



# The Meteor.

Edited by Members of Rugby School.

No. 18.

RUGBY, JUNE 6th, 1868.

[With Extra Sheet, Price 6d.]

It is quite a year ago since the question of placing a new organ in the School chapel was raised. It was felt then that as we were celebrating the Tercentenary of the School, and everybody all around was doing what all Englishmen do on all celebrations and anniversaries, viz., subscribing, that the members of the School themselves might well do something of the same kind. The feeling resulted in a determination to replace the effete organ of the School Chapel by a thoroughly good new one. Our readers will remember that the estimate of Messrs. Willis, the great organ builders, amounted to £1,000. Of this it was agreed the School should raise £600, the remainder being derived from other sources, in a great measure from the salaries of the old paid choir contributed by the Headmaster. The method adopted was,—that three allowances a term should be paid by each house. The product of this has been,—£180 deposited in the bank to the credit of the Rugby School Chapel Organ Fund. But amid the pressure of Athletic allowances last term, and from a variety of causes, it has been found that three allowances was more than some houses could contribute. So about a week ago it was resolved to diminish the House subscriptions to the organ by a half, *i.e.*—to make them  $1\frac{1}{2}$  allowances per term. It will be scarcely necessary to inform our readers that the result of this change is,—that if the organ fund is to be raised within anything like the same time, much more must be done, individually and voluntarily, than before. The present seems, then, a fit time for making something of an appeal to the Rugby public.

And, firstly, let us assure our readers of the necessity of a change. Naturally, in a thing like an organ, our proofs of deficiency cannot be directly evident to the eyes of the general public. Those who plead for a new chapel can point to cracks in the wall, crowded benches, &c., and everyone can appreciate the force of such arguments as these; but we can assure our readers the deficiency is none the less really great. One of the best judges in the country, we believe, pronounced our organ to be one of the worst instruments he knew. It is true that by the great talent and cleverness of our organist pleasing sounds and effects are produced Sunday after Sunday; but we have heard, on good authority, that he complains continually of the restraints imposed on him by the rottenness and badness of his instrument. Another point is that this organ cannot be mended. It is, speaking medically, an incurable. It is tolerably certain that the need for a change will only increase as time goes, and soon become absolutely pressing. Would it not be right to make this change, then, at the time when the chapel is restored? Let us say a word or two about the scheme proposed. Our readers must remember that in an organ fund the last hundred pounds is a very important matter: what we mean is,—the contributions of a couple of terms will make the difference between having a fair organ and having a first-rate organ, one of which the School may be justly and for ever proud. The organ which it is proposed to erect, if the liberality of Rugbeians permit, will be in every respect a first-rate instrument—if not the best in the county, certainly second

only to the Birmingham Town Hall organ; and one of the finest in England. Now it seems to us that here is an opportunity of giving substantial proof of our devotion to Rugby, of our wish to make everything connected with it as good as possible.

There is no real difficulty in the way of a great part of the work being done by the voluntary subscriptions of members of the School. Any small boy knows that it needs but that three or four fellows, who take the lead in each house, should set the fashion of sending a shilling or a couple of shillings to the organ fund, and the example will be followed by numbers.

But perhaps our strongest point is, we are already a third part of the way to our journey's end. The subscriptions of a year have given us nearly £200, we believe without being oppressive to anyone. We publish in another part of our columns an advertisement asking for voluntary aid to the fund. May we venture to echo the words of that part of it in which a hope is expressed that "the voluntary contributions of Rugbeians will at least make up the sum for the coming year which has been paid by the contribution of allowances in the past year."

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WHAT is the converse proverb to "It is an ill wind that blows no one any good? Our memory is at fault; whatever it is, be so good, reader, as to imagine it beginning this article. There can be no doubt that our name "*The Meteor*" has hitherto been rather a help to us than otherwise. If it has not from any inherent beauty enticed the Rugby public to support us, it has at least been no discouragement. And to us in the composition of these and the like effusions our readers will easily understand how valuable it has been. Whenever we have directed attention to a seeming abuse, no base words have detailed it; we have been described as "the *Meteor* casting piercing glare upon a mid-night darkness;" if we have had at any time to take credit to ourselves, the world has been reminded that "the *Meteor's* light though transient is ever pure, ever brilliant;" if we have had to pray against untimely collapse, the form of the prayer has been that "our light may be wanting in the transience, not in the brilliancy which our name implies." Every possible characteristic of those erratic luminaries has been, we think, transferred to the region of metaphor. Just compute, reader, how often when a sentence has seemed

to lack point or elegance our name has been invaluable.

Yet we have at last discovered a fault.

It is our purpose at present to complain of the tone which is adopted with regard to the *Meteor* too often, of the coldness of the support which it too frequently meets with. And if we come to look at the causes of this evil, one of the first that strikes us is our name. It is evident the reception we meet with depends very much upon the general idea of what we are. This looks a little Irish; so let us explain. What we mean is, if our readers accept it as an acknowledged fact that a school like Rugby ought to have a periodical, that there is work for such a periodical to do, and that it forms a regular part of the school, their judgment will be quite different to what they would form if they looked upon us as a mere private speculation; which unless it can keep up great popularity by its literary merits ought to be squashed. Now our name, we consider, does us harm by favouring the latter idea. If we had been the *Rugbeian*, or the *Rugby Magazine*, we cannot help thinking the public would have looked upon us as one of the orthodox school institutions, and would have judged us accordingly. Certainly our contemporaries the *Eton Chronicle*, the *Marlburian*, the *Cheltonian*, the *Haileyburian* seem to us, as far as we hear, to be treated in a far more friendly way than we generally are; we cannot help thinking the name has something to do with it.

