The Sydneyian

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A MAGAZINE EDITED BY MEMBERS OF THE
SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

MAY, 1880.

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SYDNEY:
PUBLISHED BY J. J. MOORE & CO., GEORGE STREET.
1880.
We acknowledge the receipt of the following Magazines:—
Cliftonian.
Epsomian.
Melburnian.
Australian.
Ulula.
Cheltonian.
Marlburian.

Erratum.—On page 8, in the account of the Mile Race, “spirit” should in both cases be “spurt.”
We have received, through the publishers (Messrs. George Robertson and Co.), a copy of a little manual called "A Guide to Classical Reading," by Professor Strong, of the Melbourne University, and Mr. Leeper, Principal of Trinity College, Melbourne. It professes to be a compilation for the benefit of Australian students, and consists in the main of a carefully-selected list of the best editions, commentaries, and translations of the classical authors; preceded by a short preface or disquisition upon the requisites of a good translation or commentary; and intended to act as a guide in enabling the inexperienced scholar to select the best out of what is often a distracting number of rival and conflicting editions. It is hardly possible to take exception to the material of the work itself, which seems to have been carefully and judiciously prepared, and probably involved not inconsiderable labour, and we can recommend it for the purpose for which it is designed.

At the same time we must express our opinion that the want, which the book supplies, was not one very strongly felt. It is all very well to know what books one ought to get; but in this country the question for ordinary students is practically resolved into finding out what books one can get. It is useless to hear that such and such an edition or commentary is admirable, and then to be informed on inquiry for it at the booksellers that there is not a copy to be had in the whole of the colonies. If the work is to be ordered from England, it involves a delay of some four months, which one is rarely in a position to tolerate. If the bookseller has a choice of two editions of a well-known author in his shop, it is as much as he will have. Nor, on the other hand, can the booksellers be expected to supply themselves with a large choice of editions, when the total demand is so small. As a matter of fact, the choice of the two or three editions on sale, and the recommendation to students of what to buy, are both actually in the hands of the principal authorities in the schools or Universities; who, having been educated to the knowledge of the subject, are little likely to consult other authorities for advice, whether in confirmation of or opposition to their own ideas. The actual dearth of good books in these colonies is no doubt a great misfortune; but we are afraid it is not likely to be amended except in natural proportion with the gradual growth of the demand.
ANCIENT M.SS.

We announce with joy that two learned ex-students of this school, while prosecuting their researches with unflagging zeal in the interests of knowledge have, in turning over certain extremely ancient documents, lighted upon the following ballads, in Monkish Latin. They are evidently the originals of our popular English rhymes; the hypothesis which our two learned friends have formed is that the Venerable Bæda translated them into the vulgar Saxon, among his other labours, in order to give a good tone at starting to English poets. It is then, if the conjecture of our learned friends be right, to this noble man that we owe the great superiority of our English poets over those of any other nation, because it was he who gave them, as it were, their cue—certainly the most important part of anything is the beginning. We will, however, abstain from further praise of the Venerable Bæda, or the worthy and industrious students who have unearthed the following poems.

[We subjoin a few notes here and there, at the express desire of our learned friends.]

Ut referunt latebras petit Horner parvulus ille
Qua solus crustum devoret ipse suum
Imposito digito prunum mox extrahit ingens
Inquit et arridens "Eu! ego nonne bonus!"

[These verses are evidently of ancient date; that is, before the Monkish era; there are no rhymes, and the Latin is perfectly pure; the touching simplicity of the poem is beautifully rendered by Bæda into English:—

Little Jack Horner, sat in the corner,
Eating his Christmas pie,
He put in his thumb, and pulled out a plum,
Saying "What a good boy am I!"]

II.

Fuscus erat senex patruus cui nomen Edardo
Immerita pridem morte reliquit humum
Huic crines capitis fuerant in vertice nulli
Qua crines soliti crescere semper erant
Pone ejus palam; moestum tu pone bidentem:
Et teneat paries pectra fidesque suas.
At patruo misero extremae venere labores
Excepere virum regna beata suum.

[This is evidently of much later date: the Monks have here introduced what would be considered frightful mistakes in Classical Latin, namely sénex for sênex, and extremæ labores for extremi labores. The words, however, are extremely touching; and the melancholy verses which order his beloved instruments to be put aside on the wall are beautifully touching: sufficiently so to bring tears to the eyes of any man.
The moral to be drawn is also a very fine one; we append Bæda’s rendering:—

There was an old nigger and his name was Ned,
And he’s gone dead long ago,
He had no hair on the top of his head,
In the place where the wool ought to grow.

CHORUS.—So hang up the shovel and the hoe;
Take down the fiddle and the bow:
There’s no more work for poor ole Ned,
For he’s gone where de good niggers go.]

