

manifest appreciation of the spirit of the piece, and he deservedly met with warm applause. Mr. F. Tobin ma. hardly did justice to his voice in the air from Barnett's *Ancient Mariner*, "O happy living things!" owing apparently to his nervousness. In delicate part songs, such as Mendelssohn's "Primrose," the choir shows itself to least advantage. They always sing such things carefully, but as though they did not understand them, and without sprightliness and delicacy: there is room for great improvement in their rendering of such pieces. The instrumental piece—the March from Meyerbeer's *Prophète*—was received with great favour. The performers were—on the flute Mr. Leslie, on the violin Mr. Wheler, on the violincello Mr. Rowden, on the piano Messrs. E. J. Norton and Boyson. The performance of the whole party was good, but Mr. Leslie may be singled out for special notice. Pearsall's lively part song, "Who shall win my lady fair?" was very well sung by Messrs. W. Anstice, P. Hornby, Cropper, C. S. Arkcoll, Botfield, Hallsworth, W. Fletcher, and J. C. Lambert. This also met with an encore, and was certainly one of the best executed pieces of the evening, the performers evidently feeling the nature of the music, and singing accordingly. The next song on the list was Mozart's trio, "*Cori fan tutti*," which met with an encore, which it certainly deserved, although it could hardly be expected to meet with such popularity as the Laughing Trio of last Easter. "*Vive la Compagnie*" fell to Mr. F. Tobin's (ma.) lot, and very ably he acquitted himself. It was well and distinctly sung, and distinctness is the most important requisite for its success. The words were the best that could be made out of such a scarcity of events. Pearsall's arrangement of "The Hardy Norseman" went off with good spirit and in good time. "God save the Queen" then brought the musical part of the Concert to a close, and the cheering instantly began. We should have mentioned that, by the special request of the Old Rugbeians, Mr. Anstice repeated for the third time the song in which he won his first laurels last Christmas—" *Toujours gai*," and that it was, as usual, capitally sung.

Of the Concert as a whole, we need only say that it was a grand success, in the teeth of sickness, and bore the clearest marks of constant and careful work on the part of Messrs. Edwards and Pettersen, and the members of the choir. The hearty thanks of the choir, and the School generally, are due

to the Rev. Charles Smith, who, since he came to Rugby, has not only done his best to help the singing in chapel, but has played the piano accompaniments to all the sacred music at our Concerts, in what manner it is needless to say.

While we are speaking of the School music, we feel tempted to make one or two remarks about the singing in chapel. No Old Rugbeian can fail to be struck with the immense improvement in the singing there of late years, but it is still far from being up to the mark of our Concert singing, and there are many shortcomings that a little determination on the part of the choir would go far towards removing. One fault that is noticeable is the absence of any recognised leader in the intoning and singing. Ought it not to be the duty of the head of the choir? If nobody were to begin till they heard the note pitched by him, the *decani* and *cantoris* might get through the confession together, on one and the same note, oftener perhaps than they do now. Then the hymns are sung too slowly, though that is more a matter of personal taste. But on the third point surely no one will differ with us: The want of tone and life in the responses to the commandments is a disgrace to the whole musical service. Intoning has once, and, so far as we can discover, only once, been heard in Rugby Chapel,—on the Tercentenary Celebration. What the choir did so well then we are tempted to imagine they might do now if they would only try. It is true that the chapel is a very bad place for sound, and that must cause a great deal of the heaviness of the style of singing, and disinclination to try to sing, but if some twenty of the best voices in the choir would make an arrangement to carry on the singing in chapel as vigorously as they do in the music school; if they would sing and intone every word of the service that required singing or intoning, the whole body of the choir would probably quickly follow their example, and Rugby might very shortly have just cause to be quite as proud of its chapel service as it now is of its psalm chanting and its concerts.

On Thursday last Mr. Bonamy Price was elected Professor of Political Economy at Oxford. Mr. Price came as an Assistant Master at Rugby in 1830, under Dr. Arnold.

Mr. George Melly, an Old Rugbeian well known as the author of "The experiences of a Fag," is spoken of as a Parliamentary candidate for Liverpool at the next election.

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

A Meeting of this Society, chiefly for private business, was held on Feb. 8th.

