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Editorial.

INCREASED attention has lately been given among the English-speaking races to matters educational, and, thanks to the labours of several Commissions both on physical and general training, and the discussion their reports have excited, this interest seems likely to continue, and to lead to important results in our methods of instruction and the advancement of our standard of attainment. The recent local discussion on the method of allotment of the Rhodes' Scholarships, and the still more recent report of the Educational Commissioners, have awakened general interest, and although we are not here concerned with

professional details, we think it may be well to call attention to the duty that devolves upon every member of the school in this matter. Without the co-operation of the pupils and a determination on their part to lend their aid to the movement, improvement will be at least delayed, and we would therefore ask our readers to consider how they may best help those who are thus earnestly endeavouring to raise the standard of our national efficiency. The subject has been approached from both the physical and mental sides, and from neither point of view are the conclusions flattering to us as a people. Defective physical develop-

ment may not be so common under Australian conditions as it has unfortunately been found to be in Scotland, even where school games are organised and well supported; but it may be well all the same to note the general conclusions under this head, to the effect that for good physique, systematic bodily culture, as well as participation in sports, is necessary. The remedy is within the reach of all—in a regular course of gymnasium instruction, or as an alternative, or better still as an aid, the regular practice of the exercises of Sandow or some similar system. Those who by the exercise of a little self-denial and the exercise of that most valuable virtue—economy of time—manage to meet these requirements will enter the athletic field far better prepared for its contests than their less energetic fellows, and will likewise be much readier for intellectual work, while the effect of mental and physical development on the character is too generally recognised to need enforcement.

How much again depends on the boys themselves in the innumerable little things that go to make up school life. To remove oneself from the invertebrate class without needing to be constantly told to "sit up"—to put something of life and purpose into one's movements, and to forget that art of forgetting which is either another term for laziness or an untruth—surely this small measure of self-discipline is not only possible, but too often necessary. If the time wasted in getting "forgotten" books, ink-wells, &c., were added to the actual working time, a considerable increase in efficiency would be achieved, while the unwilling apology in the shape of detention which the tardy ones give for disturbing and delaying the work of the rest is hardly, we think, the

sort of amends they would care to offer for showing such slight consideration for the feelings and interests of others in matters outside the class-room. Even in such apparently trivial matters then, the smallest boy in the school can help to increase its efficiency, while punctuality, and readiness and earnestness in work on the part of the older boys would soon set the pace for their juniors. Such aids to the formation of character lie within the reach of all, and must be used by the boys for themselves. Masters may punish for slackness, but unless the offender rouses himself to action their efforts can have but slight effect. Moral, mental, and physical faculties are so blended and interdependent that it may be hard indeed to say wherein the special weakness lies; but the strengthening of moral fibre must come from within, and the most trifling faults and tendencies need careful watching in this regard.

Again, in the acquisition of general knowledge and intelligent interest in affairs around us, there is a vast and, we fear, but little cultivated territory. How many even of our older boys carry their thoughts or interests beyond the city in which they live to the State at large, to the Commonwealth of which they are members, or to the Empire to which it is their privilege to belong? Will such insensibility to anything but local claims and views produce a race of citizens able and worthy to defend and promote the interests of that Empire and of their native land? The means of remedying their shortcomings in this respect are at hand in the library and reading room, and we venture to think that a few hours spent there in the intelligent study of newspapers and magazines would be well repaid in the advancement of knowledge

and widening of interest. By intelligent study we mean that each should endeavour to find out for himself from the books of reference available what he needs to know in order to follow clearly what he reads, and should thus cultivate that power of self-reliance which seems in many cases too likely to perish from disuse. Mental labour-saving appliances, in the shape of vocabularies, summaries, &c., are only justifiable when the time saved by their employment is usefully applied to the acquisition of further knowledge, and the fact must never be lost sight of that the means is, in education, often much more important than the end, and that one of the main lessons to be learned at school is to find out how to get at what we want to know. Even from the strictly utilitarian point of view the victory in the competitive struggle is to him who knows where to look for what he needs, how to get hold of the ideas required most readily, and how to most quickly apply

them to the best advantage. Such powers can only be developed by lengthened practice, and their development lies outside the regular course of work in the class-room, and must be largely left to the individual boy. His efforts in this way may supplement his work in school—as, for instance, in the collection of specimens to illustrate his science teaching, or the observation of the practical application of principles he has learned, but to be of any value the work must be his own, and no amount of absorption of other people's ideas will have the same beneficial effect on his mind.

By giving some of their time and thought to such matters as these all boys can at the same time improve themselves and advance the interests of the school, and we trust that by doing so they will endeavour to fulfil their part in bringing their country to a better position in educational matters than it at present occupies.

Cricket.

