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The Sydneyian.

No. XXX.

A MAGAZINE EDITED BY MEMBERS OF THE SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

DECEMBER, 1880.

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SYDNEY:

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1880.
SCHOOL CALENDAR.

1880.

Dec. 7—Sixth Form Examination begins.

8—General Upper School Examination begins.

The Eleven start for Tasmania.

10—Lower School Examination begins.

11—Association Matches for Rifle Team, 10:30 a.m.

13—Association Matches for Carbine Team, 2 p.m.

15—Examination ends.

16—Prize List, published 4 p.m.

17—Annual Prize Distribution, 4 p.m.

School breaks up for Summer holidays.

Match v. Launceston Grammar School begins.

18—Match v. Launceston Grammar School continued.

20—Match, Combined Schools v. Northern Tasmania.

1881.

Jan. 25—Term begins, 9:30 a.m.

Feb. 21—Sydneian Box closes.

28—Sydneian No. XXXI, published
EDITORIAL.

In publishing the last number of the Sydneian for the present year, the Editors feel that they have reason to congratulate the School upon the greater regularity, with which the Magazine has been issued during the past twelve months. There have been in all eight issues, two each quarter. It is hoped, that similar regularity will be maintained next year. It is also gratifying to notice, that the working of the Magazine is now conducted exclusively by the boys of the School, and that the contributions to its pages are written principally by boys and not by Masters. The Editors, however, have still to regret, that in this, as in many other departments of school activity, "the willing horse is worked to death." As has been remarked before, in the work as well as in the sports of the Grammar School, a greater diffusion of energy is required. With a view to this object, it will probably be desirable next year to increase the number of the Editorial Staff, and to make the committee more generally representative of the intellect of the School.

The number of subscribers to the Sydneian in the school itself has steadily increased—especially in some of the lower Forms. The Form Masters can do a great deal in extending the sale by exerting their personal influence in this respect upon the Forms under their special charge. It should be remembered, however, that one of the principal objects in starting the School Magazine was to maintain the connection between the past and present generations of Grammar School boys, and it is not too much to expect, that every one, who leaves the School this and every succeeding quarter, should enroll his name as a regular subscriber. It should also be remarked, that the Editors are always glad to receive any news of old Sydneians, and such news will be duly published—as there is sure to be a considerable migration at the end of the present half. The Editors will be glad to receive at once the names of all those, who wish to remain permanent subscribers.

The Sydneian, which has now reached the 30th number of its issue, may be considered to be fairly established as a regular School Institution. It will devolve upon the Editors next year, whilst maintaining and raising the intellectual tone of the periodical, still further to extend its practical usefulness as an organ of School opinions, and a vehicle of School news.
ON HISTORY.

HISTORY is a most interesting, important, and useful branch of study. It is equally attractive to the unreflecting and to the reflecting mind. The former it interests by novelty—the latter by the many useful lessons which may be drawn from the facts which it records. Hence it is universally popular.

History is calculated to enlighten the judgment upon those subjects which have a direct bearing, not only upon the individual but upon the community at large. It leads to a knowledge of man in his social relations, and exhibits the various operations of different systems of polity upon human happiness. It is the record of whatever has been thought, said, or done.

In history we shall see a striking exemplification of the fatal consequences of folly and vice, of error and prejudice. There, too, we shall find recorded the actions of patriots and the intrigues of traitors.

There again shall we discover that measures which profess to spring from the purest patriotism, owed their origin to the desire of place and emolument; and that high principle is a much rarer thing among statesmen than would at first appear. Even in English history we have many instances of this. In the best times of the Roman Republic a familiar acquaintance with the history of their country was held to be requisite to qualify youth for the attainment of stations of dignity, power, and profit, in the administration of public affairs.

In the time of Marcus it appears that men of illustrious birth did not begin to read the history of their country till they were elevated to high offices of state—that is "They first obtained the employment and then betheught themselves of the qualifications necessary for the proper discharge of it." An ancient author characterises history as "Philosophy teaching by examples." If this be so, it is evident that a mere acquaintance with facts and dates does not constitute history; although it is often thought that it does. There are two kinds of improvement, one arising from our own experience and one from the experience of others. This last kind of improvement arising from the experience of others, we gain, by the attentive perusal of history, especially of that division of history called biography, which, although treating of wars and councils and other affairs of state only as they relate to the person whose life is written, gives us a clear insight into his true character; and we become acquainted with his most private actions and conversations, his passions and follies.