III.

The next is evidently of scholastic origin; the question put is one of those on which the powerful minds of the schoolmen delighted to exercise themselves. We have no doubt that this is one of the original theses proposed by Albertus Magnus, or Johannes Duns Scotus, or some other mastermind.

Si totum atramenta salum loliginis esset
Si fieret totum malina crusta solum
Si quaecunque arbor panes et caseus esset,
Quid biberent homines? “Nostra per astra” precor.

[In the translation of this Bæda has taken some liberties; he has transposed the lines: and instead of saying “If the high seas were all sepia ink, &c.,” he puts—

If all the world were apple pie,
And all the seas were ink,
And all the trees were bread and cheese,
My stars! what should we drink?

IV.

Jam queruli lunæ radii modulamina miscent,
Australes servat jam vaga wombat aquas,
Lascivae ranæ sua nunc æaria figunt
Nunc avio bustum sola cicada petit.

[The opinions concerning the date of this pretty little conceit are various. The expression “æaria figunt” induce many to believe that it is not classical; the beautiful flow of the verse, on the contrary, and the extremely correct Latinity induce the opinion that it is classical. The translator of this has produced a masterpiece of alliteration; which it must be remembered was the usual substitute for rhyme in the A. S. times.

The murmuring moonbeams their music are mixing,
The wandering wombat is watching the wave,
The frolicsome frogs their finances are fixing,
And the grasshopper gropes for his grandmother’s grave.]
A beautiful lament on the loss of a faithful companion follows; it vies with the lament of Catullus over the death of Lesbia's pet in tenderness and beauty of expression:

Quo fugit catulus fatuus sua tecta relinquens
In quibus ah! remanet dic precor ille locis?
Cauda brevis fuerat catulo sed longior auris
In quibus ah! remanet dic precor ille locis?

[In the second and fourth lines one of our learned friends reads plagis, the other locis; we have adopted the latter. The description of the dog is almost onomatopoeic, it is so forcible and exact.

[Here is the translation (not by Bæda, as the learned gentlemen suspect):—

Oh where! oh where! is my little dog gone?
Oh where! oh where! can he be?
With his ears cut short, and his tail cut long,
Oh where! oh where! can he be?]

AN OLD SCHOOL BOOK.

This tattered Virgil's one among the few
Last relics left me of my school boy time;
The date beneath the name—Jan., '42—
Proves me, I doubt a little past my prime:
The old book wakes to sudden life again,
Long dormant memories in my dreaming brain.

A low dim room; thin slips of sunlight stealing
In from the fields through latticed windows fall,
On oaken wainscot, dusky boarded ceiling,
Dark rows of benches, map-hung ink-stained wall:
Summer the time—a still, warm afternoon—
A drowsy voice in slumb'rous monotone.

Old Petric primus construes, threading slowly
A dim and darkling way with happy scorn
Of concord, word, and tense, till, baffled wholly,
He pauses dead, his stock of words outworn;
The master sighs relief, takes up the text,
Prompts Petric through, and Warner construes next.

Where are the scholars, and the master where,
Who strove with patience tried so oft and sore
In soil so tardy to repay his care
To plant a scanty crop of classic lore?
While we with some small zest through Homer plodded,
And on warm afternoons o'er Livy nodded.
Of more than half the reckoning I’ve lost—
Scattered by land and sea from pole to pole;
These two old chums I loved and cherished pure—
Between us weary wastes of ocean roll.
In a far land soft Austral breezes wave
The sod that decks the master’s quiet grave.

ROBERT RICHARDSON.
Edinburgh, January, 1880.

THE ATHLETIC SPORTS.

The Seventh Annual Meeting of the Grammar School Athletic Club was held, under extremely favourable auspices as regards weather, on Saturday, May 15th, on the Association Ground. The day was everything that could possibly be desired, bright, clear, and calm; whilst the thermometer indicated that agreeable mean of temperature, at which one can stand still without being cold, or undergo exertion without becoming unduly hot. Under these pleasing circumstances we were entitled to expect that the growing popularity of our Athletic Meeting would ensure a large attendance of the fashionable world, and these reasonable expectations were fulfilled to the uttermost, the grand stand and lawn in front of it, being densely thronged with a crowd larger than that present at any previous meeting, though we found it impracticable to form any accurate estimate of the number of those present. The youth and beauty of Sydney were very fully represented, and under the benign influence of their favourable smiles, the meeting passed off with unexceptionable felicity and remarkable smoothness.

