

PRICE SIXPENCE.

The Sydneyan.

No. XXII.

A MAGAZINE EDITED BY MEMBERS OF THE
SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

DECEMBER, 1879.

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SYDNEY :
PUBLISHED BY J. J. MOORE & CO., GEORGE STREET.

1879.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

IN accordance with request, we are willing, by way of trial, to open a column for questions and answers on subjects not extravagantly beyond our range. Correspondents asking questions must send their names, in addition to the pseudonym by which their question is distinguished; otherwise their questions will be disregarded. They must also exercise the faculty of discretion, and not ask ridiculous questions, which will simply be relegated to the waste-paper basket. Nor can we undertake to guarantee that our answers shall be absolutely correct; they will be answered to the best of our ability, but even we do not profess omniscience.

WE beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following Magazines:—

Cheltonian
Marlburian
Australian
Annals of the Brisbane Grammar School
Wesley College Chronicle

SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL SPORTS ACCOUNT FOR QUARTER ENDING SEPTEMBER, 1879.

		£	s.	d.
Total Receipts for Quarter...	...	13	19	6
Balance from previous quarter	...	35	14	7
Total Credit ...	...	49	14	1
Club Expenses for quarter ...	...	15	5	0
Balance to Credit ...	...	£34	9	1

Audited and found correct,

ROBERT J. HIGGINS
J. E. MCINTYRE

REGINALD BOWMAN, HON. TREASURER.

The Sydneyian.

EDITORIAL.

ONE can readily imagine that it must have been a gratifying and lucrative position to have presided over the oracle of Apollo at Delphi. The attendants who acted as interpreters of the god must have felt a glow of conscious pride when they found themselves entitled to deliver opinions and directions on a variety of the most abstruse subjects, being at the same time assured that their sayings would obtain the most profound credence and respect; especially as it was understood that divine responses could not possibly be expected unless the deity was first propitiated with a goodly present of gold and silver plate for himself, and something extra in the way of perquisites for his attendants.

This classical analogy was recently brought to our mind on finding ourselves called upon to officiate in a similar position. We have latterly received two or three letters, one of which is published in this number, requesting us to assume the post of Mentor or General Oracle, and, from the depths of our superior wisdom, deliver weighty answers to the queries of those amongst our correspondents who thirst after knowledge, by establishing a special column for questions and answers, such as is the practice of our esteemed weekly contemporaries of the trivial press. We are deeply touched by this confiding appeal to the unknown resources of our learning. It displays in a powerful and affecting manner the yearning of the untutored mind for some staff whereon to lean in its search after truth: in other words, the anxiety of frail human nature to get things told her, instead of finding them out for herself. However, we have compassion on human nature; we remember that we were once human ourselves, and we really cannot refuse to answer questions if any one likes to put them to us, provided they are reasonable. Therein lies the point. Upon reference to the columns of our weekly contemporaries above referred to, we observe that the class of questions usually proposed for solution by inquiring correspondents are such as relate to receipts for the cooking of cherry pie or manufacture of soda-water, the provisions of the land act, the diseases of sheep, and other such delectable subjects. Now we frankly admit that not being cooks, or clerks in the Lands Office, or veterinary surgeons, we shall be at a loss to reply to this class of questions with any reasonable approximation to the truth, and we therefore request that our powers of invention may not be put to the test on these points. Indeed, it appears rather difficult to anticipate what turn the

queries may be expected to take, if indeed any should be sent in at all. Will they ask for acute criticisms of disputed passages in Xenophon's *Anabasis*, or entreat for solutions of difficult algebraical problems?

Will they ask for the statistics of the Education Board, or for instructions how to manufacture ice-creams? Will they inquire into the habits of ring-tailed opossums, or the constitution of the Board of Trustees? On all these points we shall be prepared to dispense much valuable information. Should the fractional nature of our profits admit of such an outlay, we should even be able to run a private encyclopædia, with the aid of which we might justly be entitled to consider ourselves a match for any oracle mentioned in history, however divine in origin and inspiration. But stay; we had almost forgotten the essence of the whole system; how about the presents of gold and silver plate? It would be seemly that suppliants should make a point of dedicating some little offering of this character at our shrine; say a wreath of golden laurel-leaves, similar to that recently offered to Lord Beaconsfield, or a golden statuette of the Chairman of Trustees. But we are prepared to forego this little honorarium, in consideration of our respect for wisdom, and our compassion for the shallow pockets of our impoverished subscribers, whose exchequer may be assumed to be in a chronic state of exhaustion in consequence of the rapacity and extortion of the ice-cream man. Be it understood, therefore, that we are ready, according to our ability, to dispense knowledge of the finest brands, and a very superior article, free, gratis, for nothing.

THE EDITOR'S DREAMS.

Continued.