Now it may seem to some of our readers that in pleading in this way we are acting rather an unmanly part. They will say "Why, if the *Meteor* cannot stand on its own merits, but has to ask this indulgence, why you know, &c, &c." But this is hardly the whole truth. The conducting of a school periodical is universally allowed to be a difficult task; in spite of this difficulty, certain creatures are found to carry it on, believing it to be productive occasionally of undoubted good; is it not more becoming under such circumstances to be over indulgent rather than over critical? And what is the nature of darts hurled against poor *Meteor*? "So intolerably dull and monotonous." Who says so? Jones; and yet suppose us to introduce elements of excitement, suppose the next number to contain novels teeming with that "blue black hair which is seldom met with in nature, but, when met with so intensely beautiful;" or those "locks, which when touched by the sunbeam are converted

into a rippling sea of molten gold;" suppose the last pages adorned with poetry on "Dear Avon's glassy rill," and hexameters "Written on searching an old desk;" do you not feel morally convinced that that very Jones would be the first to cry out, the first to make funny remarks about sending the Editors to to Hanwell by public subscription, &c. ? Do you imagine Jones has ever for a moment considered the possibility of making a school magazine decently exciting ?

It must be borne in mind that we are assuming all the time that we are some good. We believe this to be the opinion even of the cynical Jones himself, certainly of the majority of the Rugby world. Smith may look down upon us with contempt, from his intellectual elevation and ridicule the tameness of the articles and the poverty of the subjects; but he was really glad when we set the Hat question on foot. Bails, even, the all absorbed athlete, thinks at the bottom of his heart, (if cricket and football have not absorbed all that valuable organ) it is better that we should appear than not. Blockhead, laughs at us, not because he has an especial objection to school journals, but because it is his dignified habit to say to everything, except perhaps what contributes to his direct personal gratification, "What rubbish!"

We are aware that the grounds of praise or support which we receive from those who do praise and support us may not be wholly unimpeachable. Cainhandell, in the xxii., says he really thinks a school like Rugby ought to have a periodical; but his real reason for visiting Pepperday's every third week and depositing sixpence is not because he thinks those who give Rugby a dignity it ought to have are to be supported, but because he has a predilection for seeing his glorious old Norman name in real printer's type. "Smallboy" too gives us a good name among his acquaintance, because he likes to be able to say at the critical moment when the paternal hand is in the pocket and another half-sovereign is trembling in the balance: "You'd like me to *buy* (with especial stress on the *buy*) the *Meteor* and send it; to let you know how the school is going on, you know."

But we are tempted to doubt if the reasons of our reviling friends are as good even as these. It must be remembered that there are matters in which the opinion of a theoretical man does not avail much against practical experience.

A member of the Anatomical branch of

the Natural History Society, if such a branch existed, might demonstrate to you that there was sufficient motive power in the muscles of your leg to jump a six-barred gate; he might try to convince you that the force of gravity was not sufficient to counteract this. But you would have much more confidence in your practical experience which tells you that you have often stumbled at a rail a good four inches lower, and that a "howler" would most emphatically result from any compliance with his wishes.

If our readers have any belief in our honesty, ought they not to conclude that we are convinced that novels and rhymes are best out of our pages, and that what we produce is the result of our best efforts ?

Be it borne in mind finally that we do not wish to avoid fair criticism. We do not deny that many a number, many a page of ours may justly merit correction, perhaps contempt. But we would ask you, reader, to consider whether a school magazine is desirable, and unless you decide candidly that such a thing is altogether useless, to take up our numbers with a will rather to favour than to criticise; above all not to set up a standard, the real impossibility of attaining which you have never attempted to consider.

#### NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

A meeting of this Society was held on May 23rd. Among the exhibitions was a collection of Andamanese curiosities presented by Capt. Fryer. Papers were read by F. Lefroy, on "Reason and Instinct in Animals;" and F. R. Smith, on "Enplectella, a Siliceous Sponge," which he exhibited. 54 persons were present. The number of the Society has been limited to 20 members and 20 associates. The new members are V. Ellis, H. Powell, G. A. Ogilvie; and the new associates A. Napier, C. T. Clough, and J. D. Anderson.

#### CRICKET.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, OXFORD v. THE SCHOOL.—This was only a one-day's match, consequently each side had but one innings. The School were worsted by 27 runs. As will be seen from the annexed score, many of the enemy troubled the scorers; for us notably Tobin ml. and Francis. Very fine fielding was shown by Kennaway at cover point. Score:—

## UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.—1st Innings.

W. H. Lipscomb, c and b Walker	21
A. A. Wilnot, c Gardner, b Francis	10
B. Pauncefote, c Gwyer, b Walker	6
R. Thresher, c Bucknill, b Walker	6
A. G. Lee, run out	36
F. Greenham, b Francis	2
F. W. Davenport, run out	35
C. L. Kennaway, not out	17
J. Shelley, c Maitland, b Walker	0
B. Hill, c Gardner, b Francis	11
R. B. Wilson, b Soutter	0
Byes 6, leg-bye 1	7

Total..... 151

## THE SCHOOL.—1st Innings.

F. Tobin (mi.), c Thresher, b Lipscomb	26
S. K. Gwyer, c Wilson, b Lipscomb	0
W. Yardley, c Davenport, b Lipscomb	13
S. P. Bucknill, c and b Lipscomb	0
F. Tobin (ma.), run out	6
J. T. Soutter, c Pauncefote, b Lipscomb	9
C. K. Francis, b Pauncefote	25
F. Maitland, b Kennaway	12
G. Fitzgerald, c Kennaway, b Pauncefote	4
J. W. Gardner, not out	12
J. R. Walker, b Kennaway	3
Byes 8, leg-byes 4, wides 2	14

Total..... 124

**RUGBY CLUB V. THE SCHOOL.**—This match took place at the Club ground, and resulted in a complete victory for the School. The bowling on both sides was very good; consequently low scoring was the order of the day. For the Club, Millington hit recklessly, Buchanan cautiously: For the School, the Tobins and Maitland played in excellent form. The Club gave little trouble to the scorers in their second innings. Score:—

## RUGBY CLUB.

1st Innings.	2nd Innings.	
Rev. S. C. Voules, b Francis	1 c Soutter b Francis	3
G. Millington, run out	24 c Tobin, b Francis	0
R. P. Smith, b Francis	4 b Francis	0
J. C. Pison, c Ellis, b Walker	14 c Tobin, b Walker	1
D. Buchanan, not out	15 b Walker	3
C. W. Carles, b Francis	0 c Gwyer, b Walker	9
W. A. Browne, b Walker	5 not out	0
Rev. W. Benn, b Walker	1 c Soutter, b Ellis	3
F. Paget, b Francis	5 ht wkt, b Ellis	2
G. Fitzgerald, b Francis	4 b Francis	3
A. C. Thewles, b Francis	0 c Tobin, b Francis	0
B 3, 1-b 1	4 Leg bye	1

