**The Sydneian.**

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SYDNEY:
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1881.
EDITORIAL.

At the matriculation examination held at the University in June last, two of the three Scholarships offered by the University to matriculation candidates were gained, and the third divided, by the members of this school; in honour of which triple event, at the desire of the Trustees, a whole holiday was granted on the 12th instant. The effect of this was doubtless, as indeed, that many a humble member of the lower school, whose aspirations seldom soar in the direction of our chief academical institution, was prompted to bless the name of those fortunate scholars who earned him a few hours' relief from toil. This is as it should be; it is desirable that the school, as a body, should learn the habit of looking more naturally towards University honours as the legitimate goal of their educational career, and the first step towards such a feeling of interest must lie in attracting the careless attention.

If the granting of holidays be deemed a somewhat sordid means of alluring the wandering inclination, yet something must be conceded to the weakness of human nature, and the practice is found to work not ill elsewhere. Something must be done to make clear to the general comprehension that all are alike interested in the successes of the foremost, and this is most readily accomplished by the direct granting of indulgences to the general body.

It can hardly be necessary to point out that the intention is not to induce a mercenary belief that the object of the school system of education consists in the attainment of actual and substantial prizes, such as Scholarships are, nor any the more in the honour of the temporary distinction above one's fellows. The main benefits of such an interest, if it were created in the main body of the school, would be found in the furtherance of that idea of unity, which is the groundwork of public spirit, and in public institutions public spirit is as the breath of life. We need not repeat views on this subject which we have found occasion to express more than once. It will be sufficient to remark that in this main particular a perfect correspondence exists with the ends contemplated by such other of our public societies or clubs as are enabled to maintain themselves afloat in the remarkably shallow water where they find themselves when the tide of public interest is on the ebb. All alike aim at the encouragement of that patriotic feeling which is alike their outcome and their origin, alpha and omega, the beginning and the end. As the one cause helps the other, so their accumulation may in time produce the desired result. At present it must be admitted that public feeling, though neither absent nor confined to a very select few, is yet too weak to be of much practical avail as a reliable agent. It may be con-
ceded that public spirit is, in a very mild form, tolerably well diffused through the higher portions of the school, but it is notwithstanding undeniable that there is a great dearth of it in a concentrated form, and the weaker of our institutions languish miserably in consequence. Possibly, as we have hinted above, low-water mark is already reached; if the tide were to turn now, they might still be saved from total wreck.

THE DUTIES OF SCHOOLBOYS.

Every boy of a school, unless he be wholly lacking in spirit, is glad to hear of the success of a school-fellow, whether it be in school-work, at a University, or in the play-ground; he rejoices to hear Tom Brown got the so-and-so medal for natural science, or that Bob Jones kicked a goal and thereby the school won a foot-ball match; yet, many boys, although they are pleased at the success of their schoolfellows, do not make an attempt to gain honours, in any direction for themselves and for their school.

If any one were to ask me to state briefly the duties a schoolboy owes to his school, I should do so as follows—dividing these duties into two sections: In the first (and most important) place, it is the duty of a boy to work his hardest at class-work; even if he do not understand the value education will prove to himself, surely he cannot be so deficient in good disposition as to feel under no obligation to his parents or guardians, who send him to school for his own sake, or to his school and schoolmasters. Many boys are apt to look upon a school as a great bore, and as a sort of punishment, and therefore become careless in their work; but than this they cannot make a greater error. A great number find out this mistake when it is almost too late—when they have left school. Secondly, a boy should take part in the games and healthy amusements of his school and manifest some interest in its institutions, whatever they may be, and, for the sake of the school, whether they be to his individual taste or not. Applying the second-class of duties to our own school, every boy should support the *Sydneian*—the reasons for doing so are so obvious, that they need not be mentioned. The *Sydneian* should not be subscribed to by a few only, but by all the boys, and each should try to contribute to it. Our paper is evidently more fortunate than some of the other institutions. Had more interest been taken in the proceedings of the Debating Society we would not have had all the late trouble in connection with it; but it is to be hoped we shall soon set this matter right, and that before many weeks go past we shall have a flourishing society, composed of the better class of boys and of the best speakers.

While on the subject of the duties of present pupils it may not be out of place to allude to those of Old Sydneyans. Many boys as soon as they leave, leave for ever, and take no interest in their old school; now this should not be the case, Old Sydneyans should do all that lies in their power to help the school institutions, *et cetera*, both pecuniarily and in other ways, and should certainly subscribe, and, if possible, contribute to the *Sydneian*, and thus make it the organ of communication between the present school and themselves.

