



The Meteor.

Edited by Members of Rugby School.

No. 22.

RUGBY, NOVEMBER 24th, 1868.

Price 6d.

ANOTHER term is passing away, and nothing is being done towards the formation of a Debating Society. Often as we have brought the subject before the School, we have never heard a single cry raised against our proposition. True we have been met by a stolid acquiescence, which augurs badly for the success of our scheme; but the worst it can possibly mean, as far as we can see, is "Try it yourselves."

The truth is that many of the School think we could not keep up such a society; that our debates would be poorly attended; that a vast amount of common place would be talked; and that none of us would be the better for it.

To all this our only answer is "Try." If Rugby cannot keep up what Harrow and Eton keep up with such success, the sooner we know it the better; if common place *per se* is a bad thing,—and, of course, all debating societies are liable to it,—how is it that every old member of such a society looks back to his time spent in debate with real interest?

But it is almost a truism to say that we can only get readiness by passing through the stage of common place talk; readiness, we mean, not only in speaking, but in seeing the points of a speech, in weighing two sides of a question, in giving weight to our convictions and persuading others of them. Most of our readers can see this, but what they cannot see or will not confess, is the want of interest in general subjects throughout the School, the tendency to be indifferent to politics, as if we could hope to be superior to these paltry questions

which so excite the newspaper writers. The genuine Rugbeian, if he cultivates his mind, likes to write an essay for the "book"; if he cultivates his body, he likes to win a goal for his side. In either case immediate pay is what he aims at.

The Etonian or Harrovian, in many cases himself born to a political life, is not content with talking football shop all the evening, but feels an interest in what his father and his brother have discussed in his hearing all his life.

Now, however, that the power of the country seems less likely to be vested in a few governing families, it is possible that Rugbeian homes may hear more politics talked and have them in every way brought more before them. If we are wise we shall seize the opportunity, and determining at once to have a debating society of some kind or other, only discuss now what form it shall assume. And here, again, let us consent to learn something from the examples of Eton and Harrow. Let us admit old members of the School and any masters who may wish to join us. So alone shall we secure our society from the rise and fall which is so fatal to most school institutions. Nor is there any fear that our seniors will crush us either by long speeches or freezing silence.

At any rate let us try at once to get together a society of some twenty-five members, pledged to begin debating next term, and let us ask the President of the last School Debating Society, who fortunately happens to be one of the masters, to assist in re-establishing it on a similar basis.

It is, perhaps, with diffidence that we should return to a subject that has so often received our attention, but nothing in truth is ever beyond improvement with us, and to scorn advice is but a sign of weakness. On the 14th of November a match was played, as we all know, between a School XX, and a XX of Old Rugbeians from the Universities. It is to this then, as a specimen of Football as now played, that we wish to refer. The first thought that occurs is that it was an excellent match, played with great spirit, and showing much good individual play. At the same time it might have struck an observer that with the exception, of course, of the actual scrummages, there was not enough *Football*, which is after all the fundamental principle even of the Rugby game. When that *vexata questio* arises between a Rugbeian and another Public Schoolman, about the respective excellencies of their two games, the Rugbeian indignantly rebuts the charge of too much *handling* of the ball and of the players' persons, by expatiating upon the dodging that is thereby brought into play. Now there might be yet another, and a very skilful, element of dodging introduced, or rather revised, if "dropping" were more prevalent behind the scrummages. All will acknowledge that a good drop from the middle of a loose scrum is an artistic performance, and most will, with a moment's thought, see that it brings much more advantage than a blind run, which results in the delay of forming and dissolving a scrum. Undoubtedly a long run with a clear ground carries the ball further than a drop, but where the run would be short, and where the forward players can rush on almost simultaneously with the drop, as would be the case in a loose scrum, then by all means let any one who gets the ball in his hand take his drop-kick in the direction probably of the opponent's goal. Even a long and uninterrupted run of a back or half-back would, except for the frequency of it, seem but unfinished play if no drop were secured at the end. Practice in dropping from awkward positions, almost from between the arms of one player tackling another, would be a desirable acquisition, and would perhaps cause goals to become more frequent, and final decision of House Matches more clearly marked,—an improvement much wanted. And such practice might begin in Big-Sides where players do not feel themselves so sternly frozen into caution as in a House Match, owing to the feeling that heavy is the stake,

and every motion is the "cynosure of neighbouring eyes," and every step in the game is to be so rigidly discussed at the Hall fire in the evening. We have taken the occasion of saying thus much, principally because the above-mentioned match was a good criterion of the state of Rugby Football; and while thus suggesting a few weak points to be corrected, we are quite conscious that the game has taken a decided turn for the better since last year, and merely hope that our remarks will be received with that good feeling with which they are offered.

