

Something more we had to say, but we will reserve it for another time. We hope on some future occasion to replace this negative defence by one more positive. But one thing we think that we have proved. If Big-side Levée be indeed plagued with the great

plagues of worthlessness and incapacity, our Correspondent has neither discovered the causes nor the remedies of those plagues, nor has he devised an assembly which shall be exempt from their influence.

### DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

Solutions of the below may be sent to *Tait and Tait*, Booksellers, Rugby.

While we faintly still bemoan her, hope erroneous, visionary,  
Lightning flash, *The New Rugbeian*, only to leave the darkness darker ;  
We with brightness duller, steadier, will dispel it.  
Ah ! you know us ! hush then ! *tête-a-tête* pray tell it.

1. { Forget me not, some token dear,  
{ Parting with but love, not fear.
2. { A sprite,  
{ A light,  
{ Unearthly being quite.
3. { To fast ones quadruped, well—yes—a pleasure,  
{ And fast ones biped in immoderate measure.
4. { A twice told tale, a weariness monotonous,  
{ A much too frequently inflicted lot on us.
5. { Allopathists and homœopathists  
{ To work their cures my potent charm assists.
6. { The moving point of courtly strife  
{ Between imperial man and wife.

### THE ATHLETIC GAMES.

April 8th and 9th.

The Athletic Games took place on the appointed days, in spite of the roughness and inclemency of the weather ; it was scarcely to be expected that the *Meteor* would err in a prophecy which related in any way to the state of the atmosphere, and the benefit of the arrangement of Big-side was deeply felt upon the very windy and unpleasant morning of Tuesday last. The Stewards were F. W. Haslam, J. A. Ormerod, B. Pauncefote, and C. H. Vivian.

FIRST DAY.—The Sports began soon after Twelve o'clock.

I.—Flat Race, 200 Yards, open to all ; winners of Heats, Bevor, Gardner, Jeffery, Steward ; winner of Final Heat, Gardner, (Rev. P. B. Smith's) ; 2, Pauncefote, (Rev. C. T. Arnold's). This race was rather easily and very prettily won. Pauncefote and Haslam ran only in the Final Heat, having been required to start the Heats.

II.—Flat Race, 200 Yards, open to all under 5 feet 7 inches, Winners of Heats,

Badger, Crofts, Delarue, Gardner, Layton, Ringrose.

III.—Throwing a Cricket Ball came next. This was won by Gardner, with a throw of 95 yards ; Yardley was second, Harrison third.

IV.—Standing Jumping. The following entered :—Allen, Farr, Gardner, Harrison, Haslam, Pauncefote, Sykes, Yardley. This was well contested by Farr, Gardner, and Pauncefote ; but Farr failed, and Gardner (Rev. P. B. Smith's), Pauncefote (Rev. C. T. Arnold's) were equal first ; height 4 feet  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

V.—Mile Race :—Bailey, Becke, Fletcher, Gretton, Gwatkin, Hall, Milner, Paine, Richardson, and Scott, entered for what was supposed to be the first Heat ; but it was afterwards found that none of the Second came up to the scratch. Becke made the running at first, and led for some distance ; after some time Scott passed him, and both soon gave way to Hall and Richardson ; Richardson got the lead by a good spurt, but within 25 yards of the end he was passed by Hall. 1, Hall (Rev. C. B. Hutchinson's) ;

2, Richardson (Rev. C. E. Moberly's); 3, Becke (Rev. C. B. Hutchinson's); time 5 minutes 23 1-5th seconds. The time would probably have been shorter in a Final Heat.

VI.—The Heats for the Half-mile Flat Race were then run. The first was won rather easily by Becke. The second was a very good race: Kough led for the first two rounds, but Hall and Gwatkin passed him, Hall ahead until close to the end, when Gwatkin put on a very good spurt, and passed him at the post. The third Heat was won easily by Bucknill, with Paine second.

VII.—The High Jumping under 5ft. 2in. was then begun, and the number that entered had been greatly thinned when a violent shower of rain and hail came on, which drove every one to shelter, and quite spoiled the ground for jumping. Anderson mi. was jumping very well. When the shower stopped, nothing could be done but Throwing at the Wicket, which was won by Gemmell, with Tobin mi. and Steward equal second. As another shower came on, and it was very cold, this was the last thing on Tuesday, though it was finished a little past five o'clock.

