

the politics and changes of the day : unless then we talk plain, undiluted "shop," upon copies, cruxes in a Greek Play, and such uninteresting subjects, we must talk of the past. The only thing to be avoided is the too frequent remembering of the same thing, for even the best jokes and tales fall under the old saw, that familiarity breeds contempt. Sometimes, however, the teller of the tale becomes so enamoured of his tale, and so constant in telling it, that the uninterested hearer, besides fully knowing how the story runs, knows also what remarks preface and lead up to it, and what criticisms follow it. But, even in this case, the well-known reminiscences may introduce others and, in spite of their familiarity, furnish some degree of amusement. Old Rugbeians, of course, are not so prone to wearying their audience with oft-repeated tales, simply because they do not meet so often : but it is the gossiping groups before the hall fire or in the studies that ought to be especially careful against spoiling the interest of their reminiscences by too frequent repetition. There are, of course, certain kinds of traditional reminiscences common to all schools, such as rumours of extraordinary freaks, and hair-breadth escapes from the extremity of the local law ; and certain astounding feats in one or other of the games, and instances of almost superhuman, or, at any rate, of super-puerile acts of daring and agility. But there are also reminiscences of a higher order, such as belong to one place far more than another. There are the feelings that make an Old Rugbeian shudder when he hears that the Chapel is perhaps to be pulled down. Probably he has been at Oxford or Cambridge, and there too become attached to a Chapel, but the last one does not carry with it a train of pleasant recollections, such as are connected with the chapel of his School days. The present Rugbeian may, perhaps, associate with the chapel a narrow seat and a decided perception of a neighbour on each side, but when he becomes entitled to reminiscences of his own he will feel conscious of other thoughts which are not yet strong enough to assert themselves, and he will feel that to sever such a chain would be desecration. He has probably reminiscences now of his early days in some other part of the School, which he would regret to see abolished by the disappearance of his old haunts ; let him then imagine the way in which a new Chapel would be regarded. Often, probably, has he felt the honour that accrued to him

when he talked of by-gone times and by-gone deeds, and often has he felt the pleasure of being able to supplement the tales of others with incidents drawn from his own stock of reminiscences ; let him then fancy his helplessness and feeling of desolation, when unable to connect with a new building and with the fresh appearance of what was once so familiar, the same tales that were once so oft repeated.

FOOTBALL.

FOOTBALL COMMITTEE.—A meeting was held on Monday, November 11th, to draw the ties for the third time, the only match in the second round having been played on the Saturday. Rev. T. W. Jex Blake's were drawn against Rev. C. B. Hutchinson's, the School House being odd House. The result of the tie will be seen in another column.

THREE B'S *v.* SCHOOL (continued).—This match was continued on Thursday, November 7th. The School far out-numbered their opponents, many of whose best players were absent. Finally, a goal kicked by Peshall soon ended the match in favour of the School, a goal having been kicked on a former day. Very good play was shown in this match, especially by Mr. Lee Warner, Graham, Crenshaw, Peshall, and Cholmondeley.

PATRIARCHS *v.* THE SCHOOL.—This match was begun on the termination of the pre-described. Nothing decisive was done that day. On Saturday, November 9th, the game was continued, when the Patriarchs had it all their own way, and, after obtaining a try and punt-out, the first goal was kicked for them by Peshall. After the change the Patriarchs soon got another try, which, however, was missed ; and after some good forward play, the ball was moved about the ground with great rapidity, but was again driven back to the School goal, and a second goal was soon kicked for the Patriarchs by Peshall. For the Patriarchs, H. Lee Warner (O.R.), Bucknill, and Gray played well : for the School, Forster and Badger.

GOLD *v.* SILVER TASSELS.—This was really three Houses—School House, Moberly's, and Town, against the School. However, the Three Houses got decidedly the best of it the first day, a lucky run-in being made by Warner. The try was missed ; soon after a punt-out had the same fate. The match was resumed on Monday, when the Silver far

outnumbered their opponents, and in very little time two goals were kicked for that side, the first by Peshall, and the second by Yardley.

