

The First Match was played on Thursday, October 24th, and was "Sixth v. School." There were about 16 on each side. For the Sixth W. Lee Warner and Chamberlain played back, J. E. Lloyd and Bourne half-back. For the School, Crawley (Marlborough) and L. W. Novelli played back; P. Hoole and Gwatkin half-back. The match was very even and when "no-side" was called, at four o'clock, the Sixth had obtained two touches down. For the Sixth, Lee Warner (back), E. W. M. Lloyd and Bourne (half-back), and E. N. Ward (forward), were especially conspicuous. For the School, Crawley and Novelli (back), Hoole and Gwatkin (half-back), A. B. Cook and Dixon (forward), played splendidly. The strangers who played were—For the Sixth:—Benson (Marlborough). For the School:—Upcher (Uppingham), Crawley (Marlborough), Lawrence (Wellington), and S. Cook (Cheltenham).

The next Match was "Mayor's v. School," in which the School kicked two goals.

### FOOTBALL.

SIXTH MATCH.—Now, perhaps, it will be allowed by those who voted at Big-Side Levée for the Sixth Match on October 19, that they were thoroughly in the wrong. Why they persisted to such an extent in their motion, when plain reason told them that no Old Rugbeians would be present—the day before being the day of meeting for the latest Colleges in either University—every Old Rugbeian was at a loss to understand. However, it is now long past; another epoch in Rugby Football—the Old Rugbeian—is past too, and it is no use grumbling now, but we hope this year will be an example for succeeding generations to avoid. Instead of the old meeting of friends on this annual match-day, about a dozen had, with great difficulty, come down. Being so few, we may as well enumerate the heroes;—for the Sixth, Fisher, Bowen, W. Lee Warner, H. Cook, E. Fulton, A. Cordery, E. Kynnersley, H. Lee Warner, and E. F. Grenfell: for the School, C. S. Dakyns, F. S. Gwatkin, — Brocklebank, E. Wason, — Turner, — Bellis, B. Dakyns, F. A. Dakyns, and G. Yule. The School, according to custom, had the School Goal; the Sixth kicked off. After this the ball was driven down to the Pavilion, and remained not far from the Sixth's goal line for the most part of the afternoon. It

would be tedious to go into detail,—how the Sixth, with great vigour, once or twice nearly succeeded in getting the ball past the three trees; how the School, by overwhelming force, drove it back; and how C. S. Dakyns made many but ineffectual attempts to drop a goal. All this while, however, the School got some more substantial advantage than merely penning the unhappy "Stripes." A capital run-in was effected for them by Tyser (Moberly's). The try, although a very easy one, did not result in a goal. Not long after Yule (O.R.), who had been playing with great vigour, succeeded in accomplishing a like feat, which was attended with the same result. The Sixth were also compelled to touch it down in their own goal six times. On Monday the match was resumed, and a repetition of Saturday's discomfit was too apparent to the Sixth. More tries at goal, more punts out: so went the day, and finished without a goal being kicked. This day is memorable in the annals of the match, since the Sixth, by some good play on the part of their forwards, actually got the ball down to the School goal, where it was touched down by the goal-keepers. The Sixth Match came on again with Thursday: more runs-in, and more tries at goal, were the order of the day. In the last quarter of an hour, owing to a miserable piece of bad play by one of the Sixth backs, the ball was touched down between the posts, and a goal was kicked for the School by Yardley. Thus the match, which everyone hoped would end that afternoon, could now last for two more days. On Saturday, even with more uneven sides than before, play was resumed, and after one more unsuccessful try, a beautiful goal was kicked by Gardner, from a run-in by Tobin *mi.*: thus ended the match, in favour of the School, who had many players, but no one who could be entrusted with kicking a goal; however, practice makes perfect, and the second was perhaps harder than any former try. The Sixth played as well against long odds as could be expected, but were greatly in want of back and half-back players; the School had great power from their number of forwards, and were also assisted by nearly all the best back and half-back players in the School. Of course it is invidious to select any for their good play, but still we may be allowed to praise for their deeds—for the Sixth, Haslam (back), Moberly (half-back), and Davenport, Soutter, Crenshaw, Gray, Rowden and Graham (forwards); for the School,

Tobin ma., Yardley, and Gardner (back), Tobin mi., Lloyd, and Westfeldt (half-back), and Bucknill, Hare, Tyser, Peshall, and Sidebotham (forward). Of course all Old Rugbeians played as the traditions of their respective Houses tell, and there is little need in repeating what is so well known.

