

their high opinion of our cricket and ourselves to thinking, with Tennyson's Will Waterproof:—

"I ranged too high: what draws me down  
Into the common day?  
Is it the weight of that half-crown  
Which I shall have to pay?"

Need we argue any further; need we remind our readers, as Englishmen, of national hospitality—of Garibaldi's banquetted—of Belgian Volunteers subscribed for, &c.; or as Rugbeians of that which serves as the climax of so many even of our own warnings at this season, that 1867 is the glorious Tercentenary of Lawrence Sheriffe's School, a time most apt for reforms.

Be it Tercentenary or not, be our ideas of Tercentenary reforms high or low, one thing is certain—it is never well to recede: we paid for our foreign elevens' dinners in 1866, why should we not do so in 1867?

OUR correspondents are indeed going very far. We feel that two such letters as those of "A Mathematical Swell" and "Anti-super-Education," need some comment from us, if only as an apology for their insertion. Their very signatures, as well, demand it. "A Mathematical Swell" must not be passed over unnoticed. "A Mathematical Swell!" Perhaps, though we must not accuse him of conceit, for Mathematics are not held in such high honour here as to make the claim to being a Mathematical Swell a very conceited one. "Anti-super-Education," too! He has just saved himself from self-annihilation by italicising the super. We think it was unnecessary for him to tell us that his little fable was not Æsop's. We think it was unnecessary for him to tell us, by its means, that it was presumptuous to kick against the pricks, or, if we follow out his little conceit, to try to wriggle off the prongs of the toasting fork. Of course no solution has come to hand of his tiresome questions. Of course he could not expect any (one of us suggests that perhaps there is no solution); oh, no! the obvious reason is that no one has thought it necessary to put down on paper what is clear to everybody. We must decline to answer his questions for the same reason; for none other, be assured, satirical reader.

Of course it is absolutely necessary that every one whose classics are not good should be lopped off as useless: of course it never does happen, except in the imagination of flighty correspondents, that fellows of much use to the School, and of not absolutely use-

less abilities, spend much of their time here with a drawn sword over their heads, dreading superannuation at the next opportunity, and that such dread really hurts their characters.

We fear any "friend of the School" would fully qualify himself for superannuation, if not for very strict medical care when superannuated, who could advocate either of these propositions.

We find at the end of "A Mathematical Swell's" letter, a hope that we shall not give him credit for doing the exact thing that he has done all through his letter. But we must not hit him. Superannuation is passed; its day has begun; and he has no friends. We beg his pardon; our eye catches sight on our editorial table of "A Letter to the Masters and Seniors of St. John's College, Cambridge, by J. M. Wilson, M.A., F.G.S., F.R.A.S., &c.," and we cannot help suspecting that the spirit of that letter would revolt at the fact of a boy who had been head of his Natural Science Set two Terms, being obliged to leave from inferiority in Classics. We recal our words. "A Mathematical Swell" must have a friend, we think. We confess we are muddled.

#### A TERCENTENARY DREAM.

Who shall say  
That dreams do import nothing?  
Old Play.  
For dreams, too, come from Jove.  
Jones' Homer.  
Verissima noctis imago.  
Gradus.

SIR,—Last night I dreamed a dream, and thinking it might possess matter of interest for some of your readers, I have set it down and send it to you.

Methought I had left Rugby many years ago, and being now grown grey and bearded, had once more revisited the scenes of my youth on the anniversary of the Tercentenary. As I strayed into the School Quadrangle I was astonished to see that the stone paving had disappeared. In answer to a question, an intelligent Sixth fellow informed me that it was no longer necessary to commence a general weeding in prospect of the advent of the Trustees, and that the School Quadrangle was no longer a receptacle for the waste paper and orange peel of the School in general, and of the School-House in particular. A rumour likewise reached me, though unsupported by authority, that members of the School-House no longer

played cricket in the cloisters, with broom-handles and inverted dust-bins. Playing fives against the wall of Big-School was (I was given to understand) considered throughout the School as a sign of social and moral degeneracy. What was still more strange, it had suddenly been discovered that the old Pump was neither useful nor ornamental, and in commemoration of the Tercentenary its removal had been ordered.

