

will oppose with all the weight belonging to their official character, and Big-side will be able to decide on the pros and cons. Or let us suppose that the motion has been brought forward by the Committee. In that case Big-side will be assured that the motion has been duly considered by a responsible body, while if it be open to objection there will be plenty of independent members of sufficient eminence to come forward and oppose.

In the second place, we hope that such an organisation of the Committee as we propose would produce a twofold result. On the one hand, every Form would be represented, and its interest in Big-side Levée kept alive. On the other hand a serious danger would be avoided. For if the five members of each Committee were to be elected indiscriminately out of Big-side, it is probable that the five greatest swells would be elected. The result might be that if the Committee proposed a motion, no one would oppose it; and if they opposed a motion no one would venture to support it. But according to the plan which we have suggested of electing one member from each Form, it is probable that some of the greatest swells would be ineligible: and these, unawed by the "divinity which hedges round" the swell, would keep a sharp look-out on the conduct of the Committee.

In the third place, such Committees would unquestionably be most useful in many ways. Were they instituted, there need be no gap of two years in the accounts of Big-side Football Matches in the Big-side Books. What could be easier than for the Head of the School to depute a member of the Football Committee to keep an account of Big-sides for him? Last season a complaint was made that there was no account of Football Matches in *Bell's Life*. Why, we ask, should not the five members of the Football Committee send up accounts of matches to five different papers. In our last number we published the pathetic appeal of a young raven who cawed loudly for Rugby food in the *Undergraduates' Journal*. Why, we ask, should not the hungry souls of such little birds be sated?

Lastly, this plan would in no sense be an innovation. Big-side would only be doing what it did when it nominated the four Stewards to act in its behalf as a Committee for the management of the Athletic Games.

If we might venture on one other measure of reform we should suggest that Big-side Levée should be consulted on all occasions where it has a right to be consulted. We will give an instance. At the Athletic Games

this year we heard that two prizes,—one for the Half-mile Flat Race, the other for a Half-mile Hurdle Race,—were to count for the Cup. Now two or three years ago we were distinctly told that these prizes did *not* count for the Cup. How is it that they count for it this year? Was it carried at Big-side Levée that they should? If so, well and good. If not, did the Stewards decide the matter on their own responsibility? Then we can only say that they have a grander and more comprehensive conception of a Steward's functions than we ever heard of. This, we think, is distinctly a case in which Big-side Levée should be consulted; and if it be not consulted we think it will have good reason to feel aggrieved.

We hope that our correspondents will not be sparing of comments and criticisms upon these suggestions; and we specially invite our brother "Radical" to tilt against our constructive scheme as uncompromisingly as we tilted against his.

THE PRIVATE CONCERT, APRIL 22ND, 1867.

If we may be allowed to chronicle an event that has long passed away, but took place, nevertheless, since our last number, we shall give as brief a notice as possible of the Easter Concert. The introduction of a concert at Easter is in itself an extra thing, and only light secular music was performed. The room was, as is usual everywhere, crowded with a "gay and fashionable audience;" amongst them were a few members of the School,—the minority who cared for music,—and several distinguished Old Rugbeians. The chorus amounted to about 50: the orchestra (a new mark of improvement) consisted of six, of whom Mr. Rowden was devoted to a violoncello, Mr. Leslie to a flute, Mr. Smythies to a violin, Mr. Bennett to a harmonium, and Messrs. A. C. Johnson and Hurst to the pianoforte. The concert opened with "The March of the Men of Harlech," sustained by the chorus and ably accompanied by the instruments. The other full pieces of the First Part were the old Madrigal "Since first I saw your face," Berger's "Night, lovely Night," and "Spring with fairy foot returning" (Rossini), the first two being unaccompanied. The last, which closed the First Part, was called for again, but as half the chorus had somewhat prematurely hurried away to the green room, it

