



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-