We have nothing but praise to bestow on the arrangements, which were in the main excellent. The committee and starter deserve especially to be applauded for the admirable punctuality with which the fixed times were kept to throughout; the first and last events alike took place precisely at the very minute fixed in the programmes, not one being ever permitted to get behind hand. The programme was a long one, and the time allowed for each race was only just sufficient; such punctuality in execution is, therefore, a certain indication of a smart and businesslike method of procedure, which is both gratifying in itself, and also a manifestation of proper politeness towards our guests. It is not every Athletic Club that can boast of so much as this. As, however, we are bound by our nature to criticise something, we may call attention to one or two slight blemishes which might have been remedied; for instance, the programmes might have been more carefully corrected in the printing, the names of the competitors being spelt wrongly more often than was quite necessary; again, the judges, referees, &c., were not officially provided with tickets to admit them through the pavilion to the course, and were therefore, very properly stuck-up by the gate-keeper, and only admitted eventually on protest, when they apologetically alleged that the meeting could not proceed without their presence and assistance; this ought to have been
provided for, because the gate-keeper is of course personally ignorant of the judges, and liable to be imposed upon if he takes their statements on trust.

The fields for the various events were in the main large. The handicapping was, we venture to think, particularly good, and some of the handicapped events produced exceedingly close and exciting finishes. It should be borne in mind, moreover, that the task of the committee, in endeavouring to assign suitable handicaps to a number of boys, many of whom have never appeared, or at least never distinguished themselves in public at all, whilst others are endowed with running powers in a constant state of flux or change, is an exceedingly difficult one; and it would not be in the least surprising if they sometimes unawares made gifts of the races to lucky individuals. It cannot, however, be said, that any such instance occurred at the present meeting, and the committee are to be congratulated alike upon the good fortune and dexterity.

No unpleasantness occurred to mar what all admitted to be a very successful meeting. All concerned worked well together, and we did not hear the slightest suspicion of dissatisfaction throughout the afternoon. The German band attended, and discoursed to us sweet music of a light and frivolous character, apparently harmonizing well with the general temper of the audience, amongst whom gaiety prevailed.

The various events will be found below, noticed in due order; the first race started at 1.30 o'clock sharp, and the last at 4.55, so that, even at this season of declining sun and lessening days, our guests were enabled to reach home comfortably before dark.

1. **One Hundred Yards Open.** (Cup presented by Messrs. Lamb and Fairfax). W. Battye, 1; F. Russell, 2; C. Page, 3; R. Bowman, 0; W. Witton, 0.

   This was a very close race, and the finish was extremely good; Battye won by about a yard; hardly a foot between second and third, whilst the others were so close that in our opinion Bowman ran a dead heat for third place, whilst Wilton was hardly behind. Time, 10 9-10 sec.

2. **Two Hundred and Twenty Yards Handicap.** Under 15 years. W. Thomson (10 yards), 1; T. Yeo (5 yards), 2; W. McPherson (scratch), 3.

   A large field of about 15 started. The handicapping proved excellent; a first-rate finish was made, the first three being so close together that they were really hardly separable. Time, 2 4-5ths seconds.

3. **House Cup. Half-Mile Handicap.** (Two Prizes presented by C. J. D. Goldie, Esq.) Open to Members of the Houses only. W. Wilton, Goldie's (scratch), 1; G. Kenna, Goldie's (15 yards), 2; A. Thomas, Fache's (5 yards), 3; A. Carter (35 yards), 0; J. Rutherford (60 yards), 0.

   The handicappers produced an excellent result in this race also. Five started; during the first lap Carter made the running, closely followed by Kenna, but at the quarter mile Carter was beaten and fell out; Wilton then ran up to Kenna and won a very close race by about 2 yards; Thomas being close behind all through, but beaten 15 yards from home. Time, 2 minutes, 15½ seconds.
4. All Schools' Race. Two Hundred and Twenty Yards Open. (Two Prizes presented by E Pratt, Esq.) C. C. Wade (King's School), 1; W. Battye (Sydney Grammar School), 2; H. A. McQuade (Windsor Grammar School), 3; R. Ashworth (All Saints' College), 0.

Wade got a good start and led the running throughout; at the finish he was hard pressed by Battye, but won a very close race by about half a yard; McQuade a good third. Time, 24 2-5ths seconds.

5 Bicycle Race. One Mile Handicap. Open to Members of the Sydney Bicycle Club. (Cup given by the S.B.C.) R. H. Owen (35 yards), 1; H. Paterson (35 yards), 2; A. W. Crane (30 yards), 3.

This race was a novelty in our programme, and inserted by request under the auspices of the Sydney Bicycle Club. It was generally regarded as a special attraction, and served as a pleasant break in the monotony of pedestrian contests, and many late arrivals expressed regret that they had not been present in time to witness it.