SECOND DAY.—The sports began this morning at 12 o'clock, with the conclusion of the 5 feet 2 inches High Jump; the result was 1, Perfect, who cleared 4 feet 6 inches, but was disqualified as being over height, and Anderson (Rev. C. B. Hutchinson's), Lucy, mi., (Rev. L. F. Burrows's), were declared equal first; height 4 feet 5 inches. This height far exceeds any of the last few years.

Bright's High Jump.—Entries: Allen, Botfield, Farr, Fitzgerald, Harrison, Johnston, Millington, Yardley; winner, Fitzgerald (Town), 5 ft. 1 in.; second, Allen (Rev. C. T. Arnold's), Millington (Town). This height was also far better than usual.

200 Yards, open to all under 5 ft. 2 inches; winners of Heats, (Anstey, Anderson), Campbell, Parton, Southam; winner of Final Heat, Southam, (Rev. C. E. Moberly's); 2, Anstey, (Rev. P. B. Smith's).

Bright's Flat Race, 100 Yards:—Winners of Heats, Badger, Bucknill, Gardner, Jeffery, and Ringrose. Winner of Final Heat, Gardner (Rev. P. B. Smith's); 2nd, Pauncefote (Rev. C. T. Arnold's).

Broad Jumping.—Only 10 came to the scratch. Millington ma., 1; Fitzgerald ma., 2; distance, 17 ft. 6 in.

Flat Race, 100 yards.—The winners of Heats were Badger, Bucknill, Gardner. In the Deciding Heat, Haslam and Pauncefote

also ran, and the result was—1, Gardner; 2, Pauncefote. Won easily by two yards; time, 11 seconds.

High Jumping, under 5 ft. 6 in.—This was unusually good, the height being the same as the open one last year. 1, Hall; 2, Perfect and Lyon equal; height, 4 ft. 9 in.

200 Yards, under 5 ft. 2 in., Deciding Heat. Southam drew away from the rest at the path, and won as he liked; 2, Anstey.

Hurdle Race, over 8 Hurdles, under 5 feet 7 inches.—The winners of Heats were:—Badger, Crofts, Fletcher, ma., Gwatkin, Ingram, Jeffery, Macmillan, ma., Peshall, Ringrose, Sidgwick, Sykes, and Warner, ma. The Final Heat was won easily by Harrison; 2nd., Jeffery.

Hurdle Race over 12 Hurdles, open to all.—The winners of Heats were:—Allen, Arbuthnot, Champneys, mi., Gardner, Harrison, Haslam, ma., Ingram, Peshall, Sidgwick, Steward, Sykes, and Yardley. The Final Heat was won by Gardner; 2nd., Harrison.

Half-Mile Hurdle Race, (given by C. E. Marshall, Esq.).—The First Heat easily won by Bucknill, Botfield 2nd. Second Heat:—Gwatkin, 1st.; Kough 2nd. Third Heat:—Paine, ma., 1st.; Rowden 2nd. Fourth Heat:—Sykes, 1st.; Reynolds 2nd. Final Heat, easily won by Bucknill; a good race for second between Botfield and Gwatkin, won by the latter by about a yard.

Putting the Stone, Flat Race, Quarter of a Mile, and Consolation Stakes were to have been run on Thursday, but are postponed to Saturday, on account of the weather.

## BIG-SIDE STEEPLE CHASES.

The annual School Steeple-chases took place, somewhat later than usual, on Saturday, April 6th. Owing to the grievances and complaints which have been raised, through one medium or another, about the absurdity of the old course, the Athletic Stewards, great in their promptitude for reform, struck out a new course, adopting one similar to the one that was given by the masters, and caused such a very good race in 1865. It consisted chiefly of hedge jumps, of moderate difficulty, but was well varied by water jumps of the old style. Bucknill led during the whole race, and obtained a very neat victory; Gwatkin was a good second, but could scarcely have held out in a much longer race; Rowden was third; Botfield, fourth. In the race open to all under 5 feet