Not long after the Editor of the "Chittywittian" lay dozing in his editorial chair. On the table in front of him was a pile of copy ready for No. XXII.; in the basket were crumpled up several feeble contributions, such as would in time gone by have gladdened his heart to see; crumpled up ignominiously were several ambitious odes, "To the Graces," "Thou Moon," "Soft, soft and stilly night," &c., whilst one unblushing scoundrel would have found his copy of that famous old ode of Horace's "We won't go home till morning," ruthlessly crushed up, as "wanting in originality." On the table, too, before him, lay the accounts, presenting an inviting look, the balance being on the right side. Musing over these things the Editor lay, as we have seen, dozing in his chair, and was almost off (not his head, of course), when a portly old gentleman came in without knocking. The Editor at first resented the intrusion, but, overcome by his jovial smile, invited him to take a seat and enquired his business.

"That," said the old gentleman, "is precisely what I came about." Which the Editor was surprised to hear.

"Well," said the old fellow, "Some time ago I'm told you were travelling home and had a very strange dream. Come, it's no use denying it; I know all about it. Now, I daresay you thought in that dream that the numbers

were rather hard on you. So they were. Now, on behalf of the last numbers of the "Chittywittian" I come to compliment you on your success since then. You are really very useful in the school, and therefore I started a subscription in the printers' room, whence I came, of course, and realised the handsome sum of £1,000,000. This sum I now hand over to you with compliments."

As the old gentleman finished these words the Editor tried to grasp his hand. But gradually he fell away, and when the Editor woke up about an hour afterwards his sole comment on these extraordinary dreams was, "Well, I'm sure." Which he was not. How could he be?

Moral.—1st. Never go to sleep in an uncomfortable position if you can help it. 3rd. Never eat heavily before a journey. Charles VII. did that, and tried to make up for it by drinking a bucket or two of lager beer after it. He did *not* make up for it. He went mad, and took the queer idea that he was half a carving knife and half a beer-pot, whilst the simple fact was he was neither. 3rd. Always support your own paper. Seriously speaking, this is a real and important duty—the duty of everyone who calls himself a member of the school. Those who cannot write for it can at least support it with their subscriptions. But let all try at least to write something, and don't be discouraged if your first attempt is not approved of. Your second may be, or perhaps your third. As a member of the school, each boy that has the intellect and power to write, is morally bound to make his paper the real representative of what the school has in it.

With regard to our own paper, *The Sydneian*, it is not such a bad paper as you think. We cannot complain much of deficiency in the way of subscriptions, but we do complain of the scanty contributions that we receive. In common justice we think that the intellectual outcome of the school should be as well looked after as the physical accomplishments.

OUR CORRESPONDENCE.

As the other night we were putting our complaint about one of the, we are happy to say, few evils in connection with the school government, in the form of a letter, to the *Sydneian*, we were led to consider what effect such a letter may really have. The outcome of our consideration was that we obtained copies of the back numbers of the *Sydneian*, and instituted a review of the letters therein contained, and some of the things we observed we have noted here.

In the first number when a second sports-meeting in one year was about to be held, "Remex" writes bringing forward certain good reasons why there should not be more than one meeting in the year. In accordance with the views expressed in that letter the committee of the S. G. S. A. C. decided to hold but one meeting a year as is now done. In the first number, too, we find some excellent suggestions from Mr. Bean, on behalf of Little-side Football and Cricket; some of which have, while others have not, been carried

into effect. Mr. Bean means by Little-side Cricket the Form Club Matches; and the "Shadow" of the "Coming Event" of the "Sports Fee" is seen in his suggestion "that each Form Club contribute a capitation fee of 6d towards the expenses of the Eleven and Twenty-two for the season." It is here, too, that the first reference to the Gymnasium that we ought to have—and haven't—appears; but it is by no means the last. In a later number "Gymnast" wants to know the fate of a letter sent by the Sports Committee to the Trustees, in order to gain an addition to the fees, by which, among other things, a Gymnasium might be erected. We should also like to know something about that letter but can gain no information on the subject. We should like further to know whether the "Shakspeare Readings" referred to by "Poins" in a letter in number two were the origin of the Debating Society, which is now sinking to an early grave. Some antiquarian in school lore is requested to give information on these points.

In the *Sydneian* for September, 1876, we find a suggestion as to altering the hours of afternoon school. Such an alteration shortly after came into operation.

From the earliest times up to the present there have been letters about the Debating Society, which would appear never to have been in a very flourishing condition as regards active members of that "body politic." In a letter which appeared in number ten, "Ex-Student," while allowing that the number of members is very satisfactory, complains of the want of activity shown. And two or three numbers later we have a letter from "Sydney" of the same tenor, in which it is to be noted he mentions that there were then seventy members of the Society. In the latest number, however, "L. A." complaining of the old want of activity, says that there are only forty-six members; so that in this respect also there has been a great falling off.

