

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.

First let me remind you that, to my mind, as I said, and I believe to the minds of the School generally, *i. e.*, to the bulk of the congregation, Crasselius, Angel's Hymn, and Wareham are very wearisome tunes, when constantly repeated; to "E's," however, they are otherwise. He abuses me for my *opinion*, and positively asserts the opposite or the contrary—they are among the best. Very good! "E." differs from me, and from the bulk of the congregation. But how does he defend Crasselius? Entirely by a long history of its origin, and a proof of its antiquity. Now I may be wrong, but I think no better of a tune for being written in the 15th century, any more than I think the better of a man for coming of an old family; whether "E." does or not, I cannot say. Next I must apologise to "E." for two inaccuracies of expression: I had not counted the number of tunes sung last Term, as he has, and consequently when I said "about six" my mind was so haunted by the most constantly repeated six tunes, that all remembrance of the rest was driven from me, —I beg to acknowledge 33. Again, "pretty" was not an expression I should have used; interesting yet good music I meant, as opposed to the old-fashioned psalms I referred to, which, however grammatically correct, are wretchedly monotonous and dreary. I must, however, deny that the School are such a set of muffs as to pronounce as "awfully jolly" the tunes he mentions. I only know one of the three—Shirland; this is what "E." declares to be my idea of prettiness; Sir, I think it's detestable. I know as much of School taste, perhaps more, than "E." does: I have always known a good tune appreciated, if it have life and musical vigour, though not if it be of sing-song correctness—as Angel's Hymn—and I never heard a bad one approved. The intense acuteness with which "E." took up the cause of the selected tunes, makes me fancy he may have had something to do with that selection; the slightly over-bearing way in which he put me down instructively ("K's" opinion notwithstanding), makes me suppose he may possibly know something of the matter; at any rate, from his tone he ought to. Neither of these things deters me from writing again to you, but if I have in any way hurt "E.'s" personal feelings,

I am, his apologetically,

K.

P.S.—Let me tell "X. O. R." that I already knew that the verse in question came

from the 22nd Psalm. In the Prayer Book the English is, to my mind, rather fine, though peculiar; the verse in the hymn is, as he will see, a wretched paraphrase.

To the Editor of the Meteor.

SIR,—Would you kindly allow me space to hint at anything which the School might do, and which would benefit themselves and succeeding generations—I mean that the School Bath should be cleaned out. I happened to go in a few days ago, and was at once struck with surprise how the School could have such a state of things before them, and no attempt being made to remedy it. When the last time of cleaning was I should leave to an Antiquarian Society. Would the School be bankrupt by setting a few men to stop the spring, run off the present liquid, and clean it out. That, indeed, would be a Tercentenary improvement! There may, however, be difficulties in the way, which some of your correspondents know of, although they have not presented themselves to

TERCENTENARY IMPROVER.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"A Lion Whelp."—The *Lion*, we must repeat, is only for private circulation.
 "Public Opinion."—You will see that we have adopted your suggestion to drop to eight pages.

C R I C K E T.

RUGBY SCHOOL *v.* MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE.
 —Our readers, we feel sure, must all have seen full accounts of this match, we therefore only add the score:—

RUGBY SCHOOL.

1st Innings.	2nd Innings.
F. Stokes, st Money, b Gordon 66	c Head, b Hillyard 7
J. Wilkes, c Money, b Macgregor	11 b Gordon
J. T. Soutter, c Macgregor, b Gordon	40 c Garnier b Hillyard 4
B. Pouncefote, st Money, b Hillyard	58 not out
S. P. Bucknill, c Cummings, b Gordon	4 b Hillyard
F. Tobin ma., c Garnier, b Gordon	38 not out
W. Yardley, c Moeran b Gordon 4	
F. Tobin mi., st Money, b Hillyard	0
V. Ellis, c Money, b Gordon 0	
C. K. Francis, b Hillyard	1
A. A. Bourne, not out	2
Byes, 8, leg-byes 9	17
	Byes
	241
	92

MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE.

1st Innings.	2nd Innings.
J. Bourdillon, c Yardley, b Bourne	23 b Bourne
	7