SEASON 1903 has come and gone, leaving us third on the list with an equal number of defeats and successes. In the first term we won one match and lost three, while this term we have won three and lost one. We played our first match this half against Newington College and won comfortably by an innings. St. Joseph's College beat our first score by two runs, but in our second innings we made 185 for 6 wickets and then closed and sent St. Joseph's in, who made 112. We beat the King's School by 31 runs. Against Sydney Grammar School we made 138,

and after S.G.S. had lost 8 wickets for 228 we decided to discontinue play, as time did not permit us to get through another innings each.

Although the want of bowlers beset us at the outset, we have managed to get through our matches without having any large scores hit up against us. Nine of the team have bowled on different occasions and have all been successful in obtaining wickets. And yet we cannot claim to have a really good School bowler. Minnett i has done most of our bowling and has taken 16 wickets for 174 runs. Duffy has been very useful as a leg-break

bowler, and has a creditable average. He would be much more useful if he could bowl to left-hand batsmen, as there are a good number in the School teams at present. Allen, from whom we expected much, did not strike form until a week before the closing of the Competition. Then he bowled well in our last three matches and secured good averages. Of the other bowlers Minnett ii and King are promising. The fielding of the team on the whole was good. Dean, Minnett i, and Goldfinch being perhaps the best.

The batting has been satisfactory. Dean has taken the place which R. V. Minnett occupied last season. His success has been astonishing. He has scored in every match. Counting his not out innings of 48 in the All Schools' Match, he has made 365 runs for five times out, which gives him an average of 73.

Undeniably good as this performance is, yet R. V. Minnett's figures for the first term of the Competition are better. Minnett scored 390 for five times out; average 78.

R. B. Minnett has also been very consistent with the bat, having scored 206 for five times out; average 41. Of the others R. Duffy and R. V. Minnett have met with fair success. The former played a good innings for 110 against The King's School, and the latter made 69 against Newington College. Every member of the team has made at least one score of over twenty, even Bullock, who did not practice much or play in any matches until the Senior Examination was over, made 32 against S.G.S.

SCHOOL v. NEWINGTON COLLEGE.

Played at North Sydney on October 30. Newington College won the toss, and totalled 136 for the first innings. Hittman, who went in ninth, made top score (29); and Reid 20 and Elliot 18 showed the best form.

We made 254. The first wicket fell at 26, and then Dean and R. V. Minnett made a long stand, putting on 133 before the latter was bowled by Gill for 69. Dean and R. B. Minnett took the score to 214, at which stage Dean was caught behind the wickets after compiling a chanceless 105, in which there were 18 boundary hits. Minnett continued to bat nicely, and at the end of the innings had made 55 (not out). After Dent (11) went the others made a very feeble attempt to play the bowling. Woodward, a leg-break bowler, did the hat trick. With his first and third ball he bowled two batsmen, and while another was caught off his second ball.

In their second innings Newington College made 112. Hicks 29, Inverarity 21, Hittman and Woodward 15 each were the most successful. Eight of our team obtained wickets in the two innings. R. V. Minnett, 5 for 29; Dean, 3 for 9; Duffy, 4 for 42; and King, 3 for 20 were the most useful.

NEWINGTON COLLEGE.

1st Innings.

Hicks, b Allen	...	...	5
Reid, b R. Fitzhardinge	...	...	20
Inverarity, b R. V. Minnett	...	...	13
Grey, c Dean, b R. V. Minnett	...	...	10
Elliot, b Goldfinch	...	...	18
Jones, b R. V. Minnett	...	...	0
C. Taylor, run out	...	...	15
J. Taylor, b R. V. Minnett	...	...	0
Hittman, not out	...	...	29
Woodward, b King	...	...	9
Gill, c Dent, b Duffy	...	...	4
Sundries	...	...	13

136

2nd Innings.

Hicks, b King	...	...	29
Reid, c J. Fitzhardinge, b R. V. Minnett	...	...	1
Inverarity, b Dean	...	...	21
Grey, c Goldfinch, b Duffy	...	...	8
Elliot, c R. B. Minnett, b King	...	...	0
Jones, run out	...	...	0
C. Taylor, st J. Fitzhardinge, by Duffy	...	...	2
J. Taylor, not out	...	...	11
Hittman, b Duffy	...	...	15
Woodward, b Dean	...	...	15
Gill, b Dean	...	...	0
Sundries	...	...	10

112

SCHOOL.	
Black, lbw, b Inverarity...	3
Dean, c C. Taylor, b Woodward	105
R. V. Minnett, b Gill	69
R. B. Minnett, not out	55
Dent, c Jones, b Woodward	11
Duffy, b Woodward	0
Allen, c J. Taylor, b Woodward	0
J. Fitzhardinge, b Woodward	0
King, b Taylor	0
R. Fitzhardings, c Grey, b Taylor	3
Goldfinch, run out	1
Sundries	7

254

SCHOOL v. ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE.

