The Sydneyian.

No. IX,

A MAGAZINE EDITED BY MEMBERS OF THE
SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

APRIL, 1878.

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SYDNEY:
PUBLISHED BY J. J. MOORE, GEORGE STREET.
1878.

Hampson & Gibson, Printers, 15 Queen's Place.
SCHOOL CALENDAR.

April 12.—Sydneian, No. 9, published.
March out and bivouac of the Cadet Corps.

17.—Modern History Examination.

18.—Greek and Latin Grammar Examinations.
School breaks up for Easter Holidays.

29.—Winter Term begins.

May 17.—Sydneian Box closes.

24.—Monthly Half-holiday.

27.—Sydneian, No. 10, published.
THE PREFECTS.

One of the greatest and most important innovations that has taken place since the foundation of the Sydney Grammar School, occurred on Friday, March 29, when the whole school were assembled to hear the names of those boys, appointed by the masters to be the Prefects of the School. The following boys were appointed:—Allen, I., Ayres, Barker, I., Barlee, I., Ebsworth, Moore, I., Rennie, Wilkinson, I., Trebeck, Mullins, I., Lowe, Neill, I., and Parnell. The duties will be to stop any quarrelling that may go on about the school, to put down bad language, and to keep up the moral tone of the school which is admitted to be the leading school of the colony. Mr. Weigall explained to the boys that the idea of appointing Prefects had occupied the attention of himself and the other masters for some time, and that they had come to the conclusion, that such a measure would tend eventually to promote the welfare of the School. We heartily concur in what Mr. Weigall said that if the boys could be gradually schooled into subordination to the intellectual and moral leaders among them, the habits of obedience thereby created would be of immense benefit to themselves besides relieving the masters of a duty which can be far more effectually done by the boys themselves. Though some of the Prefects are not giants physically, still it is to be hoped moral courage will be sufficient strength to them as long as they know what they are doing is right and for a good purpose, and above all let them fearlessly do their duty. Mr. Weigall and the masters are prepared to assist the Prefects in every way possible, and will carry out whatever punishment, they as a body, may advise. Any boys injuring trees, and otherwise damaging School property will be punished. These trees are intended at some future time to afford shade. Mr. Weigall intends on every monthly half-holiday to assemble the boys in the big School, and there speak about such matters as may be necessary connected with School discipline. In conclusion, we beg of all the boys in this School to assist in carrying out the orders of the Prefects, to give them as little occasion for interference as possible, and to bear in mind that when a boy is reported by a Prefect, that Prefect is simply doing his duty, and therefore should not be denounced as a "sneak" or "tell-tale."

THE EDITORS.
THE BINDA CAVES.

On Thursday, the 27th December, a party, consisting of fifty-two persons, including our visitors (the Melbourne team) started from Bathurst on an excursion to the Binda Caves.

Our means of transit were two waggonettes, a buggy, a cart with provisions, a dray with ditto, and last, but by no means least, a six-horse coach, aboard of which thirty-six of us managed to stow ourselves. We started from Hathop, the residence of our kind host, E. Webb, Esq., at 7.30 a.m., and the journey, though long, was not without many amusing incidents, of which one or two are worth relating.

After having driven about sixteen miles we came to a rather steep hill, on the top of which the sharp-eyed Hume said that he saw a cherry orchard. The clay being very hot we all jumped off the coach and walked up the hill to the assault. But observing a young damsel washing clothes in the garden we thought it would be more polite to send forward one of our number, well known for his influence with the fair sex, as ambassador, to obtain leave. Bob put on his most amiable smile and politely asked "if we might be allowed to partake of some of the fruit that was growing so temptingly on the other side of the fence." The nymph, lavishing sweet smiles on the gallant Robert, informed him that we were welcome to take as much as we liked. We accordingly jumped over the fence and commenced a vigorous attack upon the cherries. But imagine our surprise when suddenly an ancient dame, whose wrath even Bob's smiles could not appease, rushed out to know "what business we had eating her cherries." In vain did we try to explain that we had obtained leave from the young lady, our elderly friend said that that interesting young personage had nothing to do with it whatsoever, and she only calmed down when presented with half-a-crown to indemnify her for the loss of her precious fruit.