Your esteemed correspondent "Cosmopolitan" has done much service to the cause of the new "Lower Middles:" I do not think he will do as much for the old. No one can do them a falser kindness than the person who recommends them to make frequent visits here after leaving. "Cosmopolitan" himself confesses that their natural instinct, if they come at all, is to come when most of the fellows they know are gone; but he goes on to talk about bright associations and friends in the same breath as he confesses to this revolting sentiment on the part of his protégés. I wonder what are the associations of a Lower Middle. In school hours, inky fingers, blotted exercises, books with half the leaves torn out, cute new fellows perpetually going up, endless talk of parangs, Gauls, and other barbarians. Out of school they have to talk football or cricket, whilst they hate both, and even their walks in the country are embittered by the necessity of having to carry more coats than are required for their own personal convenience. Their greatest happiness is when they show their own superiority by hearing the new fellows hall-sing, or by asking them their names, or when, on a Saturday night, they gather round the eight o'clock repast which some wealthy acquaintance has provided for them. They leave with Lower Middle ideas in their heads, with Lower Middle slang on their lips. They come back and find their former associates in the Upper Middle, with fresh ideas, fresh life, fresh hours, fresh masters to discuss, fresh interests of all kinds. They are perpetually afraid of opening their mouths for fear of reminding their friends of their own inferiority. If they meet a fellow in the XI. or otherwise a School swell, they shrink from him as from some superior being. It is not their acquaintances but they themselves who are the "snobs." If they meet one of the Masters,

they put "Sir" in at every comma. To the Vith they talk of Exhibitions as Scholarships, and betray an ignorance of the value of Speech Prizes; to Caps they display a total want of knowledge as regards the football rules; with cricketers they cannot talk on Averages. And all this might be spared them, if the most moderate powers of football or cricket enabled them to cultivate the dignified silence of English games. In the bat or the ball they would have a congenial friend who never changes, who remains in the same form where they leave him, who always takes them up where they last left him, and remembers their friendships and adapts himself to their phraseology.

I fear I may seem cruel to your Lower Middle readers; but I must defend the majority of the School from the imputations of your correspondent. And my answer shortly is, stated in its plain brutality, that a Lower Middle Old Rugbeian, who has not frequented the Close, cannot possibly have enough associations to induce him to revisit Rugby often. The "vulgarest beasts on earth" are objectionable here, but can escape notice in a Big Side. But a Lower Middle "with a loud tie and a cane" appeals to our sympathies in a way that challenges observation.

H.

EVER since the reception of that somewhat bitter letter from "F. R. A.," we have been subject to certain qualms of conscience as regards the prominent part we took in urging the engagement of a Racquet Marker. True all doubts on the subject have been sufficiently cleared up by the letter from the Head of the School published in our last, but on seeing our suggestion so suddenly adopted we cannot but feel somewhat staggered at our own audacity; and the question "Has Diver been fairly dealt with?" has occasionally come home to us with disagreeable force. These qualms, however, have latterly been completely set at rest by a remarkable—nay, we may add, a miraculous dispensation. It was some three hours past mid-day on Tuesday, Nov. 9th, when to some observant bystanders in the School Close a Meteor was seen to shoot, with fiery track, across the heavens, and to explode when at its full brightness immediately over the Racquet Court. We are not superstitious, we are not credulous, we do not pretend to a knowledge of astrology,—but who could shut his eyes to such a portent? We can here picture our readers contemptuously remarking "A mere

Meteor! why, there is nothing in that." But we repeat there is a great deal in that. Who has ever yet seen a Meteor in bright sunshine? Was it not specially sent at 3.30 p.m., when the Close was certain to be crowded with those waiting to begin Football? Lastly (and this is no mean climax), why should it dart so swift and so sure, and bury its dying energies in the Racquet Court, if that was not the goal to which its mission was directed? Such an appearance requires no Daniel nor Raphael as interpreter. If an ancient Mexican had wished to express in writing "The Meteor sheds its bright influence over the Racquet Court," how else would he have done it than by a picture such as that which was seen in the heavens on that auspicious Tuesday? Thus it is that Nature prompts us to read. In a word, from the line taken by our brother Meteor we are led to argue, or rather confidently predict, a brilliant future for Gray and the Rugby Racquet-players.

