The Sydneyian

No. XIII.

A Magazine Edited by Members of the Sydney Grammar School.

October, 1878.

Contents:

Editorial ........................................ 1
English Public Schools, No. 5 ............. 2
The Cadet Camp ................................. 4
Our Bathurst Trip ............................... 4
After the Michaelmas Holidays (an Acrostic) 10
Debating Club .................................. 11
Cricket Notes ................................... 12
Sydney Grammar School Rowing Club .......... 13
Correspondence ................................ 14
Sense Sacrificed to Sound .................. 14
School Prizes .................................. 15
Facetiae ......................................... 16

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1878.
Correspondents are requested—(1) To sign their names to their articles, but if their names be in brackets, they will not be published. (2) To write on one side of the paper only.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Will "Hilda" kindly send name and address to the Editors, not for publication, but as a guarantee of originality? her contributions cannot be inserted, according to rule, until this condition has been complied with.

"Fair Play" (Football).—Your letter is too personal; avoid mentioning names.

"Fair Play" (Cricket).—Your project is already under consideration.

"Trip to New Zealand" (continued), in our next.

No. XIV. of the Sydneian will be published on Monday, Dec. 16, and will be a double number of 32 pages, the price of which will be 1/: the Editor's box will close on Wednesday, December 4.
EDITORIAL.

It is singular that amongst all classes, but especially among boys, little or no attention should ever be paid to the attainment and preservation of health, the rarest of gifts, whereof those who have once tasted deem it to be the only thing worth living for. Such a state of things is in the main, due to the gross and reprehensible ignorance of all boys on matters connected with the development and requirements of the human frame; an ignorance, which, it cannot be extravagant to hope, may some day be habitually counteracted, like other ignorances, by direct teaching. Meanwhile, a boy, during the period of physical growth, is endued with an amount of vitality that renders him unconscious or careless of faults which seem at the time to be followed by no serious consequences, slight indications being not apparent to his inexperienced judgment; but on attaining manhood he will become conscious of his defects and weak points, when it is in general too late to attempt to mend them. These remarks apply in this country with especial force to regular physical exercise, the necessity for which cannot be fully perceived by boys, though its neglect is in the end certainly and fatally destructive. It is absolutely necessary to take a certain amount of really vigorous physical exercise daily; not such feeble exertion as is involved by driving out in a buggy, or casually loafing down town, but something really laborious and stimulating. It is the absence of this exercise which often causes that pale, tropical, weedy configuration so frequent among Australians, and likely to be yet much more frequent in generations to come, if healthful and vigorous habits are disregarded. Few persons really understand how much work and indolence are matters of habit, and with what certainty the latter enervates and enfeebles the constitution, until body and mind are alike unequal to grappling with any serious undertaking. In a cold climate it is rarely necessary to preach against idleness; the sensation of cold is in itself a sufficient stimulus to toil, and therefore the inhabitants of the chilly north have always been adventurous and successful, not because cold made them hardy, but because cold made them work. In this sunny clime the languor of idleness is a real and great danger, and the greater certainty that it will be followed by actual disease of the liver and digestive organs renders it more imperatively necessary not to relax self-discipline in the matter.

We feel justified in the presumption that this indolence accounts for
fellows not having even sufficient patriotism in them to walk half-a-mile to look on at a school match. Only on some such theory is it possible to account for the disgraceful want of interest shown by upper and lower fellows alike, in matches against other schools or clubs; twenty or thirty spectators out of a school of 400 form in themselves a ludicrous and a horrible spectacle, such as in England would make the school the laughing stock of the whole country. There, on all such public occasions, literally every boy, great or small, good or bad, has yet sufficient public spirit to ensure his attendance, and assistance in inspiring that additional vigour which is always imparted to the breasts of the combatants by the presence of an appreciative crowd of spectators. But perhaps it is too wildly imaginary to expect that fellows who will not take any trouble for their own sakes should in the smallest particular exert themselves for the benefit of their school.

ENGLISH PUBLIC SCHOOLS—No. V.

MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE.

Two days after the close of our last quarter, Marlborough College, the most illustrious of those great new English schools, whose progress has been of late years so conspicuous, was celebrating the thirty-fifth anniversary of its foundation. In giving some account of the organisation and institutions in which will be found the secret of its greatness, it may be convenient on the present occasion to give especial prominence to the political constitution adopted by the boys themselves for the administration of their internal affairs; inasmuch as it would seem that the time is now not far distant when we may ourselves be called upon to greatly modify or reconstruct our own incomplete system of direction.

Marlborough College is at the present day the only great example of what is known as the "hostel" system, according to which all the boys (it is perhaps necessary to observe that practically none of the large public schools admit day-boarders) reside together in one large block of buildings; the usual arrangement being that the boys live in separately situated boarding-houses kept by the masters, attending for all general duties at the school buildings. Of late years, Marlborough has also supplemented its accommodation by the addition of two or three large boarding-houses of this description, but all continue to take all meals, &c., in common, so that the original idea of unity is little impaired. It is probable that to this system is due some part, at least, of that complete union, both of thought and action, which has proved sufficient to make every serious resolution or undertaking at once practically effective.