After we had gone about twenty-five miles, the coach horses began to evince a strong disinclination to visit the caves, and several times we all had to get out and help the driver to get them along. At one place we were stuck for a long time and could not induce the horses to move, till Jim Stewart got some green corn and held it in front of the leader's noses. They came forward to get it and pulled the other horses along, and thus Jim enticed them to the top of the hill.

At last we got to Duck Molloy Creek, where we camped for the first night. When the coach arrived we found that the waggonette party who had gone on before had pitched the ladies' tents, collected firewood, and had a good supper ready for us. So, after a bathe, we all gathered to the place where the eatables were spread and proved that our gastronomic organs were in good
working order. After supper we had some songs and then turned in. Every one was up by six o’clock next morning, and we had breakfast over and were on the road again by eight, though the coach horses were not so “gussy” as we might have wished, we accomplished the fifteen miles that lay between the creek and the hill overlooking the caves in about four hours. Vehicles can go no further than this, as the hill is very precipitous and about 1000 feet high. So after lunch we had to shoulder our bundles and walk the remaining mile and a half, while the provisions, bedding, and all the heavier articles went down on pack horses.

The scenery here is very fine. You stand on the top of a high ridge and see stretching away into the distance, the tops of hills on which the lights and shadows have a beautiful effect. On looking down, you see far beneath a green valley with a sluggish stream running through it, and enormous boulders of granite scattered about here and there which add to the pleasing effect of the _tous ensemble_.

By four o’clock we had all reached the camping place. A beautiful little spot, which I think deserves some description. Picture a little glen about 150 yards long, with an average breadth of about 40 yards, surrounded on every side by lofty hills covered with trees and verdure, whose granite crowned heads frown over from fully 1000 feet above. At one end a little creek with water as clear as crystal, which disappears underground after running a short distance and is not found again until it reaches the other side of the hill; at the other, the dry bed of a watercourse and the entrance to the Coach-house Cave. At this end the ladies’ tents were pitched on one side of the dry creek, and at the other were the gentlemen’s tents, the impromptu dining table, the kitchen _sub dielo_, and storehouse for provisions. To a person looking down from the slope of the hill about 200 feet above, the whole presented one of the prettiest pictures that could possibly be imagined.

Immediately on our arrival the gentlemen were told off in parties to make the necessary preparations for the “camp out,” such as unpacking the provisions, collecting firewood, and pitching the tents. By the time that we had finished, the horn (of which Bob Higgins was custodian) was blown to announce that tea was ready. Soon after tea we all dispersed to our respective sleeping places, so that by retiring early to rest we might be fresh for our first visit into the caves. Next morning we were all up betimes, and after having a bathe in the beautiful little creek at the other side of the hill, which is accessible through the cave called the Coach-house, forming a natural tunnel through the hill, we dispatched breakfast with appetites that only camping out can give, and then prepared to go over the caves under the guidance of Mr. Jeremiah Wilson, who is the Government keeper. Before we started, all who were going “fell in” and had their names taken down by Mr. Weigall, so that we could call the roll every now and then and discover
if any one was missing. This is a very good plan, and I should advise people who visit the caves in future to adopt it. When this was done, each gentleman took charge of a lady, and off we started. Now, before we go any further, I hope that no one imagines that I am going to write a critical exposition on the formation of the caves or descant on the ages that must have passed before each individual stalactite or stalagmite was formed; for if he does he will find that he has made a mistake. I have neither the time nor the patience, nor, last but not least, the knowledge to write such an article, and I am simply going to write about what they look like, and not what they are. With this explanation I shall proceed.

We first passed through the Coach-house, which, as I remarked before, forms a tunnel through the hill. It is over 100 yards long, about 40 yards broad, and over 100 feet in height. The chief features of this cave are the “pulpit” and “organ-pipes” which are of stalactite formation, on the side of the cave about 50 feet from the ground, and which exactly resembles a large pulpit, with the pipes of an immense organ behind it. If any sculptor could imitate in wood or stone the carving that Nature has wrought on these, he would become so famous that Phidias would only seem like a toy-maker in comparison with him. One night “Jerry Wilson,” the guide,” lit this up—puting candles in every niche: the effect was indescribably beautiful.

