



The Meteor.

Edited by Members of Rugby School.

No. 26.

RUGBY, MARCH 18th, 1869.

Price [With Extra
Quarter-Sheet.] 6d.

AGAIN the Cricketing Season is approaching, and again we all ask one another the customary question "What are to be the Matches of the year?" Are the Marlborough Eleven satisfied at last with their succession of defeats, or do they again wish us to sacrifice our chance of getting up a Harrow match to the desire of keeping up old associations? For it is notorious that the real reason which prompts Harrow to keep us out of the Public School Cricket is now merely the fear that we may wish to drag our poor relations into their august society. We do not wish to interfere with the judicious despotism of the Head of the Eleven; we are quite certain that whatever he arranges will be for the best; but we would suggest that this year he might say to the Harrovians that we are willing to forego the Marlborough match if they are willing to play us themselves. We have beaten Marlborough too often; Cheltenham has now equal claims upon us; and Cheltenham has a right to say to us "Either give up the Marlborough match, or else play both of us; our claims are equal, and we are generally the stronger Eleven." Now, to this what are we to reply? We play Marlborough because we are bound to it through Mr. BRADLEY: are we not equally bound—nay, is not present Rugby more bound, to Mr. JEX BLAKE? We play Marlborough because it is a large and successful School; is not Cheltenham much larger, and equally successful in its own line? And is it not harmful to the School Eleven to go on playing a School whom they have so often beaten, even though they may be clever and intellectual, gentlemanly and pleasant? Is

it not moreover too great a sacrifice for us to make, when we are asked to give up all chance of the Harrow match, merely to beat Marlborough an eighth time?

Nor do we see what answer Harrow can make to such a challenge. We should like definitely to know whether the Headmaster of the School objects to the match. If the Headmaster, we must bow to his mystic authority; if the School, we should like to know their reasons. The old objection, that Harrow does not know where Rugby is, must have disappeared since the last Public School Commission. We have been examined together, as far as School organization goes; why should we not meet now in the cricket field? Surely those Harrovians who value Cricket are not content with only the Eton match. They must wish to settle our standing challenge by meeting us and, if possible, defeating us. If the nation has recognized us as one of the seven schools, it is impossible for us to take our stand among the remaining three thousand.

THE *Meteor*, from its airy position, has already beheld its third Athletics, and, with them, has beheld sundry great improvements; and first, it must congratulate the public in general on a step in the right direction with regard to dress, though the step can by no means be said as yet to be satisfactorily completed. For though the legs are less hampered by knickerbockers than by trousers, yet still they are hampered to a certain extent. It is also delighted at the Mile having been at last accomplished in less than five minutes, and, as a parallel to the improved

performances in that race, it would cite the time of the Half-Mile, and also of the Two Hundred yards, the time in the latter being, it may be safely asserted, wholly unprecedented. The excellence of the High Jump may next be noted, and the result of the Putting may be quoted as an instance of the growing powers of the Rugbeian biceps. It regrets the unavoidable absence of the Three Mile Race, but thinks that the 120 yards Hurdle Race an excellent substitute, inasmuch as it was better calculated to entertain the members of the fair sex, who, braving frost and cold winds, graced the close with their presence. It was disappointed on seeing the small field of starters for the Old Rugbeian Race, but it reminded itself of the superior attractions afforded by the Boat Race, and of the fact that the Cambridge Term was not yet concluded, and that the terrors of Little-go were impending over several of the School's most ardent admirers; and it forgave them for their absence. On the whole the *Meteor* is inclined to be proud of the Athletic powers of the School, whose tutelary deity it is, and its only hope is that the successes of 1870 may eclipse those of 1869.

Given at this our Castle in the air, on this the Seventeenth day of March, A.D., One Thousand, Eight Hundred, and Sixty-nine. As witness our hand and seal.

THE ATHLETIC GAMES.

FIRST DAY, MARCH 15TH.

Flat Race, 200 Yards.

First Heat—Brocklehurst, 1; Chaplin, 2.

Second Heat—Dudgeon, 1; Griffiths, 2.

Third Heat—Riley, 1; Lawrence, 2.

Fourth Heat—Southam, 1; Tubb, 2.

FINAL HEAT—Southam, 1; Gwyer, 2.—Won easily, Gwyer gaining second honours, after winning a challenge from Tubb. Time, 21 secs.

Flat Race, 200 Yards, under 5 ft. 7 in.

First Heat—Blacklock, 1; Anstey, 2.

Second Heat—Gardner, 1; Ellis, 2.

Third Heat—Shirley, 1; Plumb, 2.

Fourth Heat—Warner, 1; Vecqueray, 2.

FINAL HEAT—Warner, 1; Vecqueray, 2. Time, 22½ secs.

Gardner was second in the Final Heat, but on being challenged by Vecqueray, resigned.

Bright's High Jumping.

Tennant, 1; Hudson, 2. Height, 5 ft. 1 in.—The winner was easily first, clearing 3 in. more than anyone else. This is a great improvement on last year's height. Brownfield tied Hudson for 2nd, but on a subsequent trial was beaten.

Mile Race.