The school now contains about 560 boys; had it accommodation for them, it might soon have 1000. These are wholly classified into houses, so-called (although in fact the division is purely arbitrary, since, as above stated, nearly all reside together); three or four dormitories, containing altogether about fifty boys, are united as a house under the care of some one master. Artificial as these divisions are, the intensity of feeling
excited by them could not have been surpassed, had they existed from the earliest dawn of the human race; and it is upon this enthusiastic house-patriotism that the entire political constitution is based. Each house possesses a house class-room, which is the residence only of those members of the house who are in one of the four fifth Forms; besides these, the fifth Forms have also each its own class-room. The whole of the fourth Forms associate together in the great upper school-room. The sixth have each a private study, besides their general class-room. The Lower School (consisting entirely of young boys, since all who are not fit to be promoted out of it by a certain age, are compelled to leave the school forthwith) is kept quite distinct and separate from the rest.

The whole affairs of the school are administered by an elaborate system of committees. Every committee consists of five members, elected to the office by vote of the whole school assembled; and care is taken to avoid, if possible, any committee containing more than one member from any particular house. There are separate committees for cricket and for football, which, in addition to general arrangements and management of funds, select teams, and make promotions. There is a race committee, which manages the athletic sports. There is an election committee, whose business it is solely to provide for the fairness of the election of members for other committees. There is a school committee, which attends to matters of public interest not falling under any special heads. The editorial committee of the “Marlburian” fills up its vacancies by co-optation, i.e., the surviving members request whom they like to join. The various school societies and class-rooms have mostly their own governing committees, always of five, elected, of course, by their own members only; with the exception of the Rifle Corps, which is governed on military principles by the Captain alone, who is a member of the school. Subscription to all of these institutions is compulsory throughout the school; cricket, football, race, rifle corps, house-library, and class-room subscriptions are collected from every boy during one hour on the second night of term. Subscription to the “Marlburian” is not compulsory, but practically universal.

Cricket-playing is not absolutely compulsory, as it is understood that in summer time rackets, fives, or natural history pursuits are available as substitutes; but it is distinctly implied that no one is permitted to loaf about, doing nothing; moreover, if anyone ever plays cricket at all, he must do so always when wanted, which is, practically, every afternoon—no half-and-half measures are tolerated. Besides the Eleven Ground, each house is allotted a separate cricket ground in the field, which they keep in order themselves, and on which practice matches are played regularly. Champion House cups are given for cricket, football, shooting, rackets, fives, and gymnasium; they are competed for by the various houses every season, and held by the winning house in each case until the following season; the matches for these are the most exciting events of the term. Football is compulsory on all alike, except a doctor certifies that a particular boy is unfit to play. For football purposes the whole of the upper school is divided into six bodies, viz., the XX., which is the school team; the XL,
which contains the forty next best in order of merit; similarly, the LX., LXXX., and C., containing as many members as their number imply; and, lastly, \( \pi\alpha\lambda\nu\omega \), so-called, including all who do not belong to the higher ranks, something over 100. Games are played in these divisions on two days in the week; the XX., XL, and part of the LX. play together, forming Big Game; the rest of the LX., with the LXXX., the C., and the \( \pi\alpha\lambda\nu\omega \) form three other separate games. On the other days matches are played either between the members of a house, or between rival houses. Fellows who distinguish themselves in their division are promoted to the one above it; a list of promotions is published every Saturday night. All the XX., XL, and LX. have caps, each rank its own. On the occasion of foreign matches, no other game is played, as every living boy attends, to encourage by his presence.

The Rifle Corps is not proportionately so well patronized as other institutions, the number of efficient members rarely exceeding 100; it also possesses a military band, consisting of about eighteen members. Shooting is regularly practised, and generally fairly good. Gymnasium attendance is compulsory on the whole school, at least one hour a week; but those who choose can attend every day. The Natural History Society, for the pursuit of field science, is the oldest school society of its kind existing; it generally numbers about forty members, and a large number of honorary members, but its constitution is normally in a state of flux, and constantly undergoing reorganisation; usually it holds fortnightly meetings, and in the summer months excursions or field-days to places of interest in the neighbourhood, to investigate the local fauna and flora; it possesses a museum, which is not sufficiently large for its requirements, and a very complete little botanical garden; it publishes a half-yearly report of its proceedings, papers read, &c., extending over generally more than 100 pages, and from the sale of this derives the principal portion of its revenue. There is a laboratory, recently built, for the practical study of chemistry; and a workshop for learning carpentering. The Debating Society is confined generally to the sixth, all of whom are expected to join; but the school are admitted to hear the debates, and may speak as visitors. All members are compelled to make a speech every term, containing not less than two minutes consecutive speaking. No government exists; the senior Prefect is President. Any member who chooses brings forward a motion for debate, and it is discussed by other members, according to their unbiased convictions—not with the prejudice of a party-supporter. This system produces more original and free debates than would be possible in the face of a factious opposition.