Passing out of this cave, and turning to the left, we came to the Devil’s Coach-house, which is very similar, both in size and appearance, to “the Coach-house,” only much higher. On leaving this cave, and climbing up a steep pathway about 100 feet in height, we came to the “Nettle Cave,” which is, as it were, a deep indentation in the wall of the Devil’s Coach-house, 100 feet or more from the ground. This is a beautiful cave. We looked from the light into a gloomy church-like chamber, with columns of coral-like stalactites 100 feet high, and about six feet in diameter. Here and there stalagmites three or four feet high, looked like tombstones, and the whole gave us the impression that we were going into some grand old cathedral.

Passing through this, we came to the edge of the cliff, from which we looked down into the Devil’s Coach-house, and there we saw, on looking around, stalactite waterfalls of white and of salmon-colour, stalagmites resembling judges’ wigs, bodies of animals, figures in robes, and other fantastic forms of every variety, all of a salmon or pale green colour. Two hundred feet above was the roof, with huge stalactites hanging from it, and looking as if they were about to fall upon us and crush us. Below was the floor of the Devil’s Coach-house, the biggest rocks on it now looking like building stones. There is a wire ladder here, by which we could ascend to the Arch Cave, which is above the Nettle Cave, and forms, as it were, the third story of the Devil’s Coach-house. But as the ladies did not care to venture to climb up it, we determined to return home to lunch, and go to it by another way in the afternoon.
After lunch we again prepared to sally forth on our explorations, and started off at about two o'clock to see the Arch and Elder Caves.

The Arch Cave is so named because just at its entrance there is a tremendous natural arch, perfect in its proportions, its perpendicular height being 120 feet. At the base of this, on the left-hand side, is the main entrance to the Arch Cave, down which we all climbed with some difficulty. The scenery, if I may use the expression, is much the same in this cave as it is in the Nettle Cave: huge pillars and columns and waterfalls, all of the same salmon or white colour. At the extreme end of this cave there is a small recess, in which there is a large stalactite that sounds exactly like a deep-toned bell when struck with a piece of rock,—hence this is called the Bell Cave. On leaving this cave, we ascended a hill, and after we had walked about 100 yards, we came to the Elder Cave, so called because to reach its entrance one has to clamber down an elder tree which, growing at the bottom of a pit, the descent into this cave is very difficult. We had to crawl on our hands and knees along narrow tunnels; to go by means of ropes down almost perpendicular precipices; and at one place, for ten yards, we had to squeeze through an inclined plane, which was only just large enough to admit our bodies. At the end of this was a rock eight feet high, down which we had to drop, and land on a rock about three feet square—for, if we had jumped a little further out, we should have fallen into a hole 700 feet deep—the probabilities are, that we should have taken up our permanent abode at the bottom of it, if we had once got in. However, with the assistance of Jerry Wilson and Tom Riddell, who constituted himself step-ladder for the occasion, all of us, including five ladies, got safely down. After this there was a little more squeezing through narrow passages, and then, on turning a corner, one of the most beautiful sights that any of us had seen, burst on our view. A low cavern, three feet six inches high, with a roof and floor of coral; from the ceiling bunches of grapes and long spiral pendants were hanging. All round were pillars of the purest white; the other side of them was a waterfall of pure white coral, on which the drops of water sparkled like diamonds, when seen in the bright light of the magnesium wire. Here and there were small recesses in the side of the rock, all of coral, and when a lighted candle was held inside them, the effect was absolutely lovely.

We all stayed here for about half-an-hour, gazing about at the enchanting scene in almost speechless wonder; but when the guide lit the magnesium wire, exclamations of delight broke from everyone present. It was now getting time to start for camp again, so, very unwillingly, we left this beautiful cave, and clambered up to its mouth again, which was 400 feet over our heads. We reached the camp about 8:30 in the evening, and attacked the good tea, which the others had ready for us, with the appetites earned by a good day's work.
As the next day was Sunday we did not visit the caves. In the morning
the Rev. G. Hurst, who was one of the party, held service, and in the after
noon most of the gentlemen went down to the creek for a bathe, while the
ladies stayed up in the camp and rested themselves after their hard work the
day before.

We started early on Monday morning for the New Cave, which took us two
days to go over, as it is more than a mile in length.

