

THE...
TORCH-BEARER.

THE MAGAZINE OF
The Sydney Church of England Grammar School.

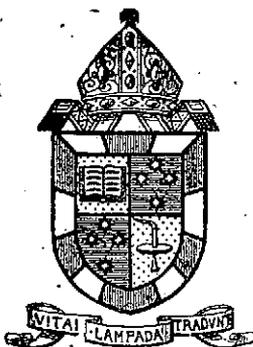
No. 1.

JULY, 1904.

VOL. XIV.

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Editorial.

IN our last Editorial we had something to say on the alleged deterioration of the English language owing to the introduction of corrupt expressions and meaningless slang. A letter from a correspondent in defence of the existing methods of expression of the Australian schoolboy appears in another part of this issue and shows that the matter has at least attracted some measure of attention among our readers. This fact, together with the importance of the subject to all English speaking people, and especially to those who, as arbiters of correct speech, in days to come will base their decisions on what they have themselves learned

expressly or by implication, must be our excuse for returning to the same subject from another point of view. If the spoken language of the Australian school-boy is susceptible of improvement, what shall we say of his power of putting his thoughts on paper? As regards our own School we feel very strongly that a very decided improvement in this respect is desirable, and our present purpose is merely to indicate the way in which we believe all members of the School, from IIA to the highest form, may improve themselves, and, as a consequence, raise the standard and increase the efficiency of the School.

Formal instruction in grammar and

analysis, and the reading and learning by heart of certain minute portions of English literature of course come within the limits of the work of the School, and have their own undoubted value. But unless these are supplemented by that further acquaintance with the best thoughts of the noblest minds to which they are intended to lead, but little progress will have been made towards a knowledge of and love for that literature which we pretend to value as not the least part of our great inheritance. Our weakness in respect to our mother tongue is brought home to us in many ways. Our language masters tell us that our poor translation is not so much the result of ignorance of our author's meaning as of inability to find the English word suited to convey to others what we mentally comprehend. The merchant complains that while he can get any number of clerks to discharge the routine duties of the office, it is difficult to find one with sufficient command of his own language to put briefly and clearly some very simple matter. What then is the cause of this weakness and where is the remedy to be found? How is one to acquire such a knowledge of his language as shall enable him to convey his thoughts clearly and distinctly to another in such a way that the attention of the reader may be economised to the utmost? We believe the only way is by the study of good writers and the imitation of their methods. Rules as to the structure and punctuation of sentences will doubtless be of great assistance, if only as correctives, but the art of composition must be learned by humble attention to the practice of its masters. To those who would learn to speak and to write well, we would say—read well, that is to say read good books and pay

attention to what you read, noting not only the thoughts conveyed, but the manner of their conveyance. Two things are needed—ideas and the power of expressing them. Few of us are the possessors of a large stock of original ideas, for even those we cherish as most surely our own would prove on investigation to be at best but developments of some one else's, perhaps unconsciously acquired in the course of reading or conversation.

Like him

Who, having unto truth by telling of it,
Made such a sinner of his memory,
To credit his own lie—he did believe
He was indeed the Duke.

we are all rather apt to treat as original the thought that on closer investigation proves to be but another's, adapted to our particular taste or requirement. But if for our ideas we must go to books—and good ones—much more must we do so for the power to express them. If you doubt it take notes of what seem to you the ideas conveyed in a paragraph of one of our English classics, string your disjointed notes together in your own style, and then contrast your own mean garb with the "robes of flowing silk" of such an one as Addison or Steele, and we doubt not wonder and humility—both desirable things—will result. By reading and reflection then we may hope to enlarge our vocabulary as well as our ideas and improve our style, and when the means are so abundantly furnished in cheap editions of all our best writers, in our School Library, and in many other ways, there is surely no excuse for neglecting any longer to remedy our deficiencies in this respect. We believe the Reading Room and Library are already producing

a good effect and trust to see many more boys taking advantage of them in the future. Unfortunately, experience has taught us that in too many cases the intensely practical mind of the Australian youth, is not to be lured into wasting time on such things when he might be learning shorthand and typewriting or something of the commercial value of which he is thoroughly convinced. Let business men show clearly that they want the youth who can not only take down a letter from dictation and type it, but can write it himself, and let the University exact a sound knowledge of English from every matriculant, and the reproach of thus shamefully neglecting our own language will soon disappear. It may seem to be a low view to take of a noble subject, but it has at least the merit of being practical, and anything so labelled is almost as sure of attention as if we called it democratic—for the two together

undoubtedly convey far more comfort than even that blessed word Mesopotamia.

We would therefore ask our readers to do good to themselves and their School by taking advantage of the opportunities so freely offered to them for making good their shortcomings in this respect. In the library will be found books to suit all tastes and ages, and we hope to see a speedy increase in the membership. Even for those who, despising all such considerations as we have suggested above, look to literature as only giving an increased range of expression in unconventional terms, we can cordially recommend the Library. Those "sabre cuts of Saxon speech," which constitute intelligent as distinguished from idiotic slang, are to be found in all their terse virility in many volumes on its shelves, and even to raise our slang to the quaintness that characterises our American cousins would be no slight gain.

Marooned.

Far in the calm of sunny southern seas
Where never yet the gaze of mortal man
Had rested, lay an isle, fair to behold.
Whence limpid springs of water, gushing
forth,
Leapt down in sparkling streams, from
rock to rock
To where the warm sea, lapping the
silting sand,
Engulfed it. And upon the land, there
grew
—How planted none may say—great
feath'ry palms
Stately and tall, bowing their proud,
plumed heads
Beneath the balmy breezes of the morn.

'Twas early day, and on the highest crags,
The first rays of the rising sun found
rest
Gleaming and dancing; while each rock-
face shone
Transformed and turned to ruddy,
burnished gold.
Under his gaze, and down his glancing
track
Scarce seen for dazzling brightness on the
sea
A gallant ship, her sails like eagle's wing
Spread to the ever fresh'ning wind of
morn,
With stately grandeur bore, like a
summer cloud.

On came the ship, until the long slow
swell,
At lazy frolic with the sandy shoals,
Washed 'neath her bows in eddying
swirls of foam,
Tearing the sea-growths from the shelving
shore.
While after short delay, put off a boat,
Wherein ill-looking ruffians—all but one,
And he a prisoner, bound secure in
chains—
Rowed with quick, lusty strokes toward
the beach.
Hither come, strong hands with haste
released the bonds
Of him so bound. Who, standing as
entranced,
Seemed not to feel their presence, know
their acts.
And so they left him. Then with anchor
weighed,

By devious course against the heading
wind,
The mystic ship sailed silently away
Over the waste of waters. Him marooned.
They thought to leave no friend, no chance
escape.
But nay, his last companion in the world,
His first in that to come, was cold, grim
Death.
Who, pitying the frail, ill-used, ill-
nourished frame
Brought swift release; as the ever-less'n-
ing ship
Lay on the dim horizon's farthest verge
Like seabird's wing; prone on the sand
he fell
Escaped whither none could make him
captive more.

POSSUM.

Harrow.

(THE IMPRESSIONS OF AN AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL BOY.)