Q. E. D.

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

Meetings of this Society have been held this Term on Sept. 26th, Oct. 10th, and Oct. 24th.

On the 26th Sept. the Report of the Marlborough Society for the last half-year, and other presents, were exhibited.

A paper was read by J. H. Davies, "On the *D. Cuscuta Hassiaca*," a species of dodder lately found in Lucern, in Herefordshire.

The Rev. T. N. Hutchinson exhibited and described the *Hippocampus brevirostris*, from the Mediterranean.

A satisfactory statement was given of the accounts of the Society.

Dr. Farquharson was elected an Honorary Member; J. D. Lowe, Geological and N. Masterman, Zoological Album Keepers; C. T. Clough, A. Napier, J. Armitage were elected Members, and G. H. Harris Associate.

On the 10th Oct. the President read a botanical note on a perfect flower of the *Lycanis dioica*, found at Rugby.

A paper promised by one of the members on the Japanese silk-worm, not being forthcoming, an article on the same subject, in the *Naturalist's Circular*, was read by the Secretary.

A rule was passed by which all Old Rugbeians can be elected corresponding members of the Society, and W. C. Eyton, late of Mr.

Bowden Smith's, was elected a corresponding member.

On the 24th Oct. a paper was read by the President "On bud variation," illustrated by a variety of specimens.

C. Boyd was elected a Member, and D. A. Ogilvie an Associate.

On the 7th Nov. papers were read, by D. A. Ogilvie "On Caterpillars," and by J. Lawe "On Rats."

On the 21st a paper was read by Dr. Farquharson "On the Mechanism of the Vocal Organs in the Animal Kingdom." The paper was much enjoyed by a large meeting.

The Society offers a prize to all members of the School for essays on any subject connected with Natural History; the essays are to be sent in early next term, and further information can be obtained from T. H. Davies, the Secretary.

THE TRICENTENARY FUND.

THE following Subscriptions have been reported to the Secretaries since August, 1868:—

	£	s.	d.
Bernard C. E.....	3	3	0
Boden, C. J.	2	0	0
Brocklebank, T.....	10	0	0
Bucknill, S. P. B.....	3	0	0
Fitzherbert W. H. M., Rifle Brigade	10	0	0
Ingram E. H. W.	1	0	0
Lushington A. H.	1	0	0
Miller G. T.	5	0	0
Monck Sir A. E., Bart.....	5	0	0
Porch, R.	5	0	0
Sandham Rev. H.	2	10	0
Sandham Capt. W. H., R.A.	2	10	0
Temple Sir Richard, K.C.S.I. ...	20	0	0
Twining, R.	5	0	0
Tyser, C. R.	1	0	0
Warre, F.	10	0	0

Subscriptions may be paid to either of the Hon. Treasurers:—

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It is particularly requested that when money is paid into the Banks, the full Christian and surname of each Subscriber, and the exact amount of his contribution, may be stated, some confusion having been caused by this not having been always attended to.

R. S. R. V.

It was about this time last year that we first organised a system of simultaneous shooting matches. The first was against Rossall, who defeated the School by 22 points, making a first-rate score of 269. In the spring of this year, however, we retrieved our honour by a victory of 24 points. It was only last week that the result of our third match was known, and we found that a good score of 252 had landed us winners by no fewer than 37 points. It is but lately that the Corps have taken up again the Enfield rifle (after using the "Hay" for two years), and at present the progress made is very satisfactory. The Rossall XI. was strangely out of form, as it is not long since it made 238 in a match against Marlborough. For Rossall Corpl. Marston shot very steadily; while Captain Tobin and Colour-Sergeant Humphry scored well for Rugby. Score:—

