a near relation to Whisker, Whalebone and Partisan. I incline to believe that with such an accumulation of fine families and individuals Beragoon or any other horse can worry along without an English taproot. I have worked in all these figures and individuals, and repeated them as they appear, not with any idea of convincing Mr. Robertson, but to hammer the facts into horse-fanciers not quite so learned as he, and to convince them that even a scientist and a college don can occasionally make blunders, especially when dealing with a subject which, for one to be accomplished at, needs practical experience as well as book learning.

MORE AUSTRALIAN IMPORTATIONS.

A cable announces that the race-horses Saint, Pasha, John O'Lorne and Little Goose have left Newmarket for Australia. In reference thereto the "S.M. Herald" says:—John O'Lorne, who was bred in Ireland at the Tully stud by Colonel Hall Walker, is brother in blood to the sensational St. Leger winner, Night Hawk. Like Night Hawk, he is a son of Gallinule, and his dam, Fair Jean, is full-sister to Jean's Folly, dam of Night Hawk. Fair Jean is by Ayrshire from Black Cherry, by Bendigo from Black Duchess, by Galliard. John O'Lorne, who is six years old, was submitted to auction at the Newmarket December sales, and was purchased by the British Blood Stock Agency for 770 guineas. They, no doubt, were acting for an Australian breeder. Little Goose was also sold at the December sales to Sir Gilbert Greenhall for 620 guineas. She was sent into the ring by Lionel Robinson, who was selling off several mares from his Buckenham Hall stud. It is extremely unlikely that Little Goose is coming to Australia, as the price paid was far in excess of any sum an Australian breeder would be likely to give for a brood mare.

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TURF TOPICS.

The Foxton Racing Club celebrated its fiftieth anniversary last week.

Beldame continues to improve steadily. She is getting more solid. Hector Gray, Berry, and several southern riders will be present at the Takapuna meeting this week.

Los Angeles is coming down in the weights, and if he stands training should win a race soon.

Autumnus may get better towards the autumn, but he is one of the most disappointing of good-looking horses racing.

Captain Webb was represented by two winners at Gore in Miss Kellerman and Golden Webb.

Blue Garment has not been on the tracks for some time. No doubt the rest will do the gelding good.

Waimangu, one of Soult's finest sons, has bidden farewell to the race track, W. Toxer having leased the horse for stud purposes.

Zeus, one of Mr. Greenwood's cast-offs, and Byron, another, both ran well at Wellington.

Monglow, by Treadmill, who was bred by Mr. Greenwood from the high-priced Sunglow, sister to Boniform, won a 50sovs hack race at Gore.

Sylvia Park has come out as the sire of a trotter called Alexandra Park, a double winner at Petone last Friday.

Prince Soult, who was not presented at Trentham, was particularly well handicapped there for one of the events.

For the Dunedin Cup there are twenty-three nominations, some of the horses being also engaged in the Wanganui Cup.

Nominations for the Wanganui Cup are not as large numerically as could have been expected, but most of the good horses are engaged.

Mr. G. D. Greenwood's Counsel was sold during the progress of the Wellington meeting, and goes to Australia.

Martius defeated Emperador at a difference of four pounds over a mile in the first weight-for-age race at Trentham, and Emperador's owner complained at that gelding being set to meet Martius on four pounds worse terms over the same distance next day.

Our King can give a taste of his great speed and weight-carrying ability, but distance settles him, though he got six furlongs at Foxton with success and won a double there.

Mr. A. R. Durrant, owner of Sinapis, nominated that mare for the Sydney Cup out of curiosity to see how the handicapper would treat her. Mr. Durrant is a non-betting owner.

Probably Midnight Sun would do better if he were given a course of treatment that some trotting horses get. A light season at the stud might benefit him.

Stepniak died at the age of twenty-one years. His full sister Stepfeldt is still alive at the age of twenty-three, and produced at twenty-one Reputation, who is probably the best two-year-old in the Dominion to-day.