HARROW is, in all its ways, very different from our School, and I am quite sure that if a boy was to come out here dressed as they are, he would not enjoy himself. They wear swallow-tail coats, long trousers, and a straw hat with a very narrow crown, and this is kept on their head by a band of elastic, which goes round the back of it. The School stands by itself on the top of a hill, and forms in itself a regular town, as it is so scattered. Instead of being compact like our School, with the hall and the class rooms opening off it and then the same on the landing above, it has one class room standing on one side of the road and another on the other, and there are not, in any part of the School, more than two class rooms together. On wet days, and there are more of these than fine ones, the boys have to go sloping across the road to change from one class room to another. Thus the School, which stands on the top of the hill and apart from the rest of the town, is a confused medley of class rooms, masters' houses, tuck shops, a speech room, and a chapel. I was lead to think, by the way people talk about the large schools in England, that the boys had splendid bedrooms and all sorts of luxuries, but it is just the opposite. The boy whom we went

to see was very proud of his room, because it had a piece of carpet in the middle of the floor about a foot square, and because there were a few bits of paper on the walls. He had a most peculiar kind of bed; it looked like a cupboard, but by just unlocking it the front let down, and this with a pillow, some sheets and blankets, made up the complete bed. The only meal in which the boys are given anything else except bread, butter and tea, is lunch, and if they want to have anything else for breakfast, they have to go out, buy it ready cooked, and bring it home in a paper bag. In the middle of winter I should not think that it would be very hot by the time they

had got it home. Owing to the tremendous amount of rain that they had had before we went there, the football fields were entirely under water, and the boys that we met coming back from playing were more mud than anything else. Every afternoon at 4.30 they have the roll called. They call it "Bill." All the boys have to form themselves up in the quadrangle in order, and as the master calls their names walk past him. The desks are all covered with names, cut out by knives, of great men like Lord Byron, Lord Palmerston and Peel. There are only 600 boys at Harrow, to the thousand at Eton.

D. W.

The Boat Club and the Regatta.

ALTHOUGH we have to record defeat again this year in the boat race, it is satisfactory to look back on the work done by the crew, work which apart from the race itself, was not unworthy of the best tradition of the School. It was not till after the matriculation examinations that the crew could be got together, Dean's services in the eleven necessitated his playing cricket till after the School matches, and Taylor was in for the matriculation. When once together they worked hard and keenly, and by the time we went to camp at Easter were going very well together. During their training their form steadily improved, and they did a course a fortnight before the regatta in 8min. 10secs. without any other crew to pace them.

A week later Mr. Ramsay, with a scratch eight from the Leichhardt Club,

put them from Gladesville Wharf, to Putney, a mile and eighty yards, in 6 minutes, and they finished with an excellent spurt, which showed that they possessed staying power. Their body swing and hand work were favourably criticised, so also was their hard, clean finish, and we fully expected them to make a good race for first place.

At the start of the race St. Ignatius were unfortunately caught in a steamer wash, which prevented their getting quickly off the mark. At Dempsey's shed S.G.S. were slightly in front; our crew were rowing only 35 and coming forward rather too quickly, but steadying down they overtook S.G.S., and at Gladesville had three quarters of a length lead, with Riverview two lengths astern. Here (two) in our boat driving back on his slide tilted it and the rollers ran forward into the boat, leaving him on the runners

as on a fixed seat. Bow being unable to come forward could not do any work, and Stroke and Three rowed on in the gamest manner to the end of the course. S.G.S. maintained their lead from St. Ignatius and won easily in 8min. 30secs. They rowed well, better even than in practice, and we congratulate them on their success, not only in this race, but also in the Junior Fours. The victory of the S.G.S. second crew in the Maiden Fours is another evidence of the high standard of School rowing in comparison with that of the rowing clubs.

The School crew, after their exhausting struggle in the Schools' Race, had to row back over the course to the shed, and after only a quarter of an hour's rest went out to compete with seven fresh crews in the Maiden Fours. It was a very plucky effort, and to come fourth and beat four other crews shows that they possessed great determination and grit. Their ill luck followed them, for in this event they were twice fouled and interfered with by another crew.

In conclusion, we have to thank, on behalf of the School, those who helped us in our training: Mr. Allan Ramsay, who took the keenest interest in the crew and

to whom much of their good work was due; Keith Williams, Stewart Reid, and J. N. F. Armstrong, old boys who have represented the School on the river in previous years. We are sorry that they were not so fortunate as to see their labours rewarded by success.

CHARACTERS OF THE CREW.

- K. TAYLOR (stroke)—Has a nice style and does very solid work; body swing shows improvement, he has a slight tendency to cramp the inner shoulder and hang a little on the catch; sets his crew good time and keeps fair length. Weight, 10st. 11lbs.
- G. L. G. PARK (3)—Has almost lost the tendency he had of driving the slide home a little before the shoulders, which prevents an even pressure through the stroke and causes a weak finish, otherwise rows good form. A hard, keen worker at all times. Weight, 10st. 12lbs.
- O. H. DEAN (2)—Considering the short time in training owing to cricket, shows very promising style; uses his shoulders well on the catch, but at the finish is inclined to meet the oar instead of rowing the shoulders over. Weight, 10st. 10lbs.
- S. C. IRVING (bow)—Should make a good oarsman with a little more age and experience on the slide, which is not held firmly enough on the catch; rows hard and makes the most of his reach. Weight, 10st. 2lbs.
- F. W. M. BUSBY (cox)—Has come on well and does his work in a business-like way; gets on his course and keeps it. Weight, 4st. 9lbs.

The Camp.

In spite of the decidedly unpleasant weather the Easter Camp was enjoyed by all; good solid work was done, and plenty of it. The school broke up on Thursday mid-day, and we had our boat in Dempsey's shed, and ourselves comfortably fixed up in our quarters, at the Gladesville Hotel, before dark. Mr. Allan Ramsay, who has been associated with our boat

club since the first crew of '91, and H. Bullock rowed up the Sibyl; the former spent the first four days with us, and we were all sorry to lose him on Monday night. Keith Williams joined us on the Friday, and spent some days with us; and we were able to use the old racer for coaching purposes, so that if the crew did hard work the coaches had a fair

share of it too. Mr. and Mrs. Hodges and Miss Hawtrey came up to see us at work, and brought us a supply of excellent fruit, which was most acceptable. We had a number of other visitors, including Messrs. Irving, P. Taylor, W. C. Bray, and Stewart Reid; but we were disappointed that our old stroke, J. N. F. Armstrong, was unable to join us, as we had hoped. Mr. Savigny and the Sydney Grammar School crews, and ourselves, usually met on the river every day.

Occasionally our fishing experts, Bow and Two, made unsuccessful attempts to catch the "flathead," and if they had had more time might have found the right spot, or the proper bait, or whatever it was that was wanting. We have always been very comfortable at our Gladesville Camp, but Mrs. Cashman could not possibly have looked after us better, or done more for us, and in spite of the weather we were sorry when we had to go back to school again.

Football.

