

1—Exors. W. J. Douglas' b c Hetaua, 7.5 (Sinclair) 2
 3—G. L. Stead's ch f Sundance, 7.7 (C. Emerson) 3
 Also started: 6 Bindle 7.12 (Morris), 8 Lady Una 7.7 (McCurdy) and Dixie Land 7.5 (M. O'Shea) bracketed, 12 Great Form 7.10 (Warner), 2 Macduff 7.9 (G. Young), 4 Pentagram 7.9 (Deeley), 16 Harpalus 7.7 (Harvey), 13 Melting 7.7, car. 7.12 (H. Young), 7 Negligee 7.7 (R. Reed), 17 Valley Queen 7.5 (Gollop), 9 Phyllona 7.5 (Rennie), 10 Heathermoon 7.5 (Dillamore), 11 Arati 7.5 (Hockley), 15 Mistress Biddy 7.5, car. 7.9 (Goldfinch), 14 Hyrax 7.0 (Tinker).

Won by a length and a-half, half a length between second and third. Bindle was fourth. Time, 1min 1 3-5 sec.

CHRISTMAS HANDICAP of 350sovs; second 70sovs, third 30sovs. One mile.

4—Mrs. E. A. Lindsay's b g Uncle Ned, 5yrs, by Marble Arch—Lady Gladys, 7.13 (Emerson) 1
 9—J. J. Regan's br g All Talk, 5yrs, 6.7, car. 6.12 (Morris) 2
 1—J. Hart's b g Teka, 6yrs, 8.13 (Gray) 3
 Also started: 2 Killjoy 8.6 (Campbell), 6 Cleft 8.2 (Sinclair), 7 Vagabond 8.0 (R. Reed), 10 Housewife 7.12 (J. Buchanan), 15 Goldsize 7.12 (McFlinn), 3 Glenopal 7.9 (Rennie), 14 Royal Irish 7.9 (Goldfinch), 13 Metchikoff 7.3 (Mackie), 5 Tabasco 7.2, car. 7.5 (A. Reed), 11 Fabriquette 7.0 (M. O'Shea), 8 Cherry Mart 6.10, car. 7.1 (G. Young), 12 Alf. Delaval 6.7 (Hockley).

Won by two lengths and a-half, a neck separating second and third. Killjoy was fourth, with Metchikoff fifth. Time, 1min 38 4-5sec.

SECOND DAY.

GLOAMING WINS ISLINGTON PLATE.

CRENIDES ANNEXES THE ROYAL STAKES.

MASCOT THE SUMMER CUP.

The outlook on Saturday morning was of a character suggesting that weather forecasts might not prove correct. Many had misgivings, and from whatever the cause there was a very marked decrease in the attendance as compared with previous corresponding days. There were showers during the afternoon, starting mistily after the decision of the Islington Plate, when the wind dropped, and coming at intervals, a heavy down-pour occurring between the decision of the Ponsonby Hurdles and the Summer Cup. The course was in good order, and very little slower for the rain. It would be improved rather than otherwise for galloping on. Though the afternoon was not really favourable at any time for record making because of the heavy atmospheric conditions, an Australasian record was put up by Gloaming in racehorse style, Mr. Greenwood's three-year-old running the mile in 1min. 37 1-5sec. from the barrier when he won the Islington Plate, thus lowering Desert Gold's record of 1min. 37 3-5sec. registered last year. That was a feature of the afternoon's programme.

Members of the French Mission were present as the guests of the stewards of the racing club, and were received by the Hon. E. Mitchellson. Their arrival brought forth a demonstration of approval from the crowd, who cheered General Pau and his compatriots as they drove down the straight to the lawn gate. With the visitors were the Hon. W. H. Herries, A. M. Myers, and Sir Francis Bell, representing the National Government. The bands of the Auckland Mounted Rifles and New Zealand Garrison Artillery were in evidence, musical selections befitting the occasion being rendered. The visitors saw some interesting racing, but struck a bad day so far as getting an idea of what a New Zealand race-course crowd was like, though there has probably never been more than thirty thousand at Ellerslie on one day. The second day is the off-day.

