

INTER - PROVINCIAL

CANTERBURY.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

CHRISTCHURCH, March 15.

Sir George Clifford has three horses in the great Easter Handicap. Husbandman is weighted at 8.0, Kilwinning at 7.13, and Broadsword 7.4. The last named will probably be the fancied candidate on Easter Monday. The same stable has Husbandman and Taskmaster in the Great Autumn Handicap, and the former will, I think, be the elect on the day.

Perle d'Or is receiving plenty of support for the Great Easter, the rumour having got about that this well bred but disappointing filly is showing brilliant form on the tracks. It is said that she can hold her own with Armet and if this is so it will take something pretty good to prevent Mr. G. D. Greenwood winning his second Great Easter.

Ingoda is doing well since returning from Dunedin, and is one of the fancied candidates at Riccarton for the Autumn Handicap.

Miss Mischief, who met with a mishap at the Auckland Summer meeting, arrived home last week. It will be sometime before she is fit to race again.

W. Brown has commenced work as trainer and is looking after Armamento. This gelding has been enjoying a long spell. He looks well, and his owner expects to get a few races out of him before the present season closes.

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ister of Shareholders of this Bank will

be Closed on the 21st March (Inst.) to en-

able the Directors to determine the

names of the Shareholders to whom

above issue is to be made.

By order of the Board.

JAMES COATES,

General Manager.

Wellington, 15th March, 1910.

handicaps at Riccarton, this Easter, promise to be much larger than usual, especially the mile and a-half event on the second day. Twenty-one horses have accepted in the Easter and nine-teen in the Autumn.

A well bred mare in Prayer Wheel, by Pilgrims' Progress—Catherine Wheel won the hack handicap at Rangiora last week.

Freak, a four-year-old gelding by Finland—Escapade, and Claumena, a four-year-old mare by Clanranald—Rosina, Aunt Sally, by Royal Artillery—Gipsy Girl, Tyrant, by Tyranny, and Shillelagh, by Singlestick II, each won a race at the same meeting.

Taskmaster is showing signs of lameness, while there is just suspicion that all is not right with Kilwinning.

Leonardo and Scotch Plaid have both resumed work, but the former will not be raced before the winter meetings come round.

Southern Cross is jumping well over hurdles just now and should be well forward for the Easter meeting.

M. Hobbs has had two additions to his team, J. R. Hart having placed Chief Lochiel and Scotch Plaid in this trainer's hands.

Quite a large contingent of Riccarton trained horses will go down to the Waimate meeting. Rose Noble, Lovelorn, Federal, Boutade, Zetland, Glenfield, Silk Web, All guns, Genius, Probable, Nightlight and Kronstadt will all leave to-morrow.

The Champagne Stakes promises to furnish a great race on Easter Monday. Formby, Danube, Madam Madcap, Formless, Formeden, Sunburnt and Countermine are all likely starters, and the winner will assert the right to be hailed the champion two-year-old of the season.

Another fine field is likely to contest the Challenge Stakes. Most of the two-year-olds will be running, while the older division will be represented by Armet, Broadsword and probably Gravitation and Sweet Angles.

The two hurdle races at the Easter meeting have not attracted big fields, while the quality of horses is only moderate. There are only eight horses in one race, and nine in the other.

J. R. Franks is working a filly by Charlemagne II—Culroy, and a half-sister to Royal Artillery.

Ristori has been a very disappointing filly. She has shown her trainer some good gallops on the track and prior to racing at Wanganui put up one or two smart performances. Those connected with the filly expected to see her give a good showing at Wanganui, but she ran badly each time she started.

WANGANUI.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

WANGANUI, March 14.

The one per cent. additional tax on race clubs which came into operation on March 1st, meant that the Government benefited to the extent of £300 over the Wanganui J.C. meeting, the first to feel the effect of the added burden. While the larger clubs will not be greatly troubled, perhaps, by the latest imposition, the effect on the smaller, and particularly the one day gatherings, will probably be serious, in some cases at least.