	RUGBY.		Ttl.
	200 yards.	500 yards.	
Capt. Tobin	4 3 2 2 3—14	3 4 4 3 0—14	28
Col.-Srgt. Humphry	3 2 3 3 2—13	3 3 3 4 2—15	28
Sergt. Fenrose	2 2 3 3 2—12	0 0 3 0 3—6	18
Corpl. Chaplin	3 3 3 2 2—13	2 0 0 3 3—8	21
Lance-Corpl. Peel..	2 2 3 3 3—13	2 3 3 2 0—10	23
" Cobham	2 2 3 3 3—13	0 0 4 0 4—8	21
Private Tubb.....	3 3 4 3 2—15	2 3 2 0 3—10	25
" Courtenay..	3 2 4 4 3—16	0 0 3 3 0—6	22
" Emson	3 0 3 3 2—11	0 3 0 2 2—7	18
" Lawson	3 3 2 2 3—13	4 2 3 2 3—14	27
" Dudgeon	2 2 2 3 2—12	3 3 0 0 3—9	21
	145		107 252

	ROSSALL.		Ttl.
	200 yards.	500 yards.	
Corpl. Marston	2 4 2 2 3—13	3 2 3 3 3—14	27
L.-Corpl. Darlington	3 4 3 3 4—17	0 2 2 0 3—7	24
Col.-Sergt. Upcher	0 4 3 3 2—12	0 2 3 2 2—9	21
Private Atkinson ..	2 2 2 3 0—9	0 3 4 3 2—12	21
Sergt. Stooks.....	2 0 2 2 3—9	2 0 3 3 3—11	20
Private Myers	2 3 2 3 3—12	3 0 3 0 2—8	20
Corpl. O'Brien	2 3 2 2 0—9	2 3 3 0 2—10	19
Sergt. Thorp.....	2 2 2 3 4—13	3 2 0 0 0—5	18
Private Norris	2 2 3 2 2—11	3 0 2 0 2—7	18
Corpl. Leek	2 2 3 3 3—13	0 0 0 0 2—2	15
" Butler	2 2 0 2 2—8	2 0 2 2 0—4	12
	126		89 215

On Saturday, November 7th, 8 members of the R.S.R.V. went over to Coventry to shoot at the long ranges for the Marksman's badges. The shooting was most strikingly good, every one getting through and most very creditably, the average being 36 points. Col.-Sergt. Humphry's score is deserving of all praise; we doubt if there are many Corps which could show a better score. It is worthy of notice that Captain Tobin has made the same score, namely 461 for the last three years. Score:—

	650	700
Captain Tobin	0 2 3 2 3 - 10	2 3 4 2 3 - 14
Col.-Srgt. Humphry ..	2 3 4 4 3 - 16	2 3 2 4 2 - 13
Sergt. Penrose	0 4 3 3 2 - 12	3 2 2 4 2 - 13
Corpl. Stuart-Wortley..	0 2 0 3 3 - 8	2 3 0 3 2 - 10
“ Cobham	4 2 4 0 0 - 10	2 2 3 4 3 - 14
“ Peel	0 2 2 0 4 - 8	0 4 0 3 0 - 7
Privt. Courtenay.....	R 0 3 0 2 - 5	0 3 0 2 3 - 8
“ Lawson	2 3 4 2 4 - 15	0 2 0 4 3 - 9
“ Lushington	3 0 2 3 3 - 11	4 2 2 4 4 - 16
“ Hare	0 0 2 2 3 - 7	0 0 2 0 2 - 4
	750	800
Captain Tobin	4 2 R R 3 - 9	2 2 2 4 3 - 13-46
Col.-Sergt. Humphry ..	3 3 2 4 3 - 15	0 2 4 0 4 - 10-54
Sergt. Penrose	2 3 2 3 3 - 13	0 2 2 2 0 - 6-44
Corpl. Stuart Wortley	3 3 2 0 0 - 8	R R 0 0 R - 0-26
“ Cobham	2 2 0 2 2 - 8	R 2 2 2 2 - 8-40
“ Peel	2 2 2 2 3 - 11	0 3 3 0 3 - 9-35
Privt. Courtenay.....	R 3 2 R 0 - 5	R 4 0 3 0 - 7-25
“ Lawson	0 0 3 2 0 - 5	2 2 0 0 2 - 6-35
“ Lushington	2 0 3 2 3 - 10	0 0 0 0 2 - 2-39
“ Hare	0 0 2 0 0 - 2	2 0 2 3 0 - 7-20

Privates Lushington and Hare shot on our own range.