First Heat—Kough, 1; Bush, 2; Gooding, 3.—Brierly made the running for nearly two laps, but then dropped behind, leaving Kough with the lead, which he easily retained till the end. Time, 5 min. 16 secs.

Second Heat—Lomax, 1; Scott and Walker (æq.), 2.—This was a splendid race from first to last, Lomax principally making the running, followed closely by Scott till the end of the second lap, when Scott took the lead; Lomax, however, passed him again about 100 yards from home, and finally won a ding-dong race by 3 yards. Walker, by a fine spurt, got equal with Scott on the tape, making a dead heat for second place. Time, 5 min. 9 secs.

FINAL HEAT—Walker, 1; Francis, 2; Kough, 3. Time, 4 min. 57 secs.—Gooding went off with the lead, but was soon overtaken by Gwyer, who made the pace very hot for the first two laps. Here Walker spurted to the front, followed by Kough and Francis; these three ran a splendid race for the last 200 yards, but Walker kept his lead, and won by a three yards, hardly a yard separating the second and third. Lomax was fourth. This is the fastest mile race that has been run at Rugby, and, considering that it was run on turf, the time was exceedingly good.

Flat Race, Half-a-Mile, under 5 ft. 4 in.

First Heat—Cobbold, 1; Benham, 2.—Won by a fine and well-judged spurt in the last 50 yards.

Second Heat—Groom, 1; Field, 2.

Third Heat—Lomax mi., 1; Masterman, 2.

Fourth Heat—Shirley, 1; Warner, 2.—The pace in this heat was much better than in any of the others. Shirley ran in very good form, taking a long lead at first, and winning easily.

FINAL HEAT—Shirley, 1; Cobbold and Groom (æq.), 2. Time, 2 min. 18 secs.—Shirley again took the lead, Groom running second, which positions were maintained throughout, Cobbold, who waited rather too long, just making a dead heat with Groom.

Throwing the Cricket Ball.

Francis, 1; Gardner, 2. Distance, 87 yards.—We cannot account for this distance, as both the winner and several of the other competitors have greatly exceeded it in practice.

Flat Race, 200 Yards, under 5 ft. 2 in.

First Heat—Arbuthnot, 1; Carnac, 2.

Second Heat—Collin, 1; Field ma., 2.

Third Heat—Newton, 1; Lomax mi., 2.

Fourth Heat—Peters, 1; Nicholson, 2.

Fifth Heat—Stock, 1.

FINAL HEAT—Newton, 1; Collin, 2. Time, 24 secs.—Collin was challenged by Lomax mi., but kept his place.

Half-Mile Flat.

First Heat—Francis, 1; Currie, 2.

Second Heat—Kough, 1; Isherwood, 2.

Third Heat—Lomax ma., 1; Mackinlay, 2.

Fourth Heat—Plumb, 1; Sidgwick mi., 2.

Fifth Heat—Walker, 1; Vecqueray, 2.

FINAL HEAT—Gwyer, 1; Kough, 2. Time, 2 min. 5 secs.—Gwyer soon took the lead, and increasing it in the second lap, won by 15 yards,

Kough reserving his spurt too long, but coming up very fast; Plumb was a good third. This was a very great improvement on last year's time.

High Jumping, under 5 ft. 4 in.

Sim, 1, Buckland, 2. Height, 4 ft. 7 in.

Flat Race, Quarter of a Mile (Handicap).

First Heat—Agnew (26), 1; Bonham-Carter, (38), 2.

Second Heat—Chaplin (20), 1; Dudgeon (19), 2.

Third Heat—Gwyer ma. (9), 1; Harrison (17), 2.

Fourth Heat—Lomax (15), 1; Kough (0), 2.

Fifth Heat—Plumb (10), 1; Riley (10), 2.

Sixth Heat—Tagart (25), 1; Warner (14), 2.

FINAL HEAT—Harrison (17), 1; Warner (14), 2. Time, 58 secs.—Agnew led till within 10 yards of home, but, tiring suddenly, was passed by Harrison and Warner. Gwyer, though a winner of his heat, did not run, having run the mile a few minutes before.

SECOND DAY, MARCH 16TH.

Bright's 100 Yards, Flat.

First Heat—Brocklehurst, 1.

Second Heat—Dugdale, 1.

Third Heat—Lawrence, 1.

Fourth Heat, Southam, 1.

Fifth Heat—Tubb, 1.

FINAL HEAT—Southam, 1; Shirley, 2. Time, 11 secs.—Gwyer and Dugdale ran a dead heat for second, but being challenged by Shirley, the second in the Winner's heat, were beaten.

Putting the Stone (14lbs.)

Gwyer, 1; Francis, 2. Distance, 33 ft. 11 in.

Quarter of a Mile, Flat.

First Heat—Hudson, 1; Agnew, 2.

Second Heat—Lomax, 1; Kough, 2.

Third Heat—Shirley, 1; Tubb, 2.

The Final Heat was deferred to another day.

Broad Jumping.

Gwyer, 1; Vecqueray, 2. Distance, 17 ft. 8 in.

Old Rugbeian Race.

For this only three competitors—G. E. Steward (Linc. Coll., Oxford), G. Millington, and G. R. Thornber—showed. Steward made the running, and was never headed, winning by about 30 yards, in 58 secs., Thornber a bad third.