The next letter that strikes us is one from "Unica," apparently advising the Upper School to play marbles and spin tops in the play-ground, in order to show that they feel the equality between the Lower and Upper Schools. This drew forth a reply from "Aristocrat," which created such a pretty excitement in the School. Its fault was that its opinions (in the main, we believe, correct) were expressed rather strongly; and also (as was pointed out in a letter by "Z" in another number) the signature "Aristocrat" roused all the inherent opposition to "Upper Ten"-dom natural to an Australian school-boy.

A letter from "Partisan" that appeared two or three numbers back, is, we think, worthy of remark. Noting the want of support given in the school generally to cricket and football, it attributes this to lack of competition; and observing that the athletic sports are well patronised, puts this down to the inducement that exists in the shape of individual glory and honour to be gained. Two or three years ago, in one of the earlier numbers, we find a letter from W. Macansh complaining of the same want of energy at football and cricket, and the same "spirit of pot-hunting" that makes the athletic sports so well patronised. Much of this is undoubtedly true, though less so

now than formerly, when, indeed, Macansh complains that the best runners in the school would not enter the All-schools race, the result of which was that the school was nowhere. Whether, however, the remedy proposed by "Partisan," of creating artificial divisions in place of those which naturally exist at boarding schools, is the true one, could only, we think, be proved by experience; but that the spirit of friendly rivalry at present wanting must be created, all must allow; the form divisions are evidently not sufficient. They are changing, and alike for no two years. There is something lacking which must be supplied.

Of other letters which have appeared in the *Sydneian*, many have reference to matters which were only interesting at the moment, and which, many of them, have so long passed as to be forgotten. Of others, again, we cannot find any later reference to their subjects, nor does there appear any likelihood of their proposals being carried into effect; so that the account must rest at this point. But on the whole, we have noticed that a letter to the *Sydneian* is either an individual expression of opinion that may or may not find supporters, or else it is frequently the embodiment of an opinion that has been floating about the school, which, since it is likely to have many supporters, is therefore entitled to respect and fuller consideration. And lastly we have asked a few questions in this paper, which we hope some one will be found to answer; for like Miss Rosa Dartle, we "do so want to know."

DRAMATIC ENTERTAINMENT.

A MEETING was held in connection with the above on Tuesday afternoon, 25th November, Mr. Weigall took the chair.

Thomson proposed, and Baylis seconded, "That a Dramatic Entertainment be given in honour of our expected visitors, the Melbourne Grammar School Cricket Team."—Carried.

Bowman then proposed, and Thomson seconded, "That a Committee, consisting of two masters and three boys be formed to attend to the business in connection with the entertainment."

An amendment was then moved by Higgins I, and seconded by Shute I, "That two Committees be formed, one for the entertainment, and the other for general arrangements."

The amendment was put and carried.

The election of the Entertainment Committee was then proceeded with, and the following were elected :—

Mr. Anderson
Mr. Field

McIntyre
Thomson
Rich

Mr. Skinner was also proposed, but declined on the ground of other duties. Some others were also proposed, but declined owing to too much work.

At this stage of the proceedings Mr. Francis took the chair, as Mr. Weigall was obliged to leave the room.

Mr. Field then proposed, and D'Apice seconded, "That the original Committee have power to add to their numbers."

The election of a General Committee was carried on. The following masters were elected:—

Mr. Weigall

Mr. Whitfield, jun.

Mr. Francis was also proposed, but stated he could not stand, as he had many pressing duties to perform, besides his connection with the Sports Committee.

The following is a list of the successful candidates, with the number of votes polled by each:—

Baylis	190	Higgins I	} 88
Bowman, I.....	148	Jones II	

Piddington I, and James acted as scrutineers.

The Entertainment Committee have since decided to have no entertainment, in consequence of the shortness of the notice, The General Committee, however, have made arrangements for a trip to the Blue Mountains, and have obtained passes for entrance to different places of amusement.

DEBATING SOCIETY.

FRIDAY EVENING, October 24th.—No meeting was held, as there was not a quorum.

FRIDAY EVENING, October 24th.—Songs and Recitations. J. E. M'Intyre in the chair. The following programme was gone through:—

- 1.—Recitation—"The Chronicle of the Drum" Heath
- 2.—Recitation—"The New Member of Parliament" Butler
- 3.—Song—"Ten Thousand Miles Away" James
- 4.—Recitation—"The Gambler's Wife" Quinlan
- 5.—Recitation—"Casabianca" Heath
- 6.—Violin Solo Gorrick
- 7.—Reading—"Three Cherrystones" Butler
- 8.—Song—"Patrick Mind the Baby" James
- 9.—Recitation—"Death of Nelson" Heath
- 10.—Song—"All that Glitters is not Gold" Gorrick
- 11.—Recitation—"Antony's Speech over Cæsar's body" Butler
- 12.—Song—"The Highland Brigade" Sergeant Hagney
- 13.—Recitation—from "Julius Cæsar" James
- 14.—Song—"My Heather-Bells" Sergeant Hagney
- 15.—Song—"Charlie Baker" Gorrick

FRIDAY EVENINGS, November 7th and 14th.—No meetings were held on account of the University Examinations.