PETER POTTS.
SPORT IN THE COLONIES.

It is more with the hope of warning, than instructing young and sanguine sportsmen, that I now pen this unambitious article. The habit of exaggeration is common to all men; at any rate there not many exceptions to this rule; and those whom I may describe as hybrid sportsmen, exhibit a tendency to exaggerate that which is agreeable, rather than that which is discouraging, in their shooting excursions. A tendency to magnify all that is attractive, forgetting entirely to speak of the difficulties which have to be overcome, and of the disappointments which meet one at every step. A few of these last I will describe.

I once went on a shooting expedition with two friends, to the trio I will give the names of Dick, Tom and Harry, leaving the reader to discover if he can, with which one the author of this is identical. We started for a place of which we had heard golden reports. We took meat for only one day, being of opinion that we would get plenty of pigeons; we had plenty of tea and sugar, but as our ammunition and guns made up a pretty heavy load we only took bread for two days, though we intended to be away for three days. The first day we spent walking over rough, broken ground, shooting a couple of pigeons and some parrots on our way, and getting a sight of one wallaby; night came on us when we were within a mile of our destination. We boiled our billy in front of a cave, in which we afterwards passed the night. Wood was plentiful, but it was necessary, carefully to examine it before handling it; for Tom dragged a big log to the fire, which to his exceeding dolour he found was inhabited by a most ferocious description of ant. I think from the venom they displayed that they must all have been maiden aunts. The following morning we discovered that our appetites had been larger than we had expected; our entire stock of animal food having disappeared, and there being but little bread left. This being the case, we agreed to have no luncheon that day; but, as will be seen, we found cause to change our minds on that point. Immediately after breakfast we pushed on, and reached the place where we expected to have such capital sport. We shot a very small carpet snake; and with the exception of some tomtits, that was the only living thing we saw. We returned to where we had left the remains of our provisions, to find the ants had been all over the bread, quite spoiling it. So we brewed a big billy of tea and after disposing of it we struck for home, convinced that be it ever so humble there is no place like it. On the way we met with our only accident. While walking along a sloping rock Harry stepped on some oak leaves, which slipped away, and he fell, severely hurting his hip, and stunning himself for a few moments. That night we spent in a friend's house, being unable to go right home on account of Harry's accident. The next morning we went home, resolved not to be tempted into such places again, which resolution however, was soon broken.

BREECH-LOADER.
ALCHEMY.

It seems to be usual when about to write on a subject, to give the derivation of its name, so we must try and clear off this point before proceeding. As there is uncertainty in the history of many other words, so is there in that of Alchemy (or alchemy, as it is sometimes spelt). According to the "Imperial Dictionary," which I have consulted on the subject, the word comes from the Arabic "al, the, and kimia, secret, hidden, or the occult art, from kamai, to hide;" but, from other sources I learn, that the art receives its name from the ancient appellation of Egypt, which was Chemi: the prefix al being derived from the Arabic. Perhaps you will say, "Aha! but we do not know which is correct—you have not cleared off the point." I reply that "there are always two sides to a question," and that each finds its supporters—at all events, I have laid both sides of this question before you; you know as much about it now as I do, and can take up which side you like.

It is generally believed that Alchemy originated in Egypt, where it was practised solely by the priests, and in secret. Here it was known as the holy or sacred art, and its secrets were strictly guarded by the "craft," any who betrayed them being liable to death by poisoning.

From Egypt the art spread to the Arabs, who carried it on together with astrology and magic (so called); and from the Arabs it can be directly traced to Europe.

When we consider the number of great discoveries made by the old philosophers in astronomy and physics, it seems strange to us that so little progress was, until comparatively recent times, effected in the science of chemistry; but this may possibly be accounted for thus:—The object of the practiser of the "art of Alchemy," as it is called, was the discovery of the philosopher's stone, this was the great prize which the alchemist hoped to gain, and in his blind groping after it he lost sight of almost everything else. The philosopher's stone was to have the property of transmuting or changing the baser metals, such as iron, &c., into the royal metals, or gold and silver, and also, it was to be a universal cure for all diseases to which man is subjected, and would, it was thought, confer upon those fortunate beings who partook of it everlasting health and life.