We met St. Joseph's College at the North Shore Oval on November 4 and 7, and, after a well-contested game, won by 58 runs.

Although Minnett won the toss it was hardly wise to go in on a wet and improving wicket. Our total reached 136, towards which Black contributed 38 by good and patient batting. St. Joseph's College lost 9 wickets for 135, and would have finished their innings one behind our score but for a sad piece of bungling on the bowler's part. Hughes should have been easily run out. As it was our total was exceeded by two runs. In our second attempt we lost 6 wickets for 185 runs. Dean and R. V. Minnett added 98 for the second wicket. The former batted well, and ran like a veteran between the wickets; while Minnett's innings was somewhat streaky, and owing, perhaps, to a slight strain received in bowling he did not show his usual pace and judgment in running between the wickets. Robison, Hughes, and Kenna bowled excellently, and kept the batsmen quiet as long as they were bowling, but when Hynes came on and bowled very loose leg-theory both batsmen very foolishly got out. R. B. Minnett gave a brilliant display of batting for 20, and Dent 21 (not out) batted patiently and stubbornly, if not elegantly. J. Fitzhardinge hit up 29 in 10 minutes, and was a welcome change to the slow batting of the previous hour. With six wickets down we closed our innings. On Saturday morning St. Joseph's College had three hours to bat and 183 runs to get. Their second wicket added 76, but after that no one save Kenna, who played a good innings for 64, 'caused' much trouble. R. B. Minnett was by far our best bowler on the day. Although he only obtained one wicket he sent down 10 overs, 8 maidens, for two runs.

SCHOOL.	
1st Innings.	
Black, lbw, b O'Neill	38
Dean, b Robison	20
R. V. Minnett, b O'Neill	31
R. B. Minnett, c O'Neill, b Hughes	3
Dent, run out	13
Duffy, b O'Neill	3
Allen, c O'Neill, b Robison	3
J. Fitzhardinge, b Robison	5
King, b Robison	6
R. Fitzhardinge, c Selff, b Kenna	6
Goldfinch, not out	1
Sundries	7

Total ... 136

2nd Innings.

Black, b Hughes	4
Dean, c Robison, b Hynes	56
R. V. Minnett, c O'Neill, b Hynes	30
R. B. Minnett, b Robison	20
Dent, not out	21
Duffy, b Robison	0
Allen, b Robison	3
J. Fitzhardinge, not out	29
Sundries	22

Innings closed, 6 wickets for ... 185

ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE.

1st Innings.

Worthington, b R. B. Minnett	26
Selff, c J. Fitzhardinge, b Allen	21
Kenna, run out	0
Hynes, b R. V. Minnett	35
O'Neill, b R. V. Minnett	14
Riley, b R. V. Minnett	1
Robison, b Duffy	8
Gallagher, b Duffy	3
Hughes, not out	5
Cooper, b R. V. Minnett	0
Lord, b Dean	2
Sundries	23

Total ... 138

2nd Innings.

Worthington, c King, b R. V. Minnett	1
Selff, c J. Fitzhardinge, b Dent	14
Kenna, c Goldfinch, b Dent	64
Hynes, lbw, b R. V. Minnett	8
O'Neill, b R. V. Minnett	0
Riley, c Goldfinch, b Allen	5
Robison, b R. B. Minnett	10
Gallagher, b Allen	2
Hughes, b R. V. Minnett	11

Cooper, lbw, b Allen	...	...	...	0
Lord, not out	...	...	...	0
Sundries	...	...	...	10
Total	...	...	...	125

SCHOOL V. THE KING'S SCHOOL.

OUR match against The King's School was played at Parramatta on November 13 and 14. T.K.S. winning the toss sent us in on an indifferent, but improving wicket. R. B. Minnett played an attractive innings for 81, while with three exceptions the remainder made scores of over 20 each. Our score reached 280. Berrie took 4 wickets for 70 runs, and Hoets 4 for 83. T.K.S. made 249. Hoets did some hitting in compiling 31; Sandford (78) defied the efforts of the bowlers until he was run out, and Bell scored 32. Our bowling was very loose. Duffy, three for 38, bowled accurately.

Our captain for some reason altered the batting order in the second innings, sending in Goldfinch and Duffy. Four wickets fell for 49, and then Duffy (110) and Dean (59) added 148 without being separated. As it was close on time when Duffy's score was nearing the century, the King's School bowlers considerably bowled some loose balls. We won on the first innings by 31 runs.

SCHOOL.

1st innings.