Total..... 77 Total..... 25

## THE SCHOOL.—1st Innings.

F. Tobin (mi.), b Voules	25
S. K. Gwyer, c Carles, b Millington	9
W. Yardley, b Millington	1
S. P. Bucknill, st Carles, b Buchanan	6
F. Tobin (ma.), b Buchanan	16
C. K. Francis, st Carles, b Buchanan	0
F. H. Maitland, not out	17
J. T. Soutter, c Pison, b Buchanan	2
G. W. Gardner, c Fitzgerald, b Buchanan	11
J. R. Walker, b Buchanan	3
J. Ellis, c Millington, b Buchanan	2
Byes 2, leg-byes 2	4

Total..... 96

In the second innings of the School, Tobin (mi.) scored (not out) 8, Maitland (not out) 2; leg byes 2—total 7.

## FREE FORESTERS V. THE SCHOOL, June 1st.

—This match is always looked forward to with great interest; last year it was brought to an exciting crisis, and was finally won by the School by one wicket. This time, however, the School have been beaten, but a sufficiently good match was made of it. The School having won the toss elected to go in first, Tobin mi. and Gwyer batting, to the bowling of Buchanan and Millington. Gwyer made 12 by some good hits, and was then caught; soon after Tobin was bowled. Yardley made a very good innings of 38, Bucknill ably seconding him with 29. Of the rest Soutter played carefully for 19; and the innings closed for 124. The Foresters then commenced their innings, H. Verelst, G. N. Marten, and Newport especially distinguishing themselves; the bowling and fielding of the Eleven being very good. Score 129; five in advance of the School. By dinner time on the second day all the School were out for 106; Gwyer and Bucknill again showing to the front. This left the Foresters only 102 to get for a victory, which they obtained at the cost of five wickets. It may be noticed that the Foresters only numbered 9, and had the assistance of G. Millington and Fitzgerald. The weather was of the most perfect description on the first day; a storm seemed impending all through the second, but merely resolved itself into an annoying drizzle. Score:—

## THE SCHOOL.

1st Innings.	2nd Innings.	
F. Tobin mi., b Millington	2 b Buchanan	15
S. K. Gwyer, c Marten b Millington	12 b Buchanan	33
W. Yardley, c Dakyns b Millington	38 c Wakeman b Buchanan	0
S. P. Bucknill, c Marten b Buchanan	29 b Dakyns	20
F. Tobin ma, c Hornby b Millington	9 b Buchanan	2
C. K. Francis, b Buchanan	2 c Marten b Dakyns	14
F. H. Maitland, c Buchanan b Millington	2 b Buchanan	2
J. T. Soutter, st Wakeman b Buchanan	19 c Millington b Buchanan	3
J. R. Walker, c Wakeman b Buchanan	3 not out	2
J. W. Gardner, st Wakeman b Buchanan	0 1 b w, b Dakyns	5
V. Ellis, not out	5 b Buchanan	2
B 2, 1-b 1	3 b 2, 1-b 6	8

Total..... 124 106

## FREE FORESTERS.

1st Innings.	2nd Innings.	
E. W. Wakeman, 1 b w, b Francis	3 c Walker b Francis	25
D. Buchanan, b Ellis	0	
E. K. Hornby, b Francis	0 c Tobin ma, b Walker	7
H. Verelst, c Soutter b Walker	22 not out	37

G. Fitzgerald, b Ellis	4	
G. Millington, c Francis b Ellis	1	
C. S. Dakyns, b Francis	9	b Francis
G. N. Marten, c Gwyer b Soutter	86	c Walker b Francis
F. Paget, c Bucknill b Walker	5	
W. Newport, not out	34	c Tobin ma, b Francis
A. Lee, b Francis	12	not out
B 1, 1-b 2	3	b 2, 1-b 1
Total	129	102

THE SIXTH v. THE SCHOOL.—This match ended, as was anticipated, in the complete defeat of the Præpostors. Many tried to avert it in the second innings, but all they could do was to save the innings. The following is the score:—

SIXTH FORM			
1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
F. Tobin (ml.), c Walsh, b Francis	7	b Francis	15
F. H. Maitland, b Francis	10	c Bucknill b Walker	30
J. T. Soutter, c Francis, b Walker	0	st Gwyer b Yardley	15
A. Gray, b Francis	11	b Francis	2
W. O. Moberly, b Francis	7	c and b Francis	22
V. Ellis, b Walker	0	b Yardley	6
J. F. Eaden, c Walker, b Francis	0	c Warner b Yardley	10
A. W. Rowden (Botfield), not out	11	not out	34
E. H. Baring, c Fitzgerald, b Francis	0	c and b Gwyer	11
J. Graham, b Francis	0	b Yardley	0
S. Garrett, c Walker, b Francis	0	b Gwyer	0
Byes	6	B 2, 1-b 1, w 2	5
Total	52	Total	150

THE SCHOOL.—1st Innings.

S. K. Gwyer, c Maitland, b Tobin	14
J. R. Walker, c Soutter, b Tobin	11
G. Fitzgerald, c Gray, b Tobin	0
S. P. Bucknill, c and b Tobin	10
F. Tobin (ma.), c Eaden, b Graham	35
C. K. Francis, c Tobin, b Moberly	28
J. W. Gardner, c Moberly, b Graham	34
G. Walsh, b Graham	4
C. Sidgwick, not out	2
E. H. Warner, c Eaden, b Soutter	4
W. Yardley, c Soutter, b Graham	8
Byes 2, 1-b 1, w 4	14

Total ..... 164

In the second innings of The School, Tobin (ma.) scored (not out) 3, Sidgwick (b Soutter) 7, Yardley (not out) 28; byes 3, w 1—total 42.

