



A YEARLING ROARER.

The yearling colt, half-brother (by Symington), to Craganour, for whom Sir William Nelson paid 6000 guineas last year, was recently the subject of litigation in England. A decision of contract was claimed by Sir William Nelson for alleged fraudulent misrepresentation, and breach of warranty, the youngster having developed roaring proclivities. V.S., reported to trainer Persse that the youngster was "grunting," whereupon Mr. Persse wrote to Mr. Somerville Tattersall, as under:—"I suppose you are aware that the half-brother of Craganour, purchased by Nelson last week for 6000 guineas, is a very bad grunter. I am quite aware that in purchasing yearlings one has to take one's chance, but at the same time one hardly expects the Sledmere Stud to offer a yearling for sale knowing that he is unsound. The only consolation is that I did not advise Nelson to buy the horse, and that he did so on his own." At a later date Mr. Persse had the colt tested, and found that it was a bad roarer. Ultimately the case was settled, Sir William Nelson to return the colt, and to have his choice of a colt from this year's Sledmere Stud yearlings.

Concerning the above mentioned law suit in connection with the Sledmere bred yearling purchased by Sir W. Nelson, last year, "Legeyt" writes in the London "Sportsman," recalling an incident in the career of the Derby winner Surplice, as narrated by "The Druid":—"Butler and Nat Flatman viewed the son of Touchstone in the paddock during his yearling days, and decided that from the 'throppling' noise he made when grazing, he must be a roarer. Lord George Bentinck, however, observing that nearly all the other fourteen yearlings in the same paddock emitted the same unwelcome music, cheered himself with the reflection that 'they can't be all roarers.' Surplice, of course, won the Derby and St. Leger, 1848, and by his victory in the former event was the means of wringing that historical 'splendid groan' from his breeder. As a coincidence, it may be mentioned that a half-brother of Sir W. Nelson's £6300 youngster, wrung quite a considerable quantity of of more or less 'splendid groans' from various folk on a later Derby day. Without going into the several causes of grunting, it is interesting to note that Arab horses do not suffer from this complaint when on their native desert. When Mr. Justice Darling suggested a settlement of the above-mentioned case out of Court, he can hardly have intended that the defendants should use the extreme measure which Mat Milton inflicted on a nobleman who complained that a hunter which the celebrated dealer had sold to him was a roarer. Mat, ironically asked him, after making four horses grunt, successfully, by a sudden blow of the fist, if that was what he meant, and wound up his discourse by giving him (the nobleman) a dig below the waistcoat, and an adjuration of "Why, you're grunting now—hang it, you're a roarer yourself. Be out of the yard with you."

THE TWO THOUSAND.

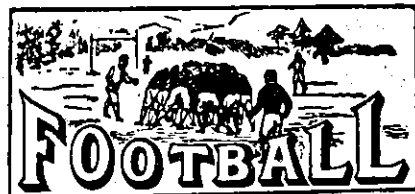
Not since Neil Gow barely defeated Lemberg in 1910 has there been such a race for the Two Thousand as that between Kennymore and Corcyra (says the "Field.") The pair were matched almost to a hair's breadth, and when they passed the post thousands of the spectators did not know which of the two had won. At the top of the hill Kennymore, who was on the right of Corcyra, came over a little to Lord Londonderry's colt. It was said afterwards that Kennymore stumbled, but from the stand it looked as if he swerved slightly to the left. At that distance one could not see if the two actually touched each other; but from that point to the end of the race they were side by side and very close together. Halfway down the hill Corcyra appeared to be something like a neck, or perhaps half a length in front. In the Abingdon Bottom Kennymore drew level, and a

moment later had an advantage of almost half a length. Then, for a second or two, it looked as if the bay was going to leave the chestnut, but Corcyra stuck to it with the greatest gameness, and, running on in fine fashion to the end, was only beaten by a short head. There were those who thought that Stern on the winner rather ceased riding about a third of the way up the hill, and when it appeared as if he was about to win cleverly, and it is quite certain that he did not push his mount on the middle of the hill as he did in the last fifty yards. Anyhow, no great superiority in jockeyship was shown by either of the French riders, and one thinks that after this race there will (in the future) be no great rush after foreign riding talent. Any of our best English jockeys would probably have done quite as well on Kennymore and Corcyra, but, all the same, it should be mentioned that neither Stern nor O'Neill had ever been up on the horses they rode before, and were, therefore, at some disadvantage. Corcyra appears to be a fairly easy horse to ride, but Kennymore requires a lot of holding together, and would probably go best for one who is accustomed to his style. What is certain about the first and second in the Two Thousand is that there is hardly a pound between them on a mile course. It was said—perhaps rather vaguely—that Corcyra would be better suited by the hard going than Kennymore, but Sir John Thursby's colt strode out freely enough, and appeared to be quite at home.

CONTINENTAL SWEEPS.

In commenting on some of the lotteries—racing and otherwise—conducted in foreign countries, a contributor to the London "Sportsman" says: "It may be contended that lotteries such as the Hungarian (authorised by the state) are drawn under conditions which preclude fraud. But are they? Here are brief particulars of a lottery about to be drawn. There are 110,000 tickets at £7, totalling £770,000. The prizes aggregate about £530,000—which, less 15 per cent.—brings the amount to be paid under £450,000 in other words, £320,000 is divided by the state and the ticket distributors. Then again, it is openly stated that the agents, by false lists, deceive foreign (English) clients as to the numbers of the tickets winning large prizes. It is notorious that several ex-gaolbirds are behind some of these 'guaranteed' Continental sweeps, and it is high time legislation stepped in—not to abolish wagering, sweeps, or betting, for that would be impossible—but to afford protection to the many who are interested.

