

competes over the shorter courses, as he can jump and gallop fast with the best in the land when not asked to extend his journeys too far. However, he will be asked to carry a fair amount of weight, and this will bring him back to his fields over the stiffer obstacles at Wingatui and Riverton.

At Winton the disappointing Rokeby mare Matilda is being regularly exercised, and it is hoped that she will stay on better with age. At the present time she is lusty in condition and is looking bright and well.

As far as appearances go, one of the most improved horses now in work at Riverton is said to be Staff Officer. When racing as a three-year-old last season the descendant of Rose Noble and Order was on the leggy side, but he has furnished out during the winter months and is now a sturdy animal, with every indication of developing into a horse capable of carrying welter weights in moderate company.

The Kilbroney mare Kilmeedy is not being seriously persevered with at present, but it is anticipated that a course of regular moderate exercise will encourage her to build up for autumn racing. During her period of relaxation she is being attended to under the eye of one her owners at Winton.

W. Gardiner is busy with Mr. W. T. Hazlett's select team, of which Dorian, by Martian, is the most prominent member. A novice by Danube—Directoire looks like being able to gallop when the day of actual test comes later on.

Fleetham has not been unduly extended since his return from the Grand National fixture, but he should soon freshen up again. Many people are inclined to put the imported horse down as an arrant failure, but they may presently awaken to the fact that they have been over hasty in forming such a judgment. The Picton—Flete stallion ran very well on the concluding day of the Grand National meeting, and, to the writer's mind, it is only a matter of time when his owner will handle some Southland stake money. Several things were against him during his preparation for the big Riccarton fixture, but there may be another story to tell when it comes to training and racing at and around his home quarters.

The All Red—Kea mare Kokowai has been received into training quarters again after experiencing a very beneficial period of freedom. She is to join the horses in the private stable of her owner's family and in future will be prepared in company with Palladio and Wharfinger by Geo. Hope. She could gallop fast enough last season, but appeared to lack stamina, not an unusual experience with a number of the progeny of All Red during their earlier years.

The veteran of J. Boyd's stable, Awahou, is doing fairly well in his light tasks and may prove hard to beat during the spring campaign in this part of the world.

Highwater and her sister Martifors have settled down as inmates of A. D. McIvor's Riverton establishment. The former wintered satisfactorily, while Martifors, by Martian—Brave-water, furnished out to a considerable extent. The latter displayed galloping ability of no mean order on the tracks last season, but failed to get into the money when produced in public. However, she was never keyed up to concert pitch, and there are signs in evidence now that she will be found more worthy of consideration during the current season.

WAIRARAPA.

Hymestra In Steady Work—Warmth May be Tried Over Hurdles—List of Wairarapa Trainers for Present Season—Mr. W. R. Kemball Probably be Represented at Avondale Meeting—Wishful on Easy List—Red Ribbon Resumes Work—Lady General and Chimera Also Rejoin Active Brigade.

MASTERTON, Saturday.

The Wairarapa Racing Club will distribute £5000 in stakes for the three days' racing this season.

Hymestra is being kept going steadily at Opaki, and is looking particularly fresh and well. He will make his first appearance as a four-year-old at the Trentham meeting in October.

W. Hawthorne will take Gladful and Multaine on to Dannevirke after the Marton fixture. Stan. Reid will ride the former in his engagements.

The Campfire gelding Warmth does not seem to have struck form since coming to the Wairarapa, and may be given an opportunity of dis-

tinguishing himself over hurdles in the near future.

The following Wairarapa trainers have been granted licenses for the present season: W. Hawthorne, J. T. Jamieson, T. Pritchard, J. J. Gravestock, W. Garrett, T. Higgins, R. P. Daly and R. Knox (Masterton), H. Eva, W. Galbraith and P. Hazleman (Featherston) and W. Corlett (Carterton).

It is practically certain that Mr. Kemball will have a representative carrying his colours in the Avondale Stakes. W. Hawthorne will also take up one or two handicap horses to compete at the same gathering.

Good progress is being made with the alterations to the tea rooms at Opaki, and an appreciable difference will be noticed by patrons at the next meeting.

Sir Solo has quite recovered from the soreness he suffered from after the first day at Riccarton, and is being kept going steadily in view of the Auckland Racing Club's summer meeting, where he was successful last year.

Wishful was allowed to drop out of his Marton engagements, and is on the easy list.

W. Hawthorne has handled the two fillies purchased by Mr. Kemball from the Waikanae stud, and is quite satisfied they will be able to gallop when their time comes to face the tapes.

Red Ribbon has been taken up again, and W. Garrett will be sending her along as soon as the weather takes up again.

Both the sprinters Lady General and Chimera are in steady work and are looking much benefited by their absence from the track.

