

the present time. With the North Island-bred Pure Gold it is quite a different story. She is undoubtedly possessed of pace, and when she learns to cross her fences with a little more confidence she should win a good hurdle race. When she won at Wingatui recently the company was anything but select, but she ran away from her field at the finish and jumped the last two or three fences very quickly. The Southland jockey, J. Olsen, who travelled with Sister Radius, will ride the mare in Melbourne, but may not go on to Sydney with her. In the event of not visiting New South Wales, Olsen will hurry back to New Zealand in order to be present at the local Easter fixtures.

The Martian mare, Pretty Jane has recovered from a mild attack of strangles, and Hogan hopes to have her fit and well again for the River-ton R.C.'s meeting at Easter. She may be given a race at the local meeting.

Master Jim, a half-brother to the North Islanders Mount Victoria and Perhaps, is going on the right way. He is a big fellow, and somewhat babyish in his ways, but he may reflect some credit on his sire Ahel (The Possible—Fair Nell) in the near future.

The Southland R.C. invariably encourages trainers by providing tracks

Cup fixture caused fierce heart-burning with a number of South Island jockeys, who were compelled to stand down and watch their more eager, physically fit, and keenly alert rivals carry off the plums of the meeting. Some nasty things have been hinted at in connection with the riding at the said Dunedin J.C. fixture, but, with minor exceptions, the allegations may be laid at the door of jockey jealousy and also to the talk of some sorely-smitten woolbrokers. There were not many unexpected winners during the three days' racing as far as expert judges were concerned, and thus a number of backers present from the North Island were able to advise their far-away friends to advantage—Altcar, Specialform, Gapon, and Gnome were cases in point—hence the stir in wool-broking ranks. As far as a number of South Island jockeys are concerned, they only have themselves to blame. They are slack as regards riding work, and fail to live the steady, regular lives of their northern opponents. Again riders do not, as a rule, get as much race-riding practice as northerners, owing to their districts and meetings being more widely scattered.

Reuben, winner of the Otahuhu Trotting Handicap in Auckland last week, like the runner-up, Eccentric, at one time raced in Southland. Reuben, who came to these parts as

CANTERBURY.

Silver Shield Recovered From Mishap—Stevadore and Nightwatch Amiss—Merry Lass Displaying Good Form Over the Battens—Con the Shaughran Schooling Well—Cherubini's and Emperor's Engagements—Notes on Akaroa Meeting—The Peninsula Cup.

(By Telegraph.—Christchurch Correspondent.)

MONDAY, March 9.

Silver Shield, who received a severe kick at the Dunedin meeting, has been recommissioned by G. Scobie, and the son of Menschikoff has quite thrown off the effects of the mishap.

While doing a gallop at Riccarton a few mornings ago Stevadore, in Cutts' stable, burst one of his feet and is unlikely to race again this season. Nightwatch, in the same stable, has gone wrong in one of his forelegs. This is exceedingly bad luck for Sir Geo. Clifford, as the colt was galloping in rare style before the mishap.

G. Scobie has just broken in the two-year-old gelding by Menschikoff from Savoga, and the three-year-old gelding by Delaware from Polly Prim, both of whom were bred in Australia. They are a promising pair, and should both be capable of winning races next season.

The Elevation colt Veritas, in Cutts' stable, is still confined to his box, not

have been ridden, and have taken kindly to the work.

Con the Shaughran was given another trial over the pony hurdles on Saturday with White Cockade as schoolmaster, and gave a much better display than the latter, who stuck his two toes in at the second fence and refused to jump. Buster was then sent to give a lead, and Con the Shaughran jumped after him in much improved style.

Two of R. J. Mason's team, Cherubini and Emperor, have been nominated at the Auckland Easter meeting. Emperor is also nominated for the Easter and Autumn Handicaps at Riccarton. Cherubini was not nominated for the two big races at our meeting, but he is engaged in the Challenge Stakes, of seven furlongs, the second day.

Mowbray and Salzburg, Mr. J. B. Reid's pair of smart three-year-olds, are now being trained by J. Prosser.

There was a lamentable lack of stand accommodation at the Akaroa meeting, and quite a number of the onlookers saw little of the actual racing. Next season it is proposed to make use of a hill just behind the grandstand for viewing the races.

Gold Seeker, who won the hurdle race at Motukarara, is a full-brother to Autumnus, but lacks his younger relative's brilliancy. The son of Treadmill was purchased by his present owner some years ago for 10gns., and is a most proficient jumper.

Quite the outstanding performance witnessed at Motukarara was that of Valhalla, who is credited with running six furlongs in the Maiden Plate in the phenomenal time for that course of 1min. 13 3-5sec. If the time and distance can be accepted as correct, it looks as if a Great Easter or Stewards' Handicap should have been well within the gelding's capabilities.

