



The Meteor.

Edited by Members of Rugby School.

No. 16.

RUGBY, APRIL 11th, 1868.

Price 6d.

MANY are the regrets that are and will be felt at the news that the School Choir do not intend to close this Term with a Concert. The Easter Concert last year was a novelty, but it was decidedly successful. The audience, aware that it was owing in a great measure to private enterprise, were less inclined than ever to be over-critical; the performers were more than ever (if possible) interested in the success of the evening; and how happy the selections of those who drew up the programme were, was shown by the frantic calls with which some of the pieces then given were re-demanded at the next Concert. Yet it has been decided by one who certainly never shows any lack of interest in the School Concerts, that the Choir had better not repeat on this occasion the effort of last year, and reserve all their energies for their appearance at the end of July. " 'Tis an ill wind:" and if Musical Old Rugbeians and Rugby visitors are sorry, we can at any rate feel a little pleasure at the thought that the end of the Term will for once come to MR. EDWARDS without the anxiety which such times must inevitably bring.

In the meantime, however, it is evident the Choir will do best in concentrating all its trouble upon improving the Chapel singing. They have worked so hard that a little praise will not be out of place, and we are not ashamed to tell them that a few Sundays ago their performance in Chapel was pronounced by a competent critic to be far superior to that at a certain other public school which prides itself especially on its musical talent. Still, as a certain poet has aptly remarked—

"*Excelsior!*" There remains much to be done before we can take quite the top of the tree. Certainly the monotone has been much better kept up for the last few Sundays, and we hope this improvement may increase.

If we may consider the question of the introduction of Anthems into our Chapel service to be a legitimate subject for discussion, we should like to express an opinion on their behalf. The chief objection which is made to them is, we believe, that they would be uncongregational, and to be congregational is the first requisite of our service. It must be remembered, however, that our limited time would prevent our learning more than two or three at the most, and these very simple full ones; and these would, after being once or twice sung, become as well known to the congregation as the hymn tunes now in use. The strongest argument in their favour seems the need of variety in the present half-dozen hymn tunes now repeated so often: until the long-expected new hymn-book comes surely an Anthem or two would be a great boon.

We have said above that as there is no Concert now, the Choir can reserve all its energy for its summer appearance. Let us hope this will be so in another branch of the Musical Service, *i.e.*, the Instrumentals. Cheer up, ye violinos and ye double bassos, and put your respective shoulders to the wheel! To use a rather hackneyed argument—If Harrow has at all its Concerts its instrumental band of 20 or so performers, why should not Rugby have the same?

Let the Instrumental Overture at the be-

gining, and the Band and Chorus united at the end, become regular features at our School Concerts.

THERE is no point, it has been remarked, in which the difference between the national characters of the French and English is more clearly seen than in their respective methods of conferring personal distinctions. The French soldier who had entered the redoubt in the teeth of the enemy's guns in the Crimean war, was marched out, and, in the presence of his admiring comrades and re-echoing cheers, decorated with some cross resplendent with gold or silver. The English soldier, on the contrary, who had entered the redoubt at his side with the blood streaming all the while from his wounded arm, was told, perhaps after the lapse of three or four months, that it had pleased His Grace the Commander-in-Chief to award him the sum of £5, as a reward for personal bravery. Certainly, at Rugby, we give the national spirit its freest scope. The majority of the prizes which the School gives are presented with no plaudits from surrounding multitudes: represented, indeed, by nothing more than an insignificant bit of paper. Of course the English system has its advantages. It is well, if we can bring ourselves to it, to be satisfied with an inner consciousness of having acquitted ourselves well: better, perhaps, than to be the object of the envy and admiration of a crowd. But public presentations have an undeniable value in their effect upon the bystanders, and seem a very fair way of increasing the worth of the prize itself.

We have made these remarks because we wish to complain of what seems to us a want in our Athletic Games. We consider that, for many reasons, a public presentation of the athletic cup would be an advantage. To institute a presentation of the whole number of the prizes at the Athletics would seem, perhaps, too much of a reform, and might be open to other objections. But we cannot help considering that it would be a good thing if the winner of the School cup were, at the close of the games, publicly proclaimed, by being publicly presented with his prize. There seems an especial fitness in a public presentation after an athletic contest such as this.