History enables to perceive and duly to appreciate, what is valuable in the institutions of ancient times, and of foreign countries; and thus prepares us for a due estimate of the political regulations of our native land. We shall also find that under a liberal or constitutional government the subject enjoys the highest degree of liberty. Of those countries under this form of government, England is, undoubtedly, the most prominent example. No country of Europe is under an entirely absolute or despotic government; although both Russia and Turkey are to a great extent absolute monarchies, and we all know the unhappy condition of those countries. By the diligent perusal of history we can draw important lessons from the past for
guidance in the future, by observing how any particular nation lived—whether it devoted itself to noble and worthy pursuits or to base and unworthy pursuits. We can also form a fair estimate of the character of a nation, by observing how it comports itself in those crises from which no nation is entirely free. An invasion is threatened, a mighty armament approaches—does the nation shrink from the encounter, and tamely cry for mercy; or rising irresistible in its might, does it hurl defiance at the invader and prepare to meet him?

Such events as these show the true character of the nation. In our own English history there have been many occasions when the nation has shown itself equal to such emergencies; notably, the Armada in the reign of Elizabeth and the threatened invasion of Napoleon in 1803, which met with a most patriotic response in England, when 300,000 volunteers were enrolled to resist it.

History also informs us of the state of Literature at different periods; of the state of the fine arts—painting—statuary—and architecture, which all serve to throw light upon the national characteristics of that period about which we may be reading.

English History acquaints us with the circumstances under which all the great charters of our liberties were obtained;—How Magna Charta was obtained through the tyranny and weakness of John; how on the 20th of January, 1265, there assembled at London, on the summons of De Montfort, a parliament composed on a different model from any previous great council of the nation; how the Knights representing each Shire, and the representatives of every city and borough, although they sat for a time in the same chamber with the Nobles, formed the germ of the House of Commons; and how at the present day our liberties are such as no nation in the world possesses—not even excepting the United States. History also informs us of the population, industries, commerce, manners, and customs of the nation about which we may be reading. In fact History is one of the most interesting, important and useful branches of study.

STUDIES OF NATURAL LIFE IN THE CITY.

One of the most remarkable productions of Australia is the larrikin. He surpasses the kangaroo and the opossum, and has never yet been satisfactorily classed. His habits are gregarious, and were it not that he can express himself by sounds and is tailless he would be considered a monkey. His instincts are most peculiar, and perhaps a brief sketch of them would be instructive and amusing: mischief is the only object of his existence, the more gratuitous and ill-natured the better; he is rarely caught, however, being of a naturally timid and retiring disposition. He loves especially to throw stones at people and retire round a corner before he is seen; when caught he is let off very easily by the law, who naturally loves her offspring and is lenient towards them. In his natural history there is a most startling fact—he, like the chrysalis, completely changes his form; but, instead of
being a transmutation which takes place once, this change is hebdomadal, and occurs on Sundays. He is then seen to have, as it were, cast off the filth and squalor of his week-day attire and appears clean and spruce, decked in a highly starched and frilled shirt-front—it is suspected by many that there is no continuation to this ornament beyond what may be observed with the naked eye—and various other triumphs of haberdashery. He then congregates at the street corners or strolls in the recreation grounds provided for him—generally with a female creature of his own species. He always wears a pipe which he keeps in his mouth on week-days for show and only smokes on Sundays, perfuming the air far and wide with rank and nauseous smoke. There are several families of the species; so many that I cannot attempt to enumerate them. Their general instincts are uniform. The larrikin never works except at exhorbitant wages and takes care to do nothing for those wages; on them the larrikin battens—the work (?) of two days being sufficient to support him for a week in plenty. He is observed to tone down considerably as his age advances, probably because he finds that his action is more tardy and he cannot so easily escape from an embarrassing position by running away. The years of his old age are premature and wretched: he is seventy years old when others of his own age are forty-five. He forms on the whole a most interesting subject of speculation, for in him, par excellence, appears the deepest depravity to be observed in the human race. Some people, it is true have endeavoured in the interests of New South Wales to prove that the Andaman Islanders and the Papuans are more brutified than he, but this is impossible. To conclude, his species is rapidly developing in all new countries: he is conspicuous in the United States, Victoria, and elsewhere. There is, moreover, no means of exterminating him. It is feared that, like the ants in Africa, he will one day overrun and destroy society. I will now take leave of my readers, hoping that this imperfect sketch of an animal with which they are familiar will develop in their minds a desire to study natural history, particularly that of the country in which they are born.

MOVING.