The Wimbledon Challenge Cup was shot for on Thursday, November 12th. A curious match and one that well exemplified the old saying of a match never being lost till it's won. Captain Tobin and Lance-Corpl. Peel seemed to have it all to themselves, but both unaccountably missing the last two shots, Col.-Sergt. Humphry was left a winner by 2 points. Wimbledon targets and scoring. Score:—

Col.-Sergt. Humphry	24334-16	22323-12	28
Captain Tobin	35342-15	43400-11	26
Sergt. Penrose	22333-13	43402-13	26
Lance-Corpl. Peel....	33334-16	33300-9	25

In shooting off the tie for second, Captain Tobin made 2-4, and Sergt. Penrose 2-0.

A simultaneous match has been arranged with the Marlborough College Corps, to be shot off in the first week of December. The conditions will be the same as those in the late match against Rossall.

We are now close on the end of our first season as an enrolled corps, our present state of efficiency is as follows:—Enrolled strength, 66; drill efficient, 63; shooting or extra efficient, 52; marksmen, 10, with an average of 36 points per man.

THE CRICK RUN.

The result of this run shows that, however much may have been urged on the subject, the running of the School has by no means, in reality, deteriorated. Nov. 12 was as perfect a day for running as could be desired, both with regard to the weather and the condition of the ground. The course, about 13 miles in length, assumed its present form in 1863, having been, previous to that time, rather longer and partly over less favourable ground for running. Additional interest accrued to it this year from the fact that A. Johnstone (o.r.) had offered a cup for the winner, the holder of the School-bags being excluded. The hares were Bulpett and Brierly, and a field of ten hounds started. Only one hare, however, and four hounds succeeded in coming in. The times of the two first hounds were the fastest on record; Scott (Wilson's), the holder of the School-bags, being first, and Gooding (School-House) second. The times were as follows:—

1. Scott (Wilson's) 1h. 21m. 0s.
2. Gooding (School House)... 1h. 21m. 15s.
3. Morris (School House)..... 1h. 26m. 10s.
4. Gwyer (Hutchinson's) ... 1h. 27m. 30s.
5. Brierly (Bowden Smith's) 1h. 29m. 15s.

Francis (Wilson's) and Dudgeon (Wilson's) were a minute late. Gooding accordingly receives the cup, but we must not omit to mention Brierly, who, though a small fellow, ran very pluckily. Scott's lengthy stride, also, and Gooding's neat action were especially admired, and on coming in both were hailed with loud applause.

We append the list of the winners of former years (only since 1863) and their times, by which the brilliancy of this performance will be made more evident.

1863.	Lyon (S. H.)	}	1h. 21m. 55s.
	Arnold (S. H.)		
1864.	Tanqueray (Blake's)		1h. 21m. 30s.
1865.	Tanqueray (Blake's)		1h. 22m. 22s.
1866.	Paine (S. H.)		1h. 24m. 55s.
1867.	Eddis (Hutchinson's)	}	1h. 26m. 0s.
	Townsend (Arnold's)		
1868.	Scott (Wilson's)		1h. 21m. 0s.

ATHLETIC SPORTS AT OXFORD.—At Oriol College, the following Old Rugbeians were among the winners:—A. C. Tosswill (winner of the Inter 'Varsity broad jump) carried off no less than four prizes, namely: Putting the Stone, 32ft. 0½in; Hurdle Race, 120 yards, time 19 secs.; Throwing the Hammer, 78ft. 9in.; High Jump, 5ft. 2in. G. T. Oldham—the Mile Race—5 min. 32 secs.

 OLD RUGBEIAN OBITUARY.

We find the following in the *Times* of Nov. 5th:—

"On the 8th August, killed in an engagement with the rebels on the Ruaki Ture River, New Zealand, Captain OSWALD CARR, R.A., half-pay, fourth son of Ralph Carr, Esq., of Hedgeley, Northumberland, aged 31."