There would be also a decided advantage, independently of the other advantages we have indicated in our remarks above, in the

fact that in that way the winner of the cup would always be *known*. The first thing that a visitor to our Athletics hears of is that there is a cup which the winner of the most races, &c., holds for the year, and on which his name is engraved. But in very many cases it happens now the visitors at our Athletics separate without the most remote knowledge of who is the hero of the day: not because they do not care to know, but because it is very hard to find anyone who can give the required information. This seems, at the least, unsatisfactory.

Of course, to do this, there must be no casual dropping or placing to wait for; no hand-fives unfinished as yet, which may alter the decision of the two days' games. But this would seem, undoubtedly, an additional gain.

Perhaps some one of the Committee which is now sitting to discuss the Athletic rules will give a thought to these suggestions. For our own part we can see no reason why, except in cases of very bad weather, the cup should not be exhibited in front of the pavilion, and presented to the winner at the close of the games. Surely this would be an improvement on the present system, by which it is only about a twentieth part of the School who have ever seen the cup, and by which the winner very often never receives his prize till several months after the time of his successes.

THE Cricket Season has already commenced, and a fortnight's beautiful weather has greatly assisted the coaching given by two excellent professionals. So far as we can yet judge, the prospects of the Eleven are all that could be desired. Last year only one of the preceding year's team was left, and a very good Public School Eleven was formed out of new material: this year no less than seven survive. In those who have left we have to regret the best cricketer we have had for many years, our left-hand bowler, and two excellent batsmen. These losses seem great: but we must remember that at this time last year that Eleven was thought much below the standard excellence, and that many who ran up long scores in the close and at Lord's, at the end of the season, were in the spring deficient in style, and ignorant of defence. Fielding is well represented; batting is well represented; bowling, perhaps, is our weakest point at present. We have no doubt, however, that this will

prove satisfactory as the season progresses. Rugby will have no left-handed bowler to do battle against Marlborough; a fact which may be taken by some as a slight omen of success for our antagonist. The Marlborough match is, this year, to be played on our ground. This is, doubtless, a matter of great rejoicing to the School in general, as it is not in the power of all to see the match when played on a London ground. With fine weather, we may look forward to a most pleasant match. We only hope our Eleven will not be put out by any feeling of nervousness at playing so important a match in the presence of the whole School.

WHATEVER value a study may possess from the fact that it is interesting, it is certain that this value the upholders of Scientific Education may urge on behalf of the studies they wish to introduce.

As long as we are ignorant of the fact that there are fields of knowledge and research so wide as those of geology or botany, or zoology, or, at any rate, as long as we are forgetful of the fact, we can remain satisfied with polishing our Latin prose, or hammering out the last particle of idea in a line of Sophocles; but when we become enlightened, it can only be with a kind of pang that we return to what fate has determined must be our course of study. We have been favoured by the courtesy of the President with the report of the Natural History Society for the past year. The Editors apologise for appearing so soon before the public. No apology that ever appeared on a title-page was more unneeded. The R.S.N.H.S. may not have been in existence very long: but it has been in existence long enough to set a good work on foot in the School, and it is high time that outsiders should be made acquainted with the nature of this work. Nothing certainly but favourable criticism is it in our power to pass upon the Report: we have examined it from beginning to end, and our only feeling is of envy at those whose good luck has made them members, and wish the same good luck had been our own. One thing strikes us which we hope it may not be thought presumptuous to mention. There seems to us at present to be too few papers read by members of the School. Of course the obvious reason is that so many of the Society's best supporters are in that part of the School where English composition is not of the very best; and that it is only by

great effort, if at all, that they could reduce their information to a readable form. This might, however, be obviated by a little perseverance, and by getting help from those more gifted in this respect. On the other hand, those who would find but little difficulty in their English composition, are so engrossed by other work that they have no time to collect the necessary information. This we believe to be not the entire truth. There must be many fellows high up in the School who could well find the time to prepare both the information and the paper for the Society. Such fellows we would urge to enrol their names at once,—at any rate to read the report.