J. M. WILSON'S, Esq. v. Rev. C. T. ARNOLD'S.—This match was decided in favour of Wilson's, who would probably have won in one innings had Arnold's not scratched. The batting of Francis, Botfield, Lloyd, Badger, Selous, and Walsh was irresistible. The bowling of Heath in the first innings was good. Tower, Buckland, and Lambert played well under the circumstances. The score is as follows:—

J. M. WILSON'S.—1st Innings.

G. Walsh, b Montagu	24
A. Botfield, c Buckland, b Montagu	47
F. C. Selous, run out	32
G. H. Lloyd, c Buckland, b Milner	47

C. K. Francis, b Montagu	39
H. Badger, c Maclean, b Montagu	36
G. A. Benham, run out	7
R. Heath, run out	11
H. Tubb, b Montagu	0
A. Dudgeon, b Walker	4
T. F. Langford, not out	14
Extras	35
Total	296

REV. C. T. ARNOLD'S.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
B. Tower, run out	4	not out	17
J. R. Walker, c Francis, b Heath	0	c Badger b Heath	1
J. C. Lambert, b Heath	0	b Francis	14
P. A. Buckland, c Benham, b Heath	17	b Francis	0
W. B. Gilpin, lbw, b Heath	0	run out	2
F. D. Thompson, c Langford, b Heath	10	c and b Francis	1
C. J. Peele, b Heath	0	b Francis	0
D. F. Maclean, b Heath	3		
E. Montagu, b Francis	5		
T. Hoare, not out	4		
G. H. Milner, b Heath	0		
Extras	5	Extras	6
Total	51	Total	41

BELOW XI.—J. M. WILSON'S, Esq. v. SCHOOL HOUSE.—This match was decided in favour of Wilson's by five wickets, chiefly owing to the good play of Badger, Selous, and Benham. C. Sidgwick and Moberly played very well for the School House. Score:—

SCHOOL HOUSE.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
S. Pearson, c Walsh, b Heath	0	c Botfield, b Walsh	9
C. Sidgwick, c Badger, b Heath	2	c Walsh, b Heath	39
W. O. Moberly, b Heath	34	c Selous, b Heath	16
E. H. Warner, c Benham, b Heath	17	b Walsh	0
A. S. Hudson, b Walsh	2	c Botfield, b Walsh	24
G. R. Westfeldt, b Heath	15	c and b Walsh	1
J. G. Lushington, b Heath	10	c Botfield, b Heath	0
A. E. Ringrose, not out	6	b Heath	9
A. Lushington, b Tennant	1	b Walsh	8
A. P. Humphry, b Tennant	2	not out	37
A. Sidgwick, c Heath, b Tennant	4	b Tennant	27
Extras	13	Extras	18
Total	106	Total	188

J. M. WILSON'S.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
F. C. Selous, b A. Lushington	1	b Moberly	32
G. Walsh, c Moberly, b A. Lushington	0	c and b Moberly	3
A. G. Botfield, b A. Lushington	15	c Pearson, b Moberly	5
H. W. Badger, c Moberly, b A. Lushington	9	not out	93
G. H. Lloyd, c Humphry, b A. Lushington	0	c Pearson, b Moberly	3
R. Heath, c and b Warner	28		
G. A. Benham, b Humphry	38	not out	15
T. F. Langford, not out	11	c Pearson, b Moberly	9
H. W. Peake, b A. Lushington	5		
H. C. Harrison, c Moberly, b A. Lushington	0		
J. R. Tennant, b A. Lushington	0		
Extras	13	Extras	19
Total	120	Total	179

WILSON'S HOUSE PIEMATCH.—Francis and Botfield chose sides, Francis's side winning by ten wickets. The chief scorers were Benham, 30 and 9; C. K. Francis, 78 and (not out) 27; Combe, 30; G. Walsh, 17 and 15; F. Selous, 14 and 10; H. Badger, 27 and 21; Langford, 0 and 23; Harrison, 10 and 40.

BELOW XI. & XXII.—REV. C. T. ARNOLD'S v. REV. C. B. HUTCHINSON'S.—This match ended in favour of Hutchinson's by seven wickets. Score:—

## REV. C. T. ARNOLD'S.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
W. B. Gilpin, b Isherwood ..	0 c Ogilvie, b Sampson	5	0
C. J. Peele, b Sampson .....	0 b Sampson .....	0	0
T. Hoare, b Isherwood .....	0 b Isherwood .....	3	0
P. A. Buckland, b Isherwood	1 b Sampson .....	26	
E. E. Montagu, b Sampson	4 b Isherwood .....	23	
F. D. Thompson, b Sampson	5 b Sampson .....	0	
G. H. Milner, run out .....	5 b Sampson .....	0	
D. F. D. Maclean, b Isherwood	4 c Sampson b Isherwood .....	1	
L. Griffiths, b Sampson .....	0 b Sampson .....	19	
E. J. Norton, b Isherwood ..	0 not out .....	0	
M. W. E. De Bunsen (Montagu) not out .....	0 (Montagu) c Giberne b Isherwood .....	23	
Byes 6, wides 4 .....	10	B 15, 1-b 2, w 12	29
Total .....	20	Total .....	129

## REV. C. B. HUTCHINSON'S.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
F. W. Isherwood, b Montagu	7 c Milner, b Gilpin ..	9	
F. D. Foster, b Montagu .....	0		
K. R. Fletcher, b Montagu	24 not out .....	11	
F. Giberne, b Montagu .....	0		
T. G. Hare, c Sub, b Buckland	31 (D. Wilson) not out	4	
G. Mackinlay, st Peele, b Buckland .....	25 b Gilpin .....	17	
T. Lake, c Thompson, b Montagu .....	6		
A. G. Ogilvie, not out .....	9 c Thompson b Gilpin	5	
T. Collin, c Buckland, b Montagu .....	0		
A. S. Sampson, c Buckland b Montagu .....	0		
J. Anderson, b Montagu .....	0		
Byes 1, wides 5 .....	6	Byes 1, w 5 .....	6
Total .....	108	Total .....	52

THE RUGBY PHILHARMONIC.—Mr. Edwards and his colleague, Mr. Petterson, achieved a signal success on Wednesday and Thursday nights, when Handel's Oratorio the *Messiah* was given at the Town Hall, as the closing performance of the first season of the Rugby Philharmonic Society. The high reputation of the soloists renders any remarks on their success superfluous; but it would be a gross omission on our part to leave unnoticed the choral portion of the work, in which many gentlemen connected with the School took so leading a part. It would be hardly possible to choose where all the choruses were so admirably delivered; but, when we con-

sider their extreme difficulty, and the faultless precision and spirit with which they were given, we may select "He trusted in God," and "And with his stripes" as the most remarkable. The peculiar skill with which that usually somewhat unsatisfactory instrument, the harmonium, was handled, was beyond all praise, especially in "The people that sat in darkness," where Mozart's accompaniment was filled in with admirable effect. Altogether we may congratulate Mr. Edwards and Herr Petterson on a most successful close to their labours.