Black, c Sandford, b Hoets	...	...	24
Dean, c Quirk, b Hoets	...	...	38
R. B. Minnett, b Barnes	...	...	81
R. V. Minnett, c Sandford, b Berrie	...	...	16
Dent, c Bell, b Hoets	...	...	27
Duffy, c Barnes, b Berrie	...	...	22
J. Fitzhardinge, b Berrie	...	...	0
Allen, c Quirk, b Hoets	...	...	0
King, lbw., b Barnes	...	...	127
R. Fitzhardinge, c Gregory, b Berrie	...	...	5
Goldfinch, not out	...	...	26
Sundries	...	...	14
Total	...	...	280

T.K.S.

Hoets, c Allen, b R. B. Minnett	...	...	31
Barnes, c R. B. Minnett, b Duffy	...	...	5
Osborne, st. Dean, b Goldfinch	...	...	14
Sandford, run out	...	...	78
Berrie, c Duffy, b R. V. Minnett	...	...	21
Quirk, c R. Fitzhardinge, b Dean	...	...	5
Ropkins, c Black, b Goldfinch	...	...	14
Bell, b Duffy	...	...	32
Ash, b R. B. Minnett	...	...	17
Irving, not out	...	...	7

Gregory, b Duffy	...	...	...	0
Sundries	...	...	...	25
Total	...	...	...	249

SCHOOL.

2nd Innings.

Duffy, not out	...	...	...	110
Goldfinch, c Sandford, b Barnes	...	...	...	1
Dent, b Berrie	...	...	...	3
R. V. Minnett, b Berrie	...	...	...	2
R. B. Minnett, c Gregory, b Berrie	...	...	...	7
Dean, not out	...	...	...	59
Sundries	...	...	...	18

Total for 4 wickets 197

SCHOOL V. SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

THIS match took place at the Sydney Cricket Ground No. 2 on December 5. Winning the toss Minnett sent Dean and his brother to the wickets. Matthews and Walker opened the attack, and so accurately did they bowl that forty minutes play only produced 15 runs. R. B. Minnett and Dean were succeeding in their mission to wear out the bowlers, when Dean received a nasty knock on the knee and had to retire. While he was recovering R. V. Minnett partnered his brother, but was soon out to a good stroke. He played a fast ball to fine leg, where Macnamara took an excellent catch a few inches off the ground. Duffy followed and played a ball on, while Black, after making 2, was caught behind the wickets. Dean then resumed his innings and batted well until he had scored 39, and then was given out l.b.w. Shortly after Minnett was caught in the out-field. He had been batting for nearly two hours and had scored 24. It was a good innings, marred to some extent by a chance before he had scored. Excellent bowling and fielding were responsible for this slow rate of scoring. Bullock played a merry innings for 32, and Fitzhardinge and King were batting nicely when the latter was run out.

Blaxland and Manning opened for S.G.S. Allen bowled to Blaxland, and R. V. Minnett bowled an over from the other end, in which Manning gave two distinct chances. Manning was shortly after bowled by Allen. After lunch Walker filled the vacancy, and after making 19 was bowled by Allen. Blaxland continued to bat with great freedom, punishing all bowlers alike. At 97 he gave a fairly hard chance to Black, which was declined. Blaxland went from 97 to 103 by hitting King clean out of the ground for

6—a lovely stroke. After making 125 he was caught at point. With the exception of Macnamara (37) none of the others did much. As time did not permit us to play a two innings match, play was discontinued at 3.45 p.m., S.G.S. having lost 8 wickets for 228.

SCHOOL.

1st Innings.

Dean, lbw., b Matthews...	39
R. B. Minnett, c Gale, b Manning	24
R. V. Minnett, c Macnamara, b Matthews	1
Duffy, b Matthews	0
Black, c Docker, b Walker	2
Bullock, b Matthews	32
Dent, c Walker, b Hill	2
Allen, b Hill	2
King, run out	6
Goldfinch, b Hill	0
Fitzhardinge, not out	10
Sundries	20
Total	138

S.G.S.

1st Innings.

Manning, b Allen	5
Blaxland, c Allen, b R. V. Minnett	125
Walker, lbw., b Allen	19
Bull, b R. B. Minnett	1
Matthews, c Fitzhardinge, b King	14
Macnamara, run out	37
Docker, b K. Allen	1
Hill, c Fitzhardinge, b R. V. Minnett	6
Garrett, not out	5
Gale, not out	10
Clayton, did not bat	0
Sundries	5
Total	228
Allen took	3 wickets for 58 runs
R. V. Minnett	2 " 62 "
R. B. Minnett	1 " 24 "
King	1 " 22 "

SCHOOL V. OLD BOYS.

PLAYED ON THE SCHOOL GROUND, DECEMBER 4. Old Boys won by 87 runs.

PRESENT.

1st Innings.