It used to be generally believed by the alchemists, that the metals (of which they knew only a few) were composed of mercury and sulphur, or mercury and arsenic, mixed in different proportions; and they also taught that there were four elements, or simple bodies, namely, fire, earth, air, and water; that this latter idea is not yet overthrown the following will show:—In the days when I wore knickerbockers and brass-toed boots, in other words, in the second of Shakespeare's "Seven Ages"—when a "whining schoolboy, creeping like snail, unwillingly, to school," (not so very long ago, and a very, very long while after the birth of modern chemistry). I remember being taught at a certain preparatory school for young gentlemen and ladies, that there are only four elements (as above), and that these cannot be changed. Now, this is exactly what was believed and taught by the ancients,
and anyone who has opened a work on chemistry and found out the meaning of the word element, will understand how absurd such a belief is, and will marvel that it has been taught in what is called an enlightened age.

It will be useless to give the names of more than a few of the men who became famous alchemists, indeed, were I to do so, considering the small space in which I must work, this article would necessarily consist of a list of names only.

At the head of our “chosen few” let us put that great man, that man of genius, Roger Bacon. He was born in England in 1214, and died in 1284, yet, in learning, he was far beyond the times in which he lived. He believed in the existence of the “elixir of life” (or universal cure), and philosopher’s stone. Bacon’s name is generally remembered in connection with the discovery of gunpowder; although he knew the constituents of this substance, it is not known whether he was the discoverer of it, many thinking it probable, that he derived his knowledge of it from his Asiatic reading. A contemporary of Bacon was Albertus Magnus, who lived between the years 1205 and 1280. He understood the properties of many chemicals, and also the method of purifying gold and silver by means of lead. Amongst others, Thomas Aquinas, Raymond Lully, who introduced the use of symbols, (though not such as we use now), Basil Valentine, and Paracelsus, have “made names” for themselves as Alchemists, in Europe.

During the sixteenth century the practice of Alchemy became so general, that dishonest men, calling themselves Alchemists, made it a means of cheating the credulous, and I shall “let the curtain fall” after describing one of the modes they employed to obtain money.

The favourite “little game” which we are about to speak of, was that of (apparently) transmuting a piece of iron into gold. The modus operandi was as follows:—A man who professed to have discovered the secret of transmutation, presented himself to the “person or persons” whom he wished to deceive, and produced what appeared to be a rusty nail, and also a small bottle, said to contain the elixir of life; then, pronouncing some mysterious words, he stirred the nail in the liquid (which was in reality aqua pura) and drew it forth partly converted into gold. The explanation of this wonderful performance is very simple: the nail used was composed of one half gold, the other half iron, and the gold part was painted over with some pigment, to make it resemble iron. As soon as the nail was stirred in the “elixir of life” [hydropathists would have us believe it really is the elixir of life] the coating dissolved, and it was drawn forth and exhibited.

The virtue of the liquid being destroyed by this process (so he would say), the impostor used to solicit money for the purchase of chemicals necessary to make a fresh supply, and in this manner he often received large sums. The man would then disappear suddenly and leave many sorrowing, but wiser persons, to think over their loss, while, armed with this simple apparatus, he departed for a fresh field and “pastures new,” where he might pursue his lucrative vocation.

PETER POTTS.
WATERFALL NEAR COOMA.

Last February, a party was formed to visit a rather remarkable waterfall situated near the Umaralla river, and about twenty-one miles from the town of Cooma. The way leads across the river Umaralla, and thence stretches among trees for two or three miles, when the forest suddenly changes into a small plain, partly covered with thistles, among which a small creek winds. Then riding on, "the forest primeval" is again entered and soon a hill is seen that looks as if it had huge brown tortoises crawling about it, but which are in point of fact large flat rocks.

The country now completely changes, and the tourist finds himself in a ravine between two very steep hills, where the road, or rather track, nowhere very good, becomes impassable for horses, and here our party dismounted, and after tying up our horses walked, or rather climbed the rest of the way up a ravine by the side of a small creek bordered with high rushes which would have been very objectionable to traverse in hot weather, but fortunately for us the day was cool, and the snakes did not come out.

From here to the waterfall the road leads through a deep gorge bordered on either side by magnificent limestone cliffs, about two hundred feet high, rising perpendicularly from the gorge, and as smooth as if they had been cut with a chisel.

Between these cliffs we went for some time, now amongst prickly bushes and rushes, now climbing along the sides of the cliffs, now in the marshy ground near the creek, till at last we turned a corner of the cliff, and after scrambling a little way up the borders we arrived at the waterfall.