Glenfinnan's display in the Peninsula Cup stamps him as an arrant quitter, for turning into the straight his defeat looked almost impossible, but when tackled by Flower of the West and Thrax he compounded like a pricked balloon.

Only for mistaking the position of the judge's box L. Hegarty would probably have won the hurdle race on Sunbeam at Motukarara. He mistook a post nearly 100 yards up the course for the finish, and eased his mount up. When he realised his mistake it was too late to get Sunbeam going again, with the result that Gold Seeker won by a neck.

The race for the Peninsula Cup at the Akaroa Racing Club's meeting proved an excellent one, and Flower of the West, served by her right impost, just managed to defeat Thrax, who had 33lb. the worst of the weight. Mr. Buchanan's gelding, nicely handled by F. E. Jones, ran a really good race, but found the big weight just beyond his capabilities. Flower of the West was imported from England by her owner, Mr. A. Boyle, and Saturday's race marked her first appearance in a race over a distance. She finished very nicely, and should win more races when the class is not too high.

R. Berry is still leading for top place in the jockeys' list, but Deeley, H. Gray, Bell, Olsen, Conquest, and others have good averages. Deeley stands the best chance of catching Berry, as he is closer on his track now than he has been since the New Year. Traill has a good lead of Julian as a rider of jumping races.



THE FINISH OF THE TE AROHA CUP (1/4 miles).—GLOY (A. McMillan) wins from TINOPAI (J. Buchanan), with LADY ELGIVA (on outside) third.

and at the present time have six or seven circuits in commission for the use of gallopers and trotters respectively, and further improvements in this direction are promised after the local autumn gathering has been added to turf history. Meanwhile a number of new horse-stalls are in course of erection and should be ready for occupation during the first week in April, when the race-day bags are unfurled.

When jockey H. Gray passed through Invercargill on his way to Melbourne to ride Wallalo in the Australian Cup, a number of local backers noted the fact and supported his mount accordingly. Gray informed the writer that he had thoughts of returning to New Zealand as soon as possible after the V.R.C. meeting, and further stated that he would probably be found riding at the Southland R.C.'s Autumn fixture. The presence of Gray at a local meeting would tend to brighten the intellects of some budding Southland horsemen, who are apt to take their duties anything but seriously. The riding of B. Deeley, H. Gray R. Berry, and perhaps J. Olsen and F. E. Jones at the Dunedin

an uneducated horse from Canterbury, won a race at the Southland R.C. Autumn meeting of 1911, but did not then give the impression of developing into a high-class performer.

At Canterbury Park on Saturday the ex-New Zealand gelding Kopane, by Sir Laddo, at one time owned by Mr. "Highden," and now trained by T. Dwyer, won the Jumpers' Flat Race. Kopane won a small race or two last season, but has been in retirement for some time.

The Sydney "Morning Herald" is responsible for the statement that the most attractive bill of fare ever presented by any turf institution in New South Wales State, outside of Sydney, is that drafted by the Newcastle Jockey Club for its Cup meeting on May 16 and 20. The prize-money aggregates 2500sovs of which 1000sovs endows the Newcastle Cup, and 250sovs the Club Handicap on the second day. There are four races carrying 150sovs each, two of 125 sovs each and four of 100sovs each, so that owners and trainers are well catered for by that institution.

having recovered from the injuries he received when racing at Dunedin.

Mr. Rutherford's jumper, Daylight Bill, has been getting through some satisfactory work at Riccarton since his return from Dunedin. The racing he had at Wingatui has evidently smartened his jumping up considerably.

The high-priced yearling filly by Signor from Oriaua, purchased by Mr. A. W. Rutherford at the Bushy Park sales, has arrived at Riccarton. She goes into McAulay's stable to be broken in and trained.

Judith, the three-year-old sister to Thrax, showed a lot of pace in the Hawera Hack Handicap at Motukarara on Thursday, but she fizzled out badly at the finish.

It has not been decided whether or not Thrax will go to Waimate. It is getting too close to the autumn meeting at Riccarton to be going away from home.

Since being recommissioned, Merry Lass has been jumped, and her displays over the battens have been of a highly satisfactory nature.

The two yearlings in McAulay's stable, one by Downham—Neva and the other by Treadmill—Ingleneuk,



OTARAIA (J. O'Shea) WINNING THE GORDON HACK HANDICAP (six furlongs) FROM KING OF THE VALLEY (E. Warner) AND SPALPERION (A. McMillan) ON THE OPENING DAY OF THE TE AROHA JOCKEY CLUB'S ANNUAL MEETING.