We have much pleasure in announcing a new composition from the pen of Mr. Edwards, which has gained the prize offered by the College of Organists for the best anthem. The words are taken from the 135th Psalm, "O Give Thanks," &c. It is written throughout with great skill and vigour, the close being peculiarly graceful; and from its melodious simplicity, and the attractiveness of its subjects, it is peculiarly adapted for performance by amateurs. We hope, however, that our readers may soon have a better opportunity of judging the merits of this anthem, than a mere newspaper notice can give them.

The following Rugbeians were among the successful candidates for the India Civil Service:—J. A. Baines, D. O. Meiklejohn, and A. B. Steward.

"B." requests us to make a correction. Painting the top windows of the Racquet Court cost £9, not £6.

The fields between the Railway and the Swifts are for the future "out of bounds," except for those privileged to bathe at Swifts.

The fact that Marlborough has been defeated by Cheltenham, should not by any means lead us to relax our efforts to obtain a victory over the former. If beaten by Marlborough, *a fortiori* &c. ?

We may inform Old Rugbeians interested, that Butler, a Notts Colt, is engaged to bowl for a couple of months.

The half-yearly prize for Fencing, at the Royal Academy, Woolwich, has this Term been gained by an Old Rugbeian, E. Dickenson, formerly of the Rev. P. Bowden Smith's House.

The secretary for the Tercentenary Fund lately received a subscription from an Old Rugbeian in Abyssinia.

THE VOLUNTEERS.

The Corps—formally enrolled on the 16th ult.—put in a first appearance at the Battalion drill at Warwick on Monday, the 1st June, under the command of Captain Phillips, with a total of 51 of all ranks. The drill was said to have been the most severe the Battalion had done since its formation, yet our Company went through the day to the end, and was very highly commended for the way in which it worked. The evolutions consisted of marching past in open and quarter-distance column (the latter at the "double"), deploying into line, firing volleys, forming close column, changing front, and a severe hour's skirmishing, which latter—the day being intensely hot—was capital training. The proficiency to which we had attained was owing partly to very hard work at drill since the enrolment, and partly to two or three evenings' drill with the Town Corps in the close. The next Battalion drill is to take place at Stoneleigh Abbey on the 29th instant.

Busy as we have lately been at drill, shooting has not been altogether neglected, and on the whole the 500 yards scoring has been very creditable, but there is still plenty to be done at 200 yards before we can call ourselves in Wimbledon form.

The first match, that against Christ Church, was shot on our ground, and its numerous disadvantages seem to have told against the strangers especially, though the strong wind caused a good deal of missing at 200 yards on both sides. The School shooting at 500 yards was good. The Oxonians kindly offered a cup for the highest scorer on the Rugby side, which was won with a good score by Capt. Tobin, who had to make a bull's eye the last shot to secure it. We would here thank our opponents for coming so far to shoot against us, as such matches are far more interesting than simultaneous ones. We hope the match will now become an annual one. Score :

12TH WARWICK.

	200yds.	500yds.	TL.
Captain Tobin .. ..	14	16	30
Lieutenant Graham .. ..	12	8	20
Colour-Sergeant Baynes .. ..	8	13	21
Sergeant Humphry .. ..	15	14	29
Corporal Penrose .. ..	7	6	13
" Botfield .. ..	14	15	29
Lance-Corporal Stuart Wortley .. ..	7	10	17
" Chaplin .. ..	8	8	16
" Whiting .. ..	11	11	22
Private Peel .. ..	8	13	21
" Cobham .. ..	13	13	26
" Selous .. ..	11	2	13
Total .. ..	128	129	257

CHRIST CHURCH COMPANY, OXFORD.

	200yds.	500yds.	TL.
Captain Jermyn .. ..	12	9	21
" Doyle .. ..	10	3	13
Ensign Eyton .. ..	6	9	15
" Rogers .. ..	12	11	23
Sergeant Bannerman .. ..	10	11	21
" Arburthnot .. ..	9	8	17
Corporal Carnigie .. ..	6	2	9
Private Trotter .. ..	8	0	8
" West .. ..	15	5	20
" Stewart .. ..	10	12	22
" E. C. Williams .. ..	2	6	8
" Fison (o.r.) .. ..	12	4	16
Total .. ..	113	80	193

Our next expedition was to Lutterworth, and an exceedingly pleasant one it was. Captain Fox entertained the Eleven most hospitably after the match, and we returned home well pleased with our victory. Lance-Corpl. Stuart Wortley was highest scorer, though no one was very prominent. The shooting at 200 was again shady. Score:—

12TH WARWICK.

	200yds.	500yds.	TL.
Captain Tobin .. ..	15	10	25
Corporal Botfield .. ..	12	13	25
Lance-Corporal Stuart Wortley .. ..	14	13	27
Private Peel .. ..	11	14	25
" Selous .. ..	10	10	20
" Tubb .. ..	9	5	14
Lieutenant Graham .. ..	12	7	19
Corporal Penrose .. ..	13	10	23
Lance-Corporal Chaplin .. ..	7	11	18
" Whiting .. ..	12	12	24
Private Cobham .. ..	12	14	26
Total .. ..	127	119	246

7TH LEICESTER, LUTTERWORTH.