On account of the precipitous nature of this cave the Government have
found it necessary to place wire ladders at several points, in order that
visitors may be able to get to several otherwise inaccessible places. This cave
is much rougher than any of the others and climbing about it is very
detrimental to one's clothes. After slipping down a rough rock it was not an
uncommon sight to see one of the gentlemen of the party suddenly sit down to
tie his boot-lace (?) and remain tying a firm knot until everyone had passed, when
he would come on very slowly in the rear and not show in front for the
remainder of the day. One of the most beautiful spots in this cavern is
called the Shawl Cave. In the middle of a large chamber there is a big
brown rock, over which is formed a snow white stalactite shawl, which hangs
over it just as naturally as if some one had spread it there. All round are
the usual accompaniments of waterfalls and grotesque figures, and looking up
the wall to the roof, which is nearly 300 feet above, it seemed as if we were
gazing on snow-clad hill tops piled one on another, till they were lost to view
in the gloom above.

Amongst other beautiful spots in this cave may be mentioned the Bride's
Cave, which is very difficult of access, the Fossil Caves, and the Cathedral,
which is so high that we could not see the top even in the strong light of the
magnesium wire. It took us three days to go over all the caves. On the
following Wednesday we started for Bathurst, where we arrived on Friday
night, all in good health and spirits and thoroughly pleased with our trip.
Before closing, I must say a word about our excellent and efficient guide,
Jerry Wilson, whose persevering good nature and untiring attention won the
admiration and respect of all. He provides everything necessary for parties
visiting the caves on very reasonable terms. I am sure that all those who
visit the caves hereafter will agree with all of our party in classing them not
only amongst the greatest natural beauties of Australia, but of the world;
and I feel sure that everyone who went this trip will always remember Mr.
Webb's kindness in taking us to see the Binda Caves.

R. C. McP.
SYDNEY BY NIGHT.

The sun had set in glory,
With a flood of golden light;
Ten thousand stars had risen
To beautify the night.
Hushed was the din and bustle
That Mammon makes by day,
And home the sons of labour
Sped on their eager way.

Filled was each shrine of Bacchus
With many a devotee,
And bright eyed youths were singing
The songs of revelry.
The Halls of Art were empty,
Save of a studious few—
Apollo's fanes deserted,
Minerva's temples too.

'Tis midnight, and each tavern
Pours forth a noisome crowd,
With fumes of wine, all reeking,
And some with curses loud.
With aching hearts and foreheads,—
(Oh! 'twas a bitter sight),
Turned homeward, staggering footsteps,
Such was the town by night.

Brothers, why will ye trifle
With health, and peace of home,
Leave weeping wives and children
On ruin's path to roam?
Think of the vows ye've plighted,
Think of a sister's tears,
A mother's warning slighted,
A sire bowed down with years.
Think of a God offended,
Think of your troubles sore.
Have ye a conscience brothers?
Then, "go and sin no more."

YENDYS.
THE SPANISH ARMADA.

In Elizabeth's reign
A Spanish host
From Spain invaded
Our southern coast.
Full twenty thousand
Men they had
On board those ships,
In armour clad.

This Armada had on board
The Inquisition bold,
And of whom there e'er has been
Many a tale told.
This terrible armament
Arrived in the Straits of Dover,
And our firing and the storms
Knocked many a good ship over.

The English had the wind in favour,
And fire-ships then they made,
Which bore down on the Spanish host,
And made them all afraid.
They cut their cables in great haste,
In great haste they went
Far from the Straits of Dover,
Far from the coast of Kent.

And in the cold North Sea
Where the cold winds blow,
The Flying Armada left its track
Amid the sleet and snow.
And of all the ships
That left proud Spain,
Scarce fifty-four
Came back again.

DEBATING CLUB.

Friday Evening, February 22.—Recitations and Songs. This might readily be termed the opening night of the Debating Club, as, on this occasion, the Club was formed, the office-bearers were elected, and the rules were read and
passed. F. B. Wilkinson was voted to the chair. The office-bearers are:

President—Mr. Weigall; Vice-Presidents—F. B. Wilkinson, T. Barker;
Committee (of which the President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer, are ex-officio members)—Elphinestone, Samuel, Baylis, Neill, Lowe; Hon.
Secretary—N. Montagu; Hon. Treasurer—Mr. Anderson. The rules were all satisfactory, with the exception of one, which was “That each member should pay one shilling the first quarter, and sixpence each succeeding quarter.” This rule was afterwards altered to one shilling each quarter.