Captain Carr was entered at Rugby in 1848, under Dr. Tait.

The death is announced of Granville Lever-son Proby, third Earl of Carysfort, which took place at Elton Hall, Northamptonshire, on the 3rd of November, at the advanced age of eighty-six. His lordship was son of John Joshua, first Earl, who was a Knight of St. Patrick, and successively Ambassador at the Courts of Berlin and St. Petersburg. He succeeded his brother as third Earl in 1855. Lord Carysfort was born in 1781, and educated at Rugby, being entered in 1792, under Dr. James. He entered the navy in March, 1798, as midshipman on board the *Vanguard*, bearing the flag of Sir Horatio Nelson, under whom he fought at the battle of the Nile. He then served in the *Fourdroyant* under Lord Nelson, and assisted, while at the blockade of Malta, at the capture of *Le Guillaume Tell*, when he was wounded. In 1801 he was engaged under Lord Keith in the operations in Egypt, and obtained his lieutenantcy in 1804. In 1805 he was in the victorious engagement at Trafalgar. He became a Captain in 1806, and an Admiral in 1841. He sat in Parliament for the county of Wicklow from 1818 to 1832. He was a firm supporter of the Liberal party. He married, in 1818, Isabella, daughter of the Hon. Hugh Howard, by whom he had a numerous family. The title and estates devolve upon his eldest surviving son, Granville Leveson.

Sir James Fergusson has been appointed Governor of South Australia—and has been made a Privy Councillor; C. C. Trevor, Esq., has been appointed Permanent Under-secretary to the Board of Trade; W. H. Melville, Esq., Solicitor of Inland Revenue; A. Rumsey, Esq., Assistant Solicitor of Customs; C. S. C. Bowen and F. Snowden, (Com. Law Bar), Revising Barristers; C. E. Fox, Taxing Master, High Court of Judicature, Bombay.

We hear from Cambridge that the Colquhoun Sculls have been won by Mr. F. E. Marshall, late of the Rev. C. T. Arnold's, who thus attains the proud position of Champion of the Cam.

The following are among the Members of the new House of Commons, who were elected up to Saturday last:—

Rt. Hon. G. J. Goschen (L.) London.
 Mr. T. Hughes (L.)..... Frome.
 Rt. Hon. Lord Stanley (C.) Lynn.
 Mr. G. Melly (L.)..... Stoke-on-Trent.
 Mr. W. B. Samuelson (L.) Cheltenham.
 Mr. A. Johnston (L.)..... Essex.
 Mr. C. G. Glyn (L.)..... Shaftesbury.
 Sir J. Hay (C.)..... Stamford.
 Mr. S. Whitbread (L.)..... Bedford.
 Mr. T. Brassey, jun. (L.)... Hastings.
 Mr. S. G. Smith (C.)..... Aylesbury.
 Major A. Dickson (C.)..... Dover.
 Mr. R. H. Phillips (L.)..... Bury.
 Mr. R. W. Jackson (C.)... Hartlepool.
 Sir J. V. B. Johnstone (L.) Scarborough.

WE are happy to say that Messrs. Newdegate and Bromley-Davenport, two of the Trustees of Rugby School (notwithstanding violent opposition, promoted by a large section of the masters of the said School), were on Saturday last placed at the top of the poll for the representation of North Warwickshire.

We see with pleasure the announcement that Mr. Pauncefote has been elected Captain of the Oxford University Eleven for 1869. All Rugby knows his high qualifications for the post.

 FOOTBALL.

HUTCHINSON'S v. BOWDEN SMITH'S, Nov. 5th.—Hutchinson's won the toss and chose the Island goal. After the kick off the ball was at once driven close to the School goal line, where Mackinlay, by a good charge, nearly succeeded in kicking a goal, and shortly after a good drop of Gordon's hit the goal post. Bowden Smith's had now to touch it down in goal, and after the take-out panned for some time. Soon after this Gordon unfortunately sprained his wrist and had to retire. Finally, the superior weight of Hutchinson's forwards began to tell, and for the last half-hour they panned closely. After they had obtained two punts-out, which were both missed, Isherwood touched the ball down in goal and made a good try, which however fell a little short. Soon after this "No side" was called. For Hutchinson's Sidebotham, Gwyer, and Isherwood forward, and Wilson half-back, played well; and for Bowden Smith's, Kough, forward, and Bar- ing, half-back, were deserving of mention. Southam (Moberly's) played for Gardner.