The waterfall itself is not very much to look at, but the magnificent cliffs on each side rising like walls to the height of two or three hundred feet are wonderful. The cataract itself is not very much, being only about forty feet high and with a very small stream of water. The creek has worn for itself a thin channel through the rock and falls into a basin which is such a perfect square that it looks as if it had been made with pick axes.

A gentleman told us that up above, there is no indication of this yawning abyss, but that it is possible to ride right up to the chasm without being one whit the wiser.

A. & Ω.

Clo.—What is the opinion of Pythagoras concerning wild fowl?
Mal.—That the soul of our grandam might hoply inhabit the bird.
Clo.—What thinkes thou of his opinion?
Mal.—I think nobly of the soul, and no way approve his opinion.

Twelfth Night, Act IV., Scene 2.

The above dialogue is a fair specimen of those in which a certain class of persons discuss theories of which they have heard one point they can understand, and of which they form their opinions as though this one point were the essential principle of the whole theory. If you ask such a person what he thinks of the theory of evolution, he will probably not understand you; if you ask his opinion of Darwin’s theory he promptly replies that it is
absurd, for it is impossible that men can be descended from monkeys. This is the one thing that he comprehends, the beginning and end of Darwin's theory is, the statement that men are descended from monkeys, and having grasped this fact he feels perfectly prepared to uphold the fact that Darwin is absurd. I have only taken this case as an illustration, for with nearly every theory it is the same, and when men first spoke of sending messages hundreds of miles in a second, they were regarded in the same light by this class of philosophers who could not themselves conceive of such a thing being done, and without taking the trouble to ascertain in what manner it was proposed to effect the object, formed a definite opinion. With such people it is useless to argue, for whoever is entrenched behind his own opinion, is better fortified against the arguments of another, than he who possesses a most formidable array of arguments of his own, and the only way to deal with them is to wait until facts prove them to be either right or wrong.

DEBATING SOCIETY.

It has been resolved to start the Debating Club afresh, and to try what effect the proscription of all forms under the Sixth, Fifth and first Moderns will have. The evils of allowing members of any form in the school to join, have been found out by experience, indeed, it was through this indiscriminate system that what had once been a flourishing institution, became a mere by-word. The last meetings of the debating club were a disgrace to the school; it only needed a person who was popular with the lower school to speak, and no matter how foolishly or irrelevantly he talked, the Ministry were forthwith turned out and a new Ministry formed, which regularly shared the fate of its predecessor. One by one the members dropped off, until it was the greatest difficulty to get a quorum together, although only fourteen were required to form one. This state of affairs seems almost incredible in a large school like ours; but we ask whether it was not in a great measure due to those who had charge of the club, making the debates a matter of secondary importance as compared with the concerts. The concerts were of the weakest description; and whenever the attendance at debates was becoming smaller, a concert was hastily got up, which instead of improving the attendance, further lessened it. Now we do not advocate the utter abolition of concerts, on the contrary, we think that one every three months might have a beneficial effect on the club, but one every three weeks, is an absurd idea, completely wearing out any talent that boys might possess for recitations, &c. The Debating Club will be started this time under the fairest auspices; the headmaster has kindly promised to lend a large comfortable room in his own house for the purpose, also there will be an ample number of boys in the three classes before mentioned, who will join. The room will prove a great boon for many reasons, it is larger and not so draughty, and the fact that it is in the head-master's house, will exercise a repressive power on any ebullitions of feelings which might otherwise occur, (for we do not claim perfection even for Sixth, Fifth and first Modern boys). Boys of these classes ought to consider it their duty to support the Debating
Society with as much spirit as they do any of the other school institutions, for a school institution it is, and one of the most important in after effects. If a boy thinks he can speak, what better test can he have than by trying himself with other boys of his own age? If on the contrary, he knows that he is faulty in this particular respect, what better chance can there be of his learning to speak? These things are laid before you to judge; do not put them aside and say we have heard all this before, but think over them fairly and if you come to the conclusion that they are good (as indeed you must), if you impartially consider the matter, resolve to do all in your power to further them, by joining the Debating Society and standing by it, so long as it remains a school institution.

A WELL-WISHER.

THE ROWING CLUB.