FRIDAY EVENING, November 21st.—As there was not a quorum, no meeting was held.

FRIDAY EVENING, November 28th.—J. E. McIntyre in the chair. Butler gave notice of moving on Friday 5th, "That an entertainment be held on Friday 12th."

The Debate, "Whether the Tramways should be extended to the Suburbs or not," was opened by the Premier (Butler) in the affirmative. The following also took part in the debate:—

<i>For.</i>	<i>Against.</i>
Jones, II	Armstrong
McPhillamy	Rich
Amess	

On a division, 13 voted *for*, and 2 *against*, the Ministry winning the debate by 11.

FRIDAY EVENING, December 5th.—G. E. Rich in the chair. Butler moved, and Armstrong seconded, "That an entertainment be held on Friday, 12th."—Carried.

The Premier (Butler) then opened the Debate, "Which is the better System of Education—National or Denominational?" in favour of the former. The following also spoke on the motion:—

<i>For National.</i>	<i>For Denominational.</i>
McPhillamy	Armstrong
	Day

The Ministry won the debate by 6, 11 voting for National, and 5 for Denominational.

WIMBLEDON HALL.

SINCE my last report I am pleased to inform you that the School English Prize was won by a Wimbledonite; and that in the team that won the "Bugle" we sent two cracks; and another Wimbledonite won a prize. In the coming Intercolonial Match we have three representatives, so that on the whole it is very creditable to Wimbledon Hall.

The worst news we have to announce to you is that we are losing some of our best all round men this term, but hope that their places will be filled in by as good men next term. Those that distinguished themselves most in the Cricket-field since my last report are Martin, Wilton, and Dezarnaulds, both in batting and bowling.

I hope that you will be good enough to insert this in your valuable paper, specially because, if you do, all the Wimbledonites are sure to subscribe.

I am yours truly,

BOULOU PARI.

[We are unable to resist the alluring bribe so delicately hinted at by our correspondent, and publish his letter accordingly.—Eds.]

CRICKET.

FIRST ELEVEN *v* NEWINGTON.

PLAYED AT NEWINGTON, OCTOBER 22ND.—Resulted in a victory for the Grammar by 54 runs, decided by the 1st innings. Warden, Tye, Palmer, and Rygate played well for Newington, and the longstopping of Webb was very good. Jones, Bird, Shute, Wilton, and Martin went into double figures for the Grammar. Baylis, captained the Grammarians, while Warden officiated in a similar capacity for Newington.

NEWINGTON.

First Innings.				Second Innings.			
Warden, A., 1213211232, b Jones	18	Webb, 23, c McKay, b Martin	... 5				
Moore, I, c Farquhar, b Martin	... 1	Palmer, 2111131, b Jones	... 10				
Tye, 215212121121, b Jones	.. 21	Rygate, 212, not out	... 5				
Webb, 0, b Martin	... 0	Wardin, 0, b Jones	... 0				
Howard, 0, c McKay, b Jones	... 0	Howard, 24, c Farquhar, b Martin	6				
Palmer, 123, b Jones	... 6	Tye, 0, bowled Martin	... 0				
Rygate, 3211, not out	... 7	Moore, 11, c Wilton, b Martin	... 2				
Kiss, I, c Roberts, b Jones	... 1	Kiss, 42, not out	... 6				
Hardy, 0, b Jones	... 0	Byes, 11132331	... 15				
Dawson, 0, b Wilton	... 0						
Purser, I, c McKay, b Jones	... 1	Total for 6 wickets	... 49				
Byes, 3211111111	... 13						
Total	... 68						

	Balls.	Runs.	M. Overs.	Wickets.		Balls.	Runs.	M. Overs.	W.
Jones	108	21	7	7	S. Jones	72	17	6	2
Martin	54	30	1	2	G. Martin	72	17	5	4
Bird	30	5	2	0					
Wilton	18	0	3	1					

GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Wilton, 13131241, b Warden	... 16	Farquhar, 211212, b Howard	... 9
McKay, 0, run out	... 0	Cleeve, 12, b Warden	... 3
Roberts, 1313, b Warden	... 8	Bird, 111412, b Howard	... 10
Shute, 212122, b Tye	... 10	Thompson, 2111, not out	... 5
Baylis, 22112, c Warden, b Howard	8	Byes	... 3
Jones, 1141431333211923, c Dawson,			
b Tye	... 36	Total	... 122
Martin, 2321132, b Tye	... 14		

FIRST ELEVEN *v* UNDER GRADUATES.