Half-Mile Hurdle Race, Open.

First Heat—Kough, 1; Barkworth, 2.

Second Heat—Sidgwick mi., 1; Peel, 2.

The Final Heat of this also is deferred.

Hurdle Race, 200 Yards, under 5 ft. 7 in.

First Heat—Blacklock, 1.

Second Heat—King, 1.

Third Heat—Peake, 1.

Fourth Heat—Southam, 1.

Fifth Heat—Warner, 1.

FINAL HEAT—Blacklock, 1; Warner, 2. Time, 26½ secs.

Hardle Race, 200 Yards, Open.

First Heat—Blacklock, 1.

Second Heat—Dugdale, 1.

Third Heat—Humphry, 1.

Fourth Heat—Sidgwick ma., 1.

Fifth Heat—Warner, 1.

FINAL HEAT—Southam, 1; Dugdale, 2. Time, 28½ secs.

Southam was allowed to run in the Final Heat. He also won the Hurdle Race under 5 ft., 7 in., but was not allowed to take both prizes.

Hurdle Race, 120 Yards (Prize given by J. Dugdale, Esq.)

First Heat—Barkworth, 1.

Second Heat—Hudson, 1.

Third Heat—Hoare, 1.

Fourth Heat—Michell, 1.

Fifth Heat—Sim, 1.

Sixth Heat—Southam, 1.

FINAL HEAT—Barkworth, 1; Hudson, 2; Gwyer, 3. Time, 21 secs.

Consolation Stakes, 200 yards.

First Heat—Brocklehurst, 1.

Second Heat—Dudgeon, 1.

Third Heat—Riley, 1.

Fourth Heat—Tubb, 1.

FINAL HEAT—Brocklehurst, 1; Dudgeon, 2. Time, 21½ secs.

The Stewards were A. B. Haslam (Town), W. O. Moberly (School House), C. K. Francis (Wilson's), S. K. Gwyer (Hutchinson's). We cannot but congratulate them on their praiseworthy exertions and the many improvements they have this year introduced into the Athletics.

To show more fully the excellence of Walker's performance in the Mile this year, we append the Names of the Winners and the Times since 1860 :—

1860. R. Garnett	5 min. 34 secs.
1861. H. M. Draper	5 " 13 "
1862. G. Denshire	5 " 2 "
1863. C. E. Romilly	5 " 15 "
1864. C. J. Peile	5 " 11 "
1865. L. R. Whigham	5 " 7 "
1866. J. Akenhead	5 " 20 "
1867. H. Hall	5 " 23 "
1868. S. P. Bucknill	5 " 20 "

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

TIES OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS RACQUETS.

RUGBY plays HAILEYBURY.
ETON " HARROW.
CHELTENHAM.

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

A meeting of the Society was held on Saturday, March 6th. In the absence of the President, Mr. Wilson took the chair.

The prize offered by the Society for Natural History Essays was awarded to N. Masterman.

The following donations were received;—*The Marlborough Society's Report* for the half-year ending Christmas, 1868; *The Science Gossip* for March, 1869, from the Rev. T. N. Hutchinson; two pair of Buck's horns were exhibited by N. Masterman; a stereoscopic slide of the Moon by Mr. Wilson.

A paper was read by D. A. Ogilvie on "Self-Defence in the Animal Kingdom."

Mr. Wilson read a portion of a paper on the River Gravels.

At a private business meeting, held afterwards, a rule was passed, by which Corresponding Members may, by a composition of 10s. for six years, receive the Society's publications without further payment.

An amendment to the rule by which members may admit two visitors, to admit four instead of two, was carried.

The Committee elected R. J. Williamson a Member of the Society.

A Microscopic Meeting (for Members and Associates only) will be held at Mr. Kitchener's House on Saturday, March 20th.

THE RIFLE CORPS.

On Saturday, March 13th, the School Corps went to Kenilworth for their first annual dinner. Starting from the Armoury at half-past eleven, the Corps proceeded to the station and took train for Kenilworth. At Coventry they marched to the top of the hill, where they went through several manoeuvres, returning in good time for the train which took them to Kenilworth. Arrived there, they marched to the Bowling Green Inn, where a substantial repast had been prepared, to which full justice was done. After dinner they marched to the Castle and disbanded for ten minutes in order to explore the ruins, after which they again fell in and marched to the station, whence they proceeded by train to Rugby, having enjoyed a very pleasant expedition, and one which had afforded plenty of exercise, most of the marching being performed at the double. We must not omit to mention that the dinner was graced by the presence of Mrs. Lee Warner, Miss E. Lee Warner, and Miss Blake Humfrey.

A match for the Town and School Challenge Cup is being arranged, which, it is hoped, will take place shortly.

THE SCHOOL STEEPLE-CHASES.