It will be seen elsewhere that serious thoughts are now being entertained of finally abandoning every attempt to keep up a Rowing Club in connection with the school. It may seem at first sight that the failure of such an institution through want of support from the boys, speaks ill for the public spirit and energy of the school; but it is somewhat unreasonable to expect boys to join a Club and expend their time and money upon its support, when they really take no interest in rowing, and would support the honour of the school better in some other way. Some years ago it seemed as though rowing would be a suitable exercise to introduce at the Sydney Grammar School, and a Rowing Club was formed under favourable auspices, a large number immediately joining, and pecuniary assistance being liberally supplied from without, it soon however dwindled down to a mere apology for a Club, and its occasional flashes in the pan soon died out. Now the true inference to be drawn from this is, not that the school is wanting in energy, but that the Club was planted in uncongenial soil; for if a Rowing Club had been required, it would by this time have become a flourishing institution. Many people seem to suppose that we are in a good position as regards rowing, because a fine harbour is close at hand, and therefore the Club ought to prosper above others which have not the same advantages. But on closer inspection it will be found that during the greater part of the year, in the afternoon (the only time that the boats can be used), there is almost invariably a stiff wind, which is quite sufficient to change a pleasant pull into an uncomfortable struggle with wind and wave. Moreover, it is frequently the case that an attempt to cross the harbour in such light skiffs as those which belong to the Club, would be attended with actual danger. Again, Woolloomooloo Bay, though not far from the school is at a considerable distance from the homes of most of the boys, and it would accordingly be necessary for them either to have an inconveniently short pull, or reach home late. Then most of those who can pull have boats of their own, and those who cannot pull do not care to join a Rowing Club; and when we add to these disadvantages such minor troubles as the difficulty of carrying the boats to the water, owing to the want of proper appliances, the
absence of conveniences for dressing and undressing, and such small matters, one can hardly be surprised that the Club has failed. But it may be said that the Geelong Grammar School possesses one of the best Rowing Clubs about Melbourne, and if they succeed at Geelong, why should we not do so at Sydney? The answer to this is simply that the Geelong Grammar School is a boarding-school, and is situated on a river; any one who has had any experience in such matters, will understand what an enormous difference the fact of its being a boarding-school makes, and the presence of the river is of course an obvious advantage. Since then, the Rowing Club has degenerated into a mere name, and is spending what money it possesses upon the care of boats which are scarcely ever used, it would evidently be better, that it should formally cease to exist. One difficulty however, which arises, is startling from its novelty, namely, that when the Club has sold its property it will be in possession of a certain amount of filthy lucre, and the question is, what is to be done with the money? Modesty forbids us to suggest that the Sydneian coffers should be replenished therewith, and no more suitable method of disposing of the money suggests itself. But this is a question for the Committee to discuss, should the death of the Club be decided upon. We hope that we have shown that this failure of the Rowing Club does not prove that the school is wanting in public spirit. It merely shows that a Rowing Club is not required, and cannot contend successfully with the other sports. It is much better that the whole school should go in heartily for football, cricket, and athletics, than that several different Clubs should be kept going, each being weakened by the other.

**CONNECTION BETWEEN DUST AND FOGS.**

A late number of "Chambers' Journal" gives an account of an interesting theory laid before the Royal Society of Edinburgh, by Mr John Aitken, which which is to the effect that, but for the dust which is always floating in the air, there would be no clouds or fogs. Mr. Aitken believes, and proved by experiments, that the particles of water-vapour will not form a cloud-particle unless they have a solid nucleus to condense upon. One of the experiments was as follows:—Two glass receivers were used: one was filled with ordinary air, and the other was filled with air which had been filtered through cotton wool and then steam was introduced into both. In the first vessel the vapour condensed, giving a cloudy appearance, but in the second no cloudiness could be noticed. A number of other experiments were made, but the above is the chief. These experiments lead Mr. Aitken to the conclusions, that water vapour in the air always condenses on solid nuclei, viz.:—dust particles; that were there were no dust there would be no fogs, clouds, or mists, and very likely no rain; and "that the supersaturated air would convert every object on the surface of the earth into a condenser on which it would deposit." The dust that causes fogs, &c., is not that which becomes visible in a sunbeam, but the minute particles, which are invisible to the naked eye.

*PETER POTTS.*

* No. 896, February 26, 1881.
The club held its usual half-yearly meeting on Monday, August 1st. As usual it was very poorly attended by the boys, there being a decided majority of masters. A somewhat desultory discussion took place, chiefly upon the advisability of selling the club property, and giving up all hopes of remaining a school institution. It was decided, however, that as sufficient notice had not been given of the meeting, it should be postponed until the following Monday.