J. Williamson's pair of juveniles Graduate and Lady Penury are on the improve and usually do all their track work in company.

Tatterley and Midnight Sun were shipped to Sydney on Friday last from Wellington to H. Raynor. Tatterley should win a race or two in Australia, and the Oakleigh Handicap may be his mission, amongst other engagements.

Selection's half-sister is spelling at present, having run into a wire fence. The filly will probably be taken to the South Auckland meeting next month.

Walter Percival will be at the Takapuna meeting, and can go to scale at 6.7. The lad should get plenty of riding with the light-weight division.

An owner, who some time ago won a good stake with a horse, was approached by several sporting acquaintances from his district and received a hint that he should "turn it on." He did not take the hint, however, but suggested that his friends should smoke.

The two New Zealand-bred mares, Goodwin Sands and Lucille, both won recently in New South Wales. The former scored at a suburban meeting and the latter at a country fixture at Inverell.

A number of two-year-olds that have been racing at the Metropolitan meetings this season want a spell off. A good deal too much has been asked of a number of them if they are wanted for next season's spring engagements.

No fewer than seven of the yearlings sold on account of the Waikanae Stud were purchased by clients of J. Lowe, the well-known Trentham trainer. The Messrs. Riddiford bought six and Mr. Frank Armstrong one.

Taimanupo has not been in his generous moods of late on the tracks. Last week, both on the tan track and also on the course proper, he seemed determined not to show the watch holders anything that would be likely to cause them to make an onslaught on the totalisator. He just went his own gait, and would not be hustled.

To such an extent is it possible to back a horse in Sydney with the bookmakers that a lady speculator has won nearly £30,000 over an ex-New Zealand mare which has won four races lately, each time at remunerative odds. To win that sum over the best of good things in New Zealand from the totalisator would be quite impossible.

D. Monaghan is having a treat of oats at the present time. Both Tragedy King and Tact had to be eased up in the busy time, and to make matters much worse the valuable filly Mon Emma died recently, however, Dame Fortune may spare this deserving owner-trainer some of her favours at the Takapuna J.C. gathering, and perhaps smile on the fortunes of the Prince and Soultikoff.

Kakama, who looks lovely to the eye, on Thursday did not seem to strike out in her usual free and graceful style, and it took her 2min 5sec to run round the course proper. On Saturday, however, she responded much better, and galloped the circuit, easing up at the end, in 2min 2 sec—a very great improvement.