(To be continued.)

O. M.

THE CADET CAMP.

(By our "War Correspondent")

On Saturday morning, September 28, nearly a hundred and twenty Cadets (including about a dozen "old fellows") headed by Captain Weigall and Lieut. Anderson, proceeded in heavy marching order, from the school to the
Railway Station, where they arrived in good time for the morning train to Bathurst. There was a considerable gathering of friends awaiting to bid good bye, and as the train moved off, the Cadets indulged in vigorous cheering and waving of handkerchiefs, which was kept up till they were out of sight.

The Cadets soon settled down, and beguiled the time by reading, eating, singing, or enjoying the scenery. At length Mount Victoria was reached. Here, those who had not taken the precaution to provide themselves with edibles, got out and refreshed themselves. On passing Bowenfels three hearty cheers were given for "our last Camp," three more being given for Mr. McCoy, the station-master, who had been very obliging to the corps when camping there last year.

About half-past 5 the train pulled up at Bathurst, where a large crowd had assembled to welcome the Cadets, who, as soon as they could, fell in at the rear of the station. After falling in, the Cadets, headed by the Bathurst Volunteer Band (a very good one, too,) marched round the principal streets of Bathurst, going by way of George-street, to the camping ground, which they reached about half-past 6. There they found a dozen tents pitched on an elevated piece of ground, surrounded by bushes—the very beau ideal of a camp. The locality is called "Poor Man's Hollow," and is situated towards the rear of the Bathurst Racecourse, close to the Bald Hills. It may not be out of place here to mention how the Camp was arranged, and to give the names of the tent Captains:

**Carbines.**

No. 1.—Corporal Cowper
2.—Corporal Richardson

**Rifles.**

No. 3.—Corporal McIntyre
4.—Corporal Thomson
5.—(Sergeant's tent)—Sergeant-Major Pope
6.—Corporal Street
7.—Corporal Pollock
8.—All Saint's College Cadets)—Corporal Atkinson
9.—(Ex-Student Cadets)—Ex-Sergeant Hodge.

The remaining three were used respectively for the officers' tent (in which were Captain Weigall, Lieutenant Anderson, and our ex-Q.M.S. (M'Intyre of All Saint's College), the Commissary Tent (under the charge of Q.M.S. Baylis), and the Guard Tent.

The following is a list of "best tents" during the Camp. One of the officers held an inspection every morning, except on Saturday, the day of departure from Bathurst.

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Tent Nos.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Nos. 1 and 2 Carbines</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
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At tea, the usual "luxuries" for camp consumption, such as potted meats, jam, fish, &c., were brought forward, and were soon disposed of. After tea, a guard of twelve was set, six of them being out at a time till twelve o'clock, when only one at a time went on guard. At ten o'clock, the bugler blew "the Retreat," when all retired to bed, no doubt very much tired out by the fatigues of the journey. The "Reveille" was sounded every morning at six o'clock.

On Sunday morning the cadets were marched into Bathurst in time for service at All Saint's Cathedral, where the Rev. Dr. Selwyn delivered a very impressive sermon. In the afternoon, the camp seemed alive with visitors. At one time there were nearly three hundred persons present. The visitors evinced great interest in the proceedings, and seemed highly amused when the tea was being served out. But they were fairly struck with astonishment when they saw the cadets attacking the viands. As one of the onlookers remarked, "Bathurst has evidently done them some good already." The air was certainly very bracing. After tea, about twenty rifles, with Capt. Weigall, went to the Cathedral.

On Monday morning the cadets went out with blank cartridge to skirmish on one of the neighbouring hills.

In the afternoon after parade, a party of rifles went out to shoot at the butts, but on their return described them as being almost unfit for use. In the evening, or rather early next morning, the "attack on, and seizure of the G. S. Cadet Camp," about which so much has been written took place, and requires some explanation, which I quote from Capt. Weigall's official report to the Commandant.