On entering the Close I discovered that the board against trespassers had been removed, no small boy of the lower orders having been prosecuted "within the memory of man,"—that is (as explained by Mr. Hallam) since the era of Richard the Second. The ivy, planted on the outside of the schools looking towards the close, which in my day had always withered prematurely, now mantled richly over the ancient walls. Mr. Wilson's scheme for removing the slope had been successfully carried out, and I was told that the laundresses had complained of a visible falling-off in the number of flannels which weekly fell into their hands.

Suddenly the ground seemed to shake beneath the tread of armed feet. I turned my head, and beheld the Rifle Corps, three hundred and twenty in number, marching into the close. Spies from Russia, France, Austria, and Prussia, followed close on their heels, in order to transmit to those great Powers hints borrowed from the bayonet-exercise and blank-cartridge firing of the Corps. I heard, without much surprise, that their ingress had been unprohibited by the Rugby Police Corps, who was at that moment keeping an observant eye on the public welfare in the tap-room of the *Dog and Gun*. During the progress of the evolutions Captain Tobin suddenly levelled his rifle and shot a Phoenix, who at that moment was building his nest in the crater of an extinct volcano in the moon. This feat was greeted with loud applause. It is confidently affirmed that this rare bird will be stuffed and added to the valuable collection in the gallery of the Sixth School.

Whilst I was expressing my delight at the accuracy of the shot, my cicerone pulled me by the sleeve, and whispered me that it was no long matter of doubt in the School, that the shooting of the Eleven at Wimbledon, this year, would be even more striking than that of last year.

Being struck by seeing a small boy engaged in studying a large folio sheet of paper, I enquired of him what it was, and

was interested to discover that he was perusing the Sociological and Biological column of the *Meteor*. The prosperity of this paper was chiefly proved by the Notices to Correspondents, among which I observed the following:—

TOM BROWN.—Your style of writing is scarcely up to our standard. Study some of the best models of English prose in the pages of the *Meteor*.

G. J. GOSCHEN.—You are improving rapidly. We have no doubt you will soon be sufficiently advanced to contribute papers to our columns on the "Board of Trade," and the "Theory of Exchanges."

LORD STANLEY.—Still too conservative and statistical. Purchase the *Meteor's* "*Handbook to Statesmanship*;" it will soon show you your most glaring faults. Let us hear from you again.

I found, to my surprise, that the face of the Island was changed. Instead of a hideous exterior, deformed by the addition of unparallel parallel bars—which, though constructed for the purposes of suspension, invariably broke with anyone who trusted to their fair-seeming fickleness—as well as by the addition of rotten swings, which entailed a fall of forty feet on anyone sufficiently rash to gravitate within them; the whole place now bloomed as the garden of Eden; odorous shrubs and beauteous flowers thrilled through the breast of the smallest fag, and awakened in him a romantic sense of the beauties of Nature.

At the Racquet-court, as elsewhere, changes had gone on. The front wall had been finally re-built of imperishable stone and indissoluble cement. My cicerone informed me that before this desired consummation had been attained, enough money had been spent on the front wall to build two new Racquet Courts and half an Eton Fives Court.

On glancing round the Close I discovered, to my astonishment, that my old friends the nets had disappeared. I could not conceal my chagrin at this; but my companion, when I mentioned the fact, tossed his head with an air of supreme content. "You speak, sir, of the barbarous institution of a barbarous age. We have reached a higher stage of civilisation. Know, sir, that the faint and uncertain voice of tradition tells us of a time in the dim past when Rugby balls at Lord's were not fielded, and Rugby catches at Lord's were missed. But this time has passed away. Every new fellow is fagged to field two hours on every half-holiday, and

one hour on every whole school-day during his first Term. This time is reduced by half an hour every Term. And what is the result? A prize was given last Athletics to the best catch, but it could not be awarded, for no fellow was ever found to miss a catch, Forms II. III. and IV. being always excepted, in consideration of their inability to resist the momentum imparted, by a body of the size of the cricket ball falling through space, with a velocity varying inversely as the square of the distance." The elegance of the last sentence gave me a high idea of the advantages of a study of Natural Philosophy.