Played on the Oval, November 26th. After a very exciting game this match resulted in a tie, each side scoring 68 runs. The batting of Bird, Martin, Jones, and Shute was good, while Tange and Ayres played well for the Universities. Wright captained the Undergraduates and Baylis our Eleven. The following are the scores:—

UNIVERSITY.

First Innings.

S. Wright, 0, c Baylis, b Jones	...	0
Roberts, 2, c Farquhar, b Martin	...	2
Tange, 123112, b Jones	...	10
Hills, 11, c Martin, b Jones	...	2
H. Wilkinson, 11242, b Jones	...	10
F. Wilkinson, 11212112, b Bird	...	11
E. M. Bowman, 121, b Bird	...	4
Feez, 13, b Wilton	...	4
Ayres, 122411, c Martin, b Wilton	...	11
McManamy, 31, not out	...	4
R. Fuller, 23, c Farquhar, b Bowman	...	5
Sundries	...	5
		68

GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

First Innings.

Jones, 111111, b E. M. Bowman	...	6
Farquhar, 0, 1. b. w. Bowman	...	0
Shute, 222, c Feez, b Bowman	...	6
Baylis, 1, b Bowman	...	1
Wilton, 3, run out	...	3
Martin, 12123212323, b Tange	...	23
Roberts, 2, 1. b. w. Bowman	...	2
R. Bowman, 41, run out	...	5
McKay, 1111, not out	...	4
Nathan, 0, run out	...	0
Bird, 112211122, b Macmanamy	...	13
Sundries	...	5
		68

	B.	R.	M.O.	W.		B.	R.	M.O.	W.
S. Jones	88	25	6	4	E. M. Bowman	114	29	5	5
Martin	54	16	2	1	Macmanamy	87	14	7	1
Bird	42	5	3	2	Roberts	18	6	1	0
Wilton	30	14	1	2	Tange	36	10	1	1
R. Bowman	21	3	1	1	F. B. Wilkinson	18	4	1	0

FIRST ELEVEN v. TWENTY-TWO OF SCHOOL,

ALDERSON'S GROUND, DEC. 3RD.

THIS was looked on as an easy thing for the 22, as Jones was playing with them. But Martin and Bird shewed us that "Sam" was not the only trundler in our team, Martin getting 12 wickets for 11 runs, and Bird 5 wickets for 14 runs. Jones and Bird worked hard for their respective sides, bowling against the wind and on the worst wicket. Cleeve Brothers bowled well for the 22; Baylis captained the 11, Jones the 22. Charlie Richardson, Bird, and Martin played well for the 11, and Fairfax, B. Thompson, and Fredericks made the scores for the 22. The following are the scores:—

ELEVEN.

W. Wilton, 0, c Nathan, b J. Cleeve	...	...	...	...	0
C. McKay, 0, b Jack Cleeve	...	...	...	...	0
G. Martin, 1112121112131, run out	...	...	...	...	19
F. Baylis, 1114, c Jones, J. Cleeve	...	...	...	...	7
W. Bird, 11111111, b Jones	...	...	...	...	8
W. Roberts, 2, c Tibbits, Payten	...	...	...	...	2
R. Bowman, 0, b Jim Cleeve	...	...	...	...	0
D. Shute, 1222, b Jones	...	...	...	...	7
C. Richardson, 11142111, c Fairfax, Jones	...	...	...	...	12
C. Dezarnaulds, 131, c Tibbits, Jack Cleeve	...	...	...	...	5
A. Gorrick, not out	...	...	...	...	0
Byes, 11, no balls, 1	...	...	...	...	12
					—
Total	...	...	...	...	72

TWENTY-TWO.

S. Jones, 2, h.o.w., b Bird...	...	2	Hawkins, 0, h.o.w., b Martin	...	0
Nathan, 0, b Martin	...	0	Battye, 12, b Martin	...	3
Halliday, 1, c Wilton, b Martin	..	1	Fredericks, 1111122, c Roberts, b		
Amess, 0, c Dezarnaulds, b Bird...	0		Martin	...	9
T. Thomson, 12, c Roberts, b Bird	3		B. Thompson 222, c Roberts, b Bird	6	
Reg. Broomfield, 0, b Martin	...	0	Page, 13, c Gorrick, b Martin	...	4
Cleeve, I. O, b Bird...	...	0	J. Butler, 1, not out	...	1
Tibbits, 1, c Richardson, b Bowman	1		Payten, 0, b Martin	...	0
Cleeve, II., 2, b Martin	...	2	Hulle, 0, run out	...	0
Cruikshank, 0, b Martin	...	0	Sundries	...	8
Eden, 2, c McKay, b Martin	...	0			
Fairfax, 111112, c Gorrick, b Bowman	7		Total	...	54
Stokes, 11, b Martin	...	2			

1 for 0, 2 for 1, 3 for 33, 4 for 42, 5 for 44, 6 for 51, 7 for 51, 8 for 63, 9 for 72, 10 for 72.