DISSYLLABLES v. THE SCHOOL.—Soon after commencing, Lambert made a good run-in for the School, which did not result in a goal. Another try, however, became a goal, from a run-in by Tobin mi. Nothing more of notice was done that day: on the next, The School had decidedly the advantage in numbers, and penned their adversaries the whole time, obtaining two tries and a punt-out. Finally, Peshall kicked the second goal for the School, and the match was brought to a close.

MR. HARRISON'S XX. v. THE SCHOOL.—Great interest was created by this match, being the first instance in which the School has been matched 20 to 20. All the members of the foreign XX., except two, Mr. Harrison and Mr. Phillpotts, were Old Rugbeians. The School had the assistance of a strong wind, their opponents having the island goal and kick off. The first rush, with much good play, carried the ball to the School goal, where it was touched down. After being taken out, it was forced towards the pavilion, and was almost touched down in goal by Tobin ma., after a run-in which compelled admiration even from his opponents. A scrummage under the goal-posts ensued, and it was touched down by the Old Rugbeians. After this, for half-an-hour, little of consequence took place, the game being a good deal in the hands of the forwards. The sides then changed goals, that the favourable wind might be enjoyed by both parties in turn. The Old Rugbeians made use of this advantage, and soon got it down to our goal, where the School touched it down. Soon after the ball was again driven back to the School goal, and after some confusion as to who was the rightful possessor of the ball, it was agreed that Thompson had touched it down for the foreign team. A goal was then kicked by Murray. Play was continued, and soon Fryer made a run-in which resulted in a punt-out. This ended the match,—one of the best contended ever played in the close. The list of the sides was as follows:—A. Harrison's XX.: (backs) A. Harrison, Hoare, Fryer; (half-backs) W. R. Collyer, C. Bowen, R. Murray; (forwards) H. H. Buckland, T. A. Dakyns, J. Draper, G. Farwell, Hamilton, E. S. Kynnersley, H. Lee

Warner, MacInnis, J. D. Matthews, J. S. Phillpotts, C. E. Ringrose, A. Sidgwick, W. F. Thompson, G. A. W. Thorold. School Twenty: (backs) F. Tobin ma., W. Yardley, H. Badger; (half-backs) F. Tobin mi., G. R. Westfeldt; (forwards) A. B. Haslam, A. W. Rowden, A. Davenport, C. W. Kennedy, J. Graham, W. G. Crenshaw, A. Gray, C. R. Tyser, K. R. Fletcher, S. Peshall, S. P. Bucknill, T. G. Hare, A. H. Hudson, A. Y. Forster, and A. S. Reynolds. J. T. Soutter, J. Gardner, V. Ellis and Lloyd were unable to play for the School.

BLAKE'S v. HUTCHINSON'S.—This match was played on Saturday and Tuesday last, and resulted in a victory for Blake's. On the first day the play was so exclusively confined to the forwards that there is but little to relate. Blake's had the Island goal and kick off, and for the first quarter of an hour their utmost energies were taxed in pressing their opponents back towards their goal, at the same time with but slight advances. After that there was a rush in the other direction, and by a sudden burst of play Blake's were made to touch the ball down in their goal. This was soon balanced by the other side doing the same thing in their own goal after a succession of scrummages on the line. Nothing particular then occurred until the last moment, when Tobin mi. made a good run to within a few yards of goal, and it was touched down by Gray. In spite of the great distance there was a try at goal, which proved unsuccessful. On Tuesday the sides were both more inclined to move about and prevent the immense scrummages of Saturday. The excitement became intense when the ball was bandied to and fro at a short distance from Hutchinson's goal line, for either side fought very well; finally, however, it was touched down by Yardley (back). He then dropped it out and by a dint of a good deal of mauling, the ball was worked down towards the Pavilion. But Tinkler then made a good run for Blake's, and after some loose scrummages, the ball passed to Tobin mi. who made a fine run in. This time Fletcher kicked a splendid goal. It was now the turn for Blake's to be penned for some little time, but a good run of Tobin ma., and some striking forward play, again took the ball into their opponents' goal. After a punt-out, there was another try at goal. No side was called soon after. For Blake's we noticed Tinkler and Tobin mi. (half-back), Tobin ma. (back), and Graham, Peel, Steven-

son as playing well. On the other side, Yardley (back) and Gordon (half-back) did great service, as also did Sidebotham, Hare, and Chapman.