An entertainment, consisting of Songs and recitations, followed the business part of the evening. Baylis was encored for his singing. Wilkinson, James, Tait, and Street, all gave some very good songs, which met with the appreciation they deserved. Mr. Anderson, Moffit, and Lowe gave some very good recitations. Higgins II. and Herbert also recited very fairly.

Friday Evening, March 15.—Debate—“That an education for a profession is preferable to an education for a commercial life?” The Ministry (Wilkinson’s) upheld the cause of an education for a profession. Barker, one of the Vice-Presidents, took the chair. The attendance was very good. The speakers were—for: Montagu, Jeffries, who made the best speech of the evening (and a very good one it was, too); against: Higgins II., Samuel, Herbert. The result of the discussion was—for, 16; against, 24. It will thus be seen that the Ministry were defeated by 8 votes.

After the division took place, Mr. Weigall reviewed the different arguments brought forward, and gave the meeting some very good advice as to the way to debate. As Mr. Weigall always tries to be present at these debates, the boys ought to attend also, for there is no doubt that they can learn much when there is some one of experience to give them instruction. During the debate the Chairman exercised his right to invite anyone to speak, and he asked McPherson, who was present, to say a few words to the meeting. He made a very humorous and telling speech which was listened to with much attention.

Friday, March 22.—The New Ministry.—Herbert announced the names of the new Ministry. It consists of Herbert (Premier), with Barker, Higgins, Shute, I., and Street.

Friday Evening, March 22.—Songs, Recitations, &c.—F. B. Wilkinson in the chair. Among the recitations given, those of Herbert and Anderson were the best. They both recited very carefully. Mr. Raymond was encored for his song “The Hungry Man.” He was afterwards called upon to sing another song, for which he was again encored. Baylis and Neill were very well received, the former being encored for his song “All that glitters is not gold.” Teece gave a recitation, or as he styled it “a burlesque on cats,” which being exceedingly funny caused much amusement to the audience. Both Street and Montagu played successfully piano solos, both of which were applauded. G. Littlejohn played a violin solo with much expression. It was very well received. Long gave “Doctor Quack” with much spirit. Mr. Whitfield’s piano playing gave much pleasure. Mr. Anderson sang the Cadet song.
Friday Evening, March 29.—Debate—"Which is the greater benefactor to his country, a warrior or a statesman?" The Government (Herbert's) maintained that a statesman was the greater benefactor. F. B. Wilkinson was in the chair. The speakers were—For: Herbert, R. Shute, Higgins, Anderson. Against: F. Barlee, Halliday, Montagu, McIntyre. The division was—For, 13; against, 16. The Ministry were thus defeated. The chairman then called upon Montagu to form a new Ministry, which consists of Montagu (Premier), having for his colleagues, Wilkinson, Jeffries, Barlee, and Lowe.

The Treasurer reports that 72 members have paid their subscriptions.

DEBATING CLUB RULES.

1. The Club shall be called the "Sydney Grammar School Debating Club."
2. The Officers of the Club shall be—1 President, 2 Vice-Presidents, 1 Treasurer, 1 Secretary, and a Committee of 5; all except the President and Treasurer to be boys, and to be elected every half-year.
3. Ordinary Meetings to be held every Friday evening, at 7.30 p.m., during Grammar School Terms. The half-yearly meetings on the second Friday in each half-year.
4. Members to consist of present or Past Masters and Pupils, the Office bearers to be restricted to those in the School at the time of election.
5. The Committee, of which the President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary, and Treasurer are ex officio members, shall have the power of regulating all business in connection with the Club.
6. Any member may propose a new bye-law or an alteration in the Rules provided that eight days notice be given.
7. New members to be proposed and seconded, and to be elected by a show of hands.
8. The business of the Club shall be Debates, and Recitations with Music on alternate nights.
9. The Debates shall be conducted by means of a Ministry and an Opposition; the Ministry to be responsible for the Debates, and when defeated, to be succeeded by a new Ministry chosen by a member of the Opposition appointed by the President.
10. No one but members shall take any part in any of the business of the Club, except on the Chairman's invitation.
11. The Treasurer shall publish the accounts every quarter. The Secretary shall be responsible for the business on the evenings for recitations and songs, and shall, at every meeting, read the minutes of the previous meeting.
12. The fee (to be paid in advance) shall be one shilling per quarter.
MOSQUITOES.