I had come home after a hard days' work, and having partaken copiously of the wealth of the table, and the strength of the teapot, I carefully surveyed the room, and discovering my favourite chair near the hearth ensconced myself within its ample fold. The weather was hot, but for all that I faced the hearth; it had become a habit with me to look in that direction, for in winter I love to see the flame and enjoy its warmth, and watch the jets of fire issuing from each lump of coal, now and then disappear as it were, within the heap of black. To contemplate the weird-like forms and think like dear little Lizzie Hexam in our "Mutual Friend" of the future, and build up castles filled to the brim with success. The same old way as when I was a boy, only then instead of a name that should be "ever green," it was a large house made of sugar plums, with gingerbread cakes with gilt crosses
and all put there by the fairies, which I hoped some day to find in an out of
the way corner of the world, after floating about the seas in a cockleshell.

I was beginning to think in the old, old way when my mother interrupted—
"Our lease is up on the sixth of next month, so you had better, Adolphus,
look out for another house—this one is too hot and dusty, and I dislike town
the more I see of it, so we must try and find a place in one of the suburbs."

"The sixth of next month," I replied, for some reason perfectly unaccount-
able. I invariably asked the question which was put to me, although I heard
it and understood it clearly—my mother tells me it is Scotch cautiousness—I
don't know. Then, I said, we must go up the line.

"I am dreadfully frightened of trains," said my mother.

"Ugh! how would Waverley suit you?"

"It's rather far for the children to go to school from there, and I fancy it
is rather lonely," rejoined my mother.

"North Shore," I ventured?

"Rents are so high, and the water to cross." "Why, there was the 'Black
Swan' ran into the 'Tub,' and three of the passengers jumped over and
would have been drowned only for their umbrellas, and"

"Fiddlesticks," I replied, somewhat irreverently.

I shall not bore my readers with any more of the conversation, suffice it to
say that on the next morning the papers were carefully perused under the
"To Let" heading, and several tempting advertisements lured us to several
suburbs. Rooms advertised often meant holes and coal cellars, and a garden !

"Vy, bless yer Zur," as the old man in charge said : "The roses din't grow
well Zur, nor any thing Zur, 'cos the sun can't see 'em, Zur, for the walls."

"Vy, bless yer 'cart, Zur, thistles 's the only things as 'l grow, Zur." "Do
you think the place is healthy?" I said to another veteran. "Well, Sir, as
to that, Sir, I couldn't rightly say, Sir ;" "It was said as they died of
diphtheria, Sir, the two daughters, Sir, but I couldn't say." I cut that man
short. I saw he was long winded, I imprinted the bust of her Majesty on
that old man's palm and left him in solitude.

We at last hit upon the right place, about which there was an air of
pleasant quietness without any of that loneliness which often accompanies a
country house, this one was near the water and steamers ran several times a
day, and it was approachable by land. Then came the packing, then the
slashing of the vanmen, such a bustle I don't want to see for some little time
to come again.

We are now getting pretty clear and in ship-shape order. We discovered
the silver teaspoons in the kitchen boiler, brushes amongst plates, and every-
thing in exactly the place it should not have been put by those zealous
vanmen.

The change of life is charming. Oysters, (gobble gobble) milk and cream,
fruit, vegetables, eggs, &c., ad libitum, everything that can conduce to mortal
happiness. And the old arm chair still rests before the hearth, although a
different one—only I'm a little more practical now and haven't got so much
time to waste in thinking, and I feel all the stronger and better able to meet
a hard days' work and enjoy a night's rest and feel all the happier. One thing
I do not like, and that is the stings of the insidious sandfly and boastful mosquito. One comes like "a thief in the night," and the other like a victorious enemy playing music to herald his approach.

With these exceptions, we are very well, thank you.

Sydney, 11th November, 1880.

A. R. C.

THE ROWING CLUB.

On Thursday last at a very well attended meeting of the Rowing Club it was decided that it was best not to send a four-oar to Melbourne, as though we might perhaps get a crew with sufficient strength, yet those who have been out in the gig lately showed such a lamentable want of coaching, that authorities considered that we were unable to cope with the more skilful rowers in Melbourne. It is to be hoped however that the projected race in Easter will not fall through for the want of a little trouble and enterprise on the part of the members of the club. It was also decided at the meeting to have a four-oar race, but the picking of the crews seems to be delayed for some unknown reason. However we will hope for an improvement in the Rowing Club before Easter as during the last quarter it has been gaining strength in pulling members.

NATATOR.

THE DEBATING SOCIETY.

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.... "ranae veterem ocicere querelam."

