

Meteor, of the above Society, to which our best wishes are due, for its success and permanence.

The Society was constituted last term, when the following officers and members were elected:—A. Sidgwick, President; A. B. Haslam, Vice-President; W. O. Moberly, Secretary. *Members*: F. H. Baring, J. Eastwick, A. Scott, C. W. Kennedy, W. Warner, C. H. Lomax, D. B. Wilson, C. B. Stuart Wortley, S. Garrett, T. S. Plumb, H. W. Peake, J. E. H. Mackinlay, W. Shirley, J. H. Davies, E. P. Arnold, J. C. Hannen, H. M. Tobin, M. W. E. De Bunsen, A. H. F. Lefroy, W. E. Kough, H. G. Wauton, J. M. Lester, H. Riley, H. F. Lester, E. J. Norton, E. Peel, C. K. Francis, H. W. Gardner.

It meets every Saturday (at present) at 2.20, in the Library, for Debate, and by the existing rules each member may introduce one Visitor (including Ladies) into the debating room, while the gallery is thrown open to the Public.

On Saturday, 23rd January, 1869, the Society met for the First Debate.

Mr. Haslam moved, "That it is the Duty of England to give up Gibraltar," and in his speech appealed mainly to arguments of justice. Mr. Baring, who followed on the same side, dwelt chiefly on the expediency of cession.

Mr. Eastwick in an exhaustive speech, enriched with much fertility of illustration, opposed the motion, and was seconded by Mr. Moberly. The President, vacating the chair, argued briefly on the same side. The Honourable Opposer and Opener having replied. On a division the votes were:—

For the motion	6
Against	20

Majority against the motion 14

There were 16 visitors present, among whom we noticed Mr. Papillon.

On Saturday, 30th January, 1869, Mr. Eastwick opened the Second Debate with the motion;—"That Capital Punishment for overt political crime is on the whole just."

The Speakers were—

For the motion	Against
Mr. Eastwick.	Mr. Shirley.
Mr. Stuart Wortley.	Mr. Lee Warner.

Mr. Eastwick's thorough and persuasive argument, met, as it was, by Mr. Shirley in a speech of much fire and enthusiasm, made the Debate a most vivacious and interesting

one. If we might find any fault at all, it is that the Society seems rather unduly chary of applause.

The Society was honoured by the presence of Miss Temple, Miss C. Temple, Mrs. Lee Warner, Mrs. Powlett, Mrs. Jex Blake, Mr. Robertson, Mr. Lee Warner, Mr. Ingram (O.R.), Mr. H. S. Kynnersley (O.R.), Mr. Eyton (O.R.), and 13 others, besides several gentlemen in the gallery.

On a division, there voted

For the motion	16
Against	5

Majority for the motion 11

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

The First Meeting of this Society was held on Saturday, Jan. 23rd. Mr. Kitchener was re-elected President, and J. H. Davies Secretary, for the ensuing year.

After a review of the proceedings of the Society in 1868, and a statement of its finances, had been made by the President, a paper was read by J. Armitage, "On the Inmates of a Rugby pond." The frog, the toad, and the newt were the inmates selected for notice.

C. T. Clough then read a paper "On the recent discoveries in Aerial Infusoria."

A box of rare Scotch Moths has been presented by Mr. Longstaff, corresponding member of the Society.

It was announced that the last report might now be obtained from the officers of the Society at the reduced price of 1s.; and that J. H. Davies and J. M. Lester had been appointed to edit the next report.

The Second Meeting was held on Saturday, January 30th, at which Mr. Lloyd (O.R.), who has been sent down by the Government to report on the Gravels of the Avon, was present.

A paper by E. Cleminshaw, "On the Gravel Deposits of the neighbourhood of Rugby," was read by the Secretary, and gave rise to some conversation. Mr. Wilson has found reason to differ from several inferences in Mr. Cleminshaw's paper, and his reasons will appear in the new report. Mr. Lloyd spoke of the appearance of the Gravels of the Lower Avon, and gave some practical hints.

Mr. Wilson exhibited some butterflies, lent for exhibition by Mr. Swanzy, of Lee, Kent,

in which the females were protected from being eaten by birds, by their strong resemblance to a certain quite different and uneatable butterfly (*Danais*), and further were found to have far different forms, so as always to resemble the one of four distinct species of *Danais* found in this district.