WE opened the season with seven of last year's team; O. G. Dent, Dean, Taylor, Lawrence, Newman, Peach and Snell. The remaining places were filled by Milson, Duffy, Russell-Jones, Irving, Pennefather, Pockley, Munro, Hoskisson, A. Newmarch and Fitzhardinge. For the first School match the team was placed as follows. Full back, Peach; three-quarters, Duffy, Dean, Dent, Milson; halves, Russell-Jones, Lawrence; forwards, Newman, Newmarch, Irving, Pockley, Snell, Fitzhardinge, Hoskisson, Taylor. In the second match Pennefather replaced Newmarch, and in the third match against Sydney Grammar School, as Dean and Snell were incapacitated, Grant played full-back and Peach came to the three-quarter line, while Munro replaced Snell in the forwards. In the final game against The King's School, Snell returned and Fitzhardinge stood out.

As usual, three or four practice matches were played before the School matches began, all of them close games, in fact

three of them were drawn matches. Our first Competition match was against St. Joseph's College, who put a fine team of experienced players into the field, and beat us soundly by 41 points to nil, our forwards putting very little life into the game. On the following Wednesday we fared no better against Newington College, the score being 45-3. The next match against Sydney Grammar School was won by 12 to 3, and the final game against The King's School lost by 18-0.

At times the play of the team has been of a fairly high standard. The backs, as a whole, are quite up to the standard of the teams of late years, though no player has stood out far above the others, as has been the case with several recent teams. Their tackling is very fair, at times good, but they have not learnt to attack in combined fashion, and have not yet mastered the art of standing back, so that when the ball is passed to them they may have room to get pace up. All the backs can kick, but are not nearly accurate enough in finding the line. The forwards

improved considerably as the term wore on. In the early matches, as a rule, there was no combination amongst them, little hard following up and little tackling with one or two honourable exceptions. In the Grammar School match, they apparently woke up and played a really hard game; the tackling was vigorous and the foot-work much improved; and an all round improvement was seen in the King's School match, especially in keeping the ball at the toe. They have still much to learn in the way of heeling the ball, in passing and head-play generally. But if they can be kept together and go on improving, we should have a really good lot of forwards by the end of the season.

Dean, Taylor, and Lawrence were awarded their colours during the term. Dean is our most brilliant three-quarter, and his run through the Newington team will be long remembered by those who saw it. With a little more dogged perseverance when playing a losing game, he might be classed among the best three-quarters that the School has had. Taylor improved wonderfully on his last season's form. When taken from the second to the back row of the scrum, he proved of great service in smothering the opposing backs, and his pace and tackling made him quite our best forward. He could always be relied on to play hard to the last. Lawrence at five-eighths or wing-half is one of the pluckiest players in the team, as well as the smallest. He was never afraid to go down on the ball to stop a rush and was very quick round the scrum, too quick sometimes. He was inclined to hang too near the forwards in case of the ball going out on the opposite side, so that often when our forwards heeled the ball, and it was passed

out from the scrum, he was too near the opposing backs to be able to continue the passing. On Thursday, June 1, we are to play the Armidale School, who are paying their usual visit to Sydney. An account of the match will be given in the next issue of the Torchbearer. The usual Combined Schools' Match against the University has, this term, been replaced by a match against the Te Aute School team from New Zealand, to take place on Wednesday, June 15th, on the University Oval. The following is the Schools' team as picked at present. Full-back, ; three-quarters, Lord (St. J.), O'Neill (St. J.), Elliott (N.C.), Woodward (N.C.), halves, Duffy (St. J.), Gill (N.C.); forwards, Davies (N.C.); Fitzgerald (St. J.), C Taylor (N.C.); Gardiner (T.K.S.), Prentice (St. J.), Fenner (T.K.S.), Colwell (N.C.), K. Taylor (C.E.G.S.).

SCHOOL MATCHES.

V. St. Joseph's College. Lost, 41-0. It was rather unfortunate from one point of view that we had to meet first the experienced veteran, St. Joseph's team. Their forwards played a fine game, both in the scrum and in the open, their passing being especially good. The backs also showed excellent form, and nothing seemed to go wrong with them. With the exception of Taylor and one or two others our forwards showed no dash or pace, and some of them evidently threw up the sponge. Amongst the backs Dent and Lawrence played with great determination, but owing to the skillful way in which our opponents organised their passing there was generally an extra man to take the last pass and race in. Whilst giving the St. Joseph's team full credit for their fine display the score ought not to have been so large, and would not have been so if the whole team had done their utmost throughout, in spite of adverse circumstances. At half-time the score was 16 to nil, tries having been scored by W. Duffy, Kenna, O'Neill, and Walsh, from two of which Kenna kicked goals. In the second half five

more tries were got by Gallagher, Prentice, Walsh, Kenna, and Lord. Kenna was in fine kicking form, and converted all five tries, making his record seven goals from nine attempts.

V. Newington College. Lost, 45-3. In this match our forwards did work harder than in the preceding, though their tackling was not particularly effective, nor, indeed, was that of the backs. The tries scored against us were not so much the result of combined passing rushes as of charging through, advantage being taken of our weak tackling. Woodward showed excellent form for Newington. He has great pace and agility, and has a skilful turn in, which disconcerts ordinarily sure tacklers. He scored five tries, one of them a particularly fine effort. Davies got two tries, and Grey, Taylor, and Elliott one each. Woodward kicked two goals from tries, as did Colwell. The latter also kicked a penalty goal, and Woodward a clever field goal. Dean scored a try for us towards the end of the match by a good run from the 25 yards touch-line across the ground to the goal posts.

V. Sydney Grammar School. Won, 12-3. We were without Dean and Snell in this match, but the team seemed to wake up to its latent possibilities, and from the start played with much more vim and energy than had been displayed hitherto. All the forwards, with the exception of one who had the excuse of being "off-colour," went hard from start to finish, and though their work showed no great skill, it was a distinct improvement on anything they had yet given us. Their strongest point was their foot work in the open, though in the scrum they were also fairly successful. We must also congratulate them on discovering that it is a forward's business always to be on the ball, and that no matter where a forward is he must race at once to where the ball is. Taylor, Munro, Hoskisson, and Newman were noticeable for their following up, and did a good deal in the way of tackling. Our backs were safe in defence, but did not show much combination in attack. The ball rarely reached the wing man by passes from the centre. Russell-Jones and Lawrence, the halves, did good work; especially were they smart in smothering the Grammar passing.

In spite of this S.G.S. made two or three really good passing rushes, but the final touch was always wanting. Peach, who came from full-back to take Dean's place on the wing, proved a decided success. He scored a try after a rather tricky run. Duffy got another try by a good piece of following up. Dent had run some distance, then lost the ball, but dribbled on, but kicking too hard sent it over the line, and Duffy coming on fast, scored. He also kicked a fine goal from a mark. Dent kicked a goal from Peach's try. Grant, at back, tackled well, but was slow at getting to the ball.

V. The King's School. Lost, 18-0. Again our forwards played a solidly hard game, and the team as a whole cannot be accused in this game of lack of determination. We may fairly claim that there was not 18 points difference between the two teams on their general play, but Grant, though again tackling well, was uncertain in taking the ball, and very weak at kicking. In fact one or two were directly due to his failure to get the ball away. The King's School forwards played a good game, and Irving, behind the scrum, kicked very cleverly. Cranwick showed a good turn of speed, and scored two tries. The line-kicking of their backs was very accurate, much more so than was ours. Dent played a sound game amongst our backs, and Peach was very safe. We had several shots at goals from free kicks, but though quite within distance, nothing came of them.