HUTCHINSONS' v. MOBERLY'S, Nov. 9th.—Moberly's won the toss, and took the School goal, with a slight wind in their favour. After kicking off Hutchinson's panned closely and continued to do so throughout. During the first half hour they made their adversaries touch it down several times, and then touched the ball down in a scrummage on the Goal line. Isherwood tried it, but unsuccessfully. Moberly's now had to touch it down again, and after the take-out Wilson made two good drops at goal. Shortly after Lake touched the ball down, and though it was not far out of touch, Isherwood kicked a fine goal. After the Goals had been changed Hutchinson's again panned, making them touch it down twice. Shortly before "No side" was called, Mackinlay made a good drop at Goal. For Hutchinson's, Gwyer, Isherwood, and Sidebotham, forward, Boyd and Parton (Wilson's, for Gordon) half-back, and Mackinlay, back, were most conspicuous. For Moberly's Cholmondeley (School House, for Garrett) forward, King, half-back, and Harrison, back, played well.

THE SCHOOL v. G. A. THOROLD'S TWENTY.—This match was played on Saturday, Nov. 14th, and excited great interest. The School had the School goal and kick-off, and for long the match seemed anyone's. At last the School got a touch-down and a try for goal, from a splendid run-in by Tobin. This was tried by Isherwood without success. After this the Old Rugbeians played up with great energy, and got two touches-down and a try at goal, also unsuccessful, and after this time a drizzling rain came on which did not permit of much but forward play. For the Old Rugbeians, Thorold, Cordery, and Davenport, perhaps, did best service, whilst for the School the half-back play of Tobin and Moberly excited loud and frequent applause. The Twenties were as follows:—

OLD RUGBEIANS.—G. A. Thorold (Captain), A. Cordery, H. S. Theobald, A. Davenport, J. G. Crowdy, H. H. Johnston, J. Graham, A. W. Rowden, S. P. Bucknill, W. Yardley, S. Haslam, F. S. Gwatkin, J. T. Soutter, W. D. Allen, W. C. Lucy, G. C. Roupell, W. C. Crofts, G. Thornber, and Messrs. Bullock and Phillipotts.

THE SCHOOL.—A. B. Haslam (Captain), W. O. Moberly, F. Cholmondeley, S. Garrett, A. Gray, F. Tobin, J. Mackinlay, E. H. Warner, E. S. Ormerod, E. Morris, J. Dugdale, C. K. Francis, W. E. Kough, C. E. Sidebotham, F. W. Isherwood, S. Gwyer, J. Peake, E. Peel, A. Reynolds, A. Hudson, and R. Dudgeon (21).

SCHOOL HOUSE v. HUTCHINSON'S.—This match was begun on Monday last, and after a very hard struggle, the School House obtained one punt out and two touches down. Play will be continued some day this week.

CORRESPONDENCE.

We cannot be answerable for the opinions of our correspondents.

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*.

SIR,—It is unjust to let "Cosmopolitan's" last effusion pass unchallenged. Whatever may have been the merits of the attack made on the "Hat" system by your correspondent, it appears to me right in this case to take up the glove in defence of a large, and in my opinion, the most important section of the School.

"Cosmopolitan" has had great experience of Rugby life—six years at School, and nine years since: I can but boast of five years spent at Rugby. Nevertheless it is my hope that from these five years' experience I may say something to abolish any feelings of sympathy with "Cosmopolitan," which may have found room in the minds of any of your readers since the publication of his letter.

First of all then, let me assert (although he says it is idle to tell him so) that he is dilating on an imaginary grievance. And I say this, accompanying it by the remark, that this prejudice in favour of Old Rugbeians who have attained distinctions, is a sentiment, and moreover a sentiment which can be very little altered by a letter to the *Meteor*.