Our reports have not appeared in the *Sydneyan* for so long, that we fear we are quite forgotten by the Editors, and indeed, by the school in general. Whether this is due to the fact that no room could be allotted us for the minutes of our proceedings, or whether the noble art of rhetoric is at a discount in the Grammar School, we cannot decide; but certainly our proceedings are viewed with a cold and chilling neglect by our school-fellows. The Society is sickening and its bloom is fading; entertainments have proved unequal to the cure of its health, and the Library which we have lately added to our previous allurements has been looked upon as a snare and a delusion. To speak metaphorically wild weeds are gathering at the Society's door, and the hoe of exhortation seems inadequate to uproot them. Ichabod, Ichabod is the cry of the committee and despair is their only food—intellectual, that is to say; a quorum is raised with untiring labour only. Members appear to be fonder of dropping in three-quarters of an hour late than of coming to time; they seem to take an inhuman delight in racking the mind of the luckless being, who acts as whipper-in by dodging in and out, when the debate is about to commence, or getting up a kind of impromptu meeting for gossip outside where they stand, so engrossed in their discussions, that nothing will get them to come in till they have satisfactorily decided the question which
agitates them. When at last induced to come in, they read a book and listen now and then with an air of amusement and scorn the speaker—vote without thinking, even hurry off as if life depended on their speed when the debate is ended. Such is the raw material of the Society. This is an old story we all know, and grows wearisome with repetition, but we must be excused for stating a few disheartening facts, when our hopes are disappointed as they have been since the University Examinations. We expected for the first meeting at least, a good number of members—but no; we barely succeeded in gathering together a meagre quorum. The minutes of the proceedings are as follows:

Friday, November 26th.—The debate for the evening was—“That the execution of Mary Queen of Scots was justifiable.” The Ministry took the affirmative. Fairfax, as Premier, spoke first then followed—

For
Broomfield
Halliday

Against
Armstrong
Rich
Crocker
King III

Many members who had promised to come did not turn up—for various reasons. After the debating was done, the question was put to the meeting: on a division seven voted against and six for the motion. Thus the Ministry were defeated, and Fairfax resigned on behalf of his colleagues.

THE LAST DAY.

Another pleasant month has passed,  
And Christmas Day has gone;  
Fairest of all the fair six months,  
December,—thou art done.  
No more shall Euclid’s threatening day  
Affright our nerves and brain;  
No Algebra shall now intrude  
To give exquisite pain;  
No more geography shall come  
To break our dreams and jaws;  
No Latin morn, no grammar day,  
No substantival clause.  
Arithmetic is now a myth,  
No more shall it affright;  
Perspective drawing disappears  
Into oblivion’s night.  
The English literature no more  
Our memories will tax,  
From thee, with all thy poets great,  
Our minds we will relax.  
Ah, no! Ye pains and pleasures mixed,  
Would ye might come again!  
For, to be true, I must confess  
Twas pleasure more than pain.

(GEREMEN) O. S.
CRICKET.

We have received a report of but one match only, and for this we are in no way indebted to any individual of the cricketing community. The fact of the case is that each member thinks it the duty of some one else to forward the scores, and that there is no recognised head. It would be a good plan if the sports Committee were to appoint a permanent scorer who should have the whole charge of the scoring-book, leaving it at school whenever not in use.

If the Committee act on this suggestion we shall in the future expect the scorer to give us the reports. Let us hope that this will be the last time we shall have to complain.

As far as we know there have been four First eleven matches played up to the present time, the first of which is duly reported.

We understand that no match can be arranged this year with Melbourne Grammar School, but that there are several to take place in Tasmania. The first of these will be with Launceston. It is also probable that there will be a match with Geelong Grammar School on their return from Tasmania. We hope they will be successful in all and maintain the honour of the school.

**Grammar School v. King's School.**

This was the second match, and it was actually played on a Saturday. We won by a couple of runs and six wickets to spare. The following are the scores obtained by each side:

- King's School—First Innings, 57; Second Innings, 21.
- Grammar School—First Innings, 60; Second Innings, four wickets down for 20.

Payten, Donnan, Beames and Tange, all bowled well, each obtaining the same average.

**Grammar School v. Newington College.**

We had the hard luck to lose this match by one run in the first innings. In the second it seems we had it slightly to our advantages. Their large score in both innings is greatly to be attributed to our loose fielding. We trust this will not be the characteristic point in the coming matches in the colonies.

- Newington College—First Innings 72; Second Innings, 109
- Grammar School—First Innings 71; Second Innings, three wickets for 47 runs.