If a little money was shut out on the opening day it cannot be said that any money was turned away at the totalisators on Saturday. The money was not there for big business, and the falling off in the turnover must not be put down to inefficiency of the staff, who could have handled half as much again if the business had been forthcoming. The total handled for the afternoon was £57,876, as against £69,994 last year. The Islington Plate last year was one of the poorest betting races at Ellerslie for some years, but this time it was the one that showed a substantial increase, while the others showed a falling off more or less pronounced.

Racing commenced with the Bowen Handicap, and a field of eighteen went out, the Waikato filly Queen Abbey carrying nearly three times as much money as Black Lace, the Gisborne mare, Happy Valley, another from the same quarter, being third selection, though really after the favourite several others were about

evenly supported. Queen Abbey got to the front early, and Rennie made a lot of use of her, but the beautifully-bred Taiami, of the same age in receipt of 11lb., had her measure and ended up a winner by half a length. Happy Valley, who lost some ground at the start and who made it up very fast in the first furlong or two, getting within a length, with General Stephen, a big outsider, fourth, and Meltonio, who seemed very scratchy doing his preliminary, next. The race was for apprentice riders, and M. D. O'Shea was on the winner, who, it will be remembered, was imported from Australia by Mr. Ewen Alison and first raced in that owner's interests, but has since been leased to Mr. W. J. Wilson. As a very substantial dividend was paid, and it is understood the stable backed it well, the little mare's win should be remembered favourably. She is now trained by James, who trains for the North Shore owners.

The support awarded Gloaming for the Islington Plate was such as to place him well over the next on the list, Sasanof having less than half the number of investments made on his chance. It was Gloaming's first appearance on the course, and the chestnut son of The Welkin is a three-year-old gelding, whose form had been so good in Australia and in Wellington and Canterbury as to cause his appearance at Ellerslie to be looked for with considerable interest. As geldings go at that age he fills the eye well, and having plenty of size and length and bone of rather bigger dimensions than many thoroughbreds, it can be conceived that he will grow into a fine four-year-old and with ordinary luck pick up more good races. He is a long strider and a free goer—a bit too keen for his work, if possible: Sasanof having raced over two miles and been trained for the longer distance, was expected to have his speed dulled a bit as the result of his Auckland Cup race, and Gazique was known to have become a bit sore behind with the work before and the race for the Railway Handicap. Sasanof moved perfectly in his gallop past and was well warmed up for his task. The others strode along nicely. King Lupin is one of the finest types that ever graced a racecourse, and that horse and the three geldings and the three excellently-shaped fillies made up a really nice field, such as a weight-for-age race should bring together. Mr. O'Connor got them away nicely, Sasanof momentarily showing in front, with Silver Link, who soon went out in the lead followed by Karo, next, Gazique being slow off the mark on account of his soreness. Gloaming was second to last at the end of the first and second furlongs, thus not getting any initial advantage, but on the contrary losing a few lengths. The pace was cracked on by the flying Silver Link, and she and Karo were close together at the end of two and three furlongs, the latter distance being covered in 36secs., the half-mile in 48 3-5sec, with Gloaming some lengths behind the pair at that stage with Sasanof. The five furlongs was run in 60sec., and Karo was then still leading, but Gloaming raced up to her at the end of another furlong, and, followed by Sasanof, drew away to win handily by a length and a-half in 1min. 37 1-5sec.—an Australasian record. Karo was three lengths away, third, and then came Silver Link, King Lupin and Nanna in order. Desert Gold as a three-year-old won in 1min. 39sec., as a four-year-old in 1min. 38 2-5sec., and last year, on the improved course, in 1min. 37 3-5sec., and prior to the success of Desert Gold Bobrikoff won in 1min. 38 4-5sec., Warstep in 1min. 40 3-5sec., and Merry Roe in 1min. 39sec. The course was not quite so good on those occasions. With Desert Gold to make the pace and stay a bit further than Karo did it is likely that Gloaming would have covered the mile in under 1min. 37sec., the mile course at Ellerslie favouring a brilliant miler doing so. The race was the shortest Gloaming has competed in. He now holds the mile and the mile and a furlong Australasian records. This was his fifth win out of six starts, and his victory was well received.