The annual Steeple-chases were run on Thursday, the 4th inst, the day being everything that could be desired in point of weather, and the ground in a very tolerable state. The course was an exceedingly long one—about a mile and a half,—but the water-jumps were perhaps, on the whole, not quite so formidable as usual. For the Big

Steeple-chase about nine came to the scratch. Concerning the race itself there is very little to be recorded. Francis (Wilson's) took the lead from the commencement, Moberly (S. H.) lying second till the railway bridge. His place, however, was there taken by Gwyer (Hutchinson's), Francis still retaining the lead. The race was now virtually confined to these two, the rest being quite outpaced. Francis, by his splendid jumping, succeeded in keeping himself perfectly dry, a fact which told greatly in his favour, and although Gwyer pressed him hard at one time, he won easily by about twenty yards, the order being:—C. K. Francis (Wilson's), 1; S. K. Gwyer (Hutchinson's), 2; F. H. Lemonius (Elsee's), 3; F. W. Isherwood (Hutchinson's), 0. For the Junior Steeplechase (under 5ft. 7in.) about ten starters came to the post. At first Bigg (Burrows's) went to the front, making the running at a tremendous pace, and closely followed by Peake (Wilson's). At the third jump, however, Cobbold (Hutchinson's) took the lead, followed by Sidgwick mi (S.H.), the pace still being very fast. The same order was maintained until a long field was reached, through which the course lay just before the last jump, when Warner (S. H.) who had been running well within himself, and holding the third place, spurred and took the lead, and, clearing the last jump in front of Cobbold, won by about 15 yards, Sidgwick being a good third. The order was, therefore, E. H. Warner (S. H.), 1; F. A. Cobbold (Hutchinson's), 2; C. Sidgwick (S. H.), 3; H. R. H. Bigg (Burrows's), 0.

HOUSE NEWS.

REV. P. BOWDEN SMITH'S.—The House Steeple-chase was on Saturday, the 6th; the course being the usual one. A field of nine started for the big steeple-chase: Davies ma. started off with the lead closely followed by Weston and Brierley. The latter soon came to the front, but yielded in his turn to Weston, who held the lead till within 200 yards of home; here he succumbed to Bush, who finally won by some 30 yards. Bonham-Carter ma., who ran very pluckily throughout, second.—In the small steeple-chases, under 5ft. 4in., Groom led all the way, and won easily; Macgregor second.

REV. C. T. ARNOLD'S.—On the afternoon of Thursday, March 11, the House Mile was run, on the cross-roads beyond the Water-Tower. This is a new institution, for which

there is an annual cup value £2, and money-prizes for 2nd and 3rd. There were six at the start, of whom Walker took the lead from the first, accomplishing the distance in 4m. 55sec., the second place being kept throughout by Lefroy. The rest all ran it under six minutes. The order was—1st, Walker; 2nd, Lefroy; 3rd, Byrne; 4th, Stokes; 5th, Buckland, ma.—House Single Racquets: 1st, Walker; 2nd Peel. Double Racquets, 1st, Walker and Peel. House Double Hand-Fives, 1st, Buckland, ma., Heather.

REV. L. F. BURROWS'S.—The House Steeple-chases were run on Saturday, 27th February. There were eight starters for the open one. Soon after the commencement Riley, Michell, and Bigg, ma. took the lead, and continued in that order until the last jump, where Bigg passed the other two, and won by about ten yards: Riley second. For the one under 5ft. 3in. six started. Bigg, mi., owing to his mistaking the course, lost a considerable distance at the beginning, which, however, he soon made up, and won easily by fifty or sixty yards; Holland second.

SCHOOL HOUSE.—The House Steeple-chases took place on Saturday, February 27th. In the open one a very fair number came to the scratch. Sidgwick, mi. took the lead at first, and made the pace very hot; he was closely followed by Moberly, Warner, and Gooding. About half way Gooding came to the front, but unfortunately diverged slightly from the course, and gave up the race. Warner and Moberly then led, and, after twice changing places, the latter eventually won by about ten yards. Warner second; Ellis a good third. In the small one Taylor ma. kept the lead for about three quarters of the way, when he missed the course and dropped out of the race, which was pluckily won by Masterman; Field ma. second, and Bertran De Lis third.

OLD RUGBEIAN OBITUARY.

DEATH OF THE OLDEST RUGBEIAN.—The death is announced of Sir Arthur Benjamin Clifton, K.C.B., Knight Companion of the Royal Guelphic Order: Lieutenant General, and Colonel of the 1st Royal Dragoons. He was entered at Rugby in 1783, and in his first half-year fought a battle with the celebrated Walter Savage Landor. He entered the army in 1794, and was present at the engagements of Talavera, Busaco, Fuentes d'Onoro, Vittoria, and Toulouse: and was

one of the twenty-five Rugbeians engaged at Waterloo. Peninsula Medal with three clasps, Gold War Medal for Vittoria and Fuentes d'Onoro, and Waterloo Medal. His two elder brothers, seventh and eighth baronets, were also educated at Rugby.

SCHOOL MAGAZINES.

The *Cheltonian* has the temerity to begin its number for March with a novel on School life. There is hardly any School news at all; none of importance.

The *Etonian* for February 25th contains an account of the Steeplechases; the winner was Johnstone. The floods have again interfered with the rowing. The same publication for March 11th gives an account of the procession of boats. The mile was won in 4 min. 45½ secs. by Forbes, Patton being second. The two mile walking race was won by Moss, the time being 17 min. 50 secs. The cricket ball was thrown 100 yards by Parker. The beagles have met several times, and they have had some good runs.

