

ought to have died a natural death long ago. The old creed, that a new boy is an inferior animal, who should be taught his inferiority by having his life made a burden to him, is not, we hope, to be found as a really living and professed tenet. But it can yet be traced in many of the stock opinions and threadbare stock phrases still in vogue. The creed, I say, is dead. But the defunct and putrescent dogma still pollutes the air.

The real belief of these Conservatives may be analysed into two main articles.

1. That new boys are "coxy" and must be humbled.
2. That these old privileges constitute the splendour and glory of the place.

Now, Sir, (1) is directly and distinctly contrary to experience. The majority of new boys are timid, and even over-anxious to learn the ways of the place, and if some do seem "coxy" (I use that detestable appellation under protest) it is more often awkwardness than vanity. The really loathsome object (which one has quite enough chances of observing) is the Rugbeian of some standing, who has learnt nothing at Rugby but to despise those of his fellows in whom arrogance and conceit are less indurated.

Against (2) also I am equally anxious to proclaim my fervent hostility. Whatever excellence we have here, is certainly not bound up with any old customs at all; except indeed the old customs of uprightness, energy, and goodwill, which are assuredly not promoted by these petulant and contemptible follies.

What we want, Sir, is a more active and penetrating civilisation: a civilisation to remove all social obstacles, to clear away all stumbling-blocks, hindrances, and restrictions: to promote helpfulness, kindness, culture, spirit, and freedom. We want it to be impossible that any young enthusiasm should be checked, as it is so often and so disastrously checked. We want to condemn all roughness and vulgarity of mind, if possible, to extinction, if not, at any rate to obscurity. The spirit which desires to maintain those puerile frivolities will be found fighting against us on the broader issue also. For it is a spirit born of the meanness and selfishness of a few, and fostered by the unreflecting conservatism of the multitude.

Therefore it is, Sir, that we look for your enlightened aid and countenance in this

struggle between stagnation and progress, between the bigot and the

COSMOPOLITAN.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Macedonicus," and "E."—We are sorry we have not room for your letter in this number.

"Ignoramus."—Your letter will appear in the first number of next Term, when we think it will produce more effect than at the end of this.

"L. W."—We will endeavour to insert your letter before the next Speech-Day.

"A Blakeite."—We have not room for more than a note on your subject this number.

"A.D.A.M."—Your letter will appear in our first number next Term.

CRICKET.

THE SCHOOL V. RUGBY CLUB.—This, the return match, was played in the Close on Saturday, July 6th. Notwithstanding the absence of Pauncefote and Wilkes—two of our best batsmen—the School made an exceedingly good show of batting, the captain for the time being taking the lead with a finely played 72. Stokes and Tobin, ma., Steward and Gardner, also showed some very good batting. The Clubs' prospects did not look very flourishing, losing three wickets in 25 minutes. Score:—

RUGBY SCHOOL.

F. Stokes, c Willes, b Carles ..	57
W. Yardley, c Swainson, b Buchanan ..	2
J. T. Soutter, b Buchanan ..	4
S. P. Bucknill, c and b Buchanan ..	72
F. Tobin ma., c and b Raven ..	45
G. E. Steward, not out ..	34
F. Tobin mi., c and b Raven ..	12
J. W. Gardner, c Mordaunt, b Buchanan ..	30
V. Ellis, c Buchanan ..	6
C. K. Francis, b Buchanan ..	13
A. A. Bourne, c Browne, b Buchanan ..	0
Byes 15, 1-b 3, w 13 ..	31
Total	307