With regard to the contents of the book itself, some of the papers strike us as extremely interesting. If any one considers local scientific research trifling, we only hope he may be persuaded to take the trouble to read Mr. Wilson's paper on page 11. In General Geology he shows that the proper work of the Geological section must be to render the study of geology accessible to the School. But in Local Geology it is astonishing to the uninitiated how wide a field he opened to his hearers. It would seem that really the neighbourhood of Rugby does offer especial inducements to geological research. And much, far more at any rate, than we might think, has been done. The discovery which he mentioned on page 15 must assuredly, as Mr. Wilson remarks, reflect the highest credit on those who made it. We have no space to give our readers any further remarks on the Report. Our advice to them, is certainly, to read it for themselves. We may just mention that of the papers by members of the School, those by E. Cleminshaw and W. C. Marshall seem to us the best; and repeat our thanks to the President for forwarding us the Report of the Society.

We learn with serious regret that we have not been allowed to enter for the Public Schools Racquet Competition. We have heard of no reason assigned, except a misunderstanding; which we really hope may be overcome, even at this late moment.

The Bishop of Worcester held the Annual Confirmation in the Chapel on Wednesday last.

Neat covers for the first 12 numbers of the *Meteor* can be obtained from Messrs. Tait and Sons, price 2s. 6d.

RACQUETS, FIVES, &c.

We beg to apologise for any inaccuracies in the following; many of the papers containing the Ties being lost. The Double Racquets did not produce quite so good a game for the final as last year. The exciting game was that between the winners and Gwyer and Gardner mi., the former of whom played a losing game in first-rate style.

In many cases the games were not played, scratching being resorted to. As will be seen below, up to the time of going to press the final ties have not all been played. In the Double Hand-fives we anticipate an easy victory for Tobin ma. and Yardley; in the Single Racquets there will be no opposition to Yardley; for the Hand-fives we should think Tobin ma.; for the Double Eton and the Bat-fives it is not quite so easy to discern the winners.

Double Racquets :—

FIRST TIES.

Tobin ma.	} beat {	Warner
Yardley		Westfeldt
Gray	} " {	Neilson
Tobin mi.		Bayley
Gwyer	} " {	Hare
Gardner mi.		Foster
Soutter	} " {	Maitland
Lushington		Mawdsley
Buckland	} " {	Montagu
Peele		Lambert

Gardner ma. }
Baring }

SECOND TIES.

Tobin ma.	} beat {	Buckland
Yardley		Peele
Gwyer	} " {	Gray
Gardner mi.		Tobin mi.
Lushington	} " {	Gardner ma.
Soutter		Baring

THIRD TIES.

Yardley	} beat {	Gwyer
Tobin ma.		Gardner mi.

Lushington }
Soutter }

FOURTH TIES.

Yardley	} " {	Lushington
Tobin ma.		Soutter

Double Hand-fives :—

FIRST TIES.

Graham	} beat {	Mawdsley
Dugdale		Riley
Yardley	} " {	Fletcher
Tobin ma.		Gwyer
Buckland	} " {	Neilson
Walker		Pritchard
Francis	} " {	Soutter
Lloyd		Moberly
Baring	} " {	Warner
Rowden		Westfeldt

Montagu }
De Bunsen }

SECOND TIES.

Tobin ma.	} beat {	Baring
Yardley		Rowden
Buckland	} " {	Graham
Walker		Dugdale
Francis	} " {	Montagu
Lloyd		De Bunsen

THIRD TIES.

Tobin ma.	} beat {	Walker
Yardley		Buckland
Francis	} }	
Lloyd		

FOURTH TIES.

Tobin ma.	} to play {	Francis
Yardley		Lloyd

Single Racquets :—

SECOND TIES.

Gwyer	beat	Tobin mi.
Yardley	"	Lambert
Gardner mi.	"	
Hare	"	Gardner ma.

Tobin mi.

THIRD TIES.

Yardley	beat	Hare
Gwyer	"	Tobin mi.
Gardner mi.		

FOURTH TIES.

Yardley (15, 13, 1, 15, 15) beat Gwyer
(10, 13, 5, 8, 6).
Gardner mi.

Single Hand-fives :—

FIRST TIES.

Walker	beat	Ellis
Yardley	"	Fletcher.
Tobin ma.	"	Neilson.
Francis	"	Baring.
Lloyd	"	Mawdsley.

