

of how many of those, who best acquitted themselves then, there are, whose voices must be missed in Chapel this Term, yet by looking at what has been done we see how great a cause we have still to maintain, and are encouraged to make the most of what material is still left us.

Difficult as it is, and always must be, to select a work of one of the great masters which meets the requirements of such a choir as ours, we feel sure that the selection has rarely if ever been better made than last Term in the choice of Mendelssohn's 42nd Psalm. Made up as our choir is of a large number of voices, the majority of which require support and leading, and the best of which are either unformed or peculiarly liable to change, having, as it has, only the short time of two hours a week for about ten weeks for instruction, it is necessary that our *piece de resistance* should be short, not very difficult, and yet pleasing to learn. Yet the choice has rarely if ever been better made than in Mendelssohn's 42nd Psalm. The whole performance of it was, we have reason to believe, highly satisfactory: the choruses had been well learnt, and we were fortunate in having a voice fully equal to the large number of soprano songs and recitatives the Psalm contains. If we were forced to decide on any part which gave us especial pleasure, we should select the first chorus, "As the hart pants," the solo by Mr. Anstice, "For my soul thirsteth for God," and the most beautiful solos with chorus, for altos and trebles, "For I had gone forth most gladly." The second part opened with the overture to Zampa, charming as ever, and very well played by Messrs. Micholls and Hurst. "The Harp that once through Tara's hall," was next given by the choir, a glee for which we confess we have but little love. Messrs. Squarey and Arkcoll followed with a very pretty duet by Kucken, "The swallows trills so gaily;" the second part struck us as being particularly well sung and we hope these two gentlemen will often be seen on our concert platform. Loder's "Martin, the man-at-arms," from the hearty manner in which Mr. Jeffery sung it, fully merited the encore it obtained.

And now came what to every one must have been, we think, one of the best and most charming pieces in the evening,—Schumann's *Gipsy Life*. Whatever variety of opinion may exist as to the general charm of this great modern composer's music, none can deny it the beauty of originality and great graphic power. Mr. Edwards had contrived most

admirably to make the Choir feel the spirit of this song, and the changes of idea and harmony were alike truthfully rendered.

We need hardly say that Mr. Anstice's song was a great success, and was rapturously encored, especially when we have to relate that it was Gounod's very graceful barcarole "*Dites la jeune belle*." Nor must we omit to mention that he was most admirably accompanied on the flute by Mr. Leslie.

A song (enthusiastically encored)—"I shot an arrow into the air," and a duet by Messrs. Dale and Jeffery, brought us to the well-known "*Vive la Compagnie*," which was sung with the greatest success by Mr. Soutter. We confess we were utterly at a loss to understand how "The Huge Globe"—Bishop, which followed, was not encored by the audience. But perhaps they were reserving their powers of applause for the Laughing Trio, which, as there was still time, was granted them. And here, in real truth, they were carried away, and before the last bars of the music were finished, a universal shout from all parts of the room demanded its repetition. Nor can we doubt for a moment in endorsing the opinion of the audience; for anything better than the acting and singing of the trio it would be hard to imagine.

We are rejoiced to hear that already the number of recruits in the Choir more than fills up the places of those who have left. A report, by no means less welcome, has reached us, that Mr. Edwards' arduous labours are to be shared by Herr Petersen, whom some of us may remember as a performer at one of our Concerts a little time back. We can then feel sure, that nothing will be wanting on their part to make our School and Concert singing good. May the School do theirs as well!

THE ARNOLD LIBRARY.

THOUGH, as far as we are aware, no statistics exist upon the subject, we cannot but think that every one must consider that there is good ground for the opinion, which has been known to be held by the Masters for some time past, that the use made by the School of the Arnold Library is very small, far smaller than the use of the School Library ought to be. For this failure in the hopes of those who originated the testimonial to Dr. Arnold many causes have contributed. The room looks north, and has therefore always

been, at the time when most fellows resort to it, perfectly sunless: it has been peculiarly cold, partly from this cause, partly from its structure, containing as it did hardly a single seat out of a draught; and being quite beyond the powers of the fires at the end. The books, if we except the magazines, which belong to the Masters, were hardly of a nature calculated to attract even on a wet half-holiday; altogether it was a very miserable place.

But luckily the Arnold Library has not escaped the march of universal improvement which marks the year of grace, 1867, in the history of Rugby; the fault has grown and grown in the eyes of the Masters till it has become so great as imperatively to demand removal: or to speak what is, we expect, nearer the truth, they have at last seen their way to a better state of things. The aspect of the room cannot, as yet, be changed, but screens have been put up which will keep off the draughts; the room has been fitted up with everything necessary for comfort, with easy chairs, with ample tables, with abundance of writing paper for any one who may have a happy thought to send to the *Meteor*, or elsewhere; and it is hoped that soon there may be abundance of magazines and papers awaiting the intending speaker at his Debating Society. And now comes the most important point of all. "You speak of this Elysium," says one close to us, "how can we gain admittance to it? I'm only in Sidgwick's, and no one but upper-school fellows can go to the Arnold Library."

In future the rules of admittance are, we are told, to be as follows:—

Any VIth. fellow can have a key and take two fellows with him at any time.

Any one in the Upper School can have a key on getting a note from his Tutor.

Any one in the Middle School can have a key on getting a note from the Doctor, his Tutor, and Form-master.

How far these rules may serve to increase the attendance we can hardly venture to predict. Our duty will have been done in stating what improvements have been made, and what the state of the Library now is, and when we have recorded our own opinion that few places will be found more comfortable for passing a spare hour on a whole school day.

No Reports have yet reached the *Meteor* Office of any doings of the Natural History Society this Term.

FOOTBALL.

BELOW CAPS MATCHES:—

SCHOOL-HOUSE v. WILSON'S.—Played Oct. 10, in which School-House were easily victorious by two goals, besides numerous tries, &c.

BLAKE'S v. MOBERLY'S.—Played Oct. 12. The former were victorious, by two goals to one. The game was continued after the winning goal was kicked, when Moberly's kicked a goal.

FOOTBALL COMMITTEE.—The Committee met on Tuesday morning, when A. Davenport (School House) was elected President, and the time for the weekly meeting fixed, for the present, for Tuesday, at 2:15 p.m.

Up to the time of our writing we have heard of the following New "Caps" to play in the Sixth Match on the School side:—
Blake's: Hornby. Wilson's: Badger, Botfield, Selous. Hutchinson's: Welsh, Isherwood. Arnold's: Delarue, Sharp. Burrows': Russell.

The Committee had their first meeting last night to draw the House-Match Ties. The lots fell as follows:—

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| 2. Wilson's | play | Blake's. |
| 3. Burrows's | " | Bowden Smith's. |
| 4. Hutchinson's | " | Town. |
| 1. Arnold's | " | School-House. |

Moberly's.

The numbers before the ties indicate the order of "Grounds."

CRICKET.

[We fear that so many Cricket scores may seem out of season at this time of year; but we think nevertheless many of our readers may wish to preserve accounts of the following School matches.]

M. C. C. AND GROUND v. RUGBY SCHOOL.—This annual match was commenced at Lord's on Thursday, August 1st, when Marylebone scored 75 in their first innings and 63 for the loss of three wickets in their second, Rugby's first innings amounting to 109. On Friday, at 11:30 a.m., Biddulph (not out 23) and Capt. Parnell went to the wickets to the bowling of Messrs. Bourne and Ellis. Both batsmen hit hard and well, and notwithstanding the splendid fielding of the light blues, the scores rose rapidly, so Mr. Francis took the ball from Mr. Ellis, and Mr. Soutter