"On Sunday, September 29th, Capt. Paul paid me a visit. I expressed to him a wish that the Bathurst Corps and the Cadets should have a sham fight in the day-time. I thought that this might gratify the people of Bathurst, who had shown us considerable kindness. Capt. Paul told me that his corps was in so disorganised a condition that he doubted whether he could make the necessary arrangements but that he would try what he could do, and that he would call on me the next day (Monday), at 2 p.m. and let me know whether he could make any arrangements for an attack upon our camp. As Capt. Paul did not call upon me as he had promised to do, I naturally presumed that he had not concluded his arrangements, and therefore made no preparation for an attack. At 12 p.m., I sent a patrol round the outskirts of the camp, withdrew the outlying sentries, and posted one sentry within the lines." The report goes on to say that as a proof of there being no want of vigilance on the part of the cadets, the officer of the night was sleeping with the guard in the guard tent, and that at the first sound of the fire of the Bathurst men, who waited to enter the camp till the sentries were withdrawn, the guard turned out and stood to arms. The Bathurst men did not fire until they were almost within our line, so that it will be seen that the cadets were taken at a complete disadvantage. Capt. Weigall winds up this part of the report by saying "I need hardly point out to the Commandant that with the small force under my command, it would have been impossible to secure the camp from attack every night of our stay without serious danger to the health of those under my command—and the health of the cadets was of course my first duty."
Captain Weigall immediately ordered the cadets to fall to the rear, and expressed his surprise at Captain Paul's behaviour. The only excuse that gentleman had to offer was, that they had intended to come earlier, but were prevented, and that they only wanted to try and see if the camp was guarded properly. As if a camp would be specially guarded when supposed to be in a friendly country! The camp was only entered "per dolum." On Tuesday morning considerable stir was caused by the announcement that the "Bologna" Grand Lodge would hold a public meeting. Immediately after breakfast the bugler sounded the lodge call, whereupon all who could, made their way towards the ex-cadets' tent. But, first, let me explain what the "Bologna" lodge was. It was originally the idea of ex-Cadet M'Therson, who, at a meeting of the ex-cadets, proposed that the lodge should be formed. This was unanimously carried, and the proposer was made Grand Master. Certain signs, &c., having been agreed upon, the meeting terminated. On the eventful morning above mentioned, the cadets stood round, formed a semicircle (the ex-cadets forming the front rank) and the grand master was duly elevated on a box. It was announced that certain elections to the lodge would take place. Captain Weigall was then duly proposed and seconded, and, after an excellent speech by ex-cadet Teece, the election was confirmed, amid immense cheering. Captain Weigall was then initiated into the secret signs and orders of the craft. Your correspondent was the next candidate, and having been proposed and seconded, his election was confirmed, and he was duly initiated. After an appropriate address from the grand master, the meeting terminated. Shortly afterwards the cadets fell in for morning drill. Half of the rifles and half of the carbines were told off to go out, under Lieut. Anderson, as a defence. In the midst of the attack, when both parties were down by the creek, sergeant-major Pope, with about fifteen cadets, finding the camp vacant, rushed in and took the guard prisoners. Soon after, both companies returned to camp. The victory was not allowed, because sergeant-major Pope had attacked the camp on a flank which it had been agreed was not to be attacked. Being ignorant of this, he seized the opportunity and entered the camp. Cadets Hill and Hilliard, in their excitement, contrived to pepper each other's face, but, beyond a temporary loss of beauty, no actual harm resulted. In the afternoon, drill was dispensed with, so as to allow the cadets to prepare for the entertainment which was to be given that evening at the School of Arts, in aid of the Bathurst Hospital. The cadets could not have had a better success, for the hall was densely crowded in every part. The programme comprised "A Camp Scene" (similar to that performed in Sydney some time ago), "Scenes from 'The Rivals," another "Camp Scene," and the farce "No go, Dumps." The orchestra consisted of Sergeant Hodge (clarionet), A. J. Lewington, and Mr. Chas. Lunn (a local amateur). These three formed as pleasing an orchestra as perhaps a more formidable one. Too much cannot be said of the playing of Sergeant Hodge and Lewington, both of whom were highly spoken of in the Bathurst papers. The bayonet exercise was gone through in capital form; it could
not have been done better. The "March, from 'Il Trovatore'" went exceedingly well. Sergeant Hodge was loudly applauded for his clarionet solo "Marie Antoinette," and was afterwards encored for his solo "Sebastian." McPherson gave a recitation "Walking on the Beach," which caused great amusement, and was given in his best style. Of the chorus songs, "Die Wacht am Rhein," the "Marseillaise" and the "Little Brown Jug" were about the best. The "Cadet Song" was given with immense spirit, as was also "Rule Britannia." The "Conspirators' Chorus" certainly deserved an encore; for there was a humour about it which could not fail to make the audience laugh, and moreover, it was very well sung. But I must not forget to mention Tece's recitation, "An Appeal for Cats." He had the audience in roars of laughter, and well deserved the encore accorded to him. He responded by giving "Not So Bad." Both in "The Rivals," and in "No go Dumps," the characters were represented by those who had originally performed them last Christmas. The appearance of Sid. Webb as Captain Absolute, was the signal for a burst of applause. He, in every way, sustained the character most creditably, and created a very favourable opinion of his acting. Lieutenant Anderson, as "Sir Anthony" was excellent. He gave a most vigorous portrayal of the irascible knight, and was frequently greeted with a round of applause. During the evening Mr. Rutherford came forward and moved a vote of thanks to the Cadets, which was carried by acclamation. The last piece on the programme was "No Go Dumps," in which McPherson, as "Dumps" himself, kept the audience screaming with laughter. Sid. Webb made the most of his part as "Mr. Sniggins," Lieutenant Anderson as "Waitwell," and Sergeant Neill, as "Jolly," were very good. The entertainment was brought to a close by the Cadets and audience singing the National Anthem. Sid. Webb and Mr. Greville acted as Hon. Secretaries, and in the opinion of every one two more energetic ones could not be found anywhere. Mr. Greville was most active in seeing to the comfort and seating of the audience, and everyone went away evidently well pleased with the entertainment.