	200yds.	500yds.	TL.
Captain Fox .. ..	12	7	19
Ensign See .. ..	10	13	23
Sergeant Brown .. ..	12	8	20
" Lea .. ..	3	8	11
" Smart .. ..	13	3	16
Corporal Smith .. ..	10	4	14
Private Burdett .. ..	8	10	18
" Green .. ..	14	4	18
" J. Smith .. ..	2	6	8
" Miles .. ..	12	4	16
" Fowler .. ..	15	12	27
Total .. ..	111	79	190

Our last match took place last Tuesday, when we suffered a defeat by 11 points at the hands of the two Trinity Companies of the Cambridge. Our low score must be attributed to the fact that nine of the Eleven had attended battalion drill the day before; and we would here caution them that absolute steadiness on such occasions is necessary for good shooting. For Cambridge, Corpl. Kinlock and Priv. Templer were the highest scorers; for Rugby, Capt. Tobin made a somewhat lucky 30. The weather at Rugby was good, though a strong breeze got up towards the end of the shooting. Score:—

## 12TH WARWICK.

	200yds.	500yds.	Tl.
Captain Tobin .. ..	16	14	— 30
Lieutenant Graham .. ..	13	10	— 23
Sergeant Baynes .. ..	6	6	— 12
"   Humphry .. ..	13	12	— 25
Corporal Penrose .. ..	9	11	— 20
"   Botfield .. ..	11	12	— 23
Lance-Corporal Stuart Wortley .. ..	14	5	— 19
"   Whiting .. ..	10	13	— 23
Private Cobham .. ..	11	6	— 17
"   Peel .. ..	12	5	— 17
"   Selous .. ..	9	10	— 19
Total .. ..	124	104	228

## TRINITY COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

	200yds.	500yds.	Tl.
Captain Tomlinson .. ..	14	7	— 21
Ensign Mackintosh .. ..	13	2	— 15
Sergeant Carlisle .. ..	16	5	— 21
"   Ingham .. ..	12	11	— 23
Corporal Bouverie .. ..	12	12	— 24
"   Kinlock .. ..	14	13	— 27
Private Reid .. ..	11	4	— 15
"   Templer .. ..	15	13	— 28
"   Ingram .. ..	12	8	— 20
"   Barber .. ..	14	10	— 24
"   Buxton .. ..	12	9	— 21
Total .. ..	145	94	239

## THE RACQUET COURT.

A novelty was introduced at the Racquet Court, on a certain wet Saturday afternoon; a handicap being played among the Eleven and Twenty-two. This limitation was made, in order if possible to get it finished that afternoon—only one round, however, could be got through. A committee acted as handicappers. The numbers indicate the number of points given.

Tobin ma. } 0 beat Francis } 12	Badger } 0
Gwyer } 0 " Lambert } 0	Lloyd } 0
Walker } 0 " Rowden } 6	Gardnermi } 6
Graham } 0 " Walsh } 7	Hudson } 7
Yardley } 0 " Mawdsley } 0	Lushington } 0
Gray } 0 " Tobin mi. } 2	Botfield } 2
Moberly } 0 " Eaden } 0	Pearson } 0
Neilson } 0 " Mr. B. Smith } 4	Mr. Potts } 4
Gardner ma. } 0 " Mr. Potts } 4	
Fitzgerald } 0 "	
Sidgwick } 0 "	
Maitland } 0 "	
Bucknill } 6 "	
Baring } 6 "	
Mr. Wilson } 0 "	
Mr. Sidgwick } 0 "	

## SECOND TIES.

Mr. Wilson } 3 " Tobin ma. } 0	Gwyer } 0
Mr. Sidgwick } 3 " Graham } 7	Walker } 7
Sidgwick } 0 "	
Maitland } 0 "	

## 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.*

DEAR SIR,—On the supposition that your article on Debating Societies has found the same favour in the eyes of the School as in mine, I should like to suggest two ideas for putting it into successful operation.

The first is—That, if the Masters do not object, the meetings of the School Debating Society should be held successively in the halls of the different Houses.

The second is—That either alternately with the Debate, or in addition to it, there should be held meetings of a Shakspeare Club, or Literary Society; *i.e.*, that a play of Shakspeare, or some chosen pieces from the Poets—such, for instance, as the *Ancient Mariner*, or the *Morte d'Arthur*, or one of the *Idylls*, or some of the finer pieces of less known authors (of which notice shall have been given the week before), should be read aloud by the fellows, and discussed either then or at the next meeting of the Debating Society.

The grounds for suggesting the first idea are: that, as you pointed out, a School Debating Society would be a great means of opening up Houses; and the adoption of this plan would render it a still greater means. These are my reasons for thinking so: If the debates are held in the Vth. or VIth. School, fellows will probably walk there and back with their own House, just as they do to lessons; and that the chances of acquaintance with men of other Houses would not be very greatly increased, while the ugliness of the Schools themselves, or rather, I should say, the "schooliness" of them, would take away from the pleasure of the Debate.

If the fellows can be brought together into House halls, the novelty of their meeting-house (I'm strictly orthodox) will prevent the Debates from feeling like lessons; and the fellows to whom the hall belongs will, or ought, to feel put on their honour to show a certain amount of cordiality and friendliness in their reception of comparative strangers. More reserved fellows will often have almost *forced* upon them the opportunity of talking to fellows of other Houses whom their reserve alone has prevented them from getting to know before. The hanging



about hall fire, chatting before the Debate begins—when every fellow in the House will feel bound to make himself agreeable to every fellow out of the House, and *vice versa*—ought to rub off much of the present stiffness, and help many a quiet fellow to know others whom his want of self-confidence alone has kept him from being intimate with before. The dread of being thought to “hang on” would not be present on these evenings—the greatest misfortune of reserved fellows, and one more particularly likely to trouble those for whom the Debating Society would be most fun. How many fellows of that sort couldn’t you mention, each wanting to know the other, neither having the pluck to begin!

The anti-house feeling movement would be encouraged in another way. It is not improbable that fellows would ask their friends or slight acquaintances from other Houses to come up to their studies just before the Debate, so as to be ready for it when it began, or to come and chat about it when it was over. We might have the proposer holding a caucus in his study before his motion was brought on, and then, confident in the support of his adherents, speak with increased vigour and effect. These are one or two of the arguments which suggest themselves in favour of the first idea.