Montagu beat Weston.
 Moberly " Warner.
 Hare " Graham.
 Riley " Gardner ma.
 Gwyer " Pritchard.

Buckland.
 SECOND TIES.

Montagu beat Riley.
 Yardley " Buckland.
 Tobin ma. " Moberly.
 Francis " Hare.
 Lloyd " Gwyer.

Walker.

THIRD TIES.

Walker beat Lloyd.
 Tobin ma. " Francis.
 Yardley " Montagu.

FOURTH TIES.

Tobin ma. beat Walker.
 Yardley.

Bat-fives :—

FIRST TIES.

Tobin mi beat Neilson.
 Williams " Tobin ma.
 Warner " Gray.
 Hare " Graham.
 Maitland " Gardner ma.
 Soutter " Rowden.

SECOND TIES.

Williams beat Tobin mi.
 Hare " Warner.
 Maitland " Mawdsley.
 Soutter " Pearson.

THIRD TIES.

Maitland beat Hare.
 Soutter to play Williams.

Double Eton Hand-fives :—

FIRST TIES.

Buckland } beat { Tobin ma.
 Walker } { Dugdale.
 Fletcher } " { Kennedy.
 Isherwood } { Hudson.
 Rowden } " { Yardley.
 Baring } { Gardner.
 Gwyer } " { Douglas.
 Hare } { Milne.
 Warner } " { Stunt.
 Soutter } { Morris ma.
 Francis } " { Hornby.
 Peake } { Peel.

SECOND TIES.

Warner } beat { Rowden.
 Soutter } { Baring.

Fletcher } " { Gwyer.
 Isherwood } { Hare.
 Buckland } " { Francis.
 Walker } { Peake.

THIRD TIES.

Buckland } beat { Fletcher.
 Walker } { Isherwood.

Warner }
 Soutter }

FOURTH TIES.

Buckland } to play { Warner.
 Walker } { Soutter.

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

A Meeting was held on the 4th inst., at which a Paper was read by E. Cleminshaw, "On the Volcanoes of the Lower Eifel Mountains."

Among the Exhibitions were a variety of Microscopic Objects, by Mr. Beck; sections of Meteorites, and a portion of the Atacama Meteorite, by Dr. Flight; hybrids of the Primrose and Cowslip, by Mr. Wilson, &c.

The Report for 1867 was distributed to members; it may be obtained by non-members, either from the officers, or at Messrs. Tait and Sons', price half-a-crown.

We are glad to be able to announce that Dr. Temple and Mr. Elsee have consented to become honorary members.

N. Masterman was elected a Member, and H. W. Gardner an Associate.

The next Meeting will be on the second Saturday in next Term. We understand that, in consequence of the numerous applications for election, it will then be proposed to fix a limit to the number of members.

THE SCHOOL MAGAZINES.

The *Eton Chronicle* contains an article on a subject which has occupied our attention lately, viz., the taking of Fives-courts. Running violently after Morning Chapel for the courts was prolific of disturbance, and the Rules were repealed and a new code formed by a committee of the Eton Society. The change is that the courts are now in the hands of the ten highest in the School, who dispose of them as they think fit.

An excellent practice is in vogue at Eton. The Præpostors give recitations from time to time in Upper School. Were this introduced at Rugby, we should have more to boast of at the Speeches at Midsummer.

The *Marlburian* for April 1 contains a long account of the Athletic Games, "Abyssinian

Jottings" continued; a long letter from "Trebla" on Athleticism, but not much else to interest the general public.

We have just received the April number of the *Cheltonian*, which contains a review of a work which many of our readers may have seen, — *Reminiscences of Cheltenham College*. The writer of such a book, as the reviewer justly remarks, can have no object in publishing it for the sake of money, for surely it will not bring any; nor for letting his mind dwell on pleasant recollections, for there is nothing but censure and complaints. We have to thank the *Cheltonian* for vindicating the Rugby character from the attacks of Paul Ward. Surely Paul Ward ought to have known that he was doing his School, which he ought to uphold, inestimable harm by issuing such a work full of mis-statements, slander, and unwarranted censure. Cheltenham has sent forth the Ireland Scholar of the year, viz., Mr. R. T. Reid.