was not repeated. Mendelssohn's "I would that my love," was given early in the evening, by Messrs. Sim and Arkcoll; "Blow gentle gales," by Messrs. W. Goldschmidt, Westmacott, Dale, Rowden, and Tobin; and a very pretty quartette, "The Three little Roses," an old Suabian song, by Messrs. Anstice, Hailstone, Miller, and A. Thornton. Mr. G. H. Purves played Leybach's *Deuxième Nocturne* on the piano forte, with great spirit, and was enthusiastically encored. Mr. Anstice's song, always a great event of the evening, was Haydn's "Mermaid," which he sang with great taste, and was deservedly encored. Mr. W. E. Göschen (O.R.) was ready with his help, and was welcomed again in his old place, to the great delight of every one: he sang "The green trees whispered" (Balfe), and as an encore the old favourite "Sally in our alley." But not contented with two songs, the audience, chiefly those in the raised seats, insisted upon "Du, du, liegst in mein Herzen," at the close of the evening, which was not refused them. The Part Songs of the Second Part were "The Month of Maying," and "Integer Vitæ." Mr. Jeffery was very great in "The Lady's Glove," and only surpassed by "Tom Bowling," which he sang as an encore; and Mr. W. Goldschmidt performed the old ballad "The Wishing Cap" very prettily. The Orchestra selection was "Airs from *Il Barbieri*," which caused great pleasure, both from the efficiency of the performers, and from the novelty of instruments at our Concerts. "When Meteor lights," an old German trio, was very elegantly sung, but did not produce the effect which it should have done on the audience. Shouts were raised early in the Second Part for Mr. Anstice's "Toujours gai," and he consented to sing it, with the same effect which he produced at the Christmas concert. "Vive la Compagnie" was given by Mr. Rowden; he touched upon all the subjects of interest of the time,—the Ladies, the Masters, the Corps, the Corpus, the Tercentenary, the Natural History and Debating Societies, and last of all upon—but we are modest, and cannot but be silent about ourselves. We come now to the great triumph of the evening, and wish we had more space to describe it. Messrs. Anstice and Dale opened Balfe's "Laughing Trio," joined afterwards by Mr. Hailstone. Their acting was very clever and brilliant, and their laugh excited one in sympathy from every one who heard them. The Trio was a greater success than anything we have heard at our Concerts

before. Everything was prepared and conducted by the able management of Mr. Edwards, who has done more, by his abilities and hard work, for the Choir than paper can express. The Stewards were Messrs. Haslam, Bucknill, Soutter, and Hon. C. H. Vivian.—We cannot conclude without a remark upon the present state of voices in the choir. The tenors and basses are rather weak, whether taken altogether or as individual voices, although Messrs. Dale, Rowden, and Jeffery are still amongst us to keep them alive; but we have now a finer soprano in Mr. Anstice than we have ever seen in the choir in our memory, and we have an alto in Mr. Hailstone, who will be a terrible loss, when his voice cracks.—We have to deprecate the right which is now claimed by the School audience, of calling for any old song which they happen to approve of.

MEETING OF OLD RUGBEIANS AT WILLIS'S ROOMS.

THE meeting of Old Rugbeians was held as previously advertised, on May 4th, in Willis's Rooms. About 150 Old Rugbeians were present, and the Bishop of Rochester presided in a most efficient manner. After a brief sketch by Dr. Temple of the various modes proposed for the celebration of the Tercentenary, and the opinions entertained by himself and the masters on each, the first resolution was moved by Colonel Hanmer; it was merely of a formal character, and was chiefly of use in order to incorporate the action of the masters in subscribing towards Schools as part of the Tercentenary plan, and to leave room for any Old Rugbeian who objected to subscribing to the Chapel, to introduce some other object. Scholarships being left to the Trustees, and Schools being undertaken by the masters, the main interest of the meeting centred round the Chapel. The second resolution therefore dealt with this, and was proposed by Dean Stanley in a most sympathetic speech. He remarked that on these questions he was always most conservative; that he liked in any building to see the history of its own life enshrined; as in Canterbury, as in Westminster, there was much that offended against the unity of the buildings, and yet ought never to be altered, so in Rugby he hoped that we should not pull down our own antiquity, but would rather leave the Chapel enlarged and beautified for