The Officers elected for the year are F. E. Kitchener, President; G. B. Longstaff, Secretary; and H. C. Reader, Treasurer.

A Committee was appointed to edit some of the papers read, and lists prepared, in the past year.

Lefroy (Burrows') was elected a Member, and J. Armitage (Wilson's) and Curry (Burrows') Associates.

The President read a paper on what the Society has done in the past year.

Two cases of Indian insects were presented by E. J. Norton, and some rare Lepidoptera by the Rev. A. Wratlslaw (O.R.) of Bury St. Edmunds'.

The most interesting exhibition was that of a vertebra from Hillmorton—the first Saurian bone from that locality. Certain nodules had been found there last Term, which had been shown, by an analysis made by the Secretary, to be coprolites; and Mr. Wilson had predicted, at the last Meeting, that the discovery of bones would soon follow that of the coprolites. Accordingly a vertebra has been found there, by J. M. Lester, during the holidays.

The Society will meet on the 22nd inst., at 7.45, at Mr. N. Hutchinson's, for the exhibition of microscopic objects.

THE "TWO HOUSE MATCH."

THIS match, always looked forward to with the greatest interest by Old Rugbeians, was played, as far as play was possible, on Saturday, December 21. The fine weather, which had favoured us for the greater part of the Term, had now forsaken us, and a more miserable day for such an important match could not be conceived. The state of the ground rendered science and running impossible, and sheer weight told its inevitable tale. For the Two Houses Cordery, Novelli, Tobin ma., and Brocklebank played back; Haslam, Gwatkin, and W. R. Collyer half-back. The School had Yates, Rutter, Green, and Fryer back, and Holmes and Ellis half-back. Out of so many good players forward, it would be difficult to select those who distinguished themselves most, but we noticed Thompson, Bischoff, and Clayton for the Two Houses, and Verelst and Bennett for the School, more particularly. W. R. Collyer unfortunately met with an accident during the match,

which prevented his playing more; up to this time, however, he had shown himself to play as he did of old. The School obtained a try at goal and two or three touches down.

The two victorious House Twenties were as follows:—

School House. CAPS.	Blake's. CAPS.
J. S. Masterman.	A. B. Haslam.
W. O. Moberly.	J. Graham.
W. W. Fowler.	W. E. Stevenson.
A. Davenport.	A. Gray.
C. W. Kennedy.	F. Tobin, ma.
F. G. Cholmondeley.	H. P. Hornby.
J. T. Soutter.	F. Tobin, mi.
G. R. Westfeldt.	J. Penrose.
E. Morris.	W. Fletcher.
E. S. Ormerod.	E. Peel.
W. Warner.	A. S. Reynolds.
A. H. Hudson.	J. M. Dugdale.
E. Field.	
W. Stunt.	C. B. Stuart Wortley.
A. Sidgwick.	J. Tinkler.
	C. H. Clark.
E. Ingram.	W. E. Barratt.
W. N. Senior.	F. Barker.
C. Sidgwick.	R. Bassett.
W. F. Gooding.	
A. Lyon.	F. H. Lemonius.
	Hon. S. Parker.
G. C. Vecqueray.	

The Two Houses for the last six years were—

1862.	1.	Rev. L. F. Burrows'.
	2.	Rev. C. E. Moberly's.
1863.	1.	Rev. T. W. Jex Blake's.
		School House.
1864.	1.	School House.
	2.	Rev. T. W. Jex Blake's.
1865.	1.	School House.
	2.	Rev. T. W. Jex Blake's.
1866.	1.	Rev. C. T. Arnold's.
		Rev. C. B. Hutchinson's.
1867.	1.	School House.
	2.	Rev. T. W. Jex Blake's.

BIGSIDE LEVEE.

At a Bigside Levée, last week, it was proposed by Mr. Masterman, seconded by Mr. Bucknill, that there be one compulsory bigside a week this Term, in Reynolds' field. An amendment moved by Mr. Graham and seconded by Mr. Yardley, that the bigside be voluntary, was carried by a small majority. It was then proposed that there be one compulsory and one voluntary bigside a week, which motion was lost.

Mr. Masterman, seconded by Mr. Rowden, then proposed that Messrs. Soutter and Yardley be Stewards of the Athletic Games. The Stewards for the year, therefore, are J. S. Masterman, Head of the School; S. P.