A promising apprentice riding work at Opaki is Ernie Garrett, a son of the local trainer. He has a good seat in the saddle, and has a promising career before him.

Comment developed slight bleeding troubles while at Riccarton, but is all right again now, and will probably be seen out at Dannevirke and Otaki.

Torfreda was not taken to Marton, and is not likely to be seen out in public until the local meeting takes place. She has grown during the winter, and a successful season is confidently looked forward to by her owner, Mr. A. McDonald.

Local trainers have been at their wits' end during the past few months to keep their charges in condition, and it has been the wettest season experienced here for a number of years. Last week the weather cleared, and just as a little solid work was being done down came the rain again, and it has been impossible to use the training track. Four days' heavy rain has fallen this week, and horses with engagements at Dannevirke will not be in forward enough condition to do themselves justice. The two-year-olds, of which there is a large number in work, will not be at their best until late in the season.

WANGANUI.

Egmont R.C.'s Nominations—Zola Showing Improvement Over the Hurdles—Wanganui Trotting Club's Annual Report—Record in Fine Fettle—Nobleman in Steady Work—Client Regaining His Best Form—M. Gardner to Act as Private Trainer to Mr. Alf. Symes.

WANGANUI, Monday.

The nominations received for the open events at the Egmont spring meeting are disappointing, but the hack and hunter events have filled well, and a capital day's racing should be provided.

The Sweet Simon gelding Zola is shaping particularly well in his schooling essays over the small sticks, and if he keeps sound he is likely to pick up a hurdle race or two when he has had a bit of experience. He is engaged in the Hack Hurdles at Hawera, though it seems rather a pity he was not nominated for the big flat event there, as he is very well just now and must have had a good chance in such a weak field.

The Egmont-Wanganui Hunt Club is to receive a donation of £35 from the Waverley-Waitotara Racing Club, a motion to that effect having been carried at the annual meeting last week.

Another good move on the part of the Waverley-Waitotara Club was the voting of an increase of £25 to Secretary W. McFarlane, who is a most obliging and painstaking official.

The annual race meeting of the Waverley-Waitotara Racing Club will be held on Labour Day as usual, and the programme will be identical with last year's, a total of £1205 in stakes having been allocated.

The annual meeting of the Wanganui Trotting Club was held on Wednesday night, when there was a good muster of members. The annual report referred to the fact that only one day's trotting was held during the season, the club having lost a day, and this meant that the profits were halved while all the expenses of the club continued as usual. The tension is heightened by the purchase of Liverpool Park, with an attendant burden of an interest and land tax bill of £700 a year. The last season resulted in a loss of £260 in actual cash. Large sums of money were spent during the year in having the course surveyed and laid out, and in fencing, planting ornamental trees, etc. Mr. Beal, of Dunedin, planned a lay-out of the course, and has prepared a report with all necessary plans and specifications. It is hoped that before many years the club will have a course equal to anything in the Dominion.

Mr. H. Coyle has been re-elected handicapper for the Waverley-Waitotara Racing Club, and Mr. T. Cameron has been appointed as starter.

Marton and Record were sent over the schooling fences together on Saturday, both jumping splendidly. Record has improved a lot recently, and he should give one of his best displays at Marton.

Zola had Dasher Boy as a companion in a spin over the schooling hurdles, but proved much too fast for the latter gelding.

Zela has been shaping very well in short sprints lately, and should keep the opposition busy in whatever event she starts at Marton.

H. Rayner has Starengo looking well, and the gelding has shown something like his old form on the tracks in his last few gallops. He should be hard to beat on Wednesday.

J. Coyle has Nobleman in steady work at Bulls, and the Sir Laddo gelding will probably be seen out at Dannevirke in the big money. If he goes on all right he will no doubt be a starter in the N.Z. Cup, in which event he ought to run a good race if he strips at his best.

Mr. T. H. Lowry, the well-known Hawke's Bay sportsman, was in Wanganui last week for the purpose of witnessing the inter-college Rugby tournament between Christ's College, Wellington College and Wanganui Collegiate School teams. The owner of Desert Gold has a son in the Christ's College team, and a rattling fine forward the young fellow is, though his team was beaten by both Wellington and Wanganui. The final game between Wellington and Wanganui was splendidly contested, a remarkably even contest, in which both teams gave a capital exposition of Rugby, ending in a win for Wellington by 13 to 11.

Client continues to make steady progress in his preparation at Fordell, and is beginning to show signs of returning to something like form. All going well, the son of Elevation will probably be seen out at the Masterton meeting, and no doubt will be raced again at Trentham before going south for the N.Z. Cup.