On Wednesday morning another skirmish and attack was organized, Captain Weigall taking out the attacking party, and Lieutenant Anderson remaining in camp. For about an hour the firing was most vigorous. Neither side gained any particular advantage, and the affair resulted in a draw.

In the afternoon a cricket match was played on the cricket ground against the Bathurst C.C. The Cadets scored 126, and when the stumps were drawn, four of the Bathursts were out for 50.

A vague report reached the camp that "the enemy" were going to attack the camp again, so in the evening a double guard was set, and a picket (consisting of the ex-Cadets) was sent out under Sergeant Hodge. Two scouts were also sent out. A most vigilant watch was kept all night, but although the enemy were seen by the scouts (one of whom passed by and recognized Captain Paul with two other officers, and gave the alarm to the pickets) and signals were plainly distinguished, nothing came of it, the Volunteers, no doubt, thinking "discretion the better part of valour."
On Thursday morning there was no drill, and the Cadets amused themselves as best they could.

In the afternoon, a party of Cadets went over to Mr. Webb's to indulge in skating. They returned to camp about six, and reported it as being "very jolly."

In the evening, a re-union of the Cadets took place round the camp fire. Owing to various causes, the Cadets had been unable to have a general meeting till Thursday evening. Songs were rendered by Quartermaster-Sergeant Baylis, Sergeants Hodge and Neill, Corporal Brown (All Saints College), Cadets Lamrock, Moffit, &c. The songs were occasionally interrupted by the larrikins who got so near the camp, and became such a nuisance that raids had to be made upon them. Sergeant Neill and ex-Cadet Peterson were successful in capturing a prisoner each, who were straightway "run into the guard tent." After being kept in durance vile for a short time, they were dismissed with a caution, much to their relief, for it had been gently hinted to them by a mischievous young carbine that "there would be fun in the morning, and no mistake!" I shouldn't like to be you fellows, I know!"

About 2 o'clock in the morning the news came that the enemy were on the march. The Cadets were immediately supplied with ammunition. As they had all been previously instructed what to do and where to go in case of an attack, every one knew his own duty. About 2:30 a.m., between thirty and forty Volunteers, under Captain Paul, advanced towards the camp. Upon being challenged by the sentry, they replied by opening fire which was promptly returned by the guards who gradually retired under cover. As soon as possible, the Cadets extended, forming a cordon round the camp. The contests was now in full swing, and the firing was kept up almost without cessation, for fully half-an-hour, at the end of which time, the bugler of the enemy was ordered to blow the "cease firing." Captain Paul then advanced, and calling for Captain Weigall, informed him that they (the Volunteers) were unable to get into the camp. At the same time he warmly complimented the Cadets on their defence and steady firing. There is no doubt they behaved exceedingly well, and not one of them budged an inch.

Both companies were marched into camp where cocoa was served out all round. After three cheers for the Volunteers had been given by the Cadets, the latter started back for Bathurst. Though the enemy was repulsed, I am happy to state that there was no slaughter.

Oh Friday morning, the "Bologna" Lodge held a court martial on Cadet Cox, who was charged with having insulted the aforesaid Lodge. Ex-Cadet Webb conducting the prosecution; ex-Cadet Teece ably defending the prisoner. The culprit was found guilty and condemned to be tossed in a blanket. The Cadets soon after went out skirmishing and returned about 1 o'clock.

In the afternoon there was no drill. In the evening between thirty and forty Cadets attended a grand ball at the School of Arts given in their honour, and as a return for the entertainment given by them in aid of the Hospital. The ball was most successful in every way, many of the principal
residents of Bathurst being present. Dancing was kept up till about three
next morning.