For Newington—Rygate obtained 35, Howard 26, and Webb 22. Page obtained large scores for us in both innings. As regards the rest we can receive no information.

**First Eleven v. Undergraduates.**

This match proved a very soft one for us, winning it by four wickets and 21 runs. It was but a one one-innings match, and a very fine display of cricket was shown. Thompson and Tange carried out their bats for 29 and 11 respectively, Page made 23 and Roberts 17.

As seen from the above results we have been very successful so far, losing but one match and that by one run. In this match almost every man seemed
to have had a strange infatuation to let drop and pass through his legs every ball that came to him.

Donnan, Nathan, Page and Thompson have shaped best with the bat, whilst Payten and Donnan have attained the best bowling averages.

FIRST ELEVEN v. SECOND UNIVERSITY.

This match was played on the Oval on the 27th October, and resulted in a victory for the School by 5 wickets and 1 run.

H. Roberts captained the Universities and W. Roberts our eleven. Roberts having won the toss, sent his men to the wickets. Play commenced about 12 o'clock, and all the University men were out before lunch. P. Payten bowled remarkably well for the School. McManamy and Donnan also bowled well for their respective teams. Donnan made top score with 23. Halliday and Nathan also made double figures. For the University, Mack was the only one who succeeded in making double figures. The bowling analysis of the first innings was not kept. The following are the scores:

### Grammars

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Player</th>
<th>First Innings</th>
<th>Second Innings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Metcalfe</td>
<td>211 12 11, c. Roberts</td>
<td>Metcalfe, 2 1 2 1, c. Tibbits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ayres, 11, b. P. Payten</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>b. Donnan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roberts, 111, b. P. Payten</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Connell, 111, b. P. Payten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neale, b. P. Payten</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Mack, b. P. Payten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connell, 33, b. P. Payten</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Roberts, c. Tange, b. Donnan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crane, 12, P. Payten</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Neale, b. P. Payten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barlee, b. P. Payten</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Ayres, b. P. Payten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rygate, 1, run out</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Rygate, 13111, b. Donnan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mack, 21212112, not out</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>McManamy, 1112111, run out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McManamy, 2132, b. P. Payten</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Crane, 2 1 1, c. Roberts, b. P.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davis, 112, b. P. Payten</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Payten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Balls</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Barlee, 11, c. Tange, b. Roberts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Byes</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>Davis, 1, not out</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>Byes</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Bowling Analysis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Player</th>
<th>First Innings</th>
<th>Second Innings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donnan, 323, b. McManamy</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Donnan, 1232141112113, c. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathan, 12311, b. McManamy</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>b. Crane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tange, 111, c. Davis, b. McManamy</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Halliday, c. Davis, b. McManamy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tibbits, b. McManamy</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roberts, 13, b. McManamy</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Nathan, 21211213, not out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thompson, 1, b. Crane</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Beames, b. Crane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page, 2, c. Barlee, b. Rygate</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Thompson, b. b. w. b. Crane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P. Payten, 11, c. Mack, b. McManamy</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Tange, b. Crane</td>
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<tr>
<td>A. Payten, 2, c. Metcalfe, b. McManamy</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Roberts, 1, not out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Halliday, 1331221, b. McManamy</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>5 wickets for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beames, 211, not out</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>37</td>
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<tr>
<td>Byes</td>
<td>6</td>
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MATCH BETWEEN THE VIth. & Vth. FORMS AND THE CIVIL SERVICE.

FIRST INNINGS OF VIth. & Vth.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Runs</th>
<th>Overs</th>
<th>Highest</th>
<th>Wicketkeeper</th>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Bowler</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>King</td>
<td>21</td>
<td></td>
<td>21</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payten</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathan</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Halliday</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Broomfield</td>
<td>11</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wells, b.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Payten, (6)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Halliday, b. Russell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seckewick</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guy, c. Halliday, b. King (2.)</td>
<td></td>
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There was not time to finish the match.

THE COMING MATCH WITH TASMANIA.

I visited the N.S.W. Cricket Association Ground this morning and saw the S. G. S. Fifteen practising. After carefully watching the form displayed by each member of the team, I have come to the conclusion that enthusiasts in the Grammar School can safely entrust their honour to the following Eleven which I will venture on naming:

Roberts, Nathan, Donnan, Thompson, Stokes, Payten, Page, Kenna, Tange, Richardson, Tibbits or Beames.

Roberts is a good bat, powerful hitter; he also is a very good field, being especially good behind the wicket about 4 yards.