R. S. R. V.

On Tuesday, March 31st, the return (simultaneous) match was shot against the Rossall School Corps. It may be remembered that in last autumn we were defeated in a similar match by 16 points. On the present occasion, however, we managed to retrieve our laurels by making 248, to our opponents 224. We must not, however be too proud of our success, as the Rossall XI. was not in good practice, and, moreover, were shooting with new rifles, of which they hardly knew the sighting. Score:—

ROSSALL.

	200 Yds.	500 Yds.	Ttl.
Sergeant Williamson	22923-12	23204-11	23
" Pardoe	33224-14	23222-11	25
" Upcher	33222-12	32443-16	28
" Hill	22220-8	02220-6	14
Corporal McLaughlin	22420-10	33030-9	19
" Marcy	33322-11	22002-6	17
" May	20220-6	20033-8	14
L.-Corporal Wilcox	42402-12	00200-2	14
" Upcher	44222-14	03323-11	25
" Stooks	22432-13	40220-8	21
Private Marston	23342-14	22033-10	24
	126	98	224

RUGBY.

	200 Yds.	500 Yds.	Ttl.
Captain Tobin	33233-14	02220-6	20
Lieut. Graham	43223-14	43202-11	25
Sergeant Humphry	23522-12	43243-16	28
" Baynes	20232-9	00204-6	15
Corporal Penrose	32232-12	20223-9	21
" Botfield	23203-10	04200-6	16
" Barnwell	32333-14	34030-10	24
L.-Corporal Stuart Wortley	23222-11	30333-12	23
" Whiting	33333-15	24342-15	30
Private Peel	43224-13	32324-14	27
" Selous	20224-10	42203-9	19
	134	114	248

The result of the two matches does not leave much to choose between the Elevens, and we may look forward to an exciting match at Wimbledon. Let us hope that the Rugby Eleven will employ the interval diligently, and that there may be no lack of foreign matches, which are an admirable institution, and the best practice possible.

In this match Whiting made the highest score for the victors, and Upcher for Rossall.

On Monday, March 30th, a match was shot against the Warwick Corps. The Rugby side was considerably weakened by the absence of four of the Eleven, who were prevented from being present. The result was a defeat for our side by 27 points. The weather was beautiful, and the expedition a most pleasant one. The shooting at 200 yards was very creditable; not a single miss being made at that range by Rugby. For Warwick, Foens and Parsons—for Rugby, Penrose, Whiting, and Peel, made good scores. Score:—

WARWICK.

	200 Yds.	500 Yds.	Ttl.
Captain Heath	42022-10	00443-11	21
Ensign Margetts	32223-12	22333-11	23
Q.-M.-Sergt. Cooke	43434-18	22220-8	26
Sergeant Court	32333-14	22224-12	26
Corporal Chamberlain	23022-9	20023-7	16
" Fairfield	23424-15	43022-11	26
Private Burton	23244-15	43040-11	26
" Parsons	33334-16	22233-12	23
" Gold	30234-12	23202-9	21
"	42434-17	02034-9	26
" Foens	23442-15	33343-16	31
" Harwood	02303-8	40400-8	16
	161	125	286

RUGBY.

	200 Yds.	500 Yds.	Ttl.
Sergeant Humphry	23223-12	02242-10	22
Corporal Penrose	34432-16	33430-13	29
" Barnwell	34324-16	30400-7	23
L.-Corporal Stuart Wortley	34223-14	04220-8	22
" Chaplin	22324-13	33000-6	19
" Whiting	32343-15	43232-14	29
Private Barratt	23222-11	40202-8	19
" Cobham	23222-11	00000-0	11
" Kynnersley	32333-13	03000-3	16
" Peel	34433-17	23420-11	23
" Selous	23232-12	43233-15	27
" Tubb	22333-10	22020-6	16
	160	101	261

Last Tuesday a strong body of recruits mustered to compete for the prizes given for shooting at the third class ranges. Twenty came to the scratch, and after a close competition the winners ranged themselves in the following order:—

	150 Yds.	200 Yds.	250 Yds.	300 Yds.	Tl.
Cobham	33332 14	43442 17	33203 11	03233 11	53
Ralli	44343 18	24322 13	02233 6	20244 12	43
Peel	43434 18	20243 11	32022 9	03222 9	47
Tubb	33333 15	34242 16	00222 4	24203 11	45
De Bunsen	23344 16	33322 13	23233 12	00300 3	44
Barratt	32223 12	02420 8	23333 13	20043 9	42

CRICKET.