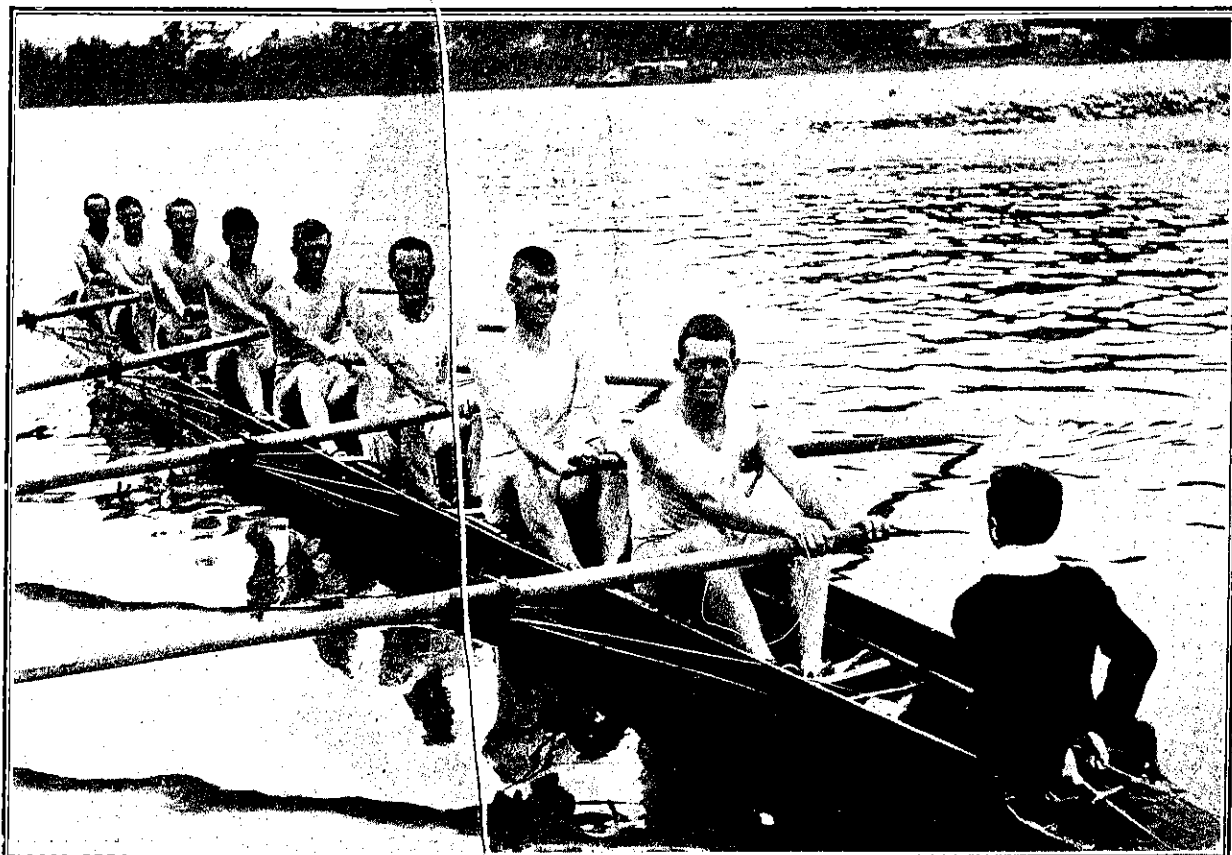
Adherent (5yrs), one of the youngest steeplechasers that has won in the Dominion, is in steady work again at headquarters, and will probably be sent to New South Wales later on, when the owner, Mr. George Durnett, becomes settled.

The reason Postillion was not raced on the concluding day of the Wellington meeting was because he slipped on the tan while at exercise in the morning, and it was thought he might have injured himself thereby, though there was nothing to indicate that he had done so.

There will be one or two more sales of thoroughbred yearlings before the present racing season closes. The result of the sales so far this season has been to show that there is a demand for anything pretty choice. Old-time prices are, however, not realised, for the reason that so many breeders are breeding for themselves, and that colts and fillies, promising as well as did the Muskets, Nordenfeldts, St. Legers, Castors, Seaton Delavals, and Stepniaks, are not to be met with in any numbers. Usually two or three stand out from the rest in appearance and sell well, and the prices for the rest are out of proportion.

Mr. Bidwill, of the Wairarapa, is a good sportsman who encourages the classic races, and has occasionally missed good chances of winning handicap events in order to race his horses in the fixed-weight races, for which they have not always been of quite good enough class. It was pleasing to see Reputation, Vocation and Imagination each racing so well at Trentham. It is very probable that the Wairarapa sportsman will send Reputation over to Sydney for the Spring meeting of the Australian J.C. to compete in the Derby as he did that colt's brilliant half-brother, Provocation, who was not seen at his best on Australian soil, though he displayed great brilliancy there. Provocation is a very nice horse, and his achievements will be fresh in the memories of racegoers. His yearlings are very highly spoken of.

Mr. W. E. Bidwill's cheque from the Wellington R.C. fell a little short of £1000.



THE WANGANUI CHAMPION EIGHT, WHO ARE TO ROW THE AUCKLAND ROWING CLUB EIGHT-OARED CREW FOR THE SOMERVILLE CHALLENGE SHIELD ON THE WAITEMATA ON SATURDAY NEXT, JANUARY 31. Reading from left: J. Cotterill, E. Rylands, H. Sharpe, W. Coombes (stroke) M. Crotty, M. Coutts, C. Dustin, D. Corby (bow), P. Hartshorn (cox).