It is said that M. Gardner, the well-known Waverley trainer, has been offered and has accepted the position of private trainer to Mr. Alf. Symes, who intends residing at Takapau. In addition to Hyginas, Waitotara and Union Jack, Mr. Symes owns a number of youngsters, some of which are likely to be heard of later on, and with such a capable mentor as M. Gardner they will have every chance of developing to the best advantage.

CANTERBURY.

Collector Enjoying Spell—Gamecock Also on Easy List—Glendower and Fiery Cross Both in Work—Chokebore Candidates for C.J.C. Derby Honours—Conditions for Next N.Z. Cup.

CHRISTCHURCH, Monday.

Riccarton trainers are again hurrying their charges along in view of the Amberley, Ashburton and Geraldine meetings, all of which take place this month.

During R. O'Donnell's absence in Sydney with Almoner and Kilmoon, the Yaldhurst horses in work, which comprise Melee and the two-year-olds Golden Crozier and Orange Bitters, will be looked after by W. Hobbs. Another of O'Donnell's team in the two-year-old colt Surveyor, a very excitable juvenile, will go into M. Hobbs' stable at Riccarton to have his education continued till his mentor returns.

Collector, who was purchased during Grand National week, was not included in Mr. G. L. Stead's team for Sydney, as originally intended. In the meantime the 'chaser is having an easy time at his owner's station, Brackenfield.

After purchasing Gamecock, Mr. C. O. T. Rutherford decided to have him gelded, and the operation was successfully performed a few days ago. It is intended to give the son of San Francisco a lengthy spell before putting him into commission again. He will have as a companion in idleness Orange Pip, who was recently secured by Mr. Rutherford.

The Blenheim trainer W. J. Porter is now established permanently at Riccarton, and intends racing Good Hope at the forthcoming spring meetings both on the flat and over hurdles.

Kimbolton seems to be taking to jumping very kindly, and should not be long in picking up a hurdle race.

W. Hibberd is keeping Varnish, Tremena and Braid up to the collar, and the first-named is sure to race well at Amberley. Unfortunately he is always more or less sore.

Glendower is improving rapidly and looks like capturing a good race at some of the early meetings. Christmas has just taken in hand Fiery Cross, whose preparation will not be hurried.

Art is none the worse for his two hard races at the Grand National meeting, and should give a good account of himself in the Jumpers' Flat Race at Amberley.

The two Chokebore Derby candidates, Long Range and Lionskin, continue to get through very satisfactory tasks. Others from the same stable who are going on the right way are Adjutant, Brambletye, Onslaught and Sir Fanciful.

R. Derrett has recommissioned Margerine, who has wintered well and at present carries a lot of condition.

Oxenhope, who was recently purchased by Mr. W. B. Clarkson, will in future be trained by J. Bryce, the successful trotting mentor.

The conditions for the next New Zealand Cup have just been announced, the only change from last year being in the matter of penalties. These have been revised so that the first penalty earned is one of 5lb. for the winner of a race or races worth 250sovs., while winners of 350sovs. get 7lb. extra and of 500sovs. 10lb. The alteration is one that is sure to find much favour with owners, as it will enable them to race their Cup horses at early spring meetings with lighter penalties for wins.

LATER.

Counterscarp Recommissioned—Interesting Track Gallops—Disdainful's Pleasing Effort.

(Telegraph—Christchurch Correspondent)

Cutts Bros. have recommissioned Counterscarp, who gave a good deal of promise in her early track efforts last season.

J. McCombe is hurrying Bon Spec and Subterfuge along in view of the Ashburton and Geraldine meetings.

Jingo was lame after his exertions at the Grand National meeting, but is now almost right again. He is to be put into work again this week with a view to competing at the spring meetings.

Gamecock, who was emasculated, and Charley, who underwent an operation for throat troubles, have both made excellent recoveries.

A number of horses claiming early engagements were galloped at Riccarton on Saturday morning. Disdainful created a surprise by administering a decisive defeat to Adjutant over a mile. The filly was in front all the way, and wound up two lengths to the good.

Art held Kimbolton quite safe all through a bout over a mile, the former's effort being very pleasing.

Long Range and Heathercote kept together all through a gallop over six furlongs, both finishing well. Bondage and Silver and Black seemed to be well matched over five furlongs. The latter, who has improved a good deal lately, will carry Mr. Barrett's colours at the Amberley meeting.

Vascular showed to much more advantage than Seville and Vascovia in getting over seven furlongs, while Onslaught was much too good for Wild Night in a smartly-run four furlongs.

After galloping, Varnish was decidedly lame, and it is doubtful if he will be able to fulfil his engagements at the Amberley meeting.

C. Emerson went north on Monday to fulfil riding engagements at the Marton meeting. He will return in time for the Amberley meeting, where he will pilot Derby Day.