Dean, b Hordern...	0
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R. B. Minnett, c Rundle, b Hordern	6
R. V. Minnett, c Black, b Hordern	16
Bullock, b N. Deane	2
Black, c Rundle, b White	3
Duffy, b Hordern	0
Dent, c N. Deane, b Rundle	3
Allen, c Black, b Hordern	1
Besnard, c B. Clarke, b Black	6
King, c White, b Black	5
J. Fitzhardinge, not out	4
Goldfinch, st. Turton, b Black	2
Sundries	24
Total	72

2nd Innings.

Dean, b Hordern	69
R. B. Minnett, lbw., b Hordern	0
R. V. Minnett, b Rundle	13
Bullock, c and b Black	6
Black, b Black	5
Duffy, b White	4
Dent, st. Lyne, b Hordern	1
Allen, c Way, b Hordern	10
Besnard, c and b White	17
King, c Way, b Hordern	16
J. Fitzhardinge, c and b Black	0
Goldfinch, not out	16
Sundries	28
Total	185

PAST.

N. V. Deane, c R. V. Minnett, b Allen	32
W. B. Clarke, b Allen	1
G. G. Black, b Allen	9
A. B. S. White, b R. V. Minnett	47
C. W. Rundle, c R. V. Minnett, b Allen	1
H. V. Hordern, b Duffy	28
H. M. Barker, run out	6
V. Y. Deane, c Dent, b Duffy	13
E. R. Way, b R. V. Minnett	3
S. H. O. Holterman, c Dean, b R. V. Minnett	6
N. W. Turton, c Goldfinch, b R. V. Minnett	8
J. Lyne, not out	0
Sundries	5
Total	159

BATTING AVERAGES IN SCHOOL MATCHES.

FEBRUARY-DECEMBER, 1903.

Batsmen	No. of Innings.	No. of Times Not Out	Highest Score in an Innings	Total No. of Runs.	Average No. of Runs per Innings
R. V. Minnett	13	2	115*	539	49'00
†G. G. Black	7	0	104	340	48'57
O. H. Dean	8	1	105	326	46'57
E. V. Duffy	7	1	110*	143	23'88
R. B. Minnett	10	1	81	209	23'22
O. G. Dent	12	2	39*	148	14'80
R. Black	11	1	38	102	10'20
H. Bullock	6	2	32	39	9'75
R. K. Allen	12	0	49	171	9'25
†K. Williams	6	0	13	45	7'50
†L. E. Giblin	4	0	19	21	5'25
†C. P. Allen	7	0	12	32	4'57
H. S. Brand	5	2	7	9	3'00

†Left since Easter. *Not out.

BOWLING AVERAGES IN SCHOOL MATCHES.

FEBRUARY-DECEMBER, 1903.

Bowler.	No. of Overs.	No. of Maidens.	No. of Runs.	No. of Wickets.	Average per Wicket.
†C. F. Kater	15'3	4	52	10	5'20
E. V. Duffy	27	1	93	9	10'33
R. V. Minnett	72	30	174	16	10'87
†G. G. Black	77'1	10	247	17	14'52
R. C. King	17	3	58	4	14'52
H. Bullock	100'1	28	288	16	18'00
O. G. Dent	10	1	43	2	21'50
O. H. Dean	36	8	133	6	22'16
R. K. Allen	151'4	21	504	22	22'45
D. A. Goldfinch	23	6	74	3	24'66
†C. P. Allen	70'2	11	189	7	27'00
R. B. Minnett	63	23	173	6	28'83

†Signifies left at Easter.

COMPETITION MATCHES. OCTOBER-DECEMBER, 1903.

Batsmen.	No. of Innings.	No. of Times Not-Out	Highest Score in an Innings.	Total of Runs.	Average No. of Runs per Innings.
O. H. Dean	6	1	105	317	63'40
R. B. Minnett	6	1	81	190	38'00
H. Bullock	1	0	32	32	32'00
E. V. Duffy	6	1	110*	135	27'00
R. V. Minnett	6	0	69	149	24'83
O. G. Dent	6	1	27	77	15'40
J. Fitzhardinge	5	2	29*	44	14'66
R. Black	5	0	38	71	14'20
R. C. King	4	0	27	39	9'75
D. A. Goldfinch	5	2	26*	29	9'66
R. Fitzhardinge	3	0	6	14	4'66
R. K. Allen	5	0	3	8	1'60

*Signifies not out.

CHARACTERS OF THE XI.