G. Darbshire was elected an Associate.

The next Meeting will be on February 20th, at which papers will be read,—by J. M. Lester, on a Geological subject, and by N. Masterman, “On English snakes, and the slow-worm.”

THE RIFLE CORPS.

Target practice has been carried on with spirit this Term, but the shooting has not yet quite recovered the ground lost in the holidays. On Tuesday, the 26th, Mr. Baldwin's Challenge Cup was shot for by a larger number of Competitors than usual, and was won by Private Lawson with 35 points,—Lance-Corpl. Dudgeon being second, and Private Tobin third. The day was cold, with a slight wind blowing across the Range from left to right.

It was decided last Term that the Wimbledon Eleven should in future be made up by a Committee. For this year the Committee will consist of Ensign Humphry, Sergt. Stuart Wortley, and Corpl. Peel.

The new Range does not progress as rapidly as might have been desired. It would seem that the Contractors have supplied us with very inferior concrete, which has been condemned by the engineer, and which they will be obliged to replace with better. The weather at this time is unfavourable for the work, which at any time is placed at a disadvantage by the absence of a proper road for the conveyance of materials.

However we still hope to have the Butts completed and ready for use in time to have plenty of practice there before Wimbledon.

Owing to the departure of several of the Non-commissioned Officers, there has been considerable promotion in the Corps. The list is as follows:—Quarter-Master Sergt. Eastwick, Sergeants Stuart Wortley, Mackinlay, Reynolds; Corporals Chaplin, Peel, Davies; Lance-Corporals Courtenay, De Bunsen, Dudgeon, and Riley. The post of Colour-Sergeant still remains to be filled.

The following are the members still remaining of last year's Wimbledon Eleven:—Ensign Humphry, Sergt. Stuart Wortley, Corpl. Peel, and Lance-Corpl. Courtenay.

THE SCHOOL CONCERT.

In spite of the large number of active and influential members of the Choir that left at the end of the Summer Term, the above event, which took place on the 16th of December last, may be safely said to have gone off very satisfactorily. The performance opened with Dr. Elvey's Christmas anthem, “Arise, shine,” which was well given, and was followed by Crotch's beautifully devotional quartet, “Comfort the soul,” sung with very good taste and feeling by Messrs. Mason, Grisewood, Paile, and P. Westfeldt. After the anthem “Behold, how good and joyful” (Dr. C. Whitfield), in which a pretty duet by Messrs. Anstice and Trevelyan gave great pleasure, the latter gentleman sang, with pleasing and unaffected simplicity, the Evening Prayer from Costa's *Eli*. The Choral trio from *huth* followed (which possessed greater interest from the presence of its composer); and then the First Part of the Concert was closed by Spohr's impressive, though somewhat intricate Psalm, “O bless'd for ever.” The choruses of the latter were given well and evenly, in spite of the great difficulty of the laboured passages with which Spohr's choral works abound, and the quartet parts were well sustained. Mr. Anstice sang the graceful *aria*, with wonderful success, in spite of perceptible diminution in his power of voice.

The Second Part opened with the vigorous and cheery Christmas chorus “Up, brothers, up,” which was greeted with warm applause; and then Messrs. Mason and Grisewood sang Smart's lovely duet, “The Shepherd's Bell,” in such a way that the audience, who had already been more than once vacillating, so to speak, on the brink of an *encore*, gave vent to their pleasure by a warm and decided demand for a repetition, which was accordingly granted. After the part-song “'Tis May upon the mountain” had been given, Mr. Grisewood sang, with a pure and even *mezzo-soprano* voice, Mr. Goodman's “He that loves a rosie cheeke,” in such an agreeable and graceful way as to elicit a more enthusiastic *encore* than the former one. The instrumental performance which followed was a selection from Schubert's “Heroic Marches;” and contained a new feature in the shape of a drum, played with “spirit and precision” by Mr. Leggatt. The band received also great and praiseworthy assistance from Mr. A. W. Rowden (O.R.), who arrived, safe from the perils of “Smalls,”