THE OLD RUGBEIAN MATCH this year was in many ways different from the match of former years. Its result was perhaps its most distinguishing feature, but one could not help feeling that there was something wrong, when upon coming out of chapel one did not find the porch crowded, and one did not see the sight, peculiar to the day of most Old Rugbeian matches, of Puntabout on Little Side, and did not shake hands with more than a dozen friends that were soon to be opponents. However the numbers increased later on, and when the match began there were about 38 on either side. The ground was slimy and soft from a drizzle that had unkindly fallen in the morning. Masterman kicked off for the Present Rugbeians, and even at this early stage, when the School is accustomed to feel the first rush of the Old Rugbeians, and to succumb, things were reversed, and the kick-off was soon followed by the Old Rugbeians touching it down in their goal. They soon dropped the ball out, and even then were penned, but gained some ground by a fine piece of play by Martin, one of their half-backs, which was followed up well, and it seemed that the School were now to be pushed back. Meanwhile there was a good deal of play among the half-backs, in which Buckmaster (o.r.), distinguished himself, and very shortly after Tobin ma. (back) made a splendid run for the School, and with the efficient aid of the other backs, Badger and Gardner, the ball was again worked on towards the Old Rugbeian goal, where it was again touched down. This time their drop out was more fortunate, and upon Martin getting the ball, he, by a very fine run, nearly succeeded in getting into the School goal, but such a catastrophe was narrowly avoided, and the game was soon transferred to quite the other extreme of the close by a good run by Gardner, and again the Old Rugbeians were forced to touch the ball down in their goal. Now, oddly enough, the School seemed to be beginning to feel the weight of their adversaries, and gradually gave way, while the Old Rugbeians rejoicing in a chance of pushing, came on with a rush, and after a crafty run of Thompson (o.r.),

the ball was driven over the heads of the School backs, and was touched down by one of the many goal-keepers. After this there was nothing very remarkable on either side, and "No Side" was called before anything decisive had been gained by either the Past or Present Rugbeians. For the School Tobin ma., Badger, Gardner, and Haslam played back, and Fletcher, Lloyd, and Moberly were half-back, all of whom deserve mention. The backs on the other side were Haines, Haslam, Venables, and Fryer; while Martin, Lyon, and Buckmaster played half-back, and certainly showed that football is not forgotten among Old Rugbeians. Of the forwards, Ingham (o.r.), W. E. Hart (o.r.), Soutter, Cook (o.r.), W. F. Thompson (o.r.), Crenshaw, Kennedy, Davenport, and Bucknill deserve notice, if, indeed, it is not unfair to mention names among so many that played well on both sides. The match on the whole was most enjoyable, and only lacked two things, a better day for running and for spectators, and a more decisive victory for the School. We can, however, only hope that with this encouragement, the School may again be able to assert its superiority when playing with sides as equal as on last Friday.

BLAKE'S v. WILSON'S, Oct. 26.—Blake's, with Island goal, had strong wind in their favour. Wilson's kicked off, and for some time the ball was kept in the middle of the ground, but at length Blake's slowly forced their opponents back until close to their goal, when the ball was passed back to Tobin mi., who ran in between the posts, and Haslam kicked the first goal for Blake's. On changing, in spite of the wind, which was now against them, they gradually advanced, and after some good forward play, Tobin mi. succeeded in touching it down in Wilson's goal, the punt out which followed was well caught once, but missed the second time. A short run and a good drop of Badger, took the ball a long way out of goal, but Tobin ma. getting the ball made a splendid run, almost to the goal line, and soon after Wilson's were obliged to touch the ball down. On their dropping out, Tobin ma. caught the ball, and by a splendid run got in, but rather far from the goal; Tobin mi. tried but failed; by a good run of Lloyd the ball was brought to the three trees, but this success was only short-lived, for Tobin ma. again, by a good run, brought the ball back to the front of Wilson's goal, and Barratt succeeded in touching

the ball down. The distance was great from goal, but Fletcher was equal to it, and kicked a splendid goal, thus finishing the match.