NON-COMPETITION MATCHES;

- April 16, *v. Kiara F. C.*—Drawn, 5-5. Munro, try; Duffy, goal.
 April 20, *v. a University Team.*—Drawn, 6-6. Dent, try; Duffy, penalty goal.
 April 25, *v. Officers of Royal Navy.*—Drawn, 6-6. Dean kicked two penalty goals.
 April 30, *v. Aoma F. C.*—Won, 9-5. Reid, try; Dent, two penalty goals.
 May 7, *v. Old Boys.*—Lost, 16-3. Dent, try.
 May 14, *v. Nondescripts.*—Lost, 18-10. Milson, Dent, tries; Dent, two goals.
 May 21, *v. Commercial F. C.*—Lost, 3-0.
 June 4, *v. Petersham F. C.*—Drawn, 11-11. Russell-Jones, two tries; Peach, one try; Gilles kicked one goal from a try.

Old Boys' Union.

Notice of any change of address should be at once sent to the Hon. Secretaries of the Old Boys' Union, S.C.E.G.S.

Present members of the School are reminded of the following rule:—Boys in their last term at School may join the Union, but not be members till they have left.

The Hon. Secs. of the O.B.U. have received notice of several changes of addresses. A full list will be published in the next issue.

The Annual Meeting of the Union took place on Friday, May 6th, at the School, the President (Mr. C. H. Hodges) being in the chair. There was a fair attendance of members. The annual report was read by the Hon. Secretary (Mr. H. P. Harriott) and adopted. The balance sheet was read by the Rev. D. Davies and passed. It was resolved on the motion of the Hon. Treasurer, seconded by Mr. N. Y. Deane, that the benevolent fund and any sum arising from life membership be invested in the N.S.W. Savings Bank, in the joint names of the Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer. It was also resolved that a sub-committee consisting of the Hon. Secretary, the Hon. Treasurer and Mr. J. F. Fitzhardinge be appointed for a revision of the rules of the Union, and that an extraordinary meeting of the Union be called to consider their report. A great deal of discussion arose on the question of admitting a certain number of friends of the Union, officially connected with the School, to the Annual Dinner. It was ultimately resolved to ask the sub-

committee for the revision of the rules to consider the matter and report thereon. The election of officials for the year 1904-5 then took place, and resulted as follows:—

President: Mr. C. H. Hodges (*ex officio*).
Vice-Presidents: Dr. G. R. C. Clarke, Messrs. N. Y. Deane, A. D. Fisher, H. W. Kendall, A. B. S. White.

Hon. Secretary: Mr. H. P. Harriott.

Hon. Treasurer: Rev. D. Davies.

Committee: (*Two* to represent those who have left the School during the previous three years), Messrs. G. G. Black and K. Williams; *seven by post ballot*, H. Bullock, W. B. Clarke, E. R. Holme, H. V. Jacques, C. E. Murnin, R. S. Reid, C. W. Rundle.

TENTH ANNUAL REPORT.

Gentlemen,—

Your Committee have pleasure in presenting to the Union the Tenth Annual Report for the year ending 4th May, 1904. Since the date of the last report there has been a satisfactory increase in the membership, and your Committee are especially glad to note the large proportion of boys joining the Union on leaving School, which encourages them to hope that the Union will now proportionately benefit by the largely increased number on the School Roll.

During the year Mr. W. A. Bull, who was elected at the last annual meeting, resigned his position as a member of the Committee owing to his absence from Sydney, and Mr. H. V. Jaques was unanimously elected by the Committee to fill the vacancy.

The usual smoke concert and the cricket and football matches against the School have been played during the year, and full accounts of these, as well as detailed reports of the doings of Old Boys have been published in the TORCH-BEARER, which is regularly sent to all paid up members of the Union.

Prizes have been awarded during the year in connection with athletic sports and the School essay.

The Union offers its hearty congratulations to the School upon the sustained increase in members and its various successes during the year.

The Committee regrets to report the death of two members of the Union, Donald C. Wallace and S. H. B. Bradley, to whose families the Union offers its sincere sympathy.

The Committee has to congratulate Mr. A. H. Yarnold on taking his M.A. Degree at the Sydney University, he being the first Old Boy to attain that honour; congratulations are also offered to Mr. H. Wilshire, a member of the School staff, on attaining a like honour. Your Committee notes with pleasure that F. C. Adams has obtained his medical degree and J. N. F. Armstrong his engineering degree, while A. D. Fisher and H. V. Jaques have both taken B.A. degrees.

Old Boys have been well to the front in the sporting world during the year, and the Union has been well represented both in senior cricket and senior football, as well as on the river. G. A. More won the 120 yards swimming championship of Tasmania; N. W. Turton played for N.S. Wales in the interstate tennis championship. R. N. Bray has been selected as emergency for the N.S. Wales eight which has gone to Queensland. A. J. Hopkins, R. N. Hickson, A. D. Fisher and N. Y. Deane have all taken successful parts in big cricket.

The Committee offer congratulations to the

numerous Old Boys who have been married during the year and wishes them every happiness.

The Memorial Hall has now been opened a library and reading-room, and your Committee is glad to record that the room is now comfortably furnished, the result of the proceeds of the concert held for that purpose, the centre table being donated by the President. They also note with pleasure the several valuable donations of books, etc., to the library, which is now a highly useful institution.

Your Committee has to thank the Old Boys' Unions of the various Schools for invitations to functions held during the year.

In resigning their office your Committee would urge the necessity for each individual member to work in the interests of the Union and thus secure its continued success and increase as much as possible its sphere of usefulness. They regret that it is again necessary to ask members to be more punctual in the payment of their subscriptions, though there has been a slight improvement in this respect during the past year.

In addition to the usual office-bearers, it devolves upon the Union to elect an honorary auditor in pursuance of the resolution passed at the last annual meeting.

D. DAVIES } Hon.
H. P. HARRIOTT } Secs.

6/5/04.

O.B.U. BALANCE-SHEET, MAY 1903-MAY, 1904.

| | £ | s. | d. | | £ | s. | d. | |
|-----------------------------|-----|----|----|----|---|----|----|----|
| Balance from last year... | ... | 0 | 4 | 11 | Printing ... | 1 | 15 | 6 |
| Sale of Dinner Tickets... | ... | 12 | 12 | 0 | Stamps and Stationery ... | 1 | 5 | 6 |
| Sale of Concert Tickets ... | ... | 2 | 11 | 0 | Wine Bill (Dinner and Smoke Concert) | 5 | 13 | 4 |
| Members' Subscriptions ... | ... | 17 | 5 | 0 | A.B.C. Café for Catering ... | 9 | 6 | 0 |
| | | | | | Professional assistance (Dinner and Smoke Concert) ... | 5 | 10 | 0 |
| | | | | | Subscriptions to TORCHBEARER ... | 4 | 1 | 0 |
| | | | | | Prize for School Essay.. | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| | | | | | Prize for Athletic Sports ... | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| | | | | | Balance in hand ... | 1 | 18 | 7 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| E. and O. E. | | 32 | 12 | 11 | | 32 | 12 | 11 |

D. DAVIES, Hon. Treas.

On Saturday, May 7th, the Annual Football Match was played against the School XV. The Old Boys were much the heavier team, and won by 16 to 3. Their team was as follows:—Back, R. Black; three-quarter backs, H. M. Barker, R. N. Hickson (capt.), H. F. A. Peach, J. F. Reid; half backs, H. S. Bland, G. H. Salwey; forwards, C. D. Abraham, K. N. Amphlett, E. Bullock, H. B. Crisford, R. J. I. Dent, H. Meredith, R. S. Reid, E. R. Way. There was a very large gathering of friends and Old Boys, who were entertained by Mrs. Hodges and Miss Hautroy at afternoon tea in the Dining Hall.