THE ELEVEN v. THE NEXT EIGHT (WITH W. E. GOSCHEN, ESQ., HAYWARD, AND DIVER).—This match was played on March 28th and 30th, and April 2nd. The result was a victory for the next Eight by five wickets; which was due to the excellent bowling of Hayward and Diver, and the equally excellent batting of Mr. Goschen. Messrs. Yardley and Fitzgerald were the chief contributors for the Eleven. Messrs. Goschen, Moberly, Sidgwick, and Hayward for the Eight. The weather was very fine, and the ground in very good order, notwithstanding the time of year. The following is the Score:—

THE ELEVEN.

1st Innings.	2nd Innings.
W. Yardley, c Emerg. b Hayward	27 c Moberly b Hayward 1
F. Tobin mi., c Hayward b Diver	3 b Hayward..... 2
J. T. Soutter, b Diver	8 c Maitland b Hayward 11
S. P. Bucknill, b Diver....	9 b Diver
F. Tobin ma., c Rowden b Hayward	0 b Diver
C. K. Francis, c Goschen b Diver	13 b Diver
J. W. Gardner, not out	12 b Hayward
S. K. Gwyer, c Goschen b Hayward	9 c Walsh b Hayward.. 5
G. Fitzgerald, b Hayward ..	0 c Goschen b Diver .. 18
A. Gray, c Eaden b Hayward	3 b Diver
V. Ellis, b Diver ..	0 not out
Leg bye 1.....	1
Total	85
Total	64

NEXT EIGHT.

1st Innings.	2nd Innings.
W. E. Goschen, c Gray b Francis ..	8 c Tobin mi. b Ellis 54
J. F. Eaden, c Tobin ma. b Ellis	3
C. Sidgwick, c Yardley b Francis.....	0 c Yardley b Tobin mi. 12
Hayward, b Ellis	14 not out
A. W. Rowden, c Ellis b Francis	0 c Tobin ma. b Tobin mi. 7
F. H. Maitland, b Francis	0 not out
Diver, c Gardner b Francis	11
W. O. Moberly, b Ellis....	17 c Francis b Fitzgerald 10
J. R. Walker, b Ellis.....	0
A. G. Botfield, b Francis..	0
G. Walsh, not out	4 b Francis 4
Leg bye 1.....	1
Total.....	58
Total	93

THE BUTTERFLIES.—At a meeting of the Butterflies Cricket Club, held recently in Oxford, the following Old Rugbeians were elected members: E. K. Browne, and C. E. Ringrose. At the same meeting, A. Wilson and R. G. Venables were re-elected respectively Captain and Secretary.—It may not be generally known that the Butterflies Cricket Club was started at Rugby by two

energetic members of the Rev. C. T. Arnold's House. In 1863, the "creatures" first handled the willow, and created "a sensation." In 1864, they appeared as "royal admirals" in their new colours—mauve, black, and magenta, which colours they still carry frequently to victory. In 1865, the Club (originally intended for only Rugbeians, Old and Present,) was made open to Charterhouse, Eton, Harrow, and Westminster. It numbers now 180, and comprises many of the best cricketers of the day.

HOUSE NEWS.

THE REV. T. W. JEX BLAKE'S.

The House Steeple Chases were run on Saturday, April 4th. The day was very hot and not at all one suited to such violent exercise. The following were the winners:—Open to all, 1 J. Penrose, 2 A. S. Reynolds. Under 5ft. 4in., 1 J. Sayer, 2 G. H. Sim.

The Single Racquets have been won by F. Tobin ma., F. Tobin mi. 2.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Contributions will be received at the *Advertiser* Office, or at Mr. Pepperday's, under cover to the "Editor of the *Meteor*."

To the Editor of the *Meteor*.

March 13th, 1868.