The twenty-fourth Royal Stakes was regarded by backers as in the nature of a foregone conclusion for Surveyor, but once again came a lesson that these races for two-year-olds cannot be so accurately summed up. Surveyor was carrying 11lb. over his weight for age, 1lb. overweight and 10lb. penalty. Crenides had 4lb. over and 3lb. penalty, so that Surveyor was only conceding 4lb., and it certainly looked as if he could concede more. However, Crenides was evidently the better for his Foal Stakes race, and

Surveyor lost three plates during the race, which was probably sufficient to account for the difference of form, as Crenides beat him half a length. Warplane, whose first race it was at Ellerslie, was finishing on, but Bitholia did not race any better for the advantage he had in weight, and Prince Charleroi, though suited better by a light scale, proved to be overshadowed by the best of the opposition. The winner, Crenides, is owned by Mrs. M. A. Perry, the first lady owner to win the race, and he was bred by her late father, Mr. G. P. Donnelly, whose colours she has adopted. Demosthenes is proving himself a fine sire, and the Royal Stakes is a good race to win. T. F. Quinlivan trained Crenides, and L. Morris rode him well.

Loyal Arch, with a stone more weight than she carried on the first day, was favourite for the Ponsonby Hurdles, but she hit a hurdle hard, and Ditto, who was out in front jumping like a stag, beat her by two lengths, Pendoo making a good first appearance over hurdles and running third. The success of that good sport Mr. W. Morgan was well received.

The Summer Cup was contested by a field of eleven, not a very large field for so popular a distance and such an important stake, but nevertheless a good one. Kilrush, who was made favourite, was generally regarded as possessing a rare chance, but the Auckland Cup winner, Mascot, was second in demand, though still left paying a good price. The pace was made by Killjoy and Mangamahoe, the favourite having fallen just before getting out of the straight, fortunately with no serious results to young Morris, his rider. Killjoy, pulling hard, still led along the back and into the straight, with Mangamahoe in attendance, but there the Waikato gelding had had enough and Mascot went up, and after entering upon the last furlong challenged and beat the southerner home by half a length, Rose Pink coming through and securing third place, two lengths away, Heathercote and Killard being next.

The Criterion Handicap attracted a field of ten, Lady Una proving unruly being left. Macduff, who had bolted just before the race, began too smart for the others and made a run-away race of it, winning by five lengths from Bindle, the favourite, Hetaua, being two lengths further back, with Mistian, who ran in bandages, fourth. Macduff was second favourite, and is a well-grown colt, improving with experience. He was bred by his owner, Sir George Clifford, and is by Antagonist, son of Sout.

There were fifteen starters for the Waitemata Handicap, Melee, Windorah and Multiplane being the best supported. Windorah and Pierrot were in the lead at the end of six furlongs, but over the concluding stages the English-bred mare Slipstitch came on and won in good style by three-parts of a length from Pierrot, who beat the Carl Rosa mare Lady Energy by half a length, Windorah being fourth and Melee next. Slipstitch is owned by the Gisborne sportsman Mr. De Latour, who it is pleasing to see have a win, as his luck has been out a long time.

The concluding race, the Salisbury Welter, saw Robur favourite, strongly supported, with Waituta, Fabriquette and Form Up next in request. Lord Kenilworth made the pace a cracker, but Downham went up and took his measure. Nearing home Waituta came on the scene and beat Downham by a length and a-half, Bingham, three lengths off, beating Lord Kenilworth for third place, with Form Up and Robur next. Waituta's win was well deserved and popular, as the Thames mare has raced with consistent bad luck.

The management left nothing wanting and the races were got off well to time, Mr. O'Connor's starting being up to that official's best form.

The results were:—

BOWEN HANDICAP of 300sovs; second 50sovs, third 25sovs. Six furlongs.