Mr. G. F. Moore has sent a couple of well-bred youngsters to Australia with a view to trying the market there. They are two colts both by Birkenhead, one from St. Evangeline, and the other from Miss Penelope. The son of St. Evangeline is one of the finest looking colts ever seen here, and if appearances go for anything should make a champion. He has been named Ronald.

George Price is at present engaged in breaking a filly by Field Battery—Our Lady. She is a very shapely youngster and gives every promise of developing into a real good one.

By many sportsmen on this coast, the Patea Racing Club's Easter meeting is always looked forward to as providing the chief Easter Monday attraction. Judging from the list of nominations received for the coming meeting a most interesting day's sport appears to be assured. Mr. George Morse, the newly appointed handicapper, may be depended upon to frame the handicaps in a way which will prove acceptable to the majority of the owners. The club has recently spent a lot of money on its track, which is now in capital order, in fact one of the best on the coast, so that some splendid racing should be witnessed on Easter Monday.

Though some profess to think that Waitapu has seen his best day, Mr. J. O'Driscoll appears to be of opinion that he has a good chance of getting

his money (£300) back, as he has hopes that the gelding will win a hurdle race or two during the coming season. Even if Waitapu has lost some of his dash he is a good jumper, and he ought to prove quite fast enough for most of the hurdlers of to-day.

Sincere regret was expressed on all sides at the death of Mr. J. B. Williamson, the well-known Auckland sportsman, who passed away so suddenly at a private hospital here last Wednesday morning. Full particulars of the sad occurrence have already been published, and it only remains to be said that the deceased was one of the most popular of the many racing men who have visited Wanganui. The funeral, a private one, took place on Thursday afternoon. Wreaths from the Takapuna, Avondale and Wanganui Jockey Clubs were placed on the grave.

The well-known jumper Prospector is in work again, and all going well will be a starter at the Wellington and C.J.C. steeplechase meetings.

The tracks have been very busy during the last week or so, as trainers have been sending their charges along in view of the Patea, Opunake, Warrengate and Feilding meetings.

The Warrengate Jockey Club will hold its annual race meeting on Thursday, the 24th inst. This fixture is one of the most enjoyable of the many small gatherings held on this coast. It is one of those meetings whereat farmers and others make a point of assembling and talking over matters of common interest, and where the racing is really regarded in the light of sport instead of business. It is good sport, too, which the club provides, and those who attend always have a splendid day's fun. The club have made all arrangements for the success of next Thursday's meeting, and as good fields are fairly sure to face the starter, the racing should be of a most interesting description.

Crucifella and Koran have both been allowed to drop out of their C.J.C. engagements, but may be started at the Feilding meeting.

Amongst the entrants for the Patea Hurdles is Claremont. The gelding has not raced since his fall in the last New Zealand Grand National meeting. It was due to having contracted influenza that Tiptoe did not fulfil his Wanganui engagements.

WELLINGTON.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

WELLINGTON, March 14.

Liza, who I commented upon in this column, duly landed the Flying Handicap at Dannevirke and returned a substantial dividend. The half-sister to Ostiak was turned out in nice trim by the Trentham owner-trainer H. Goodman.

J. Ayres, the Trentham trainer, has Merrivonia in nice trim in view of the Auckland Easter Handicap. Those critics who saw this mare's good display in the last New Zealand Cup, when she led Bobrikoff for a mile, anticipate that she will play a prominent part in the decision of the big Auckland event. An effort is being made to secure E. Lowe's services to pilot Merrivonia in her coming engagements.

The local owner, Mr. J. Whitworth, left here for Sydney on Friday last, taking with him Wharekura, and his recently acquired purchase Chauvelin. Both of these contestants should worthily represent the Dominion in racing events on the other side.

It was extremely hard luck for W. Davies, the Trentham trainer, to lose the services of Chauvelin just as he was getting into a winning vein. Davies has spent considerable time on the colt to bring him to a state of perfection, and just as his work is being crowned with success the astute Mr. Whitworth appeared on the scene and purchased the promising son of Soult for 400 guineas.