On Saturday morning, the cadets rose about five o'clock, no doubt with
mingled feelings of pleasure and regret—pleasure, at being able to be once
more at home and at school, regret, at leaving such a pleasant camp, and
so many kind friends. There was considerable excitement among the
cadets, occasioned by the hunting for overcoats and other belongings, which
had gone astray into all sorts of odd corners. What a rush, and a hurry
all over the ground! Carpet bags half covered over by waterproof sheets,
boxes and trunks in every direction. Yet everything is ready in time for
the large waggon that is waiting to take away the tents and "impedimenta"
consisting mostly of carpet baggage. After breakfast, (the last meal in
Bathurst), the gallant redcoats take the road to Bathurst, leaving behind
them the scene of a week's amusement and military instruction. Having
stopped in front of Captain Paul's store to give him three cheers, and
having paid the same compliment to Mr. Greville, who had been extremely
kind, the cadets marched down to the station, where a large crowd was
in waiting to "take a last fond look." The fair sex largely predominated.
Hence the quotation. Here very hearty cheers were given for Mrs.
Webb, the Misses Webb, and Syd. Webb, who had mainly contributed
to our great enjoyment. Amidst the cheers both of the cadets and the
multitude, and the waving of handkerchiefs, and the weeping of the
ladies, the train sped on its way to Sydney. The usual amusements
were carried on, such as singing, reading or eating. At one of the
stations, much to the disgust of the cadets, about eight or nine pas-
sengers were put in one of the carriages, which was
follen enough then, without
any more being wanted to fill up the carriage so as to make it almost
impossible to move about to get anything. Much to everyone's satisfaction,
the train at length arrived at Sydney, where the cadets were dismissed
"each to his own home." Thus ended the camp, which all agree was
equal to, if not better than any previous one. Before I close the account
of this camp, I should like to mention the great kindness shewn by
Mr., Mrs., and Syd. Webb, to the cadets. They were all, as well as other
residents, most assiduous in their attentions, and their only aim and
thought seemed to be to make the visit of the cadets enjoyable, and it will
certainly be admitted, that mainly by their aid, the camp was so successful.

OUR BATHURST TRIP.

On Friday morning, the 9th of August, the Football team started for
Bathurst to contend there with the All Saints College F. C. The day was
as fine as could be wished, and we had some jolly fellows among our number
so we passed our time very pleasantly until we reached Emu Plains, when
an "adjournment for lunch" took place, which lasted until—but I will not
say how long.

Many of our number had never visited the Blue Mountains before, so
many remarks were made concerning the beautiful scenery which sur-
rounded us. This has already been described by abler pens than
We continued to pass our time very pleasantly until we reached Bathurst about 5.30 p.m., where we were met by Messrs. Bean and McIntyre, Syd. Webb, and many of the All Saints' College boys. We walked to the College which is built on one of the finest sites in Bathurst, where we were received with the greatest kindness. After tea we visited the skating rink held at the School of Arts where we spent a pleasant hour, after which, we returned to the College and went to bed—but not to sleep. No! sleep was out of the question. But I will dwell no longer on this point, for to recount the deeds of that night (or the next either) would fill many pages of the *Sydneian*. However, in the morning we arose quite refreshed, and after breakfast, we either strolled through the town or kicked the football about on the Ordnance Ground, where the match afterwards took place.

The match has already been described in the *Sydneian*, so I may pass that over with the remark, that the spectators were much more orderly than those we usually see on Moore Park.

After the match an entertainment was given by the members of the College, at the conclusion of which a dinner took place. Mr. Bean occupied the chair. The usual toasts were drank. Mr. Bean responding for the "All Saints" team, and J. Mullins for the "Black and Gold." Next day (Sunday) was of course spent at Church.

On Sunday at midnight, we took our departure from the "City of the Plains," amid cheers from the All Saints' Masters and boys, which were heartily returned.

I would like to mention before laying down my pen the kindness of Mr. and Mrs. Bean, who studied our comfort and contributed so much to our enjoyment, that we will for many-a-day remember with pleasure our "Trip to Bathurst."

Sydney Grammar School, August, 1878.

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*AFTER THE MICHAELMAS HOLIDAYS.*

**AN ACROSTIC.**

School again! oh! horrible thought,
Yes our happy days are o'er,
Dreary times before us now,
Nearly a dozen weeks or more.
Every day we'll sigh in vain,
Yawn and stretch, with weary looks,
Guess! when we are free again,
Right away 'll fly our books
Ah! I know there'll not be found
Many a studious good boy then,
Mighty few 'll be the coves
Anxious to be learned men.
Reading, Writing, 'Rithmetic.
Stuff and nonsense! what's it all?
Cesar, Virgil, la Fontaine,
How's a fellow to do it all?
Oh! but I'm "full up" of school
Of the same routine and rule
Let me out in the "bush, " away,
And I'll be good another day.

HILDA.
DEBATING CLUB.

FRIDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 20.—Songs and Recitations. Being the last Friday evening of the quarter it had been decided to invite ladies to be present. In response to the invitation, a considerable sprinkling of the fair sex honoured the meeting with their presence. The room was tastefully decorated with flags and palms. Mr. Trouton (of the A.S.N. Co.) kindly lent the flags. Mr. Anderson occupied the chair. Lewington opened the entertainment with a piano solo, which he played in his usual style, and was loudly applauded. He also accompanied the greater part of the singers. During the evening Mr. Anderson and Barlee gave a scene from the “Rivals.” Both were very good. Sergeant Hodge gave during the evening two clarionet solos, which were both rendered excellently, and were received with strong marks of approval by the audience. McPherson was encored for a recitation which he gave very humourously. Mr. Meyrick played a piano solo, and it was certainly a treat to hear him play it. Teece gave a recitation, and was very well received. Herbert, Green, and Anderson recited with considerable success. The Cadets contributed to the evening by singing some of their favourite songs, all of which were received with much applause. Mr. Anderson proposed, that as there were ladies present, and also a piano, they should have a dance after the programme should be completed. He stated that Mr. Weigall had no objection. The motion was unanimously carried. Dancing was kept up till about 11 o’clock. It may be mentioned that a music stool has been bought for the use of the Club.

FRIDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 18.—Debate—“Is Chinese Immigration Desirable.” The Ministry (D. Moore’s) maintained that it was not desirable. Montagu was voted to the chair. Several members made themselves very obnoxious by creating a great disturbance, and by interrupting the speakers. Their conduct was anything but gentlemanly. Two of them, prefects, ought to have known better, and shown a better example. Moore (the Premier), had to stop twice, and at one time the Chairman left the chair till the noise ceased. It was only by threatening to adjourn the debate, and by the expostulations of J. Mullins and a few others who wished the debate to go on, that the noise was stopped. We sincerely hope it will not occur again, for such proceedings will tend to keep away rather than bring the members. Before commencing the debate it was put to the meeting whether Neill’s resignation, as Hon. Secretary to the Club, should be received or not. It was unanimously resolved in the negative. The speakers in the debate were—Against Chinese Immigration: Moore (Premier), Herbert, McIntyre, Ayres. For Chinese Immigration: R. Higgins, Connell, G. Mullins, J. Mullins. The Chairman also, by permission of the meeting, made a few remarks on the subject, but spoke for neither side in particular. On division the result was declared to be:—Against Chinese Immigration, 4 votes; for Chinese Immigration, 11 votes. The Government resigned. The Chairman, in accordance with the rules, having called upon J. Mullins to form a Ministry, the meeting terminated. Connell, who spoke against the Government, made an excellent speech. It
was really worth listening to. He had evidently looked up the debate, his arguments were, for the most part, sound, and the whole speech was delivered in a style that showed he had been taught elocution, and to some purpose. If we had a few more speakers, than there are, to go like him into the subject for debate, we would then have some good arguments brought forward, but as it is now, the debate itself is confined to a few speakers, while the rest of the meeting content themselves with simply voting. It only requires a little self-confidence to speak; when once you begin you are all right. Surely we have some more debaters in the school!

The following compose the New Ministry—J. Mullins, Premier; F. Barlee, T. Barker, W. Street, and F. Wilkinson.

CRICKET NOTES.

BY CURRICULUM.

The Cricket Season has fairly commenced, and our cricketers are awakening from their late inactivity. Bats are once more produced from their winter hiding places, and the cricket ball usurps the position just vacated by the football. The various Forms have held their meetings and elected their officers for the current year. The Sports Committee has not been idle, for it has already selected a practice team, consisting of fifteen players, which embraces the majority of last year's Eleven; and, moreover, has secured a pitch on the Association Ground for their practice. With such prospects as these, our anticipations should indeed be bright and if we settle down at once to steady and persevering practice, the laurels gained during the past few years will not slip away from us. The Melbourne match is the principal event which engrosses our attention, when looking forward to the coming season. The impetus which such a match gives to our practice is greater than we can at first sight perceive. It places before us a goal which we strive to reach, as we have already succeeded in accomplishing on two previous occasions, and prepares us for our other contests. In turn, each match in which we engage previous to it will act as a preparation.

The match, Combined Schools versus University, appears to have been played rather early in the season. Sufficient practice had not been obtained by the boys for a trial of strength with warriors of such renown. However, the quartette, which represented us, gave no cause for complaint, and we may rest content that the show, which was made, was mainly due to our representatives.

The first day's play for the Form Cup shows the uncertainty of cricket. Before the commencement of the match, all were inclined to think a win would fall to the lot of the V. and VI. But fortune ordained contrariwise. When a few of the IV. Form wickets had fallen for a small score, Rygate and Bird made a determined stand, and for some time defied the efforts of Jones, Mullins, Ayres, and Wilkinson to displace them. Rygate played with great freedom, and the total of the innings may, in a great measure, be attributed to the encouragement which he instilled into his team. There is nothing special to remark concerning the innings of the V. and VI except its brevity.
A meeting of the Members of the School favourable to the formation of a Rowing Club was held in the V. Form Class-room, on Friday, 11th October. Mr. Weigall occupied the chair, and a large number of persons were present.