My curiosity was not yet satisfied, and I eagerly enquired after the welfare of Football: "Are House Matches played with the same ardour as in former days?" My companion threw upon me a mingled glance of aversion and scorn. "If by ardour," he replied, "you mean the bloodthirsty spirit which led to those disgraceful scenes of which tradition speaks, I am thankful to say that it has died out from amongst us. In accordance with a law passed at Big-side Levée, all House Twenties, before they begin to play, exchange the kiss of peace." "The kiss of peace!" I exclaimed, in a tone of strong disgust, "Have the School become Quakers?" "And if they had imitated the peaceful character of the Society of Friends," said my companion, "what of that? Does it beseem your grey hairs, Sir, to strive to inflame the passions of the School about a ball of inflated leather? Does it beseem your grey hairs to recommend a calculation of the number of hacks which will suffice to break an opponent's leg? Know that every navy is proscribed, the thickness of whose sole exceeds 12-100ths of an inch." I blushed and was silent. "Come this way," he added, in a milder tone, "you may be interested in hearing a debate at Big-side Levée." I followed eagerly to the Fifth School. What a sight burst upon my view! The whole Levée was seated in order upon benches. The chairman was dressed in a purple robe, on which were emblazoned the Founder's arms. Before him lay a mace, topped by the letters "L. S." Three fags were occupied at a table as clerks, receiving the petitions and making minutes of the debates. Petitions were presented from twenty Moberlyites praying that measures might be taken against sundry bucolics who had thrashed them with pitchforks for trespassing; from seven Burrowsites, praying for the removal of the Cattle Fair and its attendant plagues to

a greater distance from their House door; from fifteen Mayorites, praying that they might be no longer compelled to have their breakfasts in their studies; from ten "enlightened Blakeites," praying that the nuisance of Hand-fives in the porch might be stopped; from thirty School-House fags, praying that they might only have to sweep out the Præpostors' studies every other week, and that night-fagging be reduced from half-an-hour to one quarter; from five "very small Arnoldites," praying that leave be given them to play cricket on the grass before their house; and from the whole Town, praying that a severe fine be inflicted on all who address members of the foundation by opprobrious terms. Unfortunately, as the debate was about to begin, the chairman rose and ordered strangers to withdraw; whereupon I was reluctantly compelled to betake myself to my old House.

After what I had heard of entrance examinations, scholarship examinations, monthly unseen papers, Terminal unseen papers, Fifth lessons, extra lessons, I was scarcely astonished on entering the House to find our boot-boy seated by the pantry fire and busily engaged in collating the Vatican and Bodleian M.SS. of Thucydides. In reply to a question of mine he informed me that he had just been writing for the *Journal of Classical and Oriental Philology*, a criticism on the Latin Primer. His review, he said, had been more imperfect than he would have wished, through his inability to consult the fragments of Ennius and Pævius, as well as the First Book of Cato—*De Re Rusticâ*. He had hoped to be able to prove from those important authorities that the first syllable of the word "Primer" was long and not short. He trusted, however, to rectify this deficiency during the holidays, by obtaining a sight of the valuable collection of anti-Ciceronian authors in the British museum.

As I reached the hall door the sonorous cadences of a powerful voice fell upon my ear. I gently entered and took my seat unobserved. Without much difficulty I discovered that I was witnessing a meeting of the Blakeite Debating Society. The secretary stole up to me and informed me in a whisper that they were at present uniting the glories of eloquence and science, and that the subject of debate was "That the resemblance between the Caucassian and gorilla families, considered in relation to the ganglienic nerve and the tetanic chord, does not tend to favour the theory of the deriva-

tion of man from the mollusc." Whilst with the help of a member, who kindly offered his services as moonshee, I was endeavouring to grasp the full import of this mysterious proposition, a loud burst of applause greeted the conclusion of the speech. I started up—and discovered myself sitting in my bed in No. 2 bedroom, with the ten minutes' bell ringing for first lesson.\*

I am Sir, yours, &c.,

TREBLA.

Rev. Jex Blake's, Rugby.

\* We do not hold ourselves responsible either for the waking assertions or the sleeping imaginations of our correspondent.—ED.

SCHOOL PRIZES.—English Verse, 1 Fowler, 2 Barnwell; English Essay, 1 Rowden, 2 Ellis; Latin Hexameters, Ormerod; Latin Lyrics, Haslam mi.; Latin Essay, Rowden; Greek Prose, 1 Masterman, 2 Haslam ma.; Vth Form Prose, 1 Stuart Wortley, 2 Browne quarts.; Vth Form Verse, Stuart Wortley and Kynnersley mi., æq.: 2 Gray.

Mr. R. E. Baynes was last week elected Mathematical Scholar of Wadham College, Oxford.

Mr. A. Godley who went up to Balliol last October, has just carried off the Latin Verse Prize at Oxford.

Mr. W. Lee Warner passed 20th for the Indian Civil Service lately, and Mr. L. Fulton 21st.

We hear that an additional £10 has been put on to the charge for our best bathing place, by Mr. Bagshaw, miller, who would be well paid if this addition were the whole price. We would have Mr. Bagshaw know that geese of golden eggs are mortal, and that the river Avon has two banks.

A well-known architect has been seen prowling about the School buildings lately. This looks hopeful.

The members of Mr. J. M. Wilson's house are indebted to him for a most admirable institution,—a house gymnasium.

The School clock has been out of sorts lately. We fear it keeps irregular hours.

The plans for the market-cross have not yet, we believe, been published.

Rugby was ably represented during the past week of the C. U. B. C. races, by the undermentioned gentlemen:—W. J. Pinckney (Arnold's), stroke of the 1st Trinity 1st boat, which rowed head of the river for the six consecutive nights. Baker (Burrows's), Colvin (P. B. Smith's), and Kirby (Hutchinson's), in the Trinity Hall 1st boat, 4th on the river. H. Browne (School House), in

the Emmanuel boat, 5th on the river. J. L. Seager (Arnold's), coxswain of 1st Trinity 2nd boat, 6th on the river. Baynes (Burrows's), in the Lady Margaret, 2nd, and F. E. Marshall (Arnold's), in the 1st Trinity 3rd boats.

A Town Fete in celebration of the Tercentenary is announced to take place on the 26th inst., in Mr. Reynolds's field.

CRICKET.

ANOMALIES V. THE SCHOOL.—This match came off on May 27 and 28. The weather on both days was anything but agreeable, reminding one more of October than May, consequently very little cricket was shown, if we except Brand for the Anomalies and Pauncefote and Stokes for the School. The Match ended in a draw. Score:

ANOMALIES.		2nd Innings.	
1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
A. J. Wilkinson, c Yardley b Bourne	6	c Bucknill, b Ellis	0
H. W. Verelst, c Ellis, b Bourne	3	st Gray, b Pauncefote	44
E. C. Follett, c Pauncefote, b Ellis	2	c Stokes, b Bourne	19
E. W. Burnett, c Pauncefote, b Ellis	24	c Yardley, b Ellis	3
H. R. Brand, run out	55	c Wilkes, b Ellis	0
Capt. Decie, c Tobin mi., b Ellis	1	b Ellis	1
F. Paget, run out	11	c Stokes b Pauncefote	1
J. F. Horner, b Pauncefote	15	c Tobin mi., b Ellis	9
L. Lane, not out	13	not out	6
*J. T. Soutter, b Pauncefote	14	c Tobin mi., b Pauncefote	19
*G. E. Brown, b Pauncefote	2	c Bourne, b Pauncefote	13
Leg-bye 1, w 2	3	Byes 2, 1-b 1	3
Total	149	Total	119

\*Substitutes.

RUGBY SCHOOL.

1st Innings.	
B. Pauncefote, c Paget, b Wilkinson	27
F. Stokes, b Horner	13
F. Tobin mi., b Follett	4
S. P. Bucknill, c Browne, b Follett	1
F. Tobin ma., b Follett	4
V. Ellis, c Verelst, b Horner	6
J. W. Gardner, b Horner	2
J. Wilkes, c and b Follett	8
W. Yardley, c Soutter, b Horner	20
A. Gray, c Soutter, b Horner	3
A. A. Bourne, not out	1
Wides 2	2
Total	91

RUGBY SCHOOL (second innings).—B. Pauncefote (not out), 10; F. Stokes, c and b Decie, 14; bye, 1; wide, 1; total, 26

RUGBY CLUB V. THE SCHOOL.—This match was played on Monday and Tuesday last, on the ground of the former. Score:

RUGBY CLUB.		2nd Innings.	
1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
D. Buchanan, c & b Pauncefote	4	c and b Soutter	27
J. H. Raven, c Francis b Pauncefote	38	b Ellis	9
J. C. C. Pipon, c and b Pauncefote	25	c Soutter b Pauncefote	5
R. F. Smith, b Ellis	6	b Francis	42
O. Mordaunt, b Ellis	1	c Soutter b Pauncefote	23
E. Willes, b Ellis	3	b Pauncefote	2
C. W. Carles, b Pauncefote	4	c and b Pauncefote	61