In the evening, the Annual Dinner took place at the A.B.C. Café. The committee decided to fix the price of tickets at 5s., and in order to have more time for speeches, to do away with the Smoke Concert and have a band instead. The innovation proved highly successful, and the Dinner of 1904 was generally acknowledged to have been the most successful function so far held by the Union. The only drawback was that the room was a little over-crowded, but this will be remedied in future, as the caterers have promised the larger room for the Dinner. The only guest was the Lord Bishop of Goulburn (Dr. Barlow), who had come to Sydney to preach the Anniversary Sermon. The toasts were: "The King," proposed by the President; "The School," proposed by Messrs. H. P. Harriott and K. Williams and responded to by Messrs. A. Newham, C. B. Fidler, H. Ireland; "The Union," proposed by Messrs. A. J. Kelynaek and A. D. Hall, and responded to by Messrs. F. G. M. Simpson and M. C. Moseley; "Our Guest," proposed by the President,

and responded to by the Bishop of Goulburn; "The President," proposed by Messrs. H. W. Kendall and H. Bullock, and responded to by Mr. C. H. Hodges; "Absent Friends," proposed by Messrs. E. R. Holme and H. V. Jacques, and responded to by Mr. W. H. Wilkinson. After the toast of "The School," the School song was sung; after that of "The Union," "The Boys of the Old Brigade" by Mr. J. R. O. Harris; and after that of "The President," "A Fine Old English Gentleman," by Mr. L. A. Baker. "For Auld Lang Syne" and "God Save the King," brought the Dinner to a close. Mr. Boxsell's orchestra played selections during the evening, and added materially to the success of the Dinner.

The following were present at the Dinner:—

The Headmaster, The Bishop of Goulburn, Messrs. A. Newham, C. D. Abraham, J. A. Adams, F. C. Adams, J. N. F. Armstrong, L. A. Baker, R. Black, H. M. Barker, H. S. Bland, G. E. Browne, E. Bullock, H. Bullock, W. Burcher, L. W. Carey, G. R. C. Clarke, W. B. Clarke, H. Crisford, D. Davies, H. H. Dixon, N. Y. Deane, V. Y. Deane, L. N. Dent, J. E. Elphinston, J. F. G. Fitzhardinge, A. D. Fisher, F. N. Frith, C. B. Fidler, G. M. Goldfinch, F. Gunning, A. D. Hall, C. E. Hale, O. Hargrave, J. O. Harris, H. P. Harriott, E. F. Harrison, E. R. Holme, R. N. Hickson, T. Hudson, H. Ireland, H. V. Jaques, H. W. Kendall, D. T. Kilgour, A. J. Kelynaek, C. F. Kater, W. G. King, C. H. Linton, H. Meredith, G. M. Marsh, W. MacDonnell, L. Minnett, R. V. Minnett, W. Morgan, R. T. Moodie, C. Moseley, H. Nicholls, E. Peach, F. D. W. Oatley, D. F. Roberts, H. A. Roberts, C.

W. Rundle, G. P. Sayers, G. H. Salwey, F. G. M. Simpson, N. W. Turton, G. T. Uther, R. G. H. Walmsley, W. H. Wilkinson, H. N. Wilkinson, H. Wilshire, K. Williams, A. B. S. White, E. H. Wright, A. H. Yarnold. Tickets had also been taken by the following who were unable to be present:—O. Cope, Spencer Simpson and R. M. Rose.

The annual re-union was brought to an end with the Anniversary Service on Sunday, May 8th, in the School Hall. The attendance was good, and the service a very hearty and successful function. The address was given by the Bishop of Goulburn, who took as his subject the Parable of Dives and Lazarus. The service was taken by the Rev. D. Davies, the Headmaster reading the lessons, and Mrs. Hodges presiding at the organ. At the close of the service the Old Boys and their friends met in the Dining Room on the invitation of Mrs. Hodges, and partook of light refreshments. The committee of the Union, on behalf of the Old Boys, take this opportunity of thanking Mrs. Hodges for her kindness and hospitality during the Annual Re-union.

Only 66 papers were returned for the ballot for seven Members of Committee; the scrutineers note that the voting was very close, and the seventh place on the list was not certain till the last vote was counted. The number of votes received by candidates was as follows:—42, 41, 34, 33, 29, 27, 24, 23, 23, 22, 20, 19, 19, 18, 18, 16, 16, 12, 10.

On reference to the acknowledgments of receipts by the Hon. Treasurer, Old

Boys will note that A. B. S. White has become the first life member of the O.B.U. The subscription is £4 4s.

Notwithstanding the youth of the School, Mr. Davies is beginning to have his hands full with marriages and baptisms. The latest was the christening of *Beryl Stewart White* at St. Clement's Church, Mosman, on May 25th.

M. L. Clarke is again well to the fore in South African cricket. One of his latest innings is described by the *Bloomfontein Post* as the best that has been seen on that ground.

In football we have so far only three representatives in the Electoral Contests, but the play of each one is highly spoken of. C. E. Murnin plays for the Eastern Suburbs, and A. D. Fisher and C. F. Kater for the University.

C. E. Murnin played for Metropolitan 1st XV., and Fisher for 2nd XV. v. Country Team. Fisher played for the N.S.W. XV. v. Queensland, and has thus represented the State in cricket and football.

H. S. Bland coxed the Sydney University VIII. in the inter-Varsity Race, and H. W. Kendall went over to Melbourne with the crew as Coach. R. N. Bray rowed in the N.S.W. Boat in the Intercolonial Race at Brisbane.

The following cricket averages will be of interest to Old Boys:—

NORTH SYDNEY DISTRICT C.C.—SEASON 1903-4.
BATTING AVERAGES.

| | I. | N.O. | H.S. | R. | AV. |
|------------------------|----|------|------|-----|--------|
| (1) A. J. Hopkins | 4 | 0 | 183 | 414 | 103.50 |
| (3) A. B. S. White | 2 | 0 | 55 | 78 | 39.00 |
| (5) N. Y. Deane | 9 | 0 | 66 | 288 | 32.00 |
| (9) E. N. Hickson | 7 | 0 | 93 | 200 | 28.57 |
| (10) L. A. Minnett | 2 | 0 | 37 | 51 | 25.50 |
| (12) G. G. Black | 10 | 1 | 74* | 182 | 20.22 |
| (15) Dr. G.R.C. Clarke | 7 | 1 | 29 | 104 | 17.33 |
| (16) R. V. Minnett | 2 | 1 | 4* | 5 | 5.00 |

BOWLING.

| | O. | M. | R. | W. | AV. |
|-----------------------|-------|----|-----|----|------|
| (2) A. B. S. White | 8 | 1 | 13 | 2 | 6.6 |
| (4) Dr. G.R.C. Clarke | 94.5 | 12 | 321 | 24 | 13.5 |
| (5) N. Y. Deane | 127.5 | 38 | 340 | 23 | 14.7 |
| (8) A. J. Hopkins | 53.3 | 15 | 119 | 6 | 19.8 |
| (10) G. G. Black | 61 | 14 | 296 | 8 | 37.0 |

V. Y. Deane took 3 catches, A. J. Hopkins and R. N. Hickson 4 each.

In the first grade batting averages the order was—

| | | | | | |
|------------------------|---|---|-----|-----|-------|
| (1) A. J. Hopkins | | | | | |
| (16) A. D. Fisher | 9 | 2 | 114 | 267 | 38.14 |
| (23) N. Y. Deane | | | | | |
| (36) R. N. Hickson | | | | | |
| (41) G. T. Balcombe | 8 | 0 | 70 | 212 | 26.50 |
| (56) G. G. Black | | | | | |
| (65) Dr. G.R.C. Clarke | | | | | |

BOWLING.