The *Marlburian*, in the absence of school news, is filled chiefly by the doings of the Marlborough Nomads. There are only three members of their XI. left, viz., R. Leach, W. E. Leach, and H. B. Carlyon.

The *Oxford Undergraduates' Journal* gives an account of the Torpids.

The Report of the Debating Society reached us too late for insertion.

OXFORD HONOURS.—J. A. Godley, Balliol College, *Proxime accessit* for the Ireland Scholarship.

We omitted to state in our last Number that S. Lupton (C.R.) Ch. Ch., was *Proxime accessit* for the Christ Church Physical Science Junior Studentship.

Hon. F. H. Baring, Scholar of Corpus, Oxford: *Proxime accessit*, A. B. Haslam.

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,—Before proceeding to the main object of my letter, allow me to make one remark on a subject discussed in your two last numbers. It seems to me that the only fault that

can be found with your paper is that it does not quite sufficiently satisfy the craving for School news, naturally felt by Old Rugbeians. My present cause of complaint is, that in attempting to defend Big-Side Levée, I am put to serious inconvenience, owing to your having omitted to inform your readers of the nature of the "recent appeal to a higher authority," which I see so freely commented on in your last number. The provoking part is, that everyone else seems to be perfectly well up in the matter, probably because everyone else has the good luck to live at Oxford, or in some part of the world more enlightened than that inhabited by your correspondent.

Perhaps, under these circumstances of exceptional ignorance, it would be better for me not to trouble you with my ideas, but to me "Radical's" proposal seems so illiberal and so ill-devised, that I cannot resist the temptation of attacking it.

I have always thought it highly undesirable that the swells (I use the word for want of a better) at Rugby should have any more power than they have at present,—perhaps because I was never one myself. Undoubtedly a fair amount of social pre-eminence is their due; but it appears to me that under the existing order of things they enjoy that due to the full, and surely it would be a pity to introduce any measure that would widen, instead of narrowing, the gap that separates them from the rest of the School. Such being the case, I cannot but protest against the scheme drawn up by "Radical," for I believe his assembly would have the dubious merit of comprising among its members almost the *whole* of the swells, and hardly anybody else. At a rough guess, I should say there are about 50 or 60 individuals in the School, to whom the title would be more or less applicable. Of course I do not pretend to say that every single one of these would gain admission to the elective parliament, for the simple reason that they are not very evenly distributed through the houses. But can one of your readers doubt for a moment that, in spite of the ballot and other safeguards, each house would not return the three greatest swells it possessed, if only to escape ridicule, and insure, if possible, the opinions of its representatives being respected? Really, Sir, this proposal of "Radical's" is identical with that propounded by him two years ago, in this important respect, that it would have the effect of excluding from the acting governing body of the School

all not skilled in Cricket and Football. "Radical's" Parliament would, I admit, nominally represent the whole School, and Big-Side Levée does not profess to do so. In theory it would doubtless be better if every member of the School had a vote, but in practice, I fear, it would be found that the lower forms were sadly ignorant on many of the subjects about which they were required to express an opinion. With the Upper School the case is different, for though, perhaps, many of its members are not very proficient at games, nearly all have sufficient experience to know what is advantageous for those games, and the few who have not are a very small minority. And, moreover, the line separating those who are members of Big-Side from those who are not, seems to be founded on a fair and intelligible principle, and at the same time to be insuperable to very few. I leave it to you, Sir, to decide which body best represents the various classes and opinions of the School,—Big-Side Levée as it now stands, or the assembly proposed by "Radical," elected though it be by universal suffrage.

Should the answer be in favour of Big-Side Levée, the question arises as to whether it is desirable that games should be managed by a body representing all classes, or only by those specially proficient in them. In my mind the answer is sufficiently clear, namely, that all classes should take part in the deliberations,—the swells to point out in what way the honour of the School may be best attained (and incidentally in what way their own interests may be best secured), and the *plebs*. to protect themselves, and prevent too many of their privileges being taken away in the name of promoting the glory of Rugby. I know that Big-Side Levée is not always very independent, and does often vote precisely in the way that a much more narrowly constituted body might be expected to vote; but I think this evil is not irremediable, and at any rate there is at least this to be said for the old system, that when a change must be made—as was the case last year, when it was thought expedient to grant to 36 fellows a monopoly during three days of the week of the Racquet Court, to secure an hour of which in former times there used to be such exciting races after First Lesson,—the innovation comes more gracefully in the form of a concession, than of an assumption by those who are to profit by it.

To go into some of the other details of your correspondent's scheme, I must begin by

stating that I cannot see in what respect a body of 50 can be more manageable than 180, for even 50 is far too large a number to enjoy the advantages possessed by a committee of 5 or 6 consulting together over a measure, and it could hardly be convened by a less formal notice than the present body. Besides, it seems probable that the voting would be just as much by houses as it is at present, for I think, in most cases, the five representatives of each house would vote *en masse*.