**THE THREE B'S v. THE SCHOOL.**—This match was begun on Saturday last, the Road match having occupied the attention of Big-side for so short a time. It promised to be one of the best contended in the season, the School having a slight preponderance in weight; but the play on both sides was uncommonly good. The B's began with the School goal, but by some accident their opponents managed to kick one goal that afternoon, the B's obtaining a punt-out. The match was continued on Monday, when the School got a try between the posts but were foiled in their attempt, owing to the kick being charged down by Scutter. The Houses, after some excellent play on the part of several forwards, touched the ball down in the School goal. A punt-out ensued, which was not caught. The match will be continued on Thursday (to-day.)

**BOWDEN SMITH'S v. BURROWS'.**—This match was commenced, Oct. 28th, by Tobin mi. kicking off for Burrows', who had the School goal. Burrows' gained considerable advantage by the kick off, and penned slightly for a short time, till a fine run on the part of Gardner ma., for Bowden Smith's, brought the ball to the School side of the three trees, where it remained more or less for the remainder of the match, as Bowden Smith's penned closely ever afterwards, till "no-side" was called, in spite of the strenuous efforts of Tobin mi. (Blake's), who was playing for Ellis ma. No goal was obtained by Bowden Smith's, though they had two tries and a punt out, and made Burrows' touch the ball down eight times in their own goal. For Bowden Smith's we noticed Gardner ma., and Mc.Millan back, Gardner mi., (who, by the bye, made a very good drop at goal, which just went under the bar,) half-back, and Rowden, Paterson, and Kough, forward, as being most conspicuous; while for Burrows' Riley and Russell mi., back, Tobin mi. and Benham (Wilson's) for Ellis mi., half-back, and Russell, ma. and Maitland, forward, played well.

**SCHOOL HOUSE v. ARNOLD'S.**—This was the first match of the season. The School House took the Island Goal, and gave kick off to their opponents, an advantage which they did not keep for long, as the ball was

soon carried past the three trees and tided into their goal, where they touched it down. Lambert then dropped out, and soon after one of the Arnoldite backs dropped the ball in front of their goal, where Warner (a School House back) caught it and made his mark. Scutter then made an unsuccessful try at goal. They again dropped it out, and Davenport made a short run in, and touched the ball down in the Arnoldite goal. Then followed another unsuccessful try, and a run in by Scutter, but as it was too far for a place kick, Davenport punted it out; the ball was not caught, and a long scrummage ensued under the goal, when the ball was luckily passed back to Moberly (half-back) and he ran in between the posts. This time Scutter kicked a splendid goal. After the change of goal, the Arnoldites stood up very pluckily, and prevented their opponents from making much progress, but Senior (a School House back) soon made up for this by a first-rate run through and past several fellows, and finally touched the ball down in their goal. No goal, however, was kicked, nor indeed after another run in by Moberly. The play on both sides was very fair indeed, and the half-backs, Moberly, Lambert, and Westfeldt, did great service for their respective sides.

**FOOTBALL COMMITTEE.**—A meeting was held on Thursday, October 31st, for the purpose of drawing the Second House Ties. The results of the first ties our readers will see in another column.—Rev. C. E. Moberly's play School House; Rev. C. B. Hutchinson's play Rev. P. Bowden Smith's; Rev. T. W. Jex Blake's odd house.—Rev. C. E. Moberly's have scratched, so there remains only one match in this round, which is to be played on Saturday next. There will afterwards be one tie and one odd-house.

**THE RIFLE CORPS.**—The School XI. v. Rossall XI.—The simultaneous match between these sides resulted as follows:—Rossall, 269; Rugby, 247.

The Batting Averages of the Eleven are unusually high for this year. The highest average, that of the Captain, B. Pauncefote, is 37-1; the highest at Eton is that of C. J. Thornton, 32-2; at Cheltenham, F. Baker, 31; at Marlborough, H. Hillyard, 29-2; at Harrow, J. Walsh, 20-4.

The Sermon for the Rugby Fox Master-ship, in India, was preached this year by the