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----|------|-----|--------|--|
| (4) Dr. G.R.C. Clarke | | | | | |
| (5) N. Y. Deane | | | | | |
| (19) A. J. Hopkins | | | | | |
| (36) A. D. Fisher, | 23 | wkts | for | 25.47. | |

Dr. G. R. C. Clarke, N. Y. Deane, and R. Moodie play for Chatswood in the Class A Lawn Tennis Badge Competitions and Dr. E. O. Pockley for the University.

In the recent Final Law Examination for solicitors E. R. Way was successful in Section I. and P. E. Browne in Section II.

N. Y. Deane has left Chatswood, and is now at the old address, Deancliff, High-street, North Sydney. W. A. Burcher has also left Irishlords, and is back again at Leaton Grove, Rookwood.

F. A. A. Russell is giving a course of legal lectures to the Bankers' Institute.

G. N. Allen has returned from his trip in the Old Country, and is now at his former address, Argyle, Glencoe.

W. G. B. Boydell is at present at No. 1 South Oriental and Glanmire mine at Gympie, Queensland; and H. J. Gould is at Cobar.

Ernest Giblin, who was assistant manager at the Hillgrove Cyanide Works, has accepted an advantageous offer from the manager of the Raub gold mine in the Straits Settlement. He leaves for Singapore in the s.s. Prinz Waldemar on July 6th.

H. Marshall, who has been for some time accountant at the N.S.W. Bank at Eden, has been transferred to Windsor.

Keith G. Brooks writes that he is now "Jackarooing" at Cullingral, Merriwa.

E. H. Rutledge has been unanimously elected a member of the Old Boys' Union.

The Hon. Treasurer begs to acknowledge receipt of subscriptions from the following:—A. B. S. White (life membership), £4 4s.; the Headmaster, G. N. Allen (to 1907), O. F. Ash; W. G. B. Boydell, K. G. Brooks, E. Bullock, H. Bullock, W. A. Burcher, W. B. Clarke, D. Davies, L. N. Dent, C. J. I. Dent, O. E. Friend (to 1907), C. M. Fetherstonhaugh (2), L. E. Giblin, W. E. Giblin, H. J. Gould, F. Gunning, G. Gunning, A. D. Hall, E. R. Holme, H. Ireland, H. V. Jaques, C. F. Kater,

| | | |
|---|-----|---|
| D. T. Kilgour, W. G. King, G. N. Larkin, A. M. Lomax, C. H. Linton, J. E. R. McMaster, L. A. Minnett, R. Martin, E. D. Milbourne-Marsh, G. Milbourne-Marsh, W. J. Morson, H. Nicholls, D. W. T. Osborne | (to | 1907), N. G. Pattison, F. Peach, D'Arcy F. Roberts, D. H. Roberts, G. P. Sayers, A. J. M. Simpson, S. M. Simpson, C. Terry, G. H. Vernon, J. B. St. Vincent-Welch, K. Williams, E. H. Wright. |
|---|-----|---|

The Library.

The following books have been added to the Lending Library this term :—

| | | |
|---|-------|-----------------------------------|
| <i>Anon</i> | 879 | Pictures of Travel and Adventures |
| " | 892 | Biography of Cecil Rhodes |
| <i>Ainsworth, W. F.</i> ... 719 | A & B | The Euphrates Expedition |
| <i>Bryce, J.</i> | 885 | Impressions of South Africa |
| <i>Boake, Barcroft</i> ... | 895 | Where the Dead Men Lie |
| <i>Baker, J.</i> | 896 | Turkey in Greece |
| <i>Bennett, E. N.</i> | 897 | The Downfall of the Dervishes |
| <i>Bachelor, Irving</i> ... | 721B | Darrell of the Blessed Isles |
| <i>Becke, Louis & Jeffrey, W.</i> } ... | 830B | The Mutineer |
| <i>Buckley, A. B.</i> ... | 925 | Eyes and No Eyes |
| " | 926 | The Fairyland of Science |
| <i>Ballantyne, R. M.</i> ... | 32H | The Coral Island (2nd Copy) |
| " | | (Presented by Preston ii.) |
| " | 29B | Hudson Bay (2nd Copy) |
| " | | (Presented by Taylor iv.) |
| <i>Chambers, R. W.</i> ... | 646A | The Maid at Arms |
| <i>Cheyne, Canon</i> ... | 903 | Jeremiah, his Life and Times |
| <i>Crockett, S. R.</i> ... | 126F | The Silver Skull |
| " | 126G | Sir Toady Lion |
| " | 126H | The Banner of Blue |
| " | 126I | The Red Axe |
| <i>Crawford, Marion</i> ... | 122L | The Heart of Rome |
| <i>Cholmondeley, Mary</i> ... | 917 | Red Pottage |
| <i>Corelli, Marie</i> ... | 109A | Barabbas |
| <i>Cooper, Fen</i> | 105 | The Pathfinder (2nd Copy) |
| " | | (Presented by Preston ii.) |
| <i>Cobb, J. F.</i> | 929 | The Watches on the Longships |
| " | | (Presented by Wright-Jackson.) |
| <i>Driver, Canon</i> ... | 901 | Isaiah, his Life and Times |
| <i>Darwin</i> | 905 | Coral Reefs |
| <i>Edit. Cutcliffe-Hyne</i> ... | 889 | For Britain's Soldiers |
| <i>Edit. Hales</i> | 900 | Longer English Poems |