- R. V. MINNETT i—A good batsman of the punishing order. Not so successful this term as formerly. Has proved a most useful fast bowler, and at times bowled really well. Good field. Captain 2nd Half. Colours 1902.
- K. ALLEN—A good leg-break bowler. Was very much out of form until the last three matches when he regained his form and bowled well again. Fair bat and good field at point. Colours 1902.
- R. B. MINNETT ii—A sound and attractive bat. Has shown good form in every match and gains second place in the batting average. Is a promising bowler, but as a fieldsman is a little clumsy and slow. Colours 1903.
- O. H. DEAN—Is one of the best batsmen in the Schools. Has had phenomenal success for his first season in School cricket. He is a very sound bat, possesses a variety of strokes and is content to pick his ball to score off. Has made 365 in School matches this term. Colours 1903. A good field anywhere. Fair bowler, and in form a good wicket-keep.
- O. G. DENT—A useful batsman, who succeeds when others fail. Fair bowler and an excellent fieldsman.
- E. V. DUFFY—A successful leg-break bowler. Is able to control his length. Promising batsman and a good field.
- H. BULLOCK—Very fair batsman. Makes a

score when others fail. Fair bowler, and at times bowls very well. Good field at short slip. Out of form this term through want of practice.

- R. BLACK—A promising batsman who bats in good style, but is unlucky. A safe field, although a little slow.
- L. C. KING—Is a bowler of promise. Is able to bowl a good length, and keep his bowling from the middle to a foot outside the off stump. Fair bat and neat field.
- J. F. FITZHARDINGE—Has not quite fulfilled expectations as a wicket-keep, but is a tryer and is improving. As a batsman lacks defence, but has remarkable hitting power.
- D. A. GOLDFINCH—At times bowls well. Is a good fieldsman, and often throws the wicket down. Fair bat.
- R. FITZHARDINGE—A left-hand bowler. Bowls a good ball sometimes, but sends down too many loose ones. The most improved fieldsman in the team. Poor bat.

ANNUAL COMBINED SCHOOLS' MATCH.

COMBINED Great Public Schools defeated Rushcutters' Bay Trustees' Team at Rushcutters' Bay Oval, December 2, by six wickets. The winners made 254 runs in 2 hours 10 minutes.

Rushcutters' Bay Trustees Team, 249.

COMBINED SCHOOLS.

C. Manning (S.G.S.) c Jaques b Macarthur	41
M. H. Blaxland (S.G.S.) c Jaques b Howard	114
R. V. Minnett (S.C.E.G.S.) b Howard	18
O. H. Dean (S.C.E.G.S.) not out	48
B. Kenna (S.J.) b Howard	9
J. Hoets (T.K.S.) b Howard	0
R. B. Minnett (S.C.E.G.S.) not out	16
Sundries	8

Five wickets for ... 254

2ND XI

COMPETITION MATCHES.

V. S.G.S. 2nd II. We made 55 (Fitzhardinge 13, Gilles 11 and Massie 19). S.G.S. with three men absent totalled 77 (French 18, McKeown and Hill 13 each). Our second innings produced 37 (Gate 10 not out). S.G.S. lost 4 wickets in obtaining the necessary 15 runs and won by 6 wickets. Cousens, R. Fitzhardinge and Gilles did our bowling.

V. N.C. 2nd XI. Our first innings yielded the poor score of 19. Parker took 7 wickets for 4

runs. N.C. replied with 80. We did somewhat better in our second innings, making 71 (Cousens 18 not out). N.C. knocked off the few runs required and won by ten wickets.

In a non-competition match some weeks later we managed to just beat the N.C. team, making 115 (Besnard 17, McIntosh 28, Fitzhardinge 13 and Gilles 10) to our opponents' 101.

V. T.K.S. 2nd XI. T.K.S. made 140 (Thomson 42, G. Smith and Godson 17 each). Our first innings' score reached 171 (Besnard 43, Cousens 35, McIntosh 31 and Lomax 18). T.K.S. 2nd innings 7 for 155 (Thomson 72). S.C.E.G.S. 2nd innings, 5 for 44. We won on the first innings by 31 runs.

The 2nd XI. won four matches and lost three, which places them second in the Competition.

3RD XI.

V. N.C. III. XI. Lost by 30 runs. C.E.G.S. 21, N.C. 51.

V. Stott and Hoare C.C. 2nd XI. Lost by 61 runs. C.E.G.S. 51, S. and H. 112.

V. Albion C.C. Won by 67 runs. C.E.G.S. 105 (Charlton 25, Barnett 18, Edwards 15, Way 12), Albion C.C. 38.

V. T.K.S. III. XI. Lost by 62 runs. C.E.G.S. 68 (Pitt 14, Way 13, Brooks 11), T.K.S. 130.

V. N.C. III. XI. Lost 47 runs. C.E.G.S. 37 (Pitt 14), N.C. 84.

V. Eltham C.C.

4TH XI.