SIR,—In your last number I read a courteous invitation to everybody to write upon any grievance that they may be cognizant of. I cannot at this moment think of a grievance; but I have a proposal to make, which is, that all the Houses, or, at any rate, the more important Houses, should publish in a cheap form, what would I am sure meet with a large sale, I mean, sir, the records of their House-Matches for as far back as possible, together with a list of the XXs; and those who had Caps. All Old Rugs would feel great pleasure in reading of the exploits of themselves or their contemporaries; no matter how long they had left the School. I cannot be influenced by any egotistical motives as I never was a member of my Twenty. It would be highly interesting to read how many times each house has been cock House; and there might be some account of the Two-House Matches for every year appended.

I remain, Sir, yours truly,

LAUDATOR TEMPORIS ACTI.

To the Editor of the Meteor.

SIR,—£900 for a Pavilion! No, Sir! not nearly £900; about £400 for a pavilion, and about £500 for an architect: about £400 worth of useful accommodation for cricket, and about £500 worth of “*fecit so and so,*” and ornament, probably in the form of dark lines. Does it not seem somewhat stupid to spend our money in this extravagant way, when the funds for the restoration of the chapel are insufficient, and there are several other castles which are said to be rather in the air at present for want of money? Is it that we wish, since we cannot have a new chapel, to eclipse the old one architecturally with a pavilion? We want a good pavilion very much, and we have had money enough to build a very good one for some time. Would not the architectural beauty that is going to be lavished on it, and which is rather keeping us waiting, be more in place in the restored chapel? Suppose one wanted to build a really good cowshed, would one have a first-rate architect for its plans? Surely, the best thing would be to plan one’s-self exactly the most convenient arrangements, and get some man of taste—not a known church architect—to submit some plans for the exterior to choice of a committee. We might have a very pretty pavilion without such a large per centage being paid for its beauty.

Your obedient Servant,
OLIM.

To the Editor of the Meteor.

SIR,—May I ask if Bat-fives is to be a game unknown at Rugby after the alteration of our Chapel? Surely such cannot be the wish of the School. What will become of Thompson? Is it not possible to find a wall (say the unused side of the Racquet Court) which might be put to this purpose? The game is an excellent one, and though, of course, eclipsed by racquets, is yet an agreeable substitute for that game. Our present court is in a pitiable state, and if we are at any time to have a new one, why should we not build it before the destruction of our present one? There is no argument that I can see, against our having two for a short time; whereas all will acknowledge that it would be a pity to let the game of Bat-fives die out, which appears quite possible, as the court is in such bad order that the number of those who play on it regularly is very limited.

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Some one may suggest that the court should be relevelled, but I doubt whether the short time for which the court would be available after its alteration would justify the expense. Hoping that this matter will be taken up,

Yours truly, BAT-FIVES.

To the Editor of the Meteor.

DEAR SIR,—No one has, I think, as yet, suggested any amendment for the Racquet Club Rules, although I believe they are far from giving universal satisfaction. They are, of course, excellent for bringing out a few good players; but how will it be with the next set who come up into the Club? They will not have had half the practice they had formerly.

The only way I can see for remedying this evil, is to give those not in the Club more opportunity for practising. I would suggest that, in the first place, members of the R. C. should only be allowed to take Courts on their own days; and, secondly, that, as a former correspondent of yours has suggested, fellows be allowed to play racquets on the hand-fives courts, with soft balls. Perhaps it would be better to restrict this to the big court. This plan would have the additional advantage of teaching fellows to hit low.

Hoping to see this in your next,

I remain, Sir, your constant reader,
CARLO.

To the Editor of the Meteor.

SIR,—I think that the Athletic Games have, at all events, made one defect very evident this year, which was perhaps more noticeable than it has been for some time. I allude to the way in which fellows were allowed to come inside the ropes, very often just as they pleased, sometimes even with a Sixth fellow—*proh pudor*—within a few feet of them. Occasionally, perhaps, some solitary individual might be seen making a vigorous onslaught, but, as no one came to support him, he soon subsided again. Can nothing be done to remedy this? Could not about twenty “clearers of the course” be elected every year out of the whole School, whose duty it would be to keep everybody, except the Stewards and the competitors in the race which is being run, out of the course? I have no doubt that this plan may be open to objection, but it may at least be serviceable in inducing some one to suggest an amendment to it.

Yours, &c., RANTOON.