Six competitors entered the field. Paterson led nearly throughout the whole race, having a somewhat larger driving-wheel than any of the others; but in the last 50 yards Owen came up with a good spurt and passed him rather easily, winning by 12 or 15 yards; about as much between second and third, the rest distant. Time, 3 minutes, 39 seconds.


First heat—H. Morris (20 yards), 1; W. Stoddart (11 yards), 2; W. Amess (14 yards), 3.

Won easily by about 8 yards; second 4 yards before third. Time, 37 4-5ths seconds. Second heat—H. Sparrow (18 yards), 1; C. Page (7 yards), 2; W. Molineaux (14 yards), 3.

Sparrow had it all his own way, and flew in first by quite 15 yards; the rest rather scattered. Time, 35 4-5ths seconds.

7. One Hundred Yards Open: Under 14 years. R. Firth, 1; R. Williamson, 2; J. Fredericks, 3.

Five started; Firth won easily by 6 or 7 yards; a good third. Time, 19 seconds.

8. Three-quarter Mile Handicap. A. Pratt (4 yards), 1; L. Smith (40 yards), 1; L. Smith (25 yards), 2; W. Amess (35 yards), 3.

There were eight starters. The race was a very good one throughout, all being well together; half-way through Hawkins (scratch) looked like winning, but failed in his final spurt; Pratt ran very steadily throughout, and coming to the front 100 yards from home, won in good form by about 8 yards; the same distance between second and third. Time, 3 minutes, 45 seconds.

9. Throwing the Cricket Ball. — Beames (95 yards, 1 foot), 1; W Roberts, 2; W. Witton, 3; G. Martin, 0; J. Cruickshanks, 0.

Roberts and Wilton at first tied for second place, on throwing off, it fell to Roberts.

10. Eighty Yards Open (under 12 years). Prize presented by Mrs. Weigall. W. Newcomen, 1; W. Fitzhardinge, 2; C. Vine, 3.

Won by 3 yards; two yards between second and third. Time, 12 seconds.
Three Hundred Yards Maiden Handicap. Final heat of No. 6; the first two in each heat to run. H. Sparrow (18 yards), 1; H. Morris (20 yards), 2; W. Stoddart (11 yards), 3; C. Page (7 yards), 0.

A good and rather close race throughout. Won by 4 yards; third three yards behind. Time, 35 seconds.

12. High Jump. R. Bowmen (5 feet 1 inch), 1; W. A. Farquhar (5 feet, 2). The winner jumped well; Farquhar was lazy, and usually missed each jump once or twice from not exerting himself until compelled.

13. Three Hundred Yards Handicap, open to members of all Amateur Athletic Clubs, under rules of S. A. A. C.
F. Baylis (5 yards), 1; H. A. M'Quade (10 yards), 2; W. R. Young (scratch), 3; C. T. Arnheim (scratch), 0; F. Hillyar (15 yards), 0; J. D. Kirkwood (18 yards), 0.

There were six starters; the finish was very close, Baylis winning by not more than a yard, Young three yards behind. Through an accident the time of this race was not taken.

14. One Mile Champion. (Prize presented by A. B. Weigall, Esq.) W. Battye, 1; A. Thomas, 2; G. F. Kenna, 3; A. B. Piddington, 0.

Piddington led off well, and taking a lead of 20 yards kept it during the whole of the first three laps, but in the fourth became distressed and was passed; Battye and Thomas ran in together with an excellent spirit for the finish, Battye winning a very good race by three yards; Kenna, whose spirit failed him, a tolerable third. Piddington close behind him but beaten. Time, 5 min. 33 sec.

15. One Hundred and Twenty Yards Handicap Hurdle Race. (Prize presented by Ex-STudents of the Sydney Grammar School). R. Bowman (owes 10 yards), 1; J. Cruickshanks (scratch), 2; A. Carter (scratch), 3.

Six started; Bowman recovered his handicap before the half distance, and coming well to the front won easily by 8 yards; a good third. Time, 21 sec.

16. Four Hundred and Forty Yards Handicap, under 15 years. R. Firth (15 yards), 1; W. Thompson (10 yards), 2; H. de. Y. Scroggie (14 yards), 3.

There was a large field; the finish was very close, Firth winning by little more than a yard, Scroggie 6 yards behind. Time, 1 min. 42-5 sec.

17. Two Hundred and Twenty Yards Handicap—School Cup. First Heat—C. Page) 6 yards) 1; J. Cleeve (12 yards), 2; H. Gorrick (12 yards), 3.

The winner came to the front at the half-distance and won by about the amount of his handicap; the third about as far behind; the rest of the field well up. Time, 25 sec.

Second Heat—F. Russell (12 yards), 1; W. McPherson (22 yards) 2; W. Wilton (6 yards), 3.

Russell won by 4 yards from McPherson, who ran splendidly for his size, beating Wilton by 2 yards. Time, 24 sec.