ARNOLD'S v. WILSON'S.—Thursday, Nov. 21. This proved to be a very equal and well contested match, and though Wilson's were far better behind the scrummage, the forwards of the other side managed very well to prevent this advantage telling against them. Once Badger (back) made a fine run from behind the Pavilion into Arnold's goal, but before he had touched it down he ran out of the close, and so by ill-luck, spoilt the chance of a try at goal. After that Arnold's penned their opponents for some little time and finally made them touch the ball down. The forward play on both sides was good, but we especially noticed Forster, Botfield, and Cholmondeley (substitute), while Badger (back) played well. On the other side Peshall, Ralli, Montague, and Lambert (back) deserve mention.

HUTCHINSON'S v. BOWDEN SMITH'S.—This match, one of the ties of the second round, was played on Saturday, November 9th, and resulted in a victory for Hutchinson's; though the losing side played so uphill a game admirably. For the first part of the time Hutchinson's penned their adversaries, although, from time to time, the ball was impelled to the middle of the ground. Again, however, the stronger side forced it back towards Bowden Smith's goal, and when a scrummage had taken place there, Yardley gaining the ball dropped a beautiful goal. The sides then changed over, and for the rest of the time, although nothing decisive was achieved, Bowden Smith's had decidedly the best of it. Besides the goal Hutchinson's compelled their opponents to touch the ball down twice in their goal. The play on both sides in this match was very good. Those who most distinguished themselves were, for Hutchinson's, Yardley (back), Gordon (half-back), Hare (forward), and for Bowden Smith's, Rowden (forward), Gardner m. (half-back), and Gardner m. (back), notwithstanding a bad injury which he received during the match.

The XI. and XXII. match has been finished, but we are compelled to defer our account of it.

In Below Caps School House v. Hutchinson's, after a five days' match, and a goal on each side, we may allow the School House to be slightly superior; anyhow, those two

Houses are the best, and intend playing the School with 25 a-side, this (Thursday) afternoon.

THE NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

It may not have been known to unscientific readers that neither flowers nor butterflies nor birds-eggs can be conveniently collected in November; but this secret being known to the members of this Society, it had been intended to hold comparatively few meetings this term. Owing, however, to the desire of members to meet, even if the bill of fare was not very rich, it has been determined to hold a meeting every fortnight.

Accordingly, in rather striking contradiction to the unfounded report of its moribund condition, the Society has held two of its most satisfactory meetings, on the 9th and 23rd of this month.

On the 9th a paper was read by Mr. Sidgwick on the protective resemblances in insects, in which several new facts, observed by Mr. Sidgwick, were illustrated by specimens from his own collection.

On the 16th a paper was read by W. Marshall, on the floral types into which Great Britain has been divided. A numerical analysis was given of the plants of each type composing our Rugby flora. This paper led to so lengthy a discussion that several other papers were deposited.

A caterpillar, from New Zealand, was exhibited by F. C. Bayard, considered a delicacy by the natives, and liable to be attacked by a fungus, which grows out of its head to the length of a foot.

The fossil, found for the first time in all England, by R. P. Cleminshaw, in our Rugby Lias, has been commented on in the transactions of the (London) Geological Society and identified with a known Irish fossil.

An extra meeting will be held on Friday, November 29th, to receive from Mr. Hayward his present of butterflies.

RIFLE CORPS.

MATCH v. ROSSALL.—On Tuesday, October 29th, a most interesting match took place between the above corps. The Rossall XI had, about a week previously, achieved a victory over Cheltenham and Marlborough, with a good score of 250; on the present occasion, however, they surpassed themselves, making