What hinders my work—
What worries me out?
Horrid mosquitoes
That fly round about.

The summer nights through,
To read or to write,
Their buzzing prevents me—
Not to speak of their bite.

As soon as 'tis dusk,
When candles are lit,
At school-work, drawing,
Or reading I sit.

Vain are my efforts,
Because of these bores.
Mosquitoes, mosquitoes
Buzz in at the doors.

I take up my pen—
My hand they assail;
And driving them off
I find won't avail.

They return to the charge
More fierce than before,
In hundreds or thousands,
Or millions or more.

When winter has come,
I'll work like a horse,
Sitting at lessons—
(By a fire, of course.)

GROWLER.

FACETIE.

What two boys resemble ladies' parasols? The Pair o'Shutes.

When Mr. Perry is walking what sect of philosophers does he resemble? The Perry-patetic.

What is the 'difference between the passage money of the coach, and a woman? One is a mail fee—the other a female.

Who knows but that in a week, the Turks may be (Cos) sacked out of Europe?

A certain member of the School who remains in the same form, while others come and pass by, considers that he resembles a log caught in the river bank in flood time, which, though not going on with the rest, keeps on the same level, and is equally high as the others. Here is a noble consolation for those in a like predicament.
CRICKET.

VITH. AND VTH. V. IVTH. GRECIAN FORMS.

The IVth. Form scored 27, which their opponents passed with six wickets to spare. Fuller and Mackay bowled well for the Vith. and Vth. The highest scorers were Piddington, 10; Bowman, 9. Vith. and Vth.—Shute, Mackay, Street, 7, 5 and 4 respectively.—March 9.

SAME V. CLEVELAND HOUSE.

Only eight of the Vith. and Vth. appeared in the field, and C. H. C. C. eleven scored 44; Carroll, 17; Hungerford, 10. The VIth. and Vth.—Nine wickets for 37: Moore, 9; King, 8.—March 14.

SAME V. CLEVELAND HOUSE (RETURN MATCH.)

The C. H. C. C. scored 14; Dezarnauld's made 5, and the VIth. and Vth. 31; Herbert, 9; Elphinstone, 5. The bowling of Ayres and Mackay (VIth. and Vth.) was very good, as was Rygate's for Cleveland House.

SAME AND VTH. V. IVTH MODERNS.

This was won by the IVth. Moderns with a score of 43, of which M'Coy made 22, and Kennedy, 6. The VIth. and Vth. scored 31; Fuller, 9; Ayres, 7.

1ST ELEVEN v. 22.

Played on the University Oval, March 29. The eleven won by 12 runs. For the eleven—Baylis, 11, Neale, 11 (not out.) The innings closed for 49. The 22 made 37 runs. In the second innings of the 22, Fuller and Ward made 18 and 7 respectively. The match not being finished was decided by the first innings. The bowling of Jones for the eleven was very effectual.

F. R. B.

Not the least grateful for the welcome change in the weather are "ourselves." We know—both masters and boys—what it is to have to sit pondering over our lessons at night. The heat all this quarter to the present time, has been excessive, and the rains which came a month ago gave birth to innumerable swarms of mosquitoes. But now, what a change is here. The nights are cool and the days are shorter. One feels twice the man he was before, and can do his work with greater ease. Certainly we in the VIth have least to grumble at,—our room was cool as it is possible to make it, still we know that even there it is most oppressive: what, then, must be the discomfort of those in the other rooms? We have an idea that the radiation of heat from those thousands of slate roofs in the valley below us, contribute greatly to make the air hotter, especially so when there is no wind to carry it off.

"HOW WAS IT YOU WERE BEATEN AT NEWINGTON?"

During a conversation with one of the eleven a few days after the late Newington Match, I asked this question. The answer I received, which surprised me and led to these few remarks, was "Pooh! we have not had a practice since the Melbourne Match." It is very disappointing to me, although an ex-
student, to find that after the eleven practising well during the whole of last quarter, and then winning the highest laurels within its reach, they should be allowed, after an absence from the cricket-field of nearly three months, to take the field against a rival school without having had even one practice together.

I blame the eleven in general for thus risking the honour of the School when they were quite out of form, for surely they might have gone to Moore Park, which, although not very smooth, has, I may say, been the only practice ground the eleven could rely on for some years.