18. One Hundred and Fifty Yards Open, for Ex-STudents. J. Elphinstone, 1; C. T. Arnheim, 2; T. M. Thompson, 3; W. Lloyd, 0; F. Hillyar, 0; E. Grainger, 0; F. D. Kirkwood, 0.

Won by about 4 yards, Thompson a very good third. Time, 15 3-10 sec.
19. **Hop, Step, and Jump.** R. Bowman (38 feet), 1; W. Wilton (37 feet), 2.

20. **Two Hundred Yards’ Handicap.** (School Cup) Final heat, No. 17; the first and second in each heat allowed to run. F. Russell (12 yards), 1; W. McPherson (22 yards), 2; J. Cleeve (12 yards), 3; C. Page (6 yards), 0.

Russell won an excellent race by about 4 yards; McPherson who again ran extremely well and pluckily for one so young, beating Cleeve by a couple of yards; Page, who beat Cleeve in the first heat, was this time unable to catch him. Time, 24 1/5th seconds.

21. **Walking Handicap.** 1 mile. A. Gibbins (55 yards), 1; R. Pye (85 yards), 2; J. Parr (10 yards), 3.

This race, as usual attracted a very large field of about thirty competitors, and afforded fully its ordinary amount of excitement and amusement, consequent on the great discrepancy in size between them. The handicaps extended to 150 yards, and some of the competitors were of extremely juvenile appearance. The finish was not very close, the winner being 15 or 20 yards ahead, and the same distance separating second and third. Thomas, starting scratch, was somewhat too heavily handicapped and unable to make up his ground, but walked in good form and came in sixth. Clapin (115 yards), who came in fifth, deserves notice for very good walking in consideration of his short stature, as well as Delohery (150 yards), who walked very pluckily and came in eighth, his total weight being, according to a rough estimation, about four stone. The field, as might be supposed, was very scattered. Time, 8 minutes 31 1/5th seconds.

22. **Four Hundred and Forty Yards’ Handicap.** W. Battye (scratch), 1; W. Wilton (7 yards), 2; R. Broomfield (40 yards), 3. Broomfield retained the lead given him by his handicap until the last fifty yards, when he was nearly done up. Battye won well by 4 yards. Broomfield a good third but thoroughly blown. The field, which was rather large, considerably scattered. Time, 57 1/5th seconds.

**Masters’ Cup.** Presented by the masters, to be added to the scorer of most points in all open races, namely, 1, 4, 9, 12, 14, 19; first place to count five points, second, three, third, two.

This was adjudged to W. Battye, the winner of both the mile and 100 yards, who may therefore be considered to have fully earned it, these being the only two good open races. The full score of points due to all who secured places in these six events was as follows:—W. Battye, 13; R. Bowman, 10; Beames, 5; W. Wilton, 5; F. Russell, 3; W. Roberts, 3; A. Thomas, 3; W. A. Farquhar, 3; C. Page, 2; G. F. Kenna, 2.

A trophy was also presented by J. G. Davis, Esq., under the same conditions, it having been originally intended that the Masters’ Cup should be a Challenge Cup, tenable for the year.

DEBATING SOCIETY.

FRIDAY EVENING, April 16th.—The President (A. B. Weigall, Esq.) took the chair. Very fair attendance, 29 members being present. The Secretary (G. E. Rich) informed the members that at a meeting of the committee, Armstrong was made Vice-President vice Butler, who has left the school, also Leverrier and Gorrick elected to the Committee, and that it had been decided to alter the mode of conducting the debates, doing away with a Ministry, that anyone could send in subjects for debate to the Committee, who were to choose from these. Some objections however, were made on the grounds that the Committee had not the power to make such change, the discussion was continued after the debate, when on the motion of the President, seconded by the Secretary, it was decided that the next debate be "Whether the debates be conducted by the Ministry or not." Armstrong moved—"That Civilisation is a mistake." Kenna, Herbert O. S., and Street upheld civilisation, and on a division 2 voted for the motion and 27 against.