Then as to meeting every three weeks—this might do very well at first, but members would soon begin to find it inconvenient to be tied down to a particular day, and, most likely, would soon throw off all shackles and meet whenever they pleased and no oftener. And besides, if there is enough vigour in the leading spirits of the school to meet every three weeks under the new system, why is there not to call Levées under the old?

With regard to Committees to take evidence, the present Levée is perfectly competent, I imagine, to appoint them whenever it chooses, and the suggestion seems worth its consideration. But I object to Committees to consider questions and draw up schemes, on account of the danger of their becoming independent oligarchies.

Having now completed the statement of my objections to "Radical's" proposal, I will venture to lay before you one of my own. It is that the present constitution should be maintained subject to two important alterations in the procedure at Levées.

I. On the demand of any member present let the voting be by ballot. This suggestion will probably be objected to on the ground of its slowness, but you must remember that most likely it would not be resorted to on every occasion, and when it was I do not think it would take much longer than the present system of calling over. It might be worked as follows:—Let two ballot boxes be procured and held at each side of the Fifth School door. Then let the voters pass out in two lines, and let each as he passed receive a bean from the doorkeeper, and drop it into the Aye or No side of whichever box he happened to be nearest. After the voting was over members might return to hear the result, or to take part in new deliberations, and, meantime, the Sixth might use their authority to keep order both inside the School and outside. I am afraid this is a very clumsy scheme, but it is the only one I can think of whereby voting by ballot could

be got over with any degree of speed. Perhaps some of the new Schools may furnish a debating chamber with a lobby rather more convenient than the cloisters, but I am afraid none of the old will. The day will come, I hope, when fellows, no matter what their capacity for games, will not be afraid to speak and vote openly at Big-Side Levée, but at present they, at least, may be enabled to record a silent vote without fear of the consequences.

II. Let fellows be at liberty to ask the Head of the School questions (*e.g.* as to whose duty it was to keep the School bath), due notice of course being given him. This would have much the same effect as "Radical's" plan of written petitions, and would be less troublesome: and on the information obtained the questioner might at once frame a motion. It is needless for me to suggest that notice of a question should be counted sufficient notice of the motion to be immediately framed thereon in order to satisfy the rule (which I believe exists) directing no motion to be introduced without previous notice. Of course, in addition to these two proposals, I advocate strongly the growth of a feeling in the School in favour of freer speaking at Levées, and I would suggest that reasons for or against motions should be stated more explicitly than is often the case, and that the whole proceedings should be fuller.

You will see, Sir, that while strenuously opposed to "Radical's" plans generally, I have not hesitated to take some hints from them in forming mine, and I acknowledge the obligation I am under to him. Apologising for the length of this letter,

I remain, your obedient Servant,
MACEDONICUS.

To the Editor of the Meteor.

SIR,—I have hitherto refrained from writing anything on the subject which has, up to the present time, occupied "Scotus" and "Cosmopolitan," but seeing that the latter, convinced of the impossibility of persuading his opponent, and equally assured of not being convinced on his side, has declined to argue further, I venture to put in my say.

I am myself a departed Lower Middle; and the sarcasms of "Scotus" have stung me sharply. I know I shall not be allowed to revisit Rugby till long after my contemporaries have left, and my name is forgotten; but is the privilege of considering myself as

(I dare not say an Old Rugbeian) having been a member of the School to be denied me because I could not decline *Amo* without a mistake, was low in the School, and not a swell at either Football or Cricket? (though, I may remark by the way, one may be very fond of both and yet be only in the Second Twenty, or Three Belows). I was not there long; I was not a swell, and I was not in the Sixth, but only in the Lower Middle. But I do love, and always shall love Rugby, in spite of all these crimes.

Again, but few spend their whole boyhood at Rugby or even all their schooldays, and not a few, even Swells, and the still larger number of Contributors to the glory and credit of Rugby, get their most pleasing sensations elsewhere.

As to the exact number of the "brave, honest, and kindly" people who leave Rugby in the Lower Middles, that has nothing to do with the question. There are quite enough to make it worth while at least to try and turn the current of popular feeling out of its present uncharitable course.

"Cosmopolitan" did not strike deep enough. The cruelty does not extend merely to the Lower Middles; it reaches up into the Upper Middles, nay even to the august Upper School, for I know several fellows in that part of the School, and many in the Upper Middles, who are deterred from revisiting their old School (though they would gladly do so) by this unjust and unreasonable custom, whose existence cannot be denied, and ought not to be ignored. As for the time to which "Scotus" memory carries him: if he means that happy time when whistling, except from the lips of the most potent Swells, was considered a crime for which no punishment was too severe, let us hope that no future Rugbeian's memory will ever carry him back to such times. The Sixth can do their duty quite as decidedly without setting unfortunate new boys lines, ostensibly for making a noise but really for whistling, and using the pockets which his tailor has supplied him with; and can live at the same time without looking upon the Lower Middles as beings of an inferior order to themselves.

I am, Sir, etc., etc.,

P.M.

To the Editor of the *Meteor*.

DEAR SIR,—In fear and trembling I awaited your last number, and happy was I to find that the foreboded change had not taken place.