While speaking of a ground I will make a suggestion which, if entertained, will, I think, be the means of getting one for next season.

Everybody is agreed that the School needs a more suitable playground, and I understand the Trustees would get one if it were possible. Now I suggest that the Trustees be asked to allow the School a moderate interest for the money they are prepared to expend on a new playground, and I think I am just when I say that £20 per annum is a very small interest for the value of a playground. I feel sure that if the matter were represented to the Trustees in this light, they would not hesitate a moment, but give the cheque into the hands of the Sports Committee.

The N.S.W. Cricket Association who have always been very kind to our Club, and deserve the School’s thanks for letting the eleven practise on their new ground last term, gratis, would, I believe, rent the School a wicket at a moderate rate.

I wish the boys would remember that ex-students feel as much pleasure when the School wins a match as if they had helped to win it. And to conclude, I ask that in future the captain of the eleven will see that the members of it are in fair form before they play matches, and also that they will not take this thrashing in a matter of course, but doubly exert themselves to win the return match with Newington, as well as every other one throughout the season.

I remain,

QUONDAM ALUMNUS.

ACCOUNTS.

REPORT OF SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL SPORTS CLUB.

Cr.—Sports Fees £15 18 6

Liabilities at date of last Report since paid.
1878.

Feb. 26. Lamb and Fairfax, engraving  £4 1 8
" 25. Solomon Printing  1 2 0
" 27. Bill Posting  0 10 6

5 14 2

Paid this quarter.

March 7. Holdsworth and Co., cricketing materials £2 0 0
" 18. Holdsworth and Co., cricket balls 1 0 0

3 0 0

Balance in hands of Treasurer £2 14 2

£7 4 4

Audited and found correct by F. BAYLIS
C. H. FRANCIS.

W. NEILL, Hon. Treasurer.
OUR readers will be glad to hear that Mr. G. B. Allen, B.A., a former Captain of the School, has obtained an Exhibition at Balliol College, Oxford. As Balliol may fairly be considered the centre of intellectual life in Oxford, Mr. Allen's friends have every reason to be proud of the very creditable position which he has obtained at his entrance examination.

Murray, the Captain of the School, won the University Prize and the West Medal at the Senior Public Examination, held at the University in November last. We have reason to know that the competition upon that occasion was unusually severe, as our friends from the Brisbane School were undoubtedly very formidable antagonists, and therefore Murray's success is the more satisfactory.

Letters have been received from Alick O'Reilly, who has matriculated at St. John's College, Cambridge. He has sent a Copy of "Macaulay's Life and Letters" to his old form Library. May others follow this good example! We have since been informed that at the Yearly Examination at St. John's, O'Reilly was placed in the First Class.

We are glad to be able to inform our readers, that Mr. Bean has made a good start at All Saints College, Bathurst. We feel, that All Saints College is founded on a rock, and that it will endure. During the present quarter, Mr. J. C. Davis, one of our ex-masters, accepted the appointment of Head Master of the Orange Grammar School—we know that Mr. Davis carries to his new sphere of duty the same conscientious love of work and the same interest in the welfare of his pupils, that so pre-eminently distinguished him while he was a master at this school. Mr. Carroll has taken his place.

The Trustees have appointed Mr. E. Meyrick, B.A., Trinity College, Cambridge, to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Bean's appointment to the Head Mastership of All Saints College, Bathurst. Mr. Meyrick was educated at Marlborough College, was a scholar of Trinity, and graduated First Class in the Classical Tripos 1875.

Mr. Weiss' vacancy has been filled by the appointment of Mr. C. J. D. Goldie. Mr. Goldie was educated at Eton, and at St. John's College, Cambridge.

We notice from an advertisement in the Herald that Mr. Goldie and Mr. Stephenson have made arrangements to open a Boarding-house at the beginning of next Term. As Mr. Fache's house is at present full, we presume that there is a further demand for additional Boarding-house accommodation. May the new house flourish, and become a power for good in the school.

The Shakespeare Scholarship at the Sydney University for the present
year was won by Mr. H. C. L. Anderson, B.A., formerly a boy and now a Master at the school.

The Gilchrist Scholarship has been awarded to Mr. T. D. St. C. Maclardy, B.A., formerly a pupil of this school. We are informed that Mr. Maclardy proceeds to the University of Edinburgh.