FRIDAY EVENING, April 23rd.—The President in the chair. Rich moved—"That the debates be no longer conducted by a Ministry." The discussion was continued by Armstrong and Halliday supporting the motion, and Rolin, McDonald, Herbert O. S., Kenna, and Butler O. S., speaking against it. After some time, Rolin moved and Kenna seconded the amendment—1. "That the debates be carried on by a Ministry as before." 2. "That the subjects for debate be selected by the Committee from suggestions received from the whole Club, and that the Ministry take their choice from such debates." The other propositions were—1. "That the Ministries be maintained as hitherto," 2. "That the Ministries be done away with altogether, allowing the selection of subjects to rest with the Committee. The amendment was put and carried by 13 to 12. The Chairman called upon Kenna I. to form a Ministry. Armstrong gave notice of moving—"That members be allowed to speak more than once, during debates." Appended are names of the Ministry and opposition:

MINISTRY.  
G. F. Kenna (Premier)  
McDonald  
Amess  
Butler  
Rolin  

OPPOSITION.  
P. W. Street (Leader)  
Herbert O. S.  
Halliday  
Armstrong  
Rich

FRIDAY EVENING, April 30th.—The President in the chair. The room was crowded to excess, 58 members present. Instead of the usual entertainment, a Spelling Bee was held, that proved very successful. Proceedings began at 8 o’clock. After the Secretary had read the minutes, Armstrong moved—"That there be no restriction placed upon the number of times any member should speak." The President, however, desired him to withdraw the motion till the following Friday, which he did accordingly. Mr. Anderson, who also acted as inquisitor, then stated the rules under which the Bee would be conducted. The number of candidates was fair, being 25 in all. The second
word was too much for one of the candidates, who continued dropping off rather fast. One champion of the Lower school still remained, but gave in at "corollary." One gentleman was killed with a "poniard," "pleurisy" proved fatal to another. The last six were very difficult to part. Butler, Cranna, and Rolin were the last left. Cranna fell at "gazetteer," Rolin at "accoutre." The prizes were therefore adjudged:—Butler 1; Rolin 2; Cranna 3. Special prize Lower school: Addison.

FRIDAY EVENING, May 7th.—The President took the chair. Thirty-six members present. The prizes won at the Spelling Bee were then distributed to the successful candidates. The books were well chosen and splendidly bound—1st prize, "Thousand and one gems of Poetry;" 2nd prize, "Macaulay's Essays;" 3rd prize "Tom Brown's School Days." Special prize, Lower School, "Sir Walter Scott's Poems." At this stage of the proceedings, J. O. Fairfax took the chair, vacated by Mr. Weigall. Armstrong moved and Street seconded—"That no restrictions be placed upon the number of times any member should speak." Rich moved and Garnsey seconded—"That members speak twice." Herbert moved and Leverrier seconded—"That the speaking be conducted as before." Eventually, Rich's amendment was carried. Kenna (Premier) moved—"That gunpowder is beneficial to Society." Steet (L. O.) replied, amusing the audience with a graphic account of crackers, squibs, &c. The following also spoke for the motion:—Rolin; against, Armstrong, J. Herbert, O. S. On a division, 5 voted for, and 22 against the motion. The Ministry were thus defeated and Kenna resigning, Street was called upon to form a Ministry; it is as follows:—Street (Premier), Herbert, Leverrier, Armstrong, Jeffreys.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editors of "The Sydneian."

DEAR SIR,—I think that if you appropriated a space in The Sydneian to original puzzles, charades, enigmas, mathematical problems, &c., for solution by your readers, the magazine would become very popular.

The plan followed by some of our weekly newspapers is as follows:—Contributors send in their puzzles with the answers to the Editor, and they appear—if considered worthy of the space—in due course, without the answers, and each with a distinguishing number. In a subsequent issue appears a list of the answers; also a list of the solvers' initials with the numbers of the questions they have answered opposite. Henry Dalton in his "Drawing-room Plays and Evening Amusement," says:—Puzzles may be regarded as an excellent medium for the development of such natural tendencies in youth, combining as they do the elements of work and play; necessitating also both application and perseverance, and enabling us to improve the valuable faculty of holding several ideas in the mind at once. In short, the same powers of intellect that will enable a boy to unravel the intricacies of a puzzle, might,
later in life prove in their fullest development valuable aids to the investi-
gation of the mysterious problems of nature, and yield for their fruits some
fresh contributors to the never-ceasing wonders of science."

Hoping my proposition may find favour.

Sydney, April, 1880.

"O. S."

[We may say in reference to this that we have always been ready to publish
any good and original puzzles which we receive, but these do not come in
sufficient quantity for us to set apart a special column. A column with
nothing in it would be rather mild.—Ed.]

To the Editor of "The Sydneyian."

My Dear Sir,—Would you kindly allow me through your columns to call
attention to some matters in connection with the Spelling Bee held on Friday
Evening, April 30.

