

THE NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

A Meeting of the Society was held for the exhibition of Microscopic objects on February 22nd. Mr. T. N. Hutchinson kindly lent his drawing-room for the evening, and made a short address on Microscopes, dwelling especially on their polarizing apparatus. Microscopic objects were exhibited by Messrs. Wilson, Hutchinson, Robertson, Kitchener, E. J. Norton, and F. R. Smith.

A frog under the action of ether was exhibited to show the circulation of the blood. The frog is reported to be doing well since the operation.

A change was made in the method of electing members; the ballot is not to be used, but names are to be submitted to a committee for election. H. G. Wauton, J. P. Baynes, W. H. Pike, M. W. E. De Bunsen, and E. J. Norton were elected members.

J. H. Davies has been appointed Secretary.

The property of the Society is at present kept at Mr. Kitchener's, where members have access to it on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays, between 2 and 6.

A meeting will be held on March 7th, in Sixth School at quarter to eight, when papers are promised by Mr. Wilson, "on the Victoria Works;" and by J. H. Davies, "on Sensitive Plants."

On March 21st, a paper will be read by G. F. Helm, Esq., "On the circulation of the blood."

R. S. R. C.

It may interest some to hear what is at present contemplated with regard to the organization of the Rifle Corps. We hope to receive official permission from the War Office this week to be enrolled. As two permanent Officers are required to command the Corps, Mr. J. S. Philpotts, whom we would here thank for the great interest he has always taken in the Corps, has kindly taken on him the arduous duty of Captain, and Mr. H. Lee Warner has taken the post of Lieutenant. We can at present only muster 63 members over 17 years of age, but hope that we shall soon see the numbers swell.

The Cadet Corps will remain on exactly the same footing as hitherto; it numbers

about 60, so that at present we have 120 members in the Rifle Corps.

The question of a New Range is still undecided, but it is hoped that something definite will be settled by the end of the month.

We have great pleasure in recording a victory as the result of the first expedition made by the Corps this year. On Saturday, Feb. 22, a team went over to visit the Coventry Corps, and notwithstanding the hurricane that was blowing, succeeded in making a very creditable score. Fewer misses should have been made at the 200 yards' range, but at the longer distance the shooting was considerably improved. The Coventry Corps were hardly in their usual form, or we should probably have a different tale to tell; as it is, however, the R. S. R. V. may congratulate themselves heartily on having achieved a victory over such cracks. Score:—

THE SCHOOL.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	Tl.
Captain Tobin.....	32324	14	34203 12—26
Sergeant Humphry	23342	14	24233 14—28
Corporal Penrose	42232	13	33223 13—26
“ Botfield	22023	9	22230 9—18
Lnce.-Corp. Chaplin	02404	10	03304 10—20
“ “ Stuart Wortley	20433	12	00423 9—21
“ “ Whiting	33333	15	r2324 11—26
Private A. N. Other	23223	12	30233 11—23
Totals....	99		87 188

COVENTRY.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	Tl.
Lieutenant Blake	42433	16	42r24 12—28
Corporal Wilsby.....	23220	9	0rrr3 3—12
“ Tillet	22233	12	00030 8—15
“ Butler.....	23323	13	023r3 8—21
Private J. Wilson	22334	14	23230 10—24
“ W. Truslove	42332	14	3r034 10—24
“ T. Howard.....	23023	10	02332 10—20
Corporal Beamish	22333	13	02024 8—21
Totals..	101		64 165

The sun was shining brightly the whole time, and the wind blowing a hurricane from left to right.

The Baldwin Challenge Cup was competed for on Thursday, February 27th. We are glad to see that some fresh blood has been infused into the Corps, and the old members of the XI. will have to work hard to hold their own against such shooting as won the Cup on Thursday. The day was bitterly cold, and the wind very strong from left to right. The winner, Corporal Botfield, made an excellent score of 40 at the three ranges,

five shots at each; Sergeant Humphry being second, Bugler Whiting third, and Captain Tobin fourth. On both these occasions Wimbledon targets and scoring were used.

A match against the Town Corps for the possession of the Town and School Challenge Cup is settled for Monday next, March 9th.

BIG-SIDE LEVEES.

A Big-Side Levee was held on Saturday, February 22nd, when the following business was transacted:—

Mr. Masterman, seconded by Mr. Bucknill, proposed that the Athletic Games be on March and .—Carried *nem. con.*

Mr. Masterman, seconded by Mr. Yardley, proposed that, in order to improve the time in which the mile race was run, it should this year be run on a road.—Carried *nem. con.*

Mr. Rowden, seconded by Mr. Yardley, proposed that, in order to promote the game of Eton Hand-fives, for which the School had been presented with two courts by several of the Masters, there be a School prize for Double Eton Hand-fives.—Carried *nem. con.*

Mr. Gray, seconded by Mr. Yardley, proposed that the Double Racquets and Double Hand-fives no longer count towards the Cup, since individual merit could be shown by getting first or second in the Single. Mr. Masterman, seconded by Mr. Graham, opposed. There was a majority for the motion, but there being a dispute whether or not two-thirds were required, the question was postponed till a future Levee.

Another Levee was held on the following Tuesday, when Mr. Masterman withdrew his opposition to the aforesaid motion, and it was consequently passed.

Mr. Bucknill, seconded by Mr. Yardley, proposed that Cricket should be played in the Close on Saturday, March 7th.—Carried *nem. con.*

Mr. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Masterman, proposed that the fine of one shilling for absence from Big-Side should be abolished, in order that motions might not be carried by those who neither knew or cared for what was being proposed; and that the Levee might be composed of those who were really interested in the motions. Mr. Rowden,

seconded by Mr. Yardley, opposed, and the motion was lost by a considerable majority.

Mr. Masterman, seconded by Mr. Rowden, proposed that all the motions to be proposed at Big-Side Levees be sent in at least the day before.—Carried *nem. con.*

BIG-SIDE PAPER CHASES.

This is *par excellence* the season for runners. There have been three Big-Side Paper Chases, besides many undertaken by the different Houses. The first took place on Thursday, Feb. 13th, and was well attended. The hares were Scott and Eddis, who laid scent round by Tripontium and Clifton, and home by Clifton road. The scent, however, was not followed by the hounds, who took a new line of country for themselves.—The second was run on Monday, Feb. 17, for which there was a large meet. The hares, Scott and Gordon, started at the Rev. C. B. Hutchinson's, and after going along Barby Road for a little way, struck across by Bilton and Dunchurch, to Caldecott's Spinney; from thence through Newbold and up to the town, arriving at the School gates. The hounds, from some cause, did not arrive until shortly before locking-up.—The third was on Feb. 22. The hares this time were Scott and Tubb. The course was from Whitehall, by Hillmorton to Lilbourne, thence to Calthorpe and Tripontium, and home by Clifton. These Paper Chases evidently are of good, if they do but lead fellows to train for the long races, and deserve every support if they do not come off the same day as the weekly football Big-Side.

FOOTBALL.

There have been several voluntary Big-Sides, which, chiefly owing to the superior attractions of Running, Racquets, and Fives, have been thinly attended. The first match was Barby *v.* Hillmorton, which was won by Hillmorton by two goals to none, the first being kicked by Scutter, and the second by Westfeldt. The Three B.'s *v.* the School was then begun, in which the School kicked a goal.

On Saturday a match was played against a team brought down by J. E. Lloyd (Trinity, Cambridge). When all had arrived,