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|--|
| <i>Ellis, E. S.</i> ... | 785G | In the Days of the Pioneers |
| <i>Forbes, Arch.</i> ... | 197c | The Black Watch |
| <i>Franklin, Miles</i> ... | 890 | My Brilliant Career |
| <i>Ford</i> ... | 918 | Janice Meredith |
| <i>Fox, John</i> ... | 912 | The Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come |
| <i>Green, S. P.</i> ... | 774B | Cape Cod Folk |
| <i>Gilder, W. H.</i> ... | 886 | Ice Pack and Tundra |
| <i>Gillies, W.</i> ... | 922 | First Studies in Plant Life in Australia |
| " ... | 923 | Nature Studies in Australia |
| <i>Hoare, H. W.</i> ... | 884 | Evolution of the English Bible |
| | | (Presented by Miss Woodcock.) |
| <i>Hocking, Jos.</i> ... | 906 | Follow the Gleam |
| <i>Harrison, F.</i> ... | 729A | The Choice of Books |
| <i>Hewlett, M.</i> ... | 913 | The Forest Lovers |
| <i>Hutcherson</i> ... | 931 | Fritz and Eric |
| | | (Presented by Preston ii.) |
| <i>J. J. B.</i> ... | 909 | Wee Macgregor |
| <i>Johnson, H.</i> ... | 919 | With our Soldiers at the Front |
| | | (Presented by Buckland i.) |
| <i>Kingsley, Chas.</i> ... | 298A | Alton Locke |
| <i>Kean, Rev. J.</i> ... | 899 | Among the Holy Places, a Pilgrimage to Palestine |
| <i>Kingston, W. H. G.</i> ... | 303A | Peter the Whaler |
| | | (Presented by Preston ii.) |
| <i>Lane, H.</i> ... | 882A & B | Modern Egyptians |
| <i>Lawson, H.</i> ... | 534B | Children of the Bush |
| <i>Leighton, R.</i> ... | 928 | Olaf, the Glorious |
| | | (Presented by Wright-Jackson.) |
| <i>MacCarthy, J. H.</i> ... | 881 | If I were King |
| <i>MacClintock</i> ... | 883 | Fate of Franklin |
| <i>MacFarlane, C.</i> ... | 894 | The Camp of Refuge |
| <i>Merriman, H. S.</i> ... | 538D | The Vultures |
| <i>Morrison</i> ... | 904 | The Jews under the Romans |
| <i>Malleson, Col.</i> ... | 800B | Dupleix (Rulers of India) |
| <i>Major, Chas.</i> ... | 907 | Dorothy Vernon |
| <i>Monteith, J.</i> ... | 927 | Familiar Animals and their Wild Kindred |
| <i>Merriman</i> ... | 921 | Letters from a Son to His Self-Made Father |
| <i>Mockler</i> ... | 920 | Tony Maxwell's Pluck |
| | | (Presented by Buckland i.) |
| <i>Nansen, F.</i> ... | 372 A & B | Farthest North |
| <i>Nicols, A. E.</i> ... | 893 | Natural History amongst the Carnivora |
| <i>Ozenham, Jno.</i> ... | 914 | Barbé of Grand Bayon |
| <i>Proctor, R. A.</i> ... | 397A | Light Science for Leisure Hours |
| <i>Page, T. N.</i> ... | 915 | Gordon Keith |
| <i>Ryan, C. E.</i> ... | 887 | With an Ambulance in the Franco-German War |
| <i>Ryland, F.</i> ... | 903 | Johnson's Life of Pope |

| | | |
|----------------------------|------|--|
| <i>Reed, T. B.</i> ... | | The Cock House at Fellsgarth (Presented by Preston ii.) |
| <i>Steel, F. A.</i> ... | 634D | In the Permanent Way |
| " ... | 634F | Flower of Forgiveness |
| " ... | 634E | The Hosts of the Lord |
| <i>Shepherd-Walwyn</i> ... | 924 | Nature's Riddles |
| <i>Seton, E. T.</i> ... | 910 | Lives of the Hunted |
| " ... | 911 | Wild Animals I have known |
| <i>Vernon-Harcourt</i> ... | 888 | Achievements in Engineering |
| <i>Waterton</i> ... | 880 | Natural History |
| <i>Williams, J.</i> ... | 891 | Life in the Soudan |
| <i>Ward, Mrs. H.</i> ... | 898 | Lady Rose's Daughter |
| <i>Wallace, A. R.</i> ... | 908 | The Wonderful Century |
| <i>White, E. E.</i> ... | 916 | The Blazed Trail |
| <i>Yorke, Curtis</i> ... | 675A | The Wild Ruthvens |

REFERENCE LIBRARY.

Harper's Magazine (11 vols.)

(Presented by Miss Arnold.)

The May Book.

The Burd—*Jules Michelet*

British Almanac, 1904

The Coming Commonwealth—*Garran*The Underground World—*Knox*.Life and Times of St. Paul (2 vols.)—*Farrar*

Pears' Encyclopædia.

Nuttall Encyclopædia

The Amazon and Madeira Rivers.

(Presented by Rev. D. Davies.)

History of New South Wales (2 vols.)—*Morrison*.Handy Guide to Australasia—*Levy*.

Pitman's Phonographic Dictionary.

Historical Geography of the British Colonies—*Lucas*.

*Cornhill Magazine, from January, 1860, to June, 1866 (13 vols.)

*Household Words, from March, 1850, to December, 1858 (19 vols.)

*All the Year Round, from April, 1859, to October, 1873 (30 vols.)

*Churchman's Family Magazine, from January, 1863, to July, 1864 (4 vols.)

*Works by various Authors (2 vols.)

*The People's Journal, January, 1846, to March, 1847 (4 vols.)

*The Leisure Hour, 1868-1883 (16 vols.)

*The Sunday at Home, 1868-1883 (16 vols.)

*Illustrated London News, 1849-1855 (16 vols.)

*Lives of Eminent Persons.

*Adam's Synchronological Chart.

*Classical and Historical Atlas.

(*Presented by Mr. C. H. Woolcott.)

School Notes.

TERM will end on Friday, June 17th. The School will re-open on Tuesday, July 12th, at 2 p.m. New boys will be examined on Monday, July 11th, at 2 p.m.

The following boys joined this term :—
A. N. Arnot, H. B. Backhouse, C. F. Buck, L. Cadell, W. H. Chester, R. W. A. P. Dawson, R. O. Dent, R. E. Ellerton, A. Grant, R. D. H. Merewether, D. R. Munro, C. F. Pike, J. Spencer, A. R. Thompson, J. S. Wilson, D. B. Wilshire, C. L. Wilshire, C. L. Willcox, O. P. Wood.

The following have left :—R. G. I. Dent (1st XV. colours, Prefect, Junior 1902, matric. 1904); J. F. G. Fitzhardinge (Prefect, 1st XI. and XV., matric., 1904); G. le B. Gainford (matric., 1904); W. P. Hall, R. Martin (Prefect, Junior 1903, matric., 1904); R. V. Minnett (Capt. 1st XI., All Schools 1st XI., Prefect); C. Norman, H. Bullock (Prefect, Head of School, 1st crew, 1st XV. colours, 1st XI. colours, Junior Athletic Shield, Junior Exam. and Matric., 1901, Entrance Medical, 1904); C. W. Kemp, V. J. Y. Gate.

O. H. Dean and S. C. Irving have been elected members of the Boat Club sub-committee; and O. H. Dean, N. C. Laurence, C. O. Newman, and G. Snell members of the Football sub-committee.

The football sub-committee have awarded colours to N. C. Laurence, O. H. Dean, and K. Taylor.

K. Taylor was picked for the G.P.S. Probables XV. and O. G. Dent and S. C. Irving for the Possibles in the practice match for the purpose of selecting a team v. Te Aute College.

The following have been admitted Prefects :—E. V. Duffy, R. B. Minnett and A. Woodcock; and O. H. Dean, R. L. Newmarch, G. Snell and G. L. G. Park, sub-Prefects.

The following is a comment taken from a contemporary (*Ch. Coll. Register*) on a portion of our special lesson for the admission of Prefects :—"Honour all men; love the brotherhood; fear God; honour the King," summed up the main notes of the Public Schools' man's character :—Courtesy and respect for self and others; patriotism—love of School broadening into love of country; godly fear and sincere belief; loyalty and loyal obedience.