A notice was posted in the School Hall about this Bee, in which it was
stated that the standard dictionary would be Chambers’, but that the authority
of no good dictionary would be refused. On the night in question, however,
no dictionary was provided by the authorities in case of reference being
required; the only dictionary in the room being a small “Walker’s,” which
one of the members had provided for personal amusement. I was one of the
competitors, and being asked to spell assafætida spelt it as I spell it here, or
rather attempted to spell it, for I had not gone beyond the first two syllables
when I was told that I was wrong, the mistake being that I put in an “s”
too many. I found a seat among the audience, and upon obtaining the small
dictionary previously referred to, found that there was no such word given in
it. I mentioned this to the Examiner (Mr. Anderson) who said that went for
nothing. However, presently a doubt arose about a word which a competitor
spelt differently to that on the examiner’s paper, and the dictionary which in
my case had been refused was referred to, and the spelling given in it taken
as the correct one. This, I think, is a plan not usually adopted at Spelling
Bees, and one which might cause a good deal of unpleasantness.

On my return home, wishing to be certain about the spelling of assafætida,
I referred to both Chambers’ and Webster’s Dictionary, and found it spelt in
both with a double “s.” I believe also that the word whence it is derived is
spelt with a double “s”. Taking into consideration then all these arguments in
my favour, I am entirely at a loss to understand why the word when spelt as
I spell it should be rejected. I publish these facts in order to call attention to
the method adopted by the Debating Society of conducting Spelling Bees,
a method which \( \epsilon \iota \mu \eta \lambda \alpha \nu \pi \iota \kappa \rho \omicron \nu \epsilon \iota \pi \epsilon \iota \nu \) is rather unfair to the competitors,
though I do not for a moment suppose it to be intentionally so by the authori-
ties. Hoping I do not trespass too much on your space,

I am, &c.,

P. W. STREET.
To the Editor of "The Sydneian."

SIR,—In number 23 of the Sydneian, I observed a few objections written therein by "Canis," about a game of Hare and Hounds, which was proposed by Lepus. I the undersigned think that if a spot for playing the game of Hare and Hounds was sought for, I think it could be found, and as you offer "advice gratis" to any one that asks, I wish to know your advice about choosing one of the suburbs nearest at hand, and I want to know whether the game will be tried or not, as I don't think there is any harm in trying this game for the first time, and see whether it will succeed or not, for it is both pleasing and healthful. I don't think that I should take up too much room in your paper.

I am, &c.,
NEPTUNE.

To the Editors of "The Sydneian."

SIR,—If you would kindly send a petition to the Head Master (as I do not think myself fit) asking him if he would be kind enough to have a few seats put where the old ones stood, viz., by IIIA. class-room, and an additional one near the drinking place. I am sure that other boys, besides myself, would patronise it, for the purpose of studying. I tell you it is not very nice to hang about instead of sitting down comfortably on a seat to revise a lesson. You cannot sit down on the grass in the lower part of the playground without the fear of an unfriendly cricket ball lodging on some tender part or someone taking your hat and having a game of catchers with a few friends for old acquaintance sake. Especially on a wet day we feel the want of seats when it would be unhealthy to sit on the grass. Hoping you will put this in the next number.

I remain, yours truly,
JUPITER.

19th April, 1880.

THE DEBATING SOCIETY.

To the Editor of "The Sydneian."

SIR,—Several letters on the subject of this Society have appeared lately in your columns, mentioning defects, and suggesting remedies. On these I have nothing to say at present; but I wish to point out the great want of the regular attendance of some master to take the chair. On several occasions lately, we have been compelled to put one of ourselves in the chair, and then if the self-respect of the boys themselves is not sufficient to keep them in order (which I am sorry to say it often is not), the authority of the chairman cannot do so.

The state of the room also which is not of the cleanest, might be improved. Hoping to see some change in these particulars.

I remain, yours, &c.
A MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY.
SCHOOL NOTICES.

The following School order of May, 1878, is republished for general information.

For the future the general prizes of the School will be given on the following principles:

For the purpose of general prizes, the School will be divided into five branches.

**Upper School**
1. **English**.
2. **Modern Languages**.
3. **Classics**.
4. **Mathematics**.
5. **Natural Science**.

**Lower School**
1. **English**.
2. **Modern Languages**.
3. **Latin**.
4. **Arithmetic**.
5. **Algebra and Euclid**.

The examination will be held in sections 1, 2, in June, and in sections 3, 4, 5, in December. Those examined will be placed in first, second, or third classes according to merit. Any boy obtaining three first classes in the course of the year will be entitled to a prize.

EXAMINATIONS.—JUNE 1880.

**MODERN LANGUAGES.**—TUESDAY, JUNE 15.

Morning—Upper School—French.
Afternoon—Upper School—German. Lower School—French.

**ENGLISH.**—WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16, AND THURSDAY, JUNE 17.

The Prize List will be published at 12:30 p.m., on Saturday, June 19.