Nathan is a very fair bat, plays forward very well but does not cut as well as he did last season. Will make a very fair wicket-keeper with a little practice and pluck.

Donnan is the best all round man in the team. A good bat with plenty of patience and defence but wants a little strength to make him much more valuable as a run-getter. A better bowler than bat having a very fair leg break. Has a very good pitch, and while he uses his head will take a lot of “getting away.”

Thompson is one of the best bats in the team, a powerful hitter, but doesn’t ill-time his hits; plenty of defence. A very good field.

Stokes is a fair bat, plays fast bowling well, but is all amiss with medium bowling. Rather lazy in the field, but is good when he takes it into his head.

Payten is a very fair bowler, being next to Donnan in the trundling list. Fair bat, and a good field.

Page is a sure slogger, who wants a deal of coaching to enable him to defend his wicket. Good field and very fair change bowler.

Tange is a very fair bat, plays forward very neatly, cuts fairly. A very good field.
Richardson—Unfortunately I did not see this young player bat, but from all accounts is very fit. Fair change bowler and a very good field.

Kenna has made rapid strides with the "willow" this season, his forward play is very neat, but requires a little coaching in cutting and leg hitting. A very fair field.

Tibbits—an active field, fair bowler, but is too fond of hitting to pay any attention to defending his wicket.

Beames—an indifferent bat; lazy in the field but bowls very fairly while he keeps the ball well up, having a fair leg break.

The two last players should run each other very close for eleventh man although I would be inclined to give my vote in favour of the former.

If the Grammar School Team wants to win the match against Tasmania, it will have to pay far greater attention to the fielding department than it did to day.

The members of the team should bear in mind that a bowler can't bowl his very best and get wickets unless backed up by good fielding.

When practising they should imagine that they are playing a match and field accordingly; nothing is so disheartening as to see the fieldsmen with their hands in their pockets, lolling about the field or perhaps going so far as to sit down in the field while they ought to have the interest of the school at heart and try their very best to make some improvement in fielding.

A MEMBER OF THE OLD ELEVEN,

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editors of "The Sydneian."

Sir,—In your account of the camp which appeared in the last issue the writer left out a few things which I would like to bring forward.

First of all he said nothing about the situation of the camp, It was pitched in an excellent place having a creek on one side and two or three ponds on the other sides. The tents had been pitched before-hand by Sergeant Hagney who was there before us. There were in all twelve tents. Two of them were allotted to the Bathurst Cadets, five to the Sydney Cadets, two to the Captains of each Company, one as guard tent, one as commissariat tent, and one as sergeants' tent, and one outside the camp altogether as cook's tent. These were inspected every morning, and I think your correspondent might have left out his account of the foundry and given us something about the camp instead. I think he might also have left out part of his account, viz., about the lunch, also about the cattle, also about forcing the sentries (two little fellows about 14 years of age), and also about charging cows. If, instead of these witticisms he had told us something sensible about the camp it would have been better.

Then he never says a word about measles and pleurisy breaking out in the camp. We had two doctors at the camp, viz., Messrs. W. Neill and H. Marshall, and I am sure I do not know what we should have done without them. They were extremely kind, for they stayed behind with the boy bad
with the measles, and I assure you it was not for their own pleasure for it was raining all the time they were there. Thanks are also due to Ex-Cadet Barlee who stayed behind to keep the others company. Besides all this he never said a word how kind the Captain was to the invalid, and how he gave up his tent to the invalid's mother.

And last but not least, he never mentions a word about the grand entertainment we had on Friday night, when some of our fellows went through the bayonet exercise under Sergeant Hagney, and sword exercise and boxing were kept up with great vigour. After this we had a concert at which the principal performers were—Sergeants Wilkinson, Neill, Morris, Cowper; Corporals Lander (Hoary), Clapin, and Moffitt; and Privates Godfrey, Windeyer, and others. We were also favoured with a song from Captain Bean and one from Sergeant Hagney. And we had some very good selections on the Cornet from our present Bugler Donnan, and I believe that our happiness would not have been so great had it not been for the sergeant who was always finding something to pass the time pleasantly.

I remain, &c.,

SENSE.

To the Editors of the Sydneian.

Sir,—Could you oblige me by giving me any reliable information about the present circumstances of the Rowing Club. From a few remarks that I overheard (for the rowing men are very close), I should imagine it is in a flourishing condition. But surely their energetic Secretary might manage to send a report of the club sometimes, especially as he appears to be a member of the Sydneian Staff. Hoping that you will be able to give me the information I require, and also hoping that my short letter will have the effect of rousing up their truly energetic Secretary,

Yours, &c.