The annual confirmation will take place at Christ Church on December 5th. Candidates should give in their names as early as possible next Term.

The offertory for the Mission and Hospital Fund on May 8th amounted to £5 9s. 9d.

We have to thank Dr. F. Antill Pockley for his generosity in offering two valuable prizes—one for the Upper and the other for the Lower School—to be awarded for character and athletic merit as well as efficiency in work. It is Dr. Pockley's wish to make these prizes annual.

The second of the two articles or letters for the "TORCHBEARER Prize" must be sent in not later than the last day of August. The conditions are:—The contribution must be original and the bona fide production of the competitor; without assistance, except from consultation of books previous to the composition of the article. No direct copying from any book is allowed. The subject style of treatment and length of the article are left to the choice of the candidate;

The annual athletic sports' meeting will be held at the Sydney Cricket Ground on Wednesday, September 7th

At the football match v. the Officers of the Navy, a member of Junior School was asked by one of the onlookers, "What is your *War Cry* in this School?" at once came the answer "The TORCHBEARER."

The Examination for Mr. Uther's Catechism Prize will take place next term.

Correspondence.

The Editors have received a well-written article on "Coal" from E.V.D., and also an article from O.P.W. on "How to Spend a Holiday Advantageously."

Dear Sir, — In the Leader with which the last issue of the TORCH-BEARER opened there were some remarks on the danger which it was thought was threatening the English language, owing on the one side to the introduction of new words corruptly formed, and on the other—gravest danger of all—to the lamentable use of slang terms in conversation by boys, and by the Australian boy in particular. It is of the fancied danger from this dreadful use of slang, which seems to have plunged the Editor in melancholy, that I wish to speak of especially, though there is one point about the alleged invasion of corruptly-formed words that seems obvious. He refers to Swift's complaint against playwrights for introducing them, and goes on to say, "Nowadays we accuse

the newspapers of a similar crime." Does that very fact seem to point to the danger being no new one. Men are always prone to fancy that "après nous le déluge." Havn't we all heard our elder relations telling us that boys did not do (or say) such things when they were young. Of course words are used in conversation, and in the newspapers, which are not by any means framed on the correct method of word formation, but these do not become, as a rule, part of the written language as used in works that have any claim to be called literature. We certainly do find awful hybrids coined for use in advertisements, such as the naming a brand of jam, or a patent medicine; but who fancies that "Mighty Alok" or "Vitadatio" will really be ever considered part of the English language.

To say that the Australian boy is a master of classic English both in conversation and writing may possibly be flattering him, but it is surely just as far from the truth to declare that the average

boy will tell you in a history paper that Napoleon and Wellington had a "scrap" at Waterloo. His powers of expression are far beyond such crudeness, though they are by no means what they might be if he read more, for it must be admitted that the Australian boy is not distinguished by a taste for literature.

But it is further maintained that though a boy may be trained to express himself in correct English in writing, he slips back into "vulgarisms" in his ordinary conversation. Practically he is censured because he uses the particular slang current in his neighbourhood. Well, who expects or even wants boys in their talk with one another, to use "simple, refined" language? Have not all classes and groups of individuals their peculiar forms of expression, which we call slang? It has been so in all ages and in all languages. Society has its pet expressions, so have sport and commerce, and above all, the Universities have each their peculiar slang. Many a boy whose conversation with his fellows is full of such singular turns of language, can express himself in decent English when occasion requires. If he cannot, the fault is to be found in his surroundings at home or at School.

Yours, etc.,
YOUNG AUSTRALIA.

A HOLIDAY TRIP TO EDEN.

It was early in spring, but as the mail train rattled on and the day advanced, it might have been summer, and an intolerably hot one at that. The train was fast speeding to the south, and the curves in the line were sometimes very disagreeable. In the far corner of the Pullman were seated two of my companions, whom I

had succeeded in getting to make this expedition to the southern coast of New South Wales. As on our last visit to Kosciusko, we alighted at Cooma at 9 a.m. Cooma is a promising town with a couple of the ordinary two-storey country hotels. Here we partook of breakfast and wended our way in a "special" to Bombala, which is one of the proposed capital sites, via Nimitybelle, the distance being about 54 miles. Four miles this side of Bombala, however, we stopped a couple of days and shot a few hares. Having at length arrived at Bombala, we spent three days on a station and amused ourselves by shooting wallabies. We also explored the pretty spots which abound in the neighbourhood. Journeying a little farther we came to Wyndham, a little wayside village, via the Big Jack Mountain and Cathcart. The Big Jack is the name given to a long and precipitous descent we encountered just after leaving Cathcart. Wild flowers of all sorts and descriptions are to be found in great quantities all over the deep gorges. Passing through the two-house village of Rocky Hall, we soon caught sight of Wyndham, where we stayed the night. Early next morning we continued our journey to Eden. Halting at Pambula for lunch, we were able to see a little of its surroundings. The houses still exist which were built in the thirties, and there are some rather odd stories attached to them about the convicts and blacks. A little further on our road ran down hill for a long distance. This was decidedly the prettiest part of the journey—ferns, trees and creeks intermingled. There is no need of artist to paint the scene for me, for it is still engraven on my mind, and I have but to shut my eyes when in imagination I am driving down that

beautiful ravine, whose trees stretch far into the summer sky and whose entangled thickets, with cool streams rippling 'neath them make music. By five o'clock we had arrived at our destination—Eden—and although it did not come up to expectation, it was pleasant to see the town, of which so much has been written. Two-fold Bay, so called because of the narrow strip which divides it, is a fine sheet of

water. The whaling station can be seen on the southern side, and the whalers are always ready for a "turn out." There was not much to see in Eden, and as we were pressed for time, we started on our homeward journey the next day, after spending a very pleasant and healthy holiday.

TRAVELLER.

School Calendar.

| | | |
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| April | 1-11 | Annual Boat Club Camp at Gladesville. |
| " | 11 | First day of Term. |
| " | 16 | 1st XV. v. Kiora F.C. Drawn, 5-5. |
| " | 20 | 1st XV. v. a University Team. Drawn, 6-6. |
| " | 23 | G.P.S. Regatta. |
| " | 25 | 1st XV. v. Royal Navy F.C. Drawn, 6-6. |
| " | 30 | 1st XV. v. Aoma. Won, 9-5. |
| May | 4 | School Anniversary Day, Half-Holiday. |
| " | " | 1st XV. v. St. Joseph's College. Lost, 41-0. |
| " | 6 | Annual Meeting of Old Boys' Union. |
| " | 7 | 1st XV. v. Old Boys. Lost, 16-3. |
| " | " | Annual Dinner Old Boys' Union. |
| " | 8 | Anniversary Service. Preacher, the Bishop of Goulburn. |
| " | 11 | 1st XV. v. Newington College. Lost, 45-3. |
| " | 14 | 1st XV. v. Nondescripts. Lost, 18-10. |
| " | 18 | 1st XV. v. Sydney Grammar School. Won, 12-3. |
| " | 21 | 1st XV. v. Commercial F.C. Lost, 3-0. |
| " | 25 | 1st XV. v. The King's School. Lost, 18-0. |
| " | 31 | Admission of Prefects. |

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