On this occasion, the aspect of affairs was somewhat altered by a communication which had been received, stating that a cup had been offered by the Mayor of Sydney, to be competed for annually by crews from schools in four-oar gigs, to be won three years in succession, and a medal to be presented to each of the winning crew by the Rowing Association. It was thought that the possibility of sharing in the glory and medals might arouse the pot-hunting spirit of some members of the school to join the club, and accordingly it was decided to let the club go on with the same officers, and if a sufficient number joined to compete in the race, and make another attempt to regenerate the club.

TO THE MEMORY OF
PUBLIC SPIRIT,
WHO DIED LATELY AT THE
SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL:
WHOSE LIFE WAS SHORT; WHOSE DEATH IS
UNLAMENTED BY THE
SCHOOL.

Subscriptions are invited from boys of the school towards defraying the cost of erection of a Marble Tablet with the above inscription, to be placed in the big school-room, or such other public place as may hereafter be decided upon. All who are desirous of subscribing to this noble object, are particularly requested to give in their names at once, to the hon. treasurer of the Debating Society, or to any member of the Sports Committee.

N.B. Members of the late Debating Society, and of the Football Club, specially invited to render pecuniary assistance.

FOOTBALL.

CLASSICAL SCHOOL v. MODERN.

These two divisions of the Upper School, met for the first time on Wednesday, 27th July. It was expected that the match would be one sided and all in favour of the Moderns, but events turned out differently. There was a heavy wind blowing right across the park, and the Moderns had the good luck to win the toss. At half-time no advantage had been gained by either team, except that the Classical side had been forced down once. Shortly after
half-time, Hassal by a good run obtained a touch down between the goal posts for the Moderns; the kick was entrusted to Williamson, and he in spite of the heavy wind against him, secured a goal. Matters now began to look down for the Classical team; but soon after this Broomfield, for the Classical side, ran in. The kick, a very difficult one, was tried by Cruickshank, who succeeded in dropping the ball over the goal posts. The game now became very exciting, and each side played hard. At this juncture Carter and Broomfield each obtained a touch in quick succession for the Classical side. Cruickshank tried both of these but failed to score. Time was now called, and so the game ended in a victory for the Classical side by two tries. Payten captained the Moderns, whilst Cruickshank performed a similar duty for the Classicals. For the Moderns—Payten, Williamson, Hassal and Parker played well; and on the Classical side, Carter, Kenna, Broomfield, Cruickshank were the best.

**Grammar School v. Second University.**

The above named teams met on Moore Park on Wednesday, 3rd August. The game after a close and exciting contest resulted in a win for the school by one goal to nil. Shortly after play had began, one of the Grammar School team got a free kick, off which Williamson very cleverly scored a goal. With the exception of this no real advantage was gained on either side throughout the game. Towards the finish the University team appeared “done,” and were forced down several times, but despite all their efforts the Grammar School boys could not get behind their opponents goal line. The most prominent players among the University team, were—Rygate, Jones, and Addison; and among the Grammar School, Segol, Hassal, Mr. Farrar, and Williamson.

**Grammar School v. Royston College.**

Elated by their victory over our second team, Royston College plucked up heart to play the first. The match was of the weakest description and quite devoid of interest. From start to finish the Grammar School team had the game all their own way, and finally won by two goals and eight tries to nil. All the work was done by the forwards, who ran in seemingly when they felt so inclined. Among the quarter-backs Carter played best, obtaining three touch-downs in about twenty minutes. The Royston College team rarely forced the ball past the middle of the ground, and on every occasion that they attempted to run they were collared by the forwards. Williamson, Carter, and Mazondier, were the best among the Grammar School team.

**Second Grammar v. Royston College.**

In this match Second Grammar’s had a weak team, as some of the best men at the last moment left them and played with the first. The game was a good one throughout, and was finally won by Royston College with four tries against one.
SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL V. SECOND UNIVERSITY.