Mr. W. C. Wilkinson, B.A., a former Captain of the school, after graduating at our Local University, where he distinguished himself both as a University scholar and an athlete, proceeded by the December mail to study medicine at the London University.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editors of the Sydneian.

Dear Sirs,—I think some measures ought to be taken to prevent, or at least to lessen, the great rush which takes place at the School dinner when the Upper School boys come down stairs; and certainly it is advisable not to admit any boy until Mr. Pope has finished locking up, and is able to superintend. Hoping some notice will be taken of this,

I am, yours, &c.,

A LOWER SCHOOL-BOY.

To the Editors of the Sydneian.

Sirs,—I think that the 3rd form boys suffer a great inconvenience in not being allowed to stay in their class-room in the recess. All the Upper School have their doors open, and I do not see why we should not have our doors open as well as they. If we want to read or perfect ourselves in our afternoon lessons, we have to sit on the seats outside, where the noise of the boys rushing past, or the cricket balls coming on our heads greatly disturbs us. I have spoken to several boys in my form and they hold the same opinion as I do.

I remain, Sirs, your obedient servant,

A SUFFERER.

CAWDOR CASTLE.

Some years ago, when living in England, I went to spend my midsummer holidays in Scotland, and while staying there I went to see Cawdor Castle, and as perhaps some of the boys have never seen a Castle I will endeavour to explain what this one is like.

Cawdor Castle was built before the reign of Duncan, but it is in his reign that we first hear about it connected with Macbeth. It is very strong and
encircled by a deep moat crossed by a drawbridge. There are two large towers on each side of the drawbridge, which were filled with archers in time of war. After crossing the drawbridge you come to a high wall which surrounds the castle. This is passed through by a large iron gate or portcullis, which is drawn up and down by chains. This has towers above it for the same purpose. After passing through this you come into a large courtyard facing the principal entrance door of the Castle, which leads into a large hall full of old armour and arms, each of which has some legend. The staircase is very wide, and leads on to a long corridor with rooms on each side. Lady Macbeth's room is on this floor. Higher up we come to another landing, on which we were shown the room where Duncan was murdered by Lady Macbeth. Next you get to the roof, which is surrounded by battlements not quite so high as a man, where the warders used to keep watch. It is capable of holding some hundreds of men. Afterwards we went down below and saw the men's quarters and the dungeon. The latter is a very big place entirely underground. No light is let in. The walls are damp and covered with moss. Large rings are let into the walls, to which the fetters still hang showing the places where the prisoners were chained in one position for their lifetime. In it there is a withered trunk of a hawthorn bush, about which the following very curious story is told. The first Earl of Cawdor not knowing where to build his castle tied all his wealth on the back of an ass and then turned it out, saying that wherever the ass was first stopped he would build his castle, and the first place at which it stopped was under the shade of the hawthorn bush, and so he built his castle round it.

H. M. S.

CADET CORPS.

The Corps was very much reduced in numbers (as is always the case) at the beginning of the year; but owing to the exertions of the present energetic staff of sergeants, it now numbers 100 Cadets.

Every Tuesday and Saturday large teams of rifles and carbines go out to the Butts, and a great improvement in the shooting is now visible. Lieutenant Anderson, Lance-Corporals Murray and Hungerford, and Cadet Gorriok have made some very good scores.

Three prizes of £1 each will be given to the three highest average scores in each company during the quarter; and four more to the winning squad in an All Fours Match to come off on Tuesday, the 9th inst.

It may be fairly expected now that there will be some good matches with the other Corps next quarter.

The Corps is going to have a march-out on Friday the 12th inst., when some amusement will probably be provided in the direction of Middle Harbour.

Colour-Sergeant Bowman is still the senior non-commissioned officer, and is intelligently and cheerfully assisted in the management of the affairs of the Corps by Quartermaster-Sergeant Baylis, Sergeants Neill, Wilkinson, and Pollock, Corporals Barker, McIntyre, Street, Cowper, Poolman, and Thomson, and Lance-Corporals Murray, Hungerford, Elphinstone, Cooper, and Richardson.

Directly England determines to check the aggressive spirit of the Russian Bear, a corps of 100 smart, well-drilled old Cadets will be enrolled, for which our Corps will be an excellent training school and reserve.
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