Now as to the reasons for the second: they are briefly these:—

Fellows do not take half as much interest in good English writings as they might, because they never come in their way. This obstacle a Poetry Club might help to remove. The advantages of such a club seem to be: that it would supply good subjects for Debate, and plenty of them, and that it would extend both the knowledge and the reasoning powers of the members, because the speakers would first have to read and then to criticise; that fellows would read books more carefully and accurately, if they knew that they would afterwards have to read them publicly and then discuss them. Those who cannot recognise the good points for themselves, and therefore find but little pleasure in reading, might read with much greater zest after a debate, when he had heard cleverer fellows at that sort of thing point out and criticise the good and bad in it, and show the meaning of the piece. Debates on politics tend, after a time, to vapid denunciation. The merits of winter and summer are points few fellows care to argue about, since whatever the conclusion, the facts can-

not be altered, besides, too, being a question *de gustibus*. But the occasional discussion of a play, poem, or character, on the other hand, prevents denunciation to so great an extent, since the proofs to the contrary are readily accessible in the book itself, and speaker and listener alike profit by it, because they have to decide why they have liked or disliked what they have read in itself, or preferred it to any other compared with it.

It would be good, I think, always to have the works to be discussed, as far as possible, read publicly before the discussion, either on the same evening or the week before, because unless everybody has more or less of an idea of the question discussed, the end is not gained of waking up the young or more indifferent to take an interest in what is going on. Don’t have fellows trying to prove that Tennyson, for instance, is better than Wordsworth, until some pieces of each of them have been publicly read and discussed on a former evening, so that there may be some material for sensible ideas to be gathered from.

The objection to political subjects—that they involve so many other points than the particular one on which the debate is grounded, and thus enable confident fellows to talk dogmatic nonsense without evidence to the contrary being readily accessible, does not apply to these discussions on things already read, or to literary criticism of that kind, so much, because anybody can lay hand on a volume of poetry now-a-days and try and think the question over for himself. And I believe that by some such system as this, Debates might be made much less prosy and vapid, real interest might be felt by most fellows present, and it would, I should think, if carefully managed, bring about the expulsion of many a yellow-socked “Boodle” in favour of green-backed Moxon’s and gloves, and “Golden Treasury’s,” and “Dickens’” and “Thackeray’s,” to the no small improvement of Rugby tea-talk and society.

With best wishes for the success of the Rugby School Debating Society, if it is to exist,

Believe me, dear Sir, yours,  
KNIGHT TEMPLAR.

*To the Editor of the Meteor.*

SIR,—The fast-flowing fluency, the prodigious prodigality, of the prolix prose of patriotism poured into your columns by “Trebla,” tends to intimidate opposition;

nevertheless, I will venture to raise a faint remonstrance against his crushing criticism of "Aquila's" opinions. \* \* \* \*

[Here follow a page and a half, very closely written, to shew that everyone has a right to speak (loud, and all at once).] \* \* \* \*

Sir, may I be permitted, through the medium of your excellent paper, to ask your candid readers whether "Trebla" can be right in awarding more honour to the winner of the Dropping or Placing than to the hero of the mile, or 1760 yards, as he truly calls it? Surely we have known the School Dropping got by those who have distinguished themselves on no more honourable field than the Pontines. \* \* \* \*

[Here our correspondent goes off into two pages which need no comment] \* \* \* \* Sir, is Racquets really so much more important than Diving or Swimming as "Trebla" thinks? \* \*

\* \* \* [A page and a half, proving that swimming and diving were absolutely indispensable to brave Horatius at the bridge; c. f. Macaulay's Lays, most of one of which is quoted.] \* \* \* \*

Surely, Sir, none can think that proficiency in Racquets is really more useful, I do not say more pleasureable, but \* \* \* [A somewhat wearisome discussion of pleasure and profit] \* \* \* than Swimming and Diving. Could a racquet hero save the life, in virtue of his racquets, of a sinking fellow-creature in the flood? no, not if he had his racquet in his hand!

"Trebla's" proposition to include Football and Cricket in Athletics is indeed an honour to these games. One did not think that they were not classed with them from their being so far inferior, but because they were quite different, some think superior, some think not, but all probably put them on a different footing. \* \* \* \*

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

TRIFLE TIME.

[This is really all that we can insert, with the most sincere apologies to our correspondent, of a letter which included—besides the matter of which we have given slight headings—a long and accurate account of the bathing arrangements of the Romans, and eulogies of Rugby, England, and the next Concert. Seven stamps were on the outside of the communication, which came by post.]

To the Editor of the Meteor.

SIR,—I was greatly struck, and I may add amused, by the letter of "Trebla" in your

last number, nor can I quite make it out. If he really thought that it would be so dull and unacceptable to his readers, why waste the time required for its composition? and having written it, how did he expect it to be received? It certainly seems to me to be the most inconsistent and contradictory letter which has ever yet appeared in your valuable pages, and the style, though certainly *amusing*, is hard to appreciate. Can the writer really think that this high-flown style is at all in place while treating of a subject for the remedy of which a little plain reasoning and sober estimation of facts is alone required? or does he think that in a paper edited by *school-boys* this sort of stuff is likely to pass for fine writing?

But without wishing to too be hard upon "Trebla," I should like to allude to one or two points, which especially meet with my disapprobation—though it is difficult, really, to criticize a letter which says so much and suggests so little.

In the first place, the views that he takes of Athleticism are—I had almost said—childish. His definition of the races, viz., "running between two flags without tripping up," suggests the idea of a lot of drunken men, so far helpless as to be unable to keep in the course, or even on their legs, for the short space of 100 yards. For the matter of that, our Football, on which we so pride ourselves, might be defined in much the same way, if we substitute goal-posts for flags. The same may be urged with respect to his other definitions. Again, so various and contradictory are the opinions he quotes at every step, and so constantly does he appear to change his own, that it is really hard to arrive at his general drift. Thus when he affects to make light of the 1,760 yards run upon a "*hard* high road," are we to believe him to be in earnest? If so, I think I am right in saying that he is the first Rugby-beian to whom the Barby and Hillmorton match is a source of such infinitely greater interest than the running of the mile race; so much so that I think there are very few in the School who would be able to tell him, at once, which road is at present exalted upon this "highest pinnacle of human glory," (I quote his own words) while the name of *Bucknill* is in every mouth.