The return match between these two Clubs was played on Wednesday, the 18th August. The wind, which was very high, was blowing directly across the Park. Payten, the Sydney Grammar School Captain, won the toss and chose to play with the wind. The ball was then kicked off, and after a good deal of scrimmaging near the University quarters, Carter made a good run and succeeded in getting behind the University goal line. The ball was placed by Williamson and Cruickshank by a good kick, lodged it over the cross-bar. The University team quickly kicked off again, and after a short time one of their men, by an excellent run, passed all the Sydney Grammar School team and got a touch down very near their goal posts; the kick was tried by Jones but he failed to score. At once the ball was kicked out, and Carter again getting possession of it obtained another try; Cruickshank tried the kick and managed to secure a goal. There was no half-time, the teams merely changed ends and renewed the game without any intermission. The ball was kept about half-way between the goal posts, until Jones, by a splendid drop kick, obtained a goal for the University. The ball was soon set going again, and after the forwards had carried it up near the University goal line, Broomfield secured a touch for the Sydney Grammar School. Once more Cruickshank was called to kick, but this time he failed, this is hardly to be wondered at, for the kick would have been a very difficult one at any time, but on this occasion, with a heavy wind blowing, it was almost impossible to kick a goal. Shortly after this time was called, and so Sydney Grammar School were left winners by a goal. For the University Jones, Connell, and Addison played well; and for the Grammar School Carter, Cruickshank, Hassal, and Mazoudier did good service.

CADET NEWS.

The following promotions have appeared in Orders.—Rifle Companies—Quartermaster-Sergeant Morris to be Colou-Sergeant, vice Helsham resigned; Sergeant Cowper to be Quartermaster-Sergeant, vice Morris promoted; Corporal Helsham to be Sergeant, vice Cowper promoted; Cadet Atkinson to be Corporal, vice M'Carthy resigned; Cadets Breenton and Mackay to be Lance-Corporals. Carbine Company—Lance-Corporal Clapin to be Corporal, vice Higgins transferred to the Rifle Company; Cadet Shirlow to be Lance-Corporal.

It is proposed to hold the annual Encampment this year at Mittagong. The Corps will move into Camp at the end of September.

The Corps has been supplemented to its full strength by the accession of a fine squad of recruits. The attendance at Parade has been satisfactory, and the drill is becoming highly creditable. The practice of both Rifles and Carbines at the Range is very encouraging, and warrants the hope that the Corps will maintain its prestige at the Rifle Association meeting in November. The Fencing and Dumb-bell Class is fairly patronised.
SCHOOL NEWS.

The following boys obtained classes in the June examinations:


Upper School.—French, 1st.

Fletcher | Leibius | Woolcott I. | Broomfield | Kemp I
King III. | Delohery | Kerr II. | Fraser | Saddington
Adams | Russell II. | Garran | Thompson II. |

German, 1st.—Smith II., Thompson I., Woolcott I.


The following promotions have been made in the Upper School:—VI. Form: Delohery, Fletcher, Russell, Neill. V. Form.—Leibius, Campbell I., England I., England II., Beehag, Stiles, Dillon, Scarr I., Garran, Barbour, Miller, Dare. IV. Form.—MacDermott, Wilson, Macpherson, Vickery, Adams, Jones II., Sendall, Abbott, White, Halls, Segol, Mylnie I. 1st Moderns.—Kemp I., Burt, Cadell I., Copeland, Dean. 2nd Moderns.—Barker II. Oliver, Cathels, Charlot, Marks II., Buchanan II., Aitken, Nicholson, Cohen, Allen III. Upper remove.—Whiting, Collins, McIntyre I., Thompson II., Watt II., Cork, Henderson I., Pillars, Cooper, Newcomen, Moffit, Shirlow I., Clapin II.

The following Grammar School boys passed the Matriculation Examination held in June, 1881:—


The following obtained honours:—

No honours are given in Natural Science, but those who pass are arranged in two classes:—


Three Scholarships are given at the Matriculation Examination for general proficiency. They were awarded as follows:—Bowman-Cameron Scholarship, G. C. Halliday; University Scholarship, L. Armstrong; University Scholarship, Thomas E. Jones (Brisbane Grammar School), F. Leverrier, seq.

The following old Sydneians obtained honours in the first year examination:—


Three Scholarships are awarded at the First Year Examination. Two of these were obtained by old Grammar School boys:—Lithgow Scholarship for Classics, A. B. Piddington (G. E. Rich, prox. acc.); Levey Scholarship for Natural Science, A. E. Poolman.

In the Second Year Examination, F. R. Barlee obtained the Cooper Scholarship for Classics. G. E. Rennie obtained two Scholarships, one for Natural Science and the other for Chemistry.