11—W. J. Wilson's ch f Taiamai, 5yrs, by The Nut—Lady Molly, 7.0 (M. O'Shea) 1
 1—R. Hannon's br f Queen Abbey, 3yrs, 7.11 (Rennie) 2
 3—F. E. Loomb's ch g Happy Valley, aged, 8.4 (Dillamore) 3
 Also started: 2 Black Lace 8.13 (Symon), 5 Engari 8.9 (Carmont), 13 Maranga 8.0 (Gordon), 10 Tiki 7.10 (Mackie), 8 Arch Lassie 7.9 (Preston), 12 Miss Leslie 7.9 (McCarthy), 15 Sea Chief 7.8 (Sinclair), 4 War March 7.8 (Stratton), 6 Brown Loch 7.8 (Tinker), 14 Mahzoltov 7.6 (Tricklebank), 16 Penona 7.5 (Prenter), 18 Pretty Bobby 7.5 (Ferguson), 9 General Stephen 7.3 (Hockley), 17 Ohoreka 7.0 (Vossuth), 7 Meltonio 7.0 (Gollop).

Won by half a length, a length between second and third. General Stephen was fourth. Time, 1min 15 2-5sec.

ISLINGTON PLATE of 650sovs; second 100sovs, third 50sovs. One mile.

1—G. D. Greenwood's br g Gloaming, 3yrs, by The Welkin—Light, 7.13 (B. Deeley) 1
 2—W. G. Stead's br g Sasanof, 5yrs, 8.13 (Gray) 2
 6—Mrs. M. A. Perry's br f Karo, 3yrs, 7.11 (L. Morris) 3

Also started: 4 King Lupin 9.2 (H. Robinson), 3 Gazique 8.13 (McFlinn), 7 Nanna 8.3 (Campbell), 4 Silver Link 7.4 (R. Reed).

Won easily by a length and a-half, three lengths between second and third. Silver Link was fourth. Time, 1min 37 1-5sec—a record for Australasia. The official timekeeper (Mr. J. K. Douglas) struck off the following times at different stages of the journey: One furlong, 13 4-5sec; two furlongs, 24 3-5sec; three furlongs, 36sec; four furlongs, 48 3-5sec; five furlongs, 1min.; mile, 1min 37 1-5sec.

TWENTY-FOURTH ROYAL STAKES of 1000sovs; second 200sovs, third 100sovs. Six furlongs.

3—Mrs. M. A. Perry's ch g Crenides, 2yrs, by Demosthenes—Gold Thread, 6.13, inc. 4lb over (Morris) 1
 1—G. L. Stead's ch c Surveyor, 2yrs, by Nassau—Pedometer, 7.6, inc. 1lb over (Emerson) 2
 2—J. Goring Johnston's b c Warplane, 2yrs, by Martian—Adehcia, 6.9 (Bagby) 3
 Also started: 5 Prince Charleroi 6.9 (Hockley), 6 Canowindra 6.7, inc. 7lb over (M. O'Shea), 4 Bitholia 6.0 (Carmont).

Won by half a length, two lengths between second and third. Bitholia was fourth. Time, 1min 14sec.

PONSONBY HURDLE RACE of 350 sovs; second 70sovs, third 30sovs. One mile and three-quarters.

2—W. C. Morgan's b m Ditto, aged, by Spalpeen—Repetition, 9.5 (J. Roach) 1
 1—H. W. Brown's br m Loyal Arch, 6yrs, 10.0 (Warner) 2
 4—Grant and Hodgson's ch g Pendoo, aged, 9.0 (Keepa) 3
 Also started: 5 Hexton 9.2 (McKinnon), 3 Pennless 9.2 (McMillan), 6 Notability 9.0 (Eriksen).

Won by two lengths, three lengths between second and third. Notability was fourth. Time, 3min 16sec.

SUMMER CUP of 1000sovs; second 200sovs, third 100sovs. One mile and a-quarter.

2—V. and E. Riddiford's b m Mascot, 5yrs, by Martian—Mary of Argyle, 8.4 (A. Reed) 1
 5—D. H. Roberts' b m Killjoy, 5yrs, 7.13 (Emerson) 2
 6—H. Whitney's br m Rose Pink, 5yrs, 7.8, inc. 2lb over (R. Reed) 3
 Also started: 1 Kilrush 7.6 (Morris), 10 Cleft 7.11, inc. 5lb over (Goldfinch), 4 Heathercote 7.6, inc. 1lb over (H. Young), 3 Mangamahoe 7.4 (Mackie), 7 Housewife 7.2 (M. O'Shea), 9 Killard 7.5, inc. 6lb over (Ferguson), 8 Tigritiya 6.10, inc. 1lb over (Bagby), 11 Cyrian 6.8, inc. 1lb over (Hockley).