Thirdly, I think he is desirous of giving an undue preponderance to Racquets, which, after all, may be got by a fellow who lays no claim to being an athlete, and as for "the immense toil and energy" required in bring-

ing his play to perfection, I am certain that there are numberless fellows in the School who would gladly relieve any member of the R.C. of his superfluous courts; and if those who enter for "the mile" could train with as little discomfort to themselves, I am quite sure that there would be a much greater number of starters, in far better condition, than there is at present.

Lastly, with regard to the proposition that Cricket and Football should count for the cup, I quite disagree with him; as, in these games there is no real athletic contest involved. To begin with,—there is already a challenge cup for the best batting average in the Eleven, while any large score in any of the great matches is almost always rewarded at the time with a presentation bat: and although, occasionally, some fellow, by brilliant play, places himself conspicuously first, yet it would not always be so easy to select both the best batsman and bowler of his year. And as for Football, I think that the chief beauty of those hard-fought battles for "Cock House" (which test the real worth of a player more than any) is the fact that they are for honour and glory, and nothing else; in my humble opinion it would be degrading such a noble game to offer a prize for it; and I do not think that any fellow, after dropping such a goal as "Trebla" describes, or effecting a successful "run-in," would desire any further reward than the satisfaction of knowing that he has done his best for his side, or his House, and distinguished himself in the eyes of all spectators. Nor do I agree with "Trebla" that the remembrance of such a run or such a goal is soon erased from the minds of those who witnessed it; and by future ages it is even more likely to be remembered than the name of the winner of the School "dropping" or "placing" (last year an insignificant Below-Cap).

Hoping that the length of "Trebla's" letter may prove an apology for that of my own,

I am, yours truly,  
SCRUTATOR.

*To the Editor of the Meteor.*

SIR,—There has been a good deal of correspondence in your columns lately about the Big-Side Cup: but no one seems to have distinctly set before us what is the first thing we have to settle. It is this: Is the cup to be given for Athletics or Athleticism? By Athletics we commonly mean contests which are won by strength of limb and

soundness of wind, as opposed to those which depend on the quickness and correctness with which hand and eye work together. Athleticism is a much wider word, wider even than "Trebla" has made it. For surely the correct eye and steady hand, which make the best average at the butts, are at least as valuable as the biceps born of dumb-bells, by which the cricket ball is thrown ninety odd yards, or the weight put thirty odd feet. The principle is the first thing to decide; till it is decided, I will not say it is useless to discuss, but it is impossible to settle any details.

In his suggestions in the letter, "Trebla" seems a little wild; as when, in one breath, he says he thinks long running counts too much, and in the next proposes to include Hare and Hounds; though exactly what Rugby game he means is a puzzle to

Your obedient servant,

E.

*To the Editor of the Meteor.*

DEAR SIR,—This is my first attempt at writing a public letter, so I hope you and your readers will be lenient to me. The plan I am about to propose you may criticise as much as you like, but the composition of the letter I hope you will overlook. Some time last year, I believe one or two letters appeared in your paper on the same subject as that of my letter, viz., the pavilion dinner on foreign match days. Now, Sir, do you not think it is most disgraceful that gentlemen, some of whom have never been to Rugby before, and perhaps after their dinners here are so disgusted as never to come again, should, after having spent sometimes one and sometimes two days of their, perhaps, valuable time, not to mention the expense of the journey to and fro, have to pay a paltry half-crown or so for their dinner in the School pavilion? As I am not a member of the Eleven—nor, for the matter of that am I ever likely to become one—I cannot tell what *their* feelings are when the plate comes round, but I assure you, Sir; that were I dining there, I should blush with shame for myself and my School. To remedy this evil,—and every rational being will, I am sure, admit that it is an evil, and a great one too—could we not pay heavier subscriptions? No doubt some will say that the School is already heavily taxed enough. But I put it to you, Sir, as a matter of pride, and not of a mere half-a-crown or so, could anyone object to give half-a-crown to maintain the

honour of the School? Let the Eleven pay, say five shillings, the twenty-two three shillings, and the School two shillings annually. Surely this would provide the very best of dinners. My plan is, I know, open to objections of all sorts, but I merely give it to invite suggestions, and to bring the matter again into notice. Let the Captain take it into his hands, or let it be brought before a Big-Side Levee. It has taken me a long time in attempting to choose a *nom de plume*, but I have at last given up the attempt in despair, contenting myself with signing myself,

Your obedient servant,  
TUDOR.

To the Editor of the Meteor.

SIR,—The Speeches, I believe, are to be in little more than a fortnight. I think this time of year is the best time for them, but I wish to call attention to the great increase of School audience which there is certain to be. Heretofore the Speeches have been at the end of Term, and many fellows were either packing up, or had already gone off. This year, the day fixed is the interval between the Old Rugbeian matches and that with Marlborough; and, consequently, the visitors will more than fill the allotted space. Should not admittance to the Speeches be limited to the highest forms in the School, who have more interest in the speakers than the vulgar.

Yours, &c.,  
PATRIARCH.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

- “Hecla.” We cannot really insert a letter calling a person a fool, who wants to spend £900 on what the present day spends £500.
- “Accuracy.” Your complaint, we confess, is just, if correct; but you have clothed it in language hardly fitted for this journal.
- “A. P.” “Censor.” It would perhaps be better to let the subject drop, at least for this Term.
- “E. P.” The organist, Mr. Edwards’ address is 7, St. Matthew’s Street.

RUGBY SCHOOL CHAPEL ORGAN FUND.

The subscriptions by allowances having been diminished to one half their former amount, voluntary subscriptions are requested from all members of the School, or Old Rugbeians, towards this fund.

Amount already paid in by allowances, £180.

The total cost of a new organ is £1,000, of which it is proposed the School should raise £600.

Contributions will be gladly received by Mr. Edwards, or can be paid to the head of the choir in any Boarding House. Acknowledgments of contributions will be made in the *Meteor* according to the wish of the contributor. It is hoped that many will make up by their voluntary subscriptions the 3s. before paid, so that the sum subscribed for the coming year may at least equal that of the allowances paid in the past year.

The following is a List of Subscribers:—

	£	s.	d.
Rev. C. T. Arnold .....	10	0	0
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