Nextly, the welcome given to Old Rugbeians when they come back, is given to all who are worthy of it: and is not given to those unworthy of it. You cannot expect a person to give a most hearty welcome to another, in whom he can see very few good points. Now the proportion of fellows who leave unknown or low in the School, who are "bright, brave, honest and kindly" I am sure is very small: and the proportion of fellows who leave distinguished in School or in games, who have some or many good qualities to recommend them, is very large.

Lastly—with reference to the former of my two last assertions, I believe that Rugby some how or other always manages to distinguish merit. Down to the Lower Middles if a fellow is gentlemanly out of School, and honest in his form, he invariably becomes known in his house as such, and will never meet with a cold reception when he returns an Old Rugbeian. Now with reference to the second of those assertions. It

is certain that both excellence in the School and excellence in the Close are conducive to the formation of a gentleman in more senses than one. Thus it happens that rarely you find a vulgar fellow in the Eleven. I am glad to say he is a rarity. But when such a fellow returns as an Old Rugbeian, with whatever sneakish and snobbish admiration he may be looked up to by the typical Lower Middle, who cannot discern his unworthiness, he is nearly always truly estimated by a far more important sect, the swells in School and in games, who, while they acknowledge the cricketer, regret the absence of the gentleman. Such a one, too, when absent, does not come in for the snobbish admiration of succeeding generations: however great a cricketer, if he has been the promoter of immorality he drops away from the recollection of his house, and his name is not handed down in their traditions, as one of the heroes of Rugby.

I, too, feel strongly on this point. I am anxious to maintain that, although there are a few exceptions on both sides, yet on the whole characters are generally rightly estimated here.

It is absurd that the public should be reprimanded because they have not fraternized with and admired fellows whom "Cosmopolitan" knows to be "bright, brave, honest, and kindly," if those fellows during their School career have put these excellent qualities under a bushel, and presented to society only those of a vulgar and uncouth school-boy.

"SCOTUS."

To the Editor of the Meteor.

SIR,—In justice to myself and the fellow who went hare with me in the Big-Side Barby Hill Run a few weeks ago, I hope you will allow me to make a few remarks in answer to "Query." As to the quickness of the time in which that run was accomplished, it is not of course for me to say anything, except that the run was correctly timed by two or three fellows, and there could therefore be no mistake. As to the fact that both hares ran rather fast, I do not see that there is any cause for surprise, especially as the time of the second hare, though above the average, has been beaten more than once. It remains for me only to enlighten "Query" on one more point, namely, the course of the run. On the occasion in question the way taken by the hares was exactly that described in the book of Big-Side Runs, written

by L. N. Prance in 1858, and which has not been altered since, except inasmuch as it has been lengthened by the come-in being put nearer home, viz., at Dunchurch Toll-bar, instead of at the Lodge in Hibbert's Park. Hoping that this will satisfy "Query."

I remain, yours, &c.,

A. SCOTT.

To the Editor of the Meteor.

SIR,—As you ask me a plain question I will answer plainly that I never for one moment supposed "Trebla" and "Trifle-time" to be identical, nor do I think that you can draw this conclusion from my letter. A certain similarity (perhaps not unintentional) between their manners of writing, made me denominate "Trebla's" "a Trifle-time style," but that does not necessarily imply that the writers were one and the same, any more than a prize poem, because written in Spenserian metre, ought therefore to be attributed to Spenser as an author. And if you will take the trouble to consult the letters once more, you will find I think that all the quotations by which I try to confute "Trebla" are taken from his own letters, and *not* from that of "Trifle-time."

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

SCRUTATOR.

[We apologize for not inserting this letter in our last number, but having laid it aside for reconsideration, it was accidentally omitted. Your explanation is quite clear and just, and our conclusion was perhaps somewhat hasty.—Ed. *Meteor*.]

To the Editor of the Meteor.

SIR,—Cannot Rugby School establish and maintain an Architectural Society? The subject is extremely interesting, and, compared with many other sciences, easy; whilst examples, or materials for study, may be found in any civilized country in the world.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

A BRICK.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Accuracy."—Thank you for your suggestion.

"A. Y. Z."—Too late for insertion.

ERRATUM IN OUR LAST.—In page 1, for "J. Farr Johnson, Scholar, &c." read "J. Farr, Johnson Exhibitioner, &c."