Won by half a length, two lengths between second and third. Heathercote was fourth. The official timekeeper struck off the following times at various stages of the race: One furlong, 14 2-5sec; two furlongs, 26 2-5sec; three furlongs, 39 2-5sec; four furlongs, 51 3-5sec; five furlongs, 1min 4sec; six furlongs, 1min 17sec; seven furlongs, 1min 29 2-5sec; one mile and a-quarter, 2min 8 4-5sec.

CRITERION HANDICAP of 350sovs; second 70sovs, third 30sovs. For two-year-olds. Six furlongs.

2—Sir Geo. Clifford's b c Macduff, by Antagonist—Scottish Star, 7.7, inc. 1lb over (Young) 1
 4—W. H. Gaisford's b g Bindle, 7.12 (H. Goldfinch) 2
 1—Exets. W. J. Douglas' b c Hetaua, 7.11 (Emerson) 3
 Also started: 5 Mistian 8.0 (R. Reed), 3 Parorangi 8.0, inc. 3lb over (McFlinn), 7 Rebuff 7.9 (A. Reed), 10 Lady Una 7.10, inc. 5lb over (Mulvihill), 8 Golden Crozier 7.5 (Bagby), 9 Mistress Biddy 7.4 (M. O'Shea), 8 Arati 7.3 (Hockley).

Won by five lengths, three lengths between second and third. Mistian was fourth. Time, 1min 15sec.

WAITEMATA HANDICAP of 300sovs; second 50sovs, third 25sovs. One mile and a-quarter.

11—H. De de Latour's br m Slipstitch, 6yrs, by Henry the First—Quickstitch, 7.7 (Hockley) 1
 4—Robertson and Foster's b g Pierrot, 5yrs, 7.12, inc. 1lb over (W. Ryan) 2
 5—R. Davis' b m Lady Energy, 5yrs, 7.11 (Goldfinch) 3
 Also started: 1 Melee 8.11 (Emerson), 6 Thrace 8.2, inc. 4lb over (Buchanan), 8 Sanacre 7.11 (Mackie), 7 Marble Star 7.12, inc. 1lb over (Deeley), 12 Glucian 7.10 (Harvey), 14 Master Regal 7.10 (Smith), 8 Multiplane 7.8 (R. Reed), 13 Empire 7.6, inc. 2lb over (Ferguson), 10 Arihiti 7.7, inc. 5lb over (A. Reed), 2 Windorah 7.0 (Bagby), 15 Ma Copper 7.0 (M. O'Shea), 9 Master Iney 7.7, inc. 7lb over (Young).

Won by three-quarters of a length, half a length between second and third. Windorah was fourth. Time, 2min 11 2-5sec.

SALISBURY WELTER of 350sovs; second 70sovs, third 30sovs. One mile.

2—W. K. Morrison's ch m Waituta, 5yrs, by Carl Rosa—Waiotahi, 8.12 (Emerson) 1
 6—F. E. Loomb's ch g Downham, aged, 8.9 (McFlinn) 2
 5—I. S. Hardley's br g Bingham, 4yrs, 8.0 (A. Reed) 3
 Also started: 4 Form Up 10.2 (Deeley), 9 Colonel Sout 9.1 (Hewitt), 7 Lord Kenilworth 8.12 (Buchanan), 8 Metchikoff 8.9 (Warner), 3 Fabriquette 8.4 (Gray), 1 Robur 8.2 (R. Reed), 11 Alf. Delaval 8.0 (McCurdy), 10 Lady Glen 8.0 (R. Brown), 12 Demoiselle 8.0 (Ryan).

Won by a length and a-half, three lengths between second and third. Lord Kenilworth was fourth. Time, 1min 40 2-5sec.

Eastcourt was recently sold to P. Bolger, of Perth, and at 500 guineas, the price asked for him after the Melbourne Cup meeting, should not be a dear horse. He should win in the West.