Subjects.—Section I.—English.
Upper School.—General paper on English language,
Special Subjects.—Division I.—The Spectator, Parts I., II., III., VI., VIII. Macaulay's Essays, The Life and Writings of Addison. Thackeray's English Humourists, Steele and Addison Seebohm, Era of the Protestant Revolution, Creighton, Age of Elizabeth.
Division II.—Samson Agonistes and Macaulay's Essays. Milton; or Scott's "Lady of the Lake" and Morris's Questions on English Grammar.
History of England—William I. to Elizabeth,
Geography—Australasia, Europe, Asia.

**Lower School.**—Forms III. and II.—General paper on English language.
Lower Remove and Form I.—*Viva voce*.
History.—William I. to Elizabeth.
Geography.—Australasia, Europe, and Asia.
Form II.—Selection of Poetry from Seeley's English Verse Book, and from
the Royal Reader.
Spelling.—Morell's Manual of Spelling, chap. 1 to 16; Laurie's Spelling.
History of Australia.
Geography.—Outlines of Australasia, Europe, and Asia.
Lower Remove, Form I.—Selections of Poetry from Royal Reader, No. 5
and No. 4.
Laurie's Spelling.
Outlines of Australasia, Europe, and Asia.

**UPPER SCHOOL CLASSICAL.**

**DIVISION I.**—Iphigénie, Louis XIV., 1—5
M'Millan's Primer II.

**DIVISION II.**—M'Millan's Primer II.
(Same as Division III.)
Translation: Fontaine's Fables, Book VII.

**UPPER REMOVE.**

**DIVISION III.**

- M'Millan's Primer II., pp. 1—21.
- Exercises I.—XXV.
- Translation, pp. 37—60
- Grammatical Questions.

**MODERN.**

**I. DIVISION.**—M'Millan's Primer, pp. 1—21.
Exercises I.—XXV.
Translation, pp. 100—125.
Grammatical Questions.

**II. DIVISION.**—M'Millan's Primer, pp. 1—15,
Exercises, I.—X.
Translation: Anecdotes, 1.—40.
Grammatical Questions.

**GERMAN.**

Simple Accidence to the end of Pronouns, and Exercises thereon.
Translation: Lessing's Fables, 1—15.

**LOWER SCHOOL.**

**FRENCH.**

**LOWER REMOVE.**

- **II. A**
  - Simple Accidence.
- **III. C**
  - Verbs: Auxiliary and Regular.
  - Lessons 1—20, M'Millan's Primer.

**CIVIL SERVICE.**

- **III. B**
  - M'Millan's Primer II., pp. 1—20.
- **III. A**
  - Exercises I.—X.
  - Translation: Anecdotes, 1—30.
  - Grammatical Questions.
MISCELLANEOUS.

We notice that Battye of this School has carried off first prize in the All Schools' Race at the late Amateur Athletic Sports, with Wilton, also of this School, a good second. We are glad to see the honour of the School so well maintained in athletics by the present generation.

We extract the following from the Herald:—"On Friday April 23rd, at a full dress parade of the Cadets the shooting prizes won in the rifle and carbine companies during the past quarter were presented by Mrs. Weigall to the respective winners—quartermaster sergeant Helsham, and cadets Smith, Mackay, Barker, Kenna, Helsham, Moffitt, Marshall, and Clapin. Captain Weigall then took occasion to say a few words of farewell to Lieutenant Anderson, who has been compelled by the pressure of other duties to resign his commission in the corps, paying a high tribute of praise to Mr. Anderson for the valuable services he had rendered to the corps during the last seven years by his constant attendance on the rifle range and the parade ground, his exertions in camp, his unvarying attention to everything concerning the welfare of the corps and each individual member, and by his constant and kindly co-operation with himself (Captain Weigall); he presented him, on behalf of the old members of the corps and the present cadets, with a very elegant tea and coffee service, with the inscription—"To Lieutenant Anderson, from his comrades of the G. S. C. Corps, 1880." Mr. Anderson, who was much touched with the enthusiastic applause of the cadets, returned thanks for the very kind manner in which the handsome present was conveyed, and explained why he was so reluctantly compelled to sever a tie which had been productive of so much happiness to himself, and also to lose so many opportunities of seeing the best side of the boys who were joined together to learn such valuable military instruction. He also expressed a wish that he might be remembered at future camps by being accorded an invitation as an old cadet, and that the tone and esprit of the corps would always remain as good as at present.

We have been requested to notify that the names of the following N.C.O.s and Cadets, will be erased from the list, if they do not attend shooting regularly, and that, however good their shooting, they will not be picked in the Rifle Team. Quartermaster-Sergeant Helsham, Corporal Barker, Lance Corporals Bell and Helsham, with Cadets Pibbitts, Kenna, Payten I, Payten II, Martin, Smith, Smyth, Thomas, Attwood I, and Yabsley.

DEBATING SOCIETY.

In future, Meetings will be held every Friday evening at 7.30 p.m., according to rule III.