An analysis of the University Examinations for June 1881, gives the following results:—The number of those who passed the matriculation examination, was 53; of these, 11 were wholly, and 5 partly educated at the Grammar School. The number of undergraduates who passed the various examinations, was 55; of these 25 were old Sydneians. The total number of first-classes given was 25; of these 14 were won by Grammar School boys; second classes; 30, 16 of which were won by Grammar School boys; 12 scholarships were given, and of these, 8 were won by present or past pupils. The numbers of all those who passed in the various years, were in a strongly descending ratio, matriculants, 53; first year, 27; second year, 20; B. A., 9.

We learn from the Scotsman of April 21, that the following old Sydneians distinguished themselves at the Exam. of the Winter Session of the Edinburgh University in the faculty of medicine as follows:—Chemistry: Second-class honours: Reginald Bowman, Francis Antill Pockley. Anatomy:—First-class honours: W. Macansh; student of first year: F. A. Pockley; second-class honours: T. H. Barker, Reginald Bowman. Surgery:—George J. Renwick. Medicine:—Junior division: First-class certificate, Theodore H. Barker, Sydney. The following also passed their first professional examination:—James M'Leod, S. Cecil Mitchell.
SCHOOL NOTICES.

Windeyer Essay.—Subject—Feudalism: its good and bad sides. Exercises to be handed in on Monday, September 19th.
Knox Composition Prizes.—Latin exercises to be handed in on September 5th, October 17th, 31st, November 14th, 28th.
In every case the exercises must be identified by a motto and not by the signature of the writer.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editors of the Sydneian.

DEAR SIRS,—It must have struck your readers as singular that you receive so few, if any, contributions from Old Sydneians who have gone to Great Britain to study. Almost every year some of our school-fellows leave the Colony for Edinburgh and other places, where they intend studying; but, because, perhaps, they feel too “big” to condescend to contribute to a school paper, we never, or hardly ever, hear of or from them except indirectly—through the press, or by private letters. Now, how interesting would an occasional letter from some of these fellows be; perchance it would describe college-life, vacation amusements, or some other subject of equal interest. I hope that should any of the defaulters see this reminder, he will put an end to the sad state of affairs existing at present, by sending the Sydneian a long letter or a contribution in some other shape.

I am, &c.,

PETER POTTS.

June 30, 1881.

PUZZLES, CHARADES, &c.

My first is contained in your head, in your arms, in your hands, in your head;
My next stops the course of a stream,
My whole “Topsy-like” it should should seem,
Mortal father or mother had none
To teach him to hop, skip, and run.

My first is in sing but not in roar;
My second is fly but not in soar;
My third is in nose but not in eye;
My fourth is in oats but not in rye;
My fifth is in honour but not in shame;
My sixth is in belfry but not in fans;
My seventh is in mock but not in jeer;
My eight is in sea but not in mere;
My whole you have never seen before.
My first is in rook but not in wren;
My second is in bread but not in dough;
My third is in cock but not in hen;
My fourth is in head but not in toe;
My fifth is in chair but not in stool;
My sixth is in marsh but not in pool;
My whole is a town in England.

C. O. M.

SQUARE WORDS.
Anno Domino.

1.—The date of a decisive battle fought in Italy, between the French and Austrians.
2.—The date of the battle of Pontumo, fought between the Spaniards and the Moors.
3.—The date in which Constantine was killed at Aquileia.
4.—The date of the commencement of one of the wars between the Romans and Parthians.
5.—One of the dates in which the Chinese annals record the appearance of a large comet.

Answers in Roman figures.

1.—Where England gained a province with riches well supplied.
2.—A faithful statesman sent away, his last request denied.
3.—Where the Russians were defeated, when they took us by surprise.
4.—Surname of the usurper who put out Arthur's eyes.
5.—Where the oriflame of battle was the white plume of a king.
6.—First battle that Prince Charlie and his followers did win.

The initials downwards make the Christian, and the finals upwards the surname of

When they carried him past the heaps of the slain,
He saw a poor soldier lying.
And he turned the cup from his own parched lips
To quench his thirst, who was dying,

Why is the case of the relative pronoun like a cat clinging to a tree?
Because it is entirely dependent on its own claws (clause).

F. M. D.
We beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following:

The Rossalian (2).
The Melburnian.
High School Magazine.
Taylorian.
The Reptonian.
The Cheltonian.
The Columban.
Young Victoria.
Geelong Grammar School Quarterly.
The Marlburian.
The Bathurstian.
The Durham University Journal.