



The Meteor.

Edited by Members of Rugby School.

No. 14.

RUGBY, MARCH 5th, 1868.

[With Extra Sheet, Price 6d.]

MUCH as has been said about the Fives Courts and the system by which they are engaged for play, until we were favoured by a happy thought on the subject by "A Fives Player," we cannot say that we had before us any beneficial measure of reform. The first we heard of the question was from "Hillmorton," who merely brought the subject into notice in rather a round about style, without giving any definite plan for amendment. Our next correspondent stood up as the champion of the would-be injured House, very proud that his House has not so many sixth fellows as Blake's, and so many students of Natural Science as Wilson's; and what devotion does he boast of for his House, but that they are more addicted to voluntary games? But we are afraid his argument does not go for much when we reflect that all Houses have the same opportunities of excelling in School; all may study Natural Science; the Sixth of all Houses may make Football compulsory; but Hand-fives and Ends after dinner are restricted to Arnold's, whenever they please to play them. Again, we are not aware that Arnold's excell all other Houses in Racquets, that is a voluntary game? No, for the Racquet Court is not a monopoly of theirs. They are not enormously superior to other Houses in running, are they? No, for all Houses have the same opportunities of excelling in that line. Yes, and there are other voluntary games, in which other Houses can hold their own; but in Cricket and Hand Fives Arnold's certainly have greater opportunities for excelling. The very fact that the House is in the Close, and that it is but a step to the Fives Courts and just a step to

the Ends, gives and will always give them slight advantages in those games. But surely because their House is near the Fives Courts there can be no reason why they should be further favoured by a monopoly of these Courts. Judging from his arguments it would be impossible to think that our correspondent ever got so high in the School as the Sixth, unless he himself had given us the information.

And now we come to a third correspondent's ("A. M.") views on the subject; a most elaborate composition, all the *pros* and *cons* classified evidently to his entire satisfaction. The idea of going solemnly down to the School Bath and starting up the hill in all directions, is very ludicrous. But even this would be preferable to the existing system.

And now our eye rests on still another epistle, that of "H. J.," which we publish. A staunch unyielding Tory must he be. "It is a custom, and why should we abolish it?" But again he says "it has worked very well." May we reply, if the custom be a bad one, remove it; and assuredly this custom is an unfair one to all the other Houses but Arnold's.

The best proposal undoubtedly is that by "A Fives Player," whose chief plan is to have a slate, as for the Racquet Court. Surely this is a good plan. Could not a slate be kept at the Racquet Court, with the Fives Courts for that day and the following, and let the Courts be taken at Diver's as the Racquet Court. The chief and great advantage of this would be that nearly every one