Mr. Fache dwelt upon the merits of such a club as the meeting was anxious to bring into existence, and threw out many practical hints gained by the experience which he has lately acquired by his connection with the boating of Cleveland-house. He also afforded those present information concerning the gig "Osprey," which has been lying idle for a long time past. He proposed "That a Rowing Club in connection with the School be now formed."

J. Mullins seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. Fache then proposed "That the subscription be fixed at five shillings per quarter, with an entrance fee of five shillings additional."

W. J. Neill seconded the proposition, and it was carried unanimously.

In order that the practical part of the undertaking should begin at once, W. J. Neill proposed "That the office-bearers be now elected."

Fairfax seconded the motion, which was also carried.

The following officers were then elected:

President: A. B. Weigall, Esq.
Vice-Presidents: L. Stephenson, Esq., J. Goldie, Esq.
Captain: W. J. W. Neill

It was decided that the above, together with two students of the School, should form the Committee for the management of the Club. The meeting then adjourned until Monday, when Barker and Wilkinson were elected in accordance with this resolution, and all present promised to become members. After a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the meeting terminated.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Debating Club.

To the Editor of the Sydneian.

Sir,—The Debating Club, in connection with the school, is in a flourishing state as regards numbers, but out of some seventy boys who have given in their names as members only fifteen voted on the question on last Friday evening. Only three of these are in the sixth form (and they belonged to the Ministry), while the fifth was also represented by three (one of whom
was also in the Ministry.) How can we expect a literary society to flourish when those, whose aid is required so much, will not attend? I believe that if the VI. form would only attend the club meetings more regularly the debates would be most interesting, and at the same time, instructive. If they will not attend then the society might as well be abandoned altogether.

I remain, Sir, yours &c.,

SYDNEY.

October 21st, 1878.

To the Editor of the Sydneian.

Sr.,—Owing to the efforts of a few boys of III. B, a library has been formed in connection with the above form. It has already been furnished with some very interesting books. I do not see why the other forms in the lower school should not each have a library. If this was the case there would not be so many disturbances caused during the dinner-hour, because the boys could improve their time by reading.

Hoping that this will be thought worthy of some consideration,

I am, &c.,

A SUBSCRIBER.

SENSE SACRIFICED TO SOUND.

SPRING.

Oh! gentle Spring, come veiled in showers
Of rose leaves, fresh from dewy bowers,
While Lydian measures wake around;
Come from your feath'ry golden cloud
As surly Winter howls aloud,
And falls expiring to the ground.

E'en mountains, vales, and meadows bright,
Are eager for thy promised light,
And wait th' approaching lingering sign;
To sing their pleasure at the scene
Of thine effulgent nodding green,
And lay their gifts on Winter's shrine.

Thou'rt come at last either (?) at Spring,
The birds awake and sweetly sing,
The laughing landscape music makes;
The showers and gentle dews descend,
The cooling zephyrs perfumes lend,
And temp'ring all, the sun awakes.

HILDA.
The Grammar Prizes, for which examinations were held in April and September of the present year, have been adjudged as follows:

Upper School—Latin

Proxime Accesserunt

Beehag

Piddington

Armstrong

Rolin

Proxime Accesserunt

James

Rennie

Wilkinson (1)

Lower School

Proxime Accesserunt

Leibius

Bode (1)

The Prizes for Latin composition have been awarded as follows:

Form VI

Barlee (1)

Form V

Rolin

Facetiae.

A lady who had a silk gown spoilt in being re-coloured in Sydney, brought an action against the establishment, and summoned several of the workmen to give their dyeing testimony.

Why is the circulation of the blood often suspended?—Because it circulates in vein.

A stationer in Sydney when advertising, ends his advertisements with—“N.B.—To regular customers I sell wafers gratis.”

Caesar, on being asked by Brutus how many eggs he ate for breakfast, replied “Et tu, Brute.”

The latest invention in the cigar line.—Widow’s weeds.

An old seaman says that reckless captains are most liable to wrecks.

“Mr. M——, I wish to speak to you privately. Permit me to take you apart for a few moments.” Mr. M——: “Certainly, if you will put me together again.”

Wanted to Know—

Why a man should not use a spitoon if he choose?

Since christian names and their diminutives are alike, why people who readily make a bill, have such repugnance to making a will?

Whether mining companies might not be wound up with the Circular Quay, and if not why not? (This question we think will set our readers on the qui vive to solve it.) N.B.—John Locke must not be consulted on this point.

Why a person is so easily missed in a fog?

Why is it so natural that people who have no talent for music should play the liar without experiencing any difficulty?

When is an undertaker like a sick person?—When he has a fit of coffin.

When does a man most resemble a pig?—When he is a bore and has a sty.

Which English monarch had most reason to complain of his laundress? King John—when he lost his baggage in the Wash.