No balls Balls Runs M. overs wickets						Balls Runs M. overs wickets					
S. Jones	1	186	23	15	3	Martin	...	105	11	10	12
Jack Cleeve	0	84	19	4	4	Bird	...	60	14	2	5
Payten	0	48	7	4	1	Bowman	...	12	7	0	2
Jim Cleeve	0	18	8	1	1	Wilton	...	24	7	0	0
Cruikshank	0	24	2	2	0	Baylis	...	6	0	1	0

CADET CORPS.

The Grammar School has again won the bugle, which had it not been for accidents, would now be our property. However we have only to win it once more. The team fired remarkably well, especially Quarter-master-Sergeant Baylis, and Colour-Sergeant Bowman.

The team consisted of the following:—

Colour-Sergeant Bowman	Lance-Corporal Dezarnaulds
Q.M. Sergeant Baylis	„ Helsham
Sergeant Thomson	„ Marshall
Corporal Gorrick	Cadet Barker
„ Hill	„ Martin

Emergency—Lance-Corporal Shute.

The total score was 285, which gives each Cadet an excellent average, better in fact than eleven out of thirteen Volunteer Companies who fired for another Challenge Bugle.

On Friday, the 5th instant, each member of the team was presented with a handsome album, as a memento of the match for which they had all practised so diligently.

It is much to be regretted that Corporal Gorrick and Cadet Martin could not make it convenient to come to the parade on the following Saturday, when the bugle was handed over to the team by Lord Loftus. The following gentlemen Cadets (?) also promised the Captain to turn out on Saturday, but failed to do so:—Cadets Wood, Tunks, Gillham, Stoddart, Eden, Wilson, Payten, and Hayes, and consequently we had only about 50 on parade.

Bugler Marshall, who had constantly affirmed that he would not descend to the copper bugle again, after enjoying the silver one for a year, had the pleasure of piercing his Excellency's ears with the "Royal Salute," in which his upper G was rather shaky, owing no doubt to the close proximity of Vice-Royalty.

Quarter-master Sergeant Baylis won a prize of £2, and Corporal Hill and Cadets Smyth and Mackay £1 each. In the Carbines, Cadet Moffit won £2, and Corporals Sands and Paterson, and Cadet Kenna won £1 each.

At the parade on Friday, the team presented Mr. Sellar (a Volunteer under the old system, who had been very kind to the team in altering their sights, and giving them every practical assistance) with a very handsome album, which was conveyed to our kind friend with a high eulogium from the Captain.

We are, I believe, going to lose Sergeants Baylis and Thomson, two good shots, and thorough soldiers, whom we shall all miss very much, and whom we wish every success and happiness.

MEMORIES.

Oft through the darkling paths of air
 Gleams a swift star—her home forsaking ;
 In careless hearts, diviner care,
 Old dreams of childish wonder waking.
 Then contemplates the soul impassioned,
 Where, poised in wastes of awful shade,
 World chases world, supremely fashioned—
 The handiwork—the Hand that made.

Rises the morning, fades the night,
 Cease her globed fires from man's discerning ;
 Blazes the noon's laborious light,
 The mirrored sky with splendour burning.
 Then man, with mortal vision trammelled,
 Deems none save he creation share,
 Yet still beyond the vault enamelled
 Space and her wondrous stars are there.

All dreams of duty, good intent,
 All hopes man's better self re-calling,
 Gleams in our memory's firmament,
 Lit by a swift thought—starlike falling.
 Too soon returns the giddy morrow,
 They pale before life's busy glare,
 Yet, unremembered, save in sorrow,
 The impulse of the past is there.

E. B.

ST. GUYON'S ABBEY.

A REVERIE AND A RETROSPECT.

How grand the roofless ruin seems,
 Vaulted with clouds of fretted fire,
 Could I but hear its stately dreams
 Of knight and abbot, son and sire.

Here sister columns rush aloft,
 Clasp hands with slender arms festooning ;
 Above, in charmed silence, soft
 Pale stars through mist and glow are swooning.

All round the prying ivies crowd,
 Now shuddering low, now closer creeping ;
 Above cling shrubs with long leaves bowed,
 Like draped folds of pennons sleeping.

Once more the large west window glows,
 In rosy richness glows and moulders ;
 The full red flood its radiance throws
 Upon Sir Guyon's weathered shoulders.

Sir Guyon ! some old baron, scarred,
 Low-browed and bearded, strong and savage,
 Who robbed his vassals, pillaged, warred,
 And did his threescore years of ravage.