Mr. S. H. Wilson, manager for Mr. G. F. Moore at Bushy Park, left here by the Moana en route to Sydney on Friday last, taking with him two promising colts, one by Birkenhead from St. Evangeline, who is named Ronald, and the other is Bassano, by Birkenhead from Miss Penelope. Both are fine types of the thoroughbred, and should excite keen competition when led into the sale ring at Sydney. Their career in Australia will be closely followed by admirers of the turf in the Dominion.

Mr. J. H. Price, formerly mine host of the New Zealander Hotel, in Manners-street, and also treasurer to the Wellington Pony and Galloway Racing has taken Oxley's Hotel, at Picton, and enters into possession to-day. Mr. Price has always been identified with

the Sport of Kings, and will be missed from his usual haunts in this city.

Lady Kilcheran, by Kilcheran from Livonia and consequently a half sister to Merrivonia, may accompany her relative to the Auckland meeting. This filly has not yet sported silk, but is reported to be very speedy.

Waione continues to get through some satisfactory tasks at Porirua in view of the Brighton Hurdles at the Auckland fixture, and in which the Waiuku gelding is expected to give a creditable display. H. Telford will pilot Waione in his hurdle essays at the Northern gathering.

Reports from Porirua point to Lady Medalist leading her opponents a merry dance in the Easter Handicap at Auckland. In the matter of poundage this St. Alwyne mare has been very leniently treated in being asked to carry 8st, as she has proved her ability to negotiate distances up to a mile in a very speedy manner.

Wellington and its immediate vicinity is strongly represented in events at the C.J.C. meeting, the list comprising Penates, Sir Frisco, Effort, Gipsy Belle, Gold Lace, Diabolo, and some of the stake money should be secured by owners of the above formidable team.

C. Pritchard, the Lower Hutt trainer, has purchased the half-brother to Penates by Clytie from Housewife, from the sportsman who races as Mr. "Barclay." This black colt has all the qualifications necessary to make a successful racer and it is hoped that the Hutt mentor's latest purchase will turn out satisfactory.

An offer of 600 guineas was recently made for Penates, but Mr. Barclay decided to hold on to the colt for a little while longer in anticipation of securing a better figure.

Diabolo is in good form at Porirua, and this promising black colt should give a good account of himself in the Great Autumn Handicap at the C.J.C. Easter meeting.

There was a large crowd of sporting enthusiasts at Miramar on Saturday afternoon to witness a meeting of the Wellington Pony and Galloway Racing Club. Some interesting racing took place, but several of the events were spoilt through very bad starting. There was some trouble with the bookmakers, who declined to pay the fee of £7 10s for the privilege of betting, and with one exception they refused to do any business. The one exception, a well-known local metalician had the field all to himself and he is reported to have made a handsome profit on the day's transactions. With the exception of some bandiage the proceedings were of a very orderly character.

Alf. Shearsby has Royal Maid in capital trim at Levin, and this roan mare should be picking up a stake ere the season is much further advanced.

Mon Ami continues to bowl along in her track work on the Hutt course, and she will be given an opportunity to retrieve her bad display in the Flying Handicap at Wanganui in the same event at the Feilding meeting. If the Soult mare would only reproduce her track form on the racecourse when the colours are up then she would be a severe proposition to her competitors.

Hydrant has been responsible for some excellent work during the last week and the chestnut should show some of his brilliancy at the Easter meeting.

Xavier, who gave such a creditable display in the Hurdle events at the Wanganui meeting has been pleasing Davies by his exertions at Trentham since that fixture. The Tasman gelding's next appearance will be at the Feilding meeting, in which he is expected to play a prominent part in the decision of the hurdle events.

Speaking to Mr. T. O'Neill, the well-known Feilding owner, in town during the week he informed the writer that he had refused a tempting offer for the half-sister to Eclogue. The filly has given evidence of turning out decidedly useful and Mr. O'Neill may be justified in holding on to his promising turf entrant.

J. W. Lowe is just putting through his preliminary facings, at Trentham, a promising two-year-old colt by Sir Laddo from Orchestra, for which a successful turf career is anticipated.

HAWKE'S BAY.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

NAPIER, March 14.

Sandstream went two better this year at Dannevirke than was the case with him last season at the autumn gathering of the club, for he proved victorious in each of the races that he got second berth in 1909. San Fran's consistent son has proved a most re-