I belong to that body of Old Rugbeians which, being far away from Rugby, are if possible more attached to it than those who have greater opportunities of revisiting and hearing of it. The change contemplated in the *Meteor* was, as I understand, to combine School news with other articles of more general interest. This would be ruin. Not because, as one of your correspondents asserts, a schoolboy's ideas on the Irish Church would not be worth very much. This is absurd; he would very possibly, nay, even probably, have some excellent crude ideas on the matter, which it would do him good to express and see criticised. We should not, doubtless, see the close and subtle logic of a great philosopher, but what then? Napoleon declared that "Philosophers would ruin any country if allowed to have their way for three months." No: not on account of the inability of the writer would I condemn the appearance of such productions in the *Meteor*, but because the *Meteor* is not the proper place for them. Those who take in the *Meteor* to read about their School (and they are a large number) would be vexed at being defrauded of a couple of columns in order that such articles might appear. Surely there is enough School news to keep those eight pages going without turning to other matters, and let us charitably assign that terrible article to the wretched weather and scarcity of news at that dull season.

The manner in which the Athletic Cup is decided certainly requires improvement. A badge for the School Twenty is another question that has very properly been mooted. Big-Side Levée only wants a finishing blow to knock it from its very skaky position. The arrangements for playing house matches might be improved, since the best matches are now played in the worst weather. Surely, a little healthy controversy on these points would supply the *Meteor* with food for a short time at least.

In the name of a large body of Old Rugbeians then, I must request that the *Meteor* continue as it is. At present its basis is sound, but whether this would be so if the proposed change were adopted is a question. Let past failures be a warning of the fate of Magazines. Reformers, pause before you take this fatal step, remember that

"*facilis descensus Averno*
Sed revocare gradum
Hoc opus, hic labor est."

In this matter at least let me sign myself

CONSERVATIVE.

FIVES AND RACQUETS.

A Racquet Handicap was got up at the beginning of this Term, entrance 2s. 6d., with the following results :—

1ST TIES.

Gardner, ma. beat Bayley, giving him 2 hands and 4 points each game.
 Pearson beat Westfeldt, ma., neither giving any points.
 Walker, ma. beat Boyd, giving him 7 points each game.
 Warner ma. beat Isherwood ma., the latter giving 5 points each game.
 Collin beat Weston, the latter giving 7 points each game.
 Gwyer ma. beat Montgomery, giving him 2 hands and 5 points each game.
 Moberly beat Baring, giving him 3 points each game.
 Plumb ma. beat Basset, giving him 3 points each game.
 Milne beat Buckland ma., giving him 3 points each game.
 Collingridge beat Ogilvie ma., giving him 6 points each game.

2ND TIES.

Gwyer ma., beat Collin, giving him 2 hands and 7 points each game.
 Collingridge beat Walker ma., giving him four 4 points each game.
 Warner ma. beat Gardner ma., the latter giving 2 hands and 3 points each game.
 Pearson beat Plumb ma., giving him 2 hands and 4 points each game.
 Milne beat Moberly, giving him 4 points each game.

3RD TIES.

Pearson beat Collingridge, giving him 5 points each game.

Gwyer ma., beat Milne, giving 6 points each game.

Warner ma.

4TH TIES.

Pearson beat Warner ma., giving him 7 points each game.

Gwyer ma.

5TH TIES.

Gwyer ma. plays Pearson, giving him 6 points each game.

1ST TIES.

SINGLE RACQUETS.

Walker ma. beat Baring.
 Gwyer ma. " Southam.
 Isherwood ma. " Lushington ma.
 Pearson " Buckland ma.
 Moberly " Collingridge.
 Weston " Peel.
 Sidgwick mi. " Bayley.
 Milne " Westfeldt ma.
 Gardner ma. " Warner ma.
 Plumb ma.

DOUBLE RACQUETS.

Warner, ma. } beat { Westfeldt ma.
 Lushington ma. } { Moberly.
 Pearson } " { Collingridge
 Westfeldt mi. } " { Riley.
 Bayley } " { Peel
 Southam } " { Walker ma.
 Gardner ma. } " { Milne
 Gwyer ma. } " { Bassett.
 Isherwood ma. } " { Weston
 Buckland ma. } " { Baring.

DOUBLE ETON HAND-FIVES.

Isherwood ma. } beat { Westfeldt mi.
 Gardner ma. } { Ormerod.
 Weston } " { Norton
 Baring } " { De Bunsen.
 Walker ma. } " { Westfeldt ma.
 Gwyer ma. } " { Moberly.
 Peake } " { Collingridge.
 Buckland, ma. } " { Riley.
 Francis ma. } " { Lushington, ma.
 Warner ma. } " { Browne ma.

RUGBY SINGLE HAND-FIVES.

Buckland ma. beat Phayre.
 Dugdale " Collingridge.
 Westfeldt ma. " Baring.
 Gwyer ma. " Francis ma.
 Walker ma. " Moberly.
 Brown ma. " Isherwood ma.
 Weston " Wilson.
 Peake " Ogilvie ma..
 Riley " Unna.
 Norton " De Bunsen.

Warner ma.

RUGBY DOUBLE HAND-FIVES.