V. N.C. IV. XI. Won by 51 runs. C.E.G.S. 89 (Pitt 30, Charlton 18), N.C. 38. Dixon took 8 wickets for 17.

V. T.K.S. IV. XI. Lost by 2 wickets and 25 runs. C.E.G.S. 60 (Brooks 22), T.K.S. 8 for 85. Brooks took 5 wickets and did the hat trick.

V. N.C. IV. Lost by 52 runs. C.E.G.S. 46 (Springthorpe 11 not out), N.C. 98.

V. T.K.S. IV. XI. Drawn. C.E.G.S. 105 (Springthorpe 27, Brooks 18, Kemp ii 14, Pitt 11, Hall ii 10), T.K.S. 6 for 71.

5TH XI.

V. N.C. V. XI. Won by 86 runs. C.E.G.S. 6 for 103. Innings closed (Hall iii 45, Bath 34) N.C. 17. Calver took 8 wickets for 6.

V. T.K.S. V. XI. Lost. C.E.G.S. 43 (Springthorpe 18, Calver 12).

V. N.C. V. XI. Won by 32 runs. C.E.G.S. 59 (Buskin 18, Turton 12), N.C. 27. Calver took 7 wickets.

V. T.K.S. V. XI. Drawn. C.E.G.S. 5 for 78 (Buskin 26, Broodbank 24, Hardie i 18), T.K.S. 83. Solomons took 7 wickets for 23.

6TH XI.

V. N.C. XI. Won by 105 runs. C.E.G.S. 124 (Sayers 42*, Beadell 24, Buskin 17*, Briggs 11*, Dent iii 10*), N.C. 19.

*Retired.

V. T.K.S. VI. XI. Won by 15 runs. C.E.G.S. 71 (Briggs 17, Broodbank 13, Wildridge 10), T.K.S. 56.

V. N.C. VI. XI. Won by 15 runs on first innings. C.E.G.S. 33 and 47 (Briggs 18), N.C. 18 and 5 for 36.

V. T.K.S. VI. XI. Drawn. C.E.G.S. 96 (Briggs 30, Paine 30), T.K.S. 5 for 57.

7TH XI.

V. T.K.S. VII. XI. Lost by 24 runs. C.E.G.S. 39, T.K.S. 63.

V. N.C. VII. XI. Lost by 70 runs. C.E.G.S. 13, N.C. 83.

V. T.K.S. VII. XI. Won by 54 runs. C.E.G.S. 4 for 100. Innings closed (Smith iii 40, Williams iii 24, Adams ii 11), T.K.S. 46.

8TH XI.

V. T.K.S. VIII. XI. Lost by 19 runs. C.E.G.S. 23, T.K.S. 42.

V. N.C. VIII. XI. Won by 3 runs. C.E.G.S. 25, N.C. 22.

UNDER-AGE MATCHES.

V. Brooksby Prep. School. Won by 47 runs. C.E.G.S. 72 (Bath 19, Adams iii 11), Brooksby 25 and 9 for 22.

V. Ravenscraig Prep. School. Won by 27 runs. C.E.G.S. 63 (Adams iii 27, Hardie ii 11) Ravenscraig 36.

V. Ravenscraig P.S. Won by an innings and 24. C.E.G.S. 77 (Williams 27, Boyce 17, Burt 15) R.P.S. 16 and 37.

Sidelights on the De Amicitia.

BY MEMBERS OF FORM IVA.

[Editor's Note.—We were delighted to receive a few days ago a bulky Mss. for the magazine, but disappointed to find it was in a language no one on the TORCH-BEARER staff could read. We submitted it to various experts, including the Custom House officers who apply the dictation text in Greek to undesirable immigrants, but no one could make anything of it, and we were compelled to return it to the author, with a note expressive of our regret at not being able to make use of it. Just as we go to press comes a further communication from the same source, which we will allow to speak for itself.]

To prevent misunderstanding, we desire to say at the start that this was *not* written in school time, but is the fruit of our leisure moments. Why we have such

things as leisure moments is of course well understood by all who know our position in the school. We are its representatives and the upholders of its credit at the Junior Exam., and anyone who knows anything about exams. knows what a mistake it is to start real work until the term before the test. Six weeks' training is as much as any fellow can stand, so the great thing is not to start too early. Thus with the exam. a good six months off, we have leisure. But we do not loaf. No one who knows us could ever associate our name with either the Big or the Little Loaf that are so much (or so little) in men's mouths at present. So as there were some points in the De Amicitia that seemed to want clearing up, we have been meeting in conclave to discuss them:

The first thing that struck us was the ungallant omission of all reference to the lady who was mainly responsible for the connection between Laelius and Scaevola. We submitted the point to our Sherlock Holmes (who does all our deductions for us), and his verdict was that from a father-in-law and a son-in-law it was safe to deduce a daughter to the first and a wife to the second, who was as it were the "missing link"—not that we mean to infer for a moment that Madame was at all monkey-like in appearance quite the contrary. Otherwise would she never have attracted Scaevola, who was rather critical in that way. What then is known of Mrs. Scaevola? This was the first question. The next was why her husband had so many curious names and initials. He is best known as Q. M. Scaevola, or Scaevola Q. M.; but Laelius in his playful moments calls him Rectus (*Recte tu quidem Scaevola*), and this is evidently a nickname. What do the mystic letters Q. M. mean, and why was he nicknamed Rectus?