The three-year-old Soult—Lady Hester colt Grand Marshal is a long time acting up to what was expected of him when Mr. "S. Rawdon" gave 800gns. for him as a yearling. (says the Sydney "Referee.") Although he had the minimum (5.7), Grand Marshal was unequal to getting a place in a mile handicap won by Sylvanmore (8.1), at Epsom. So far Mr. "Rawdon" has had no particular cause



H. S. Targett, a Sydney Rugby authority, makes the following appeal to the Rugby players of New South Wales through the medium of the "Sun," the intended visit of the New Zealand team to Australia towards the end of the present season being responsible for the humble entreaty. In a few weeks, says the Sydney enthusiast, the finest exponent of Union Rugby alive will invade our shores with the view of adding more scalps to their collective belts. They rather have the bulge on us too. They are as strong as ever they were. But our ranks have been sadly decimated by defections. Without playing a foul game they play a hard one. We don't. I implore (1) our men to play a hard game. I suggest diffidently that Union Rugby is not Postman's Knock. The invaders will tackle our men like 14 furies and a cyclone, with a typhoon thrown in for luck. I implore (2) our players to go for ankles and not necks. The New Zealanders will work out their system of attack on blackboards before they entertain the onlookers with a war-cry. I implore (3) our players to work up combination too. Brilliant individual play in football is fine stuff for the gallery to enthuse about, but it does not win



THE CORINTHIAN ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL TEAM, AUCKLAND—Back Row (from left): Mr. R. Bannister (Vice-President), E. Harvey (trainer), Morton, Coughlan, Sutherland, Mr. Geo. Kent (Vice-President), Mr. R. Sandham, Mr. Wright (referee). Front Row: Craig, Davies, Roberts, Sale, Shepherd (capt.), Rose, Davies, Bond.

Elbro, by Soult—Momi, won a Corinthian Handicap at the Victoria R.C. meeting this month.

The Moreton Handicap won by Moonbria at the Queensland meeting was worth £1000.

The Derby sweepstake in England and the fining of three men in heavy sums in connection therewith has been creating some interest at Home.

for rejoicing in connection with his various high-priced yearling purchases.

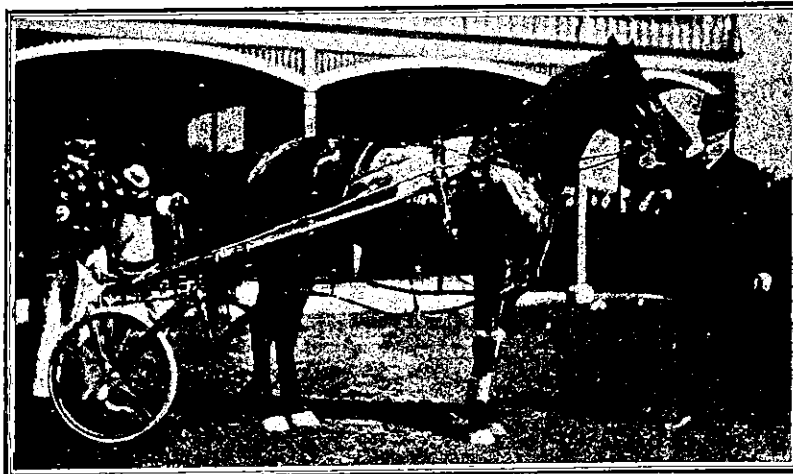
The Randwick trainer P. Nolan, one time of Auckland, trained three winners on the second day of the A.J.C. winter fixture. Hallmark in the Second Hurdle Race, Little in the Second Nursery, and Torone in the Second Steeplechase, the trio are owned by Mr. C. Hebden.

games. The visitors, who took the game seriously, will be conditioned men, one and all. I implore (4) our players to meet them on common ground in this important respect. If you've got to run a mile race, it is no good being tuned to the minute for a hundred yards' sprint. And our friends from the Dominion will play to the whistle—they always do. I implore (5) our reps. to do the same.

This is a lot of imploring to do in half a column, but there is a stern necessity for it (continued the writer.) The games already played in the First Grade Competition suggest that (1) our players fancy that they are in a parlor instead of a football field; that (2) high collaring is the rule rather than the exception; that (3) the players go into the game without any preconceived notions of attack; that (4) not 20 per cent. of the players in First Grade football are in good enough condition to go at their top for 80 minutes; and that (5) our players take the least excuse to let up. There are some more little imperfections which have cropped up during the playing of the present competition, but these will do to go on with.

The great granddam of Kennymore (Brown Bess), the Two Thousand Guineas winner, was got by Musket.

With the exception of the Prince of Wales Handicap and the Great Northern Steeplechase, all the races at the Great Northern meeting were cut up among Auckland owners, a circumstance that has not happened for many a year.



RACING SULKIES FLYING MACHINES BRYANT & CO., SULKIES AND CART EXPERTS. PAPANUI ROAD, CHRISTCHURCH.

At the Metropolitan Track, Ravenschild, trained and driven by N. L. Price and hatched to one of our build of Sulkies, won New Zealand Cup of £2000, the largest stake raced for in Australasia.
Mr. Price says our Sulkies are the lightest running and most comfortable to ride in.