R.

To the Editors of the Sydneian.

Sir,—The proposal of your correspondent "C." to hold the debates after school instead of in the evening is quite impracticable. The members who attend even now are sufficiently few, and we cannot afford to lose any more by changing the time of holding the debates to 3:15. It is true that there are many who live too far to attend in the evening, as they say; but this is in most cases a mere excuse. If the meetings were held early, as your correspondent wishes, the debates would be hurried through as fast as possible by the members, to get home to tea; and those very gentlemen, for whose convenience the time would be altered, would naturally have to leave earliest.

Two hours is the shortest time in which a debate, however meagre the subject, could be finished; and if the debate was a good one, it would take much longer to discuss.

Such a change would be fatal to the Society, looking at it in one light only; it is unnecessary to bring forward other objections: if the debates are to be tacked on to the school hours, the members will be morose and hungry—their temper will be irritable, and their brains dull. The importance of the Society
will be greatly diminished, the Library and Chess will be worse than useless, and the unhappy members will be choked by the dust raised when the rooms are swept—for I can assure my readers, that nothing will prevent the sweeper from sweeping at the regular and appointed time; moreover, instead of coming for amusement and instruction the members would look upon it a bore and would take the earliest opportunity of becoming "Train boys."

Hoping that these considerations will be sufficient to prevent the time of the debates being altered. I remain, yours, &c.,

A MEMBER.

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OUR BIG BROTHER.

Oh I wish you fellows all
Saw our Brother strong and tall—
Back and shoulders like a wall,
  Squarely set:
When we measure him for fun,
In his stockings he's six one,
And Dad says he hasn't done
  Growing yet.

He's at Cambridge,—Caius you know,
Where they say I've got to go
If my Latin's not below
  Par—all knowledge
Is to Jack the merest joke,
For they say he sports his oak
Just as well as he rows stroke
  For his college.

Yet he isn't proud a bit,
Never calls us—me and Kit
My next brother—kid and chit,
  Nor snubs sisters:
And he'll bowl at us all day,
Just to teach us strong free play—
Can't he break from off, I say,
  Oh such twisters!

When the Dark blue meet the Light
With the willow, it's a sight
Seeing Johnny when the fight
  Waxes grim,
Playing steady as a peg,
Getting doubles to Square leg—
Oh it's seldom that an egg
  Falls to him.

And he's kind as strong—I know
Jack can never make a foe;
See him there, now, bending low
  To kiss mother
From his towering six-foot height,
With a soft and tender light
In his eyes—ain't that a sight?
  Dear old Brother.

ROBERT RICHARDSON.
SCHOOL NEWS.

We understand that after twenty-three years’ continuous service, Mr. Pratt has received one year’s leave of absence. The Trustees have appointed Mr. Skinner to succeed temporarily to Mr. Pratt’s position, as mathematical master of the school.

We learn that the Trustees have approved of the appointment of the following gentlemen to examine the school-classics:—E. Bean, Esq., B.A., (late Scholar of Trinity College, Oxford) Head Master of all Saint’s College, Bathurst. Mathematics—J. Wheatcroft, B.A. (late Scholar of St. John’s College, Cambridge) Head Master elect of Rockhampton Grammar School.

Letters have been received from Mr. Meyrick, who is absent in England upon six months’ leave of absence. Mr. Meyrick will resume his place in the school at the beginning of next half-year. He hopes to bring out two new teachers. He has already secured the services of a gentleman, who was Scholar of his College, and who has recently graduated at Oxford, and is in treaty for another master from Cambridge.

The school prizes will be distributed at 4 p.m. on Friday, December 17th, on which occasion it is hoped that His Excellency the Governor, as visitor of the school, will take the chair. The Head-master has notified that the Trustees expect every boy to attend the prize-giving, and that he will not issue any railway passes till after the ceremony.

The Rifle Team is busily engaged in practising for the Association Matches. If the school does not win the bugle, it will not be for want of practice on the part of the Team or of coaching on the part of the Sergeant. The match takes place on Saturday, December 11th.

The Cricketing Team are in regular practice for their Intercolonial Matches. The match with the Melbourne Grammar School, which has been an annual event for the last four years, has fallen through upon the present occasion; our secretary has received a letter from Melbourne explaining the regret of the Melbourne boys, that they are unable to play this year. We hope, however, that this match will be resuscitated. As the team cannot play at Melbourne, they have arranged a match with the Launceston Grammar School in Tasmania. The Launceston Team is reported to be a strong one. The match between the schools is to be played, we believe, on the Launceston ground, the 17th and 18th of this month, and it is hoped that at the conclusion of the school match a combined eleven from the two schools will play Northern Tasmania. The Grammar School Team starts from Sydney next Wednesday, overland to Melbourne, and thence by steamer to Launceston. They have every prospect of a pleasant trip.

The boarding house hitherto, under the charge of Mr. Fache, has been transferred to Mr. Farrar. Mr. Farrar was himself educated at Haileybury, and is therefore thoroughly embued with the principles and traditions of an English public school. We have no doubt that he will, as far as possible, infuse a similar spirit into the Cleveland House boys.
EXAMINATIONS.

DECEMBER 7.
Morning—VI. and V. Unseen—Latin and Greek.

DECEMBER 8.
Morning—Upper School—Greek Authors.
Afternoon—,,—Arithmetic.

DECEMBER 9.
Morning—Upper School—Latin Authors.
Afternoon—,,—Algebra.

DECEMBER 10.
Morning—Upper and Lower School—Euclid.
Afternoon—Upper School—Natural Science.
Forms III and II A—Latin Paper.

DECEMBER 13.
Morning—Upper School—Greek Composition and Grammar.
Lower School—Form III.—Arithmetic.
Form II.—Latin, viva voce.
Afternoon—Upper School—Trigonometry.

DECEMBER 14.
Morning—Upper School—Latin Composition and Grammar.
Lower School—Form III. A.—Latin, viva voce.
Afternoon—Upper School—Conics.
Lower School—Forms III. B. III. C.—Latin, viva voce.

DECEMBER 15.
Morning—Upper School—VI, and V.—Taste Paper.
Lower School—Algebra.
Afternoon—Upper School—Statics.
Lower School—General Revision, viva voce.

EXAMINATION—DECEMBER, 1880.

CLASSICS,

In addition to Grammar and Composition, the Forms will be examined in the following subjects:—

FORM VI.—Livy, Book xx1.; Horace, Odes iii.; Virgil; Georgics I, 2, 3; Aeneid vi.; Plato Apology; Homer II. v.; Demosthenes Or. xiv, xv, xvi, xvii; Aristophanes, The Clouds.

FORM V.—Livy, Book xxi.; Horace, Odes iii.; Virgil, Aeneid vi.; Demosthenes, Or. xiv, xv, xvi, xvii; Homer, II. v.; Aristophanes, The Clouds.
FORM IV.—Cæsar, Book iii.; Virgil, Æneid vi.; Xenophon, Book iii.
UPPER REMOVE.—Ovid, Extracts 1 to 10 inclusive; Initia Graeca, Part I.
MODERNS I.—Cicero; Extracts; Virgil, Æneid vi.
MODERNS II.—Cæsar, Book iii.
CIVIL SERVICE.—Lycidas; Il Penseroso; L'Allegro; English History; Geography.

A. B. WEIGALL, HEAD MASTER.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

In thanking “X. S.” for his interesting answer to the inquiry concerning the phenomena observed when camphor is dropped in water, I would like to inform him that in later experiments I have observed that if the camphor be set fire to whilst floating on the surface of the water, the phenomena are of the same kind, but as the experiment goes on the gyratory motion becomes more and more rapid till it has acquired a constant velocity. This, I suppose, may be accounted for by supposing that the heat developed by the combustion of the camphor causes the temperature of the water gradually to rise and thereby to dissolve the camphor more rapidly.

“INQUIRER.”

ENIGMA.

I.
O'er the surging billows' foam tipped head,
Gently with white wings widely spread,
Cleaving the wave on either side,
My first goes on with stately glide;
It bears the wealth of merchants' stores,
From the Austral land to its mother isle,
Onward it speeds with a fair wind's smile.

II.
But my beauteous dream is overthrown,
By zephyrs no longer my first is blown,
My second impends, as the angry roar
Of breakers is heard on an unknown shore;
On rushes the blast, confusion surrounds
Midst the cries overwelmed by the ocean's sounds.
My whole now viewed by no mortal eye
Is the haunt of the seafowl fluttering by.

RUPES.

A tobacconist of London grew rich and bought a carriage, and on it got a coat of arms engraved. He wished also to have a Latin motto, but being unlearned himself he left the choosing of it to a witty friend who selected this one—“Quid Rides (!)”

H.

We beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following journals:

Geelong Quarterly.
St. Andrew's College Magazine and School Chronicle.
The Australian (No. 26).
Bathurstian
Wesley College Chronicle.
Melburnian.
Columban.