Peake } beat { Browne ma.
 Dugdale } { Lushington ma.
 Buckland ma. } " { Montgomery.
 Isherwood ma. } " { Robertson ma.
 Moberly } " { Weston
 Westfeldt ma. } " { Baring.
 Francis ma. } " { Collingridge
 Warner ma. } " { Phayre.
 Gwyer ma. } " { Ormerod
 Walker ma. } " { Westfeldt mi.
 Chappell } " { Norton
 Riley } " { De Bunsen.

BAT-FIVES.

Moberly beat Tubb.
 Pearson " Westfeldt mi.
 Miller " Sidgwick mi.
 Gardner ma. " Gwyer ma.
 Collingridge " Cholmondely ma.
 Milne.

Weston and Warner ma. and Lushington ma. and Ogilvie ma. did not play off their ties by the appointed day, and were therefore scratched.

CAMBRIDGE.—RUGBY SCRATCH FOURS.

These Races were rowed on Friday, March 12th. The following is a list of the Crews in the order of starting. The Brackets indicate the bumps.

1st HEAT.

- 1. M. B. Dodds 1st Trinity.
- 2. W. J. Barber ditto.
- 3. F. S. Gwatkin ditto.
- Stroke—T. Gemmell ditto.
- Cox.—T. Allen ditto.

- 1. A. W. Lambert..... Lady Margaret.
- 2. E. Thornton Caius.
- 3. J. Collins Lady Margaret.
- Stroke—H. S. Jeffery 1st Trinity.
- Cox.—J. Adams..... Lady Margaret.

- 1. H. Phillips..... Lady Margaret.
- 2. J. I. Farr Sidney.
- 3. J. Wilkes Lady Margaret.
- Stroke—H. W. Badger..... Trinity Hall.
- Cox.—H. W. S. Sneyd Kynnersley 1st Trinity.

- 1. G. H. Lloyd Trinity Hall.
- 2. S. P. B. Bucknill 1st Trinity.
- 3. A. Y. Forster..... ditto.
- Stroke—A. A. Bourne Lady Margaret.
- Cox.—E. H. W. Ingram 1st Trinity.

- 1. T. A. De la Rue Lady Margaret.
- 2. F. Tobin ditto.
- 3. W. C. Marshall 1st Trinity.
- Stroke—W. Dixon Trinity Hall.
- Cox.—H. J. Wickens S. John's.

- 1. J. Peake..... Lady Margaret.
- 2. G. H. Butler Trinity Hall.
- 3. C. R. Tyser 1st Trinity.
- Stroke—L. W. Novelli ditto.
- Cox.—A. H. Lushington Trinity.

- 1. J. D. Nicol..... Trinity.
- 2. C. J. Peile 1st Trinity.
- 3. A. Smythies ditto.
- Stroke—B. G. Brown..... Emmanuel.
- Cox.—E. Farrer..... Caius.

2nd HEAT.

Allen's boat bumped Lushington's.
Kynnersley's rowed over.
Wicken's bumped Farrer's.

A Time Race was then rowed between Allen's, Wicken's, and Kynnersley's, but it was so close that the winner could not be decided on, so it was rowed over again, and Allen's boat won by several seconds, Kynnersley's being second.

In the late Torpid Races at Oxford the following Old Rugbeians rowed for their respective Colleges:—

- Wadham Coll. R. E. Baynes (Bow).
- Trin. Coll. L. P. Russell (Stroke).
W. C. Lucy (No. 7).
W. B. S. Yarde (No. 6).
- C. C. C. J. S. Masterman (No. 3).
- Lincoln Coll. E. S. Morgan (No. 4).

In the Oxford University Athletics we notice A. C. Tosswill (O.R.) Oriol Coll. as winner of the Broad Jump, distance 22ft. 4in.—the longest Amateur jump, we believe, on record. He represented Oxford in the Broad Jump against Cambridge last year, but is unfortunately unable to do so again, having taken his degree.—At Cambridge T. T. Paine (O.R.) 1st Trinity, won the Three Mile Race in the University Athletics, L. R. Whigham (O.R.) also of 1st Trinity being Second. They will both represent Cambridge against Oxford. Paine was also Third in the University Mile.

W. Lee Warner will represent Cambridge in the Double Racquets against Oxford.

Most of our readers already know that we are this year entered for the Public School Racquets, but for the benefit of those who will be in London at Easter, it may be as well to add that in all probability our tie will be played on Wednesday, March 31st.

The following Old Rugbeians played in the Champion Racquet Matches at Cambridge:—L. W. Novelli (Trinity), who won his first tie, but was beaten in the Second Round by F. Tobin (St. John's), who in the Third Round succumbed to W. Lee Warner (St. John's), the latter being only beaten in the Final Tie. J. Wilkes (St. John's) won his First Tie, but was beaten in his Second. H. D. Foster (Trinity) lost his First Tie.

CAMBRIDGE.—LENT TERM.—C. S. Williams, Jesus Coll. (late of the Rev. T. C. Arnold's), has won the Prize Foils at the University Gymnasium.

We notice the succession of W. Emerson Tennent (O.R.) to the baronetcy rendered vacant by the death of his father, Sir James Emerson Tennent. He entered the School in 1849.