At last when beggared, outlawed, banned,
 His famished fief could not maintain him,
 To Mother Church he left his land,
 And turned his vengeance on the Paynim.

And so he died : God grant him grace !
 They crossed his legs, and had him sainted.
 And for him stood this holy place,
 Till Wolsey had his head attained.

Then went the lands and went the gold,
 Last hope of Darcys, Guyons, Dacres ;
 Bluff Harry seized the marks, and sold,
 Or gave in fee, St. Guyon's acres.

So no more fast the orders strict,
 No more the jolly monk carouses ;
 St. Francis and St. Benedict
 Are fallen with their fallen houses.

With riven roof their abbey stood,
 At shameless light their cloisters wondered ;
 A beggared outcast brotherhood,
 With sorrow each, from each they sundered.

And now the mosses tuft its base,
 Its oriel blind and arches hoary ;
 But still kind evening decks the place
 With something of its olden glory.

And oft the hazy-girdled moon
 Adown like halo'd virgin gazes,
 And ghostly breezes chant a tune,
 A mellow tune of griefs and praises.

Praises—that though the sects are ranged
 In strife, that man from man estranges,
 Though forms are changed, and creeds are changed,
 The heart of Nature never changes.

Griefs—that we must the laws fulfil,
 That mirth from growing wisdom sever,
 That Merrie Englands may not still
 Be Merry England, and for ever.

That we should render unto Cæsar
 His dues, but toss a paltry groat to
 Poor Mother Church—" *One shilling fee, Sir :* "

" And would you please to buy a photo ? "

" A shillin' is the landlord's fee,—

" A pretty business here he's doin'—

" And for ourselves we sells, you see,

" The photographs of this here ruin."

E. B.

A FAREWELL.

Flow down, cold rivulet, to the sea,
 Thy tribute wave deliver :
 No more by thee my steps shall be,
 For ever and for ever.

Flow, softly flow, by lawn and lea,
 A rivulet, then a river,
 Nowhere by thee my steps shall be,
 For ever and for ever.

But here will sigh thine alder tree,
 And here thine aspen shiver ;
 And here by thee will hum the bee,
 For ever and for ever.

A thousand suns will stream on thee,
 A thousand moons will quiver,
 But not by thee my steps shall be,
 For ever and for ever.

VALE.

Deflue mi, gelidas devolvens, rivule, lymphas
 In pelagum tenuem depositurus aquam
 Me miserum, ad ripas solitas cessare licebit
 Rivule, non iterum, tempus in omne vale.

Per saltus serpas, per gramina murmure molli
 Leniter, et sensim, rivule, rivus eris,
 Sed procul a noto profugus mox amne vagabor
 Et procul, ah ! flectam tempus in omne pedes.

Hic alnus zephyro mussante impulsa sonabit,
 Perque comas leviter populus alba tremet,
 Hicque sumerabit trepidans in margine ripæ
 Tempus in æternum sedula mellis apis.

Mille tuas soles torrebunt desuper undas,
 Et lunæ vario lumine mille tremet.
 Nec ripas tamen ad solitas cessare licebit,
 Rivule, supremo tempore ave atque vale.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Wimbledon Hall, 30th October, 1879.

To the Editors of "The Sydneian."

I do not agree with "Canis" in saying that the game of Hare and Hounds cannot be played in a country like Australia, as I have both played and enjoyed it. In exemplification of this I will proceed to recount for the edification of "Canis" a run we had in Bathurst about eighteen months ago. We arranged it for a Saturday, and employed our spare time beforehand in tearing up "scent." The hares (two long-winded youngsters) were allowed a start of fifteen minutes, at the end of which the hounds set off in full cry on the scent which led towards the river, through which we were compelled to follow, much to the detriment of our boots and unmentionables. Then we trudged onwards through the village of Kelso towards Mr. John Lee's coursing paddocks, in one of which the hares were caught both thoroughly out of breath.

From thence we wended our way to an ancient farm-house, where we, for a small sum, regaled ourselves plentifully on plums. We returned home thoroughly pleased with our morning's run, setting aside our weariness as a minor consideration.

LONG LEGS.

To the Editor of "The Sydneian."

SIR,—As the front of the school has at last been repaired I think the attention of the guardians (?) of the School might be called to the disgraceful state of the "little yard" in wet weather. It is simply a lake in wet weather, and then the mud is all washed down into the drain, and it is stopped up, and the water has to stay until that is cleaned out and to sink into the ground so as to leave it in a muddy state for four or five days. When they have done the front of the School they ought to at least level the "little yard." It is as much used as any other part of the School, especially in the cricketing season. At that time, in the dinner hour, there is generally a game of little cricket going on, and when it has been wet is very disagreeable to be running after the ball and suddenly find yourself comfortably located on your back in a bed of mud. Hoping that this may be mended,

Grammar School, 30th Oct., 1879.