The results of our investigations into these two points of interest we duly communicated to you, but understand there was some difficulty about the language used. Indeed it has been reported to us that some one said a man might read a few lines of it and survive the shock, but that no comp. could set up a page of it and live. The language thus reviled, Sir, is the glorious Latin tongue—not the cramped and stilted Cueronian kind, but the free and flexible speech which, following in the steps of William of Malmesbury and other writers of note, we have developed by our united efforts. Do we think of using the chariots that were in vogue in Cicero's time when we can have motor-cars? Certainly not. Why

then use obsolete forms when you can easily make new ones for yourself? We are aware that there is a strong prejudice amongst old-fashioned folk in favour of Cicero's style: but progress would be impossible were we listen to the "bullock-dray party!" Personally we suffer greatly from this prejudice, as our compositions in that noble tongue, after passing under an unsympathetic pen that simply drips red ink, assume a colour that suggested the title we give the Latin of our age. The Golden and the Silver Ages are gone. Ours is the Ruby Age, and we all know there are few things above rubies. However, in deference to the existing prejudice, and as your readers and comps. are not educated up to the standard of our Latinity, we have endeavoured to put our discoveries into English. The fact that this is to us an unfamiliar tongue must be our apology for all defects of style. As the full account of our researches will no doubt appear in the *Classical Review* at an early date—and in the proper language of learned men—we confine ourselves to a brief statement of facts, and refrain from quoting authorities to substantiate our statements.

Mrs. Scaevola (*née* Laelius) was a leading member of Roman society. She had given much attention to athletics, and had in her time been lady champion at golf and tennis. (It was in the Golf Club by the way that she first met Scaevola, and fixed his straying affections). But latterly she had taken to advanced views—not that she was at all a forward girl—and was President or vice-President of such bodies as Women's Franchise Leagues and that sort of thing. Old Laelius didn't at all approve of this, for he was a regular old fossil in politics, and used to tell his daughter so rudely

that she would be better at home looking after the children, that quite a coolness had arisen between them. However, when she declined to stand for the Senate the old man thawed a bit, for the notion of a woman in that sacred home used almost to give him a fit.

Now Scaevola at the time of his marriage, and for some years after, had held a good billet as Custom's Clerk to a large importing firm at Ostia. He had earned his name of the left-hander, not because he was a dangerous bowler as one might suppose, but from a clever little way he had of always shifting the point one place to the left in his transactions with the Custom House. Then he would add 92.4 and 83.1 together and make the result 17.55, and as they calculated in dollars and cents Scaevola's firm used to do fairly well, and he received several bonuses from them. (Great word bonus by the way. Fine example of the staying power of language. It's the first adjective you learn in Latin, and you're trying to make bonuses an adjective to your income all your life after. Then look how it has stuck in politics. Cicero always calls his side "boni"—the bonus party—and some of our Senators are just as strong on it as he was.) But just about this time there was appointed to the Quaestorship at Ostia an obscure demagogue of the name of Rectus, and no sooner did he enter upon his office than he began to make things unpleasant for Scaevola's employers. He said two and two made four—or at least should do so while he was in office—talked about *quaestiones de peculata*, and all sorts of things of that kind, and actually brought the members of this highly respectable firm to court, and fined them on account

of Scaevola's weakness in arithmetic. So the firm had to dispense with his services, and the poor left-hander was out of a billet. This was why they nicknamed him Rectus, after the man who caused his downfall. Some editors have even taken Recte as an adverb in the quotation we gave above. This just shows how careful you ought to be about your capitals—Federal or otherwise. He thought of going into the Permanent Force, for he had been quarter master in the Carthaginian Field Force in the war (hence the Q. M. to his name), but left-handers are seldom popular with the field force, so he gave up that idea. Joining the ranks of the Otiosi, who were always looking for work and never finding it—for it was a mirage-like thing even in these far-off days—he might have put in his time very pleasantly had not Mrs. S. had other things in view. But she knew that to retain her social position her husband must be in a billet, and a well-paid one too, so she worried poor Scaevola till he consented to try and get his father-in-law to use his influence for him. This father of hers was her only drawback, and Scaevola as a customs clerk was rather fond of drawbacks—for the old man would be talking. She didