

cellent and crusty joke, "A Gorilla on view." Dancing in the evening followed some good rustic sports, diversified by pole climbing and other genial amusements.

The following honours have been gained by Rugbeians since our last publication:—Messrs. E. W. M. Lloyd, W. Lee Warner, and S. Haslam, Foundation Scholars, St. John's College, Cambridge; Messrs. J. S. Chamberlain, W. E. Hart, and G. L. Bennett, Exhibitors, St. John's College, Cambridge; Mr. G. H. West, Stanhope Prize (Modern History), Oxford; Mr. C. J. Wauton, Exhibitor, King's College, Cambridge; Messrs. T. F. Jayne and W. L. Selfe, First Classes, Final Classical School, Oxford, Mr. S. W. Bromfield, First Class Final Mathematical Schools; Messrs. R. W. Ingham, E. A. Were, First Class in Classical Moderations.

A scheme has been started, which has met with great favour, for celebrating the Tercentenary by raising £600 in the School towards the erection of a new organ in chapel. It is estimated that the organ will cost £1,000, towards which it is hoped the School will contribute £600. Levées have been held in the different houses, and three allowances promised from them this Term. Dr. Temple has given leave for a subscription list to be kept open until the sum is raised; and the proposal is to raise it by small contributions of about three shillings a-head each term for the next eight terms. The only stipulation made by Dr. Temple is that an opportunity should be given to the fellows each term of saying whether they will continue to subscribe, and that the subscription should be raised in such a manner as may prove least inconvenient to the subscribers. The allowances for this term have not only been voted, but in many houses have been partly collected. Larger subscriptions have been and will be willingly received from fellows leaving; and with the consent of the editors will be acknowledged in the next issue of the *Meteor*.

On investigation we find that the attack on our Clerk of the Racquet Court, by a correspondent in a former number, is quite unjustifiable. Besides other circumstances quite different here from those at Cheltenham, the price of balls was settled originally by three masters in the School, and as to the balls themselves, they are got from the best makers in the country. There are difficulties under which the management of the Racquet Court labour, which have to be overcome before the price of balls is reduced to "Three-half-pence."

Mr. Edwards begs to acknowledge the receipt of 10s., from some anonymous benefactor, for the new organ.

Herr Patterson, who once assisted at our School Concert, has been engaged as a second Music Master for the School.

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

THREE meetings have been held by the Society this term. At each meeting about 25 persons have attended, and various objects of considerable rarity have been exhibited, and shortly commented upon by different members. Longer communications have been made on May the 18th by Mr. Elteridge, well known as the palæontologist of the Geological Survey, "on some bones found in the river gravel, by E. Clemenshaw"; on June 1st by the President, "on some lead tokens found at the moving of the tree in the close, in 1865"; and on June 17th by A. C. Bruce, "on a proposed record of all the fossils found in each of the different beds of the Lias, near Rugby." The Society at present consists of six honorary members, ten members, and four associates; the existing officers are F. E. Kitchener, President; G. B. Longstaff, Secretary; and J. S. Masterman, Treasurer.

RULES TO BE SUBMITTED TO BIG-SIDE LEVEE BY THE COMMITTEE FOR FOOTBALL ARRANGEMENTS.

- Rule 1.—That there be a Football Committee, consisting of representatives chosen from the Caps of each House by the members of that House.
- 2.—That all the Houses be drawn in ties before the Sixth Match.
- 3.—Houses not wishing to play to scratch during the week after drawing.
- 4.—That any House may claim to play upon a second day, but that the Committee have the power of forcing it to retire if they think fit.
- 5.—That three umpires be chosen out of the Committee for every House Match appointed by the Committee itself.
- 6.—Substitutes to be chosen by the three umpires, with power to refer to the whole committee, when, as in all cases, the interested members shall have no vote, but are at liberty to state their demands, reasons, &c.
- 7.—Except special meetings in case of a

difficulty about substitutes, the Committee to meet but once a week, when all complaints, &c., can be mentioned. The Committee always, if possible, to look at matches, and reserve their opinion until the weekly meeting.

8.—That the Committee shall have large discretionary powers.

CORRESPONDENCE.

We cannot be answerable for the opinions of our correspondents.

Contributions for the next number should be sent in by this day fortnight, written on one side of the paper only.

Contributions will be received at the *Advertiser* Office, or at Mr. Pepperday's, under cover to the "Editor of the *Meteor*."

To the Editor of the Meteor.

SIR,—I know I shall be called thick-headed, narrow-minded, obstinate, and all the other epithets with which miserable mortals, like myself—who are not endowed with that prescient desire of reform, so essential to all right-minded individuals—are loaded. But I am prepared to undergo all this, and to shield myself under the screen of impenetrable stolidity and unconquerable obstinacy. I have read "Radical's," "Another Radical's," "H. St. V.'s," and a host of other letters, and I have wondered at my own backwardness—at the passionate mania of young Rugby for reform—at its vehement declarations of the "Rights of Man,"—and I am surprised that these ardent reformers have undergone the vast amount of "bottling up" they must have endured till your paper came out. But, Sir, the letter which staggered me most was "A. H. St. V.'s." He wishes, and has soberly come to the conclusion, that hats, as a barbarism, should be entirely abolished. He has laughed at old customs, sneered at the presumptuous people who venture to argue against him, and has gracefully trumpeted forth his feelings of benevolent philanthropy, and noble disinterestedness. He raises up two or three objections, and knocks them down with great complacency, but still leaves the matter to poor fools, like myself, as doubtful as ever. Now, Sir, I doubt it very much whether new boys would be less bullied because they wore a straw instead of a hat. Fellows would say—when I say fellows I mean the small boy class—"Oh, yes, you think a great deal of yourself—now you wear a straw like us,—you want 'taking down.'" I really believe a stronger feeling would spring up against new fellows. As to the discomfort

attendant to a hat, it is very small; as except going down to lessons, and out for a walk, a new boy can always wear a house cap. He asked why should a custom, not proved to be a good one, be allowed to remain because it is old? Now I think that unless it can be proved to be decidedly bad—and, mind you, he has not proved it to be so—its age should weigh a great deal in its favour. In a school like this—which is almost entirely made up of traditions, whose very existence depends upon its enthusiastic admiration of traditional customs—old institutions should be retained as long as possible. The short time they have to wear a hat—the few, if any, miseries they have to incur from doing so—the very great moral and beneficial effect it produces on conceited new fellows,—I think argues very strongly in the retention of that "bugbear—the hat."

I could say much more on the subject, but I dare not trespass any longer on your space; and I can only hope that "A. H. St. V." will pardon my wanderings, and make allowances for

"AN UTTER FOOL."

To the Editor of the Meteor.

SIR,—At last some one has ventured to deride that height of folly, the new boys' hat. But what a very conservative proposal of reform is his! Why, Sir, torment a new fellow at all? Why linger on the wave of barbarism, and still compel them to wear a singular *straw* hat, though you excuse the silk one? No, Sir; rather walk boldly on the shore of civilisation, and discard these eccentricities for ever; allow a new fellow to be happy, as you are careful to be so yourself. I have never seen a real tendency to an increased coxiness in new fellows; the really coxy ones are those that have been at School one year and a-half. Sir, let us throw away these childish fancies respecting hats, flannel shirts, white waistcoats, &c., and new fellows will not be one whit more coxy, though far more comfortable than they are now. For this depend upon the word of one who has been at Rugby

FOUR YEARS.

To the Editor of the Meteor.

SIR,—What shall I reply to "E?" Not very much, for I am truly satisfied to see my subject warmly taken up. But he has said, as it seems to me, one or two things that I must bore you about in a second letter, though much against my will.