I remain, &c.,

H. S.

To the Editor of "The Sydneian."

SIR,—I would like to reply to an article which appeared in your last, signed "Canis." It was certainly a doggish article, but "its bark was worse than its bite." Canis has made one or two *little* mistakes in his letter, which might be rectified. He mentioned that it was foolish to propose a game which "cannot possibly be played in a country like Australia." Mind he said Australia, possibly he does not think that Australia is a large continent with an area of 3,000,000 square miles. We would request him to turn to his geography and fag before the examinations or else he will be "ploughed." Residents of Hunter's Hill have told me that they have had one or two runs carried on to advantage. Again, I say that *all* the accessories are *not* wanting is that a reason that the game should be stopped? Anyone with a rational intellect could easily see that there is no reason at all. It appears all through the article that the writer knows nothing at all about this country. We hope that Mr. Canis when he writes another one will understand what he is writing about and not write what he does not know about, and don't let him pick up too many poetical phrases, but put down common sense and not what is foolish and shows his ignorance. As, therefore, I say again that as not *all* but *some* of the accessories of the game are wanting, I hope it will be carried out to advantage as others have said it to have done.

I am, &c.,
LEPUS.

To the Editor of "The Sydneian."

SIR,—In reading the different numbers of the *Sydneian* I have been rather surprised to find that so few boys in the school have cared to entrust their ideas into your care. Some, however, have done so, and the results are curious. One correspondent, "H. S.," states his grievance and his wants are attended to before the paper is published. Another, "Lepus," in your September No., proposed an admirable game, but was almost entirely "shut up" by "Canis" who evidently writes without personal experience. Another correspondent, signing himself "S," proposes "Queries and Answers" as a valuable addition to your magazine. This, in my humble opinion would be an excellent plan, and I wonder it has not been thought of before. It would be certain to bring your paper into more favour in the school and make it very much more useful. I hope the idea will be carried out. Would you have the goodness to think of this and oblige,

C. O.

To the Editor of "The Sydneian."

SIR,—Permit me to call your attention to the decay of the short-lived public spirit of the School, or a portion of the School and the gradual dissolution or extinction of the few institutions supported by it. It is perhaps natural, but certainly to be regretted, that a re-action should occur, and that, as in volcanoes, a short period of ebullient activity should be succeeded by a long interval of somnolent repose. It has indeed been maintained by some philosophers that human beings are a stage higher in life than volcanoes, but

this is clearly a fallacy, as is seen by their fruits. Surely we are not so overdone with public institutions that we can afford to witness with such profound nonchalance the death, from want of visible means of support, as the Police Courts express it, of the Debating Society and Rowing Club. Upon the decease of these relics of a past and more public-spirited generation, the Rifle Corps will be left in solitary grandeur, if I may use the poet's expression, like a lodge in a garden of cucumbers; those of the school who belong to no institution will represent the cucumbers. I seem to see an unusual proportion of cucumbers in this school. It seems absurd that an association so eminently suited to our circumstances as the Rowing Club should have been allowed to subside into an early grave. For some things, such as cricket and football, we are no doubt heavily handicapped and proportionately discouraged by our want of any sufficient ground for the purpose; it would, therefore, be expected that, *ceteris paribus*, somewhat less interest might be taken in these sports than at other schools; and apparently this is the case. But with respect to rowing, we are even at a considerable advantage in comparison with most other schools, being situated within five minutes' walk of the boating sheds, and of an expanse of water unequalled in its facilities and attractions. Even the very fact of the absence of a playground ought to tend to concentrate our energies, if we had any, on more convenient alternatives. Yet although a fairly good start was made with the club, boats provided, and money liberally subscribed *outside the members*, so great was the final decrease of interest that, in spite of great interest taken by the masters, the attendance at business meetings of the club dwindled until there were actually more masters than boys, the attendance of boys averaging two, and the number of boys who took advantage of the opportunity afforded them of using the boats without charge averaged one. Of course it is preposterous to expect that anything can succeed in a school where so little interest is taken in efforts to provide the fellows with some profitable and agreeable amusement. The members of such a school are to be compared with the Persian soldiers of the Great King, who were driven to the assault under the lash. It is a pity we cannot do the same. A sound whipping is the only means of making any impression on the sluggish spirits of these indolent and effeminate creatures, who cannot even be made to play except under compulsion. Oh incredible foolishness of men, saith the ancient philosopher, who are too lazy to take what they would like to have, unless they are compelled to do so. I should be glad to hear whether any member of the Rowing Club has any excuse to offer for his inexcusable conduct.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

CITIZEN

BURIED NAMES OF CITIES.

- I. Did you want a cage? No; a box.
- II. We arrived at the hotel yesterday.
- III. You seem to do very well in the first class.
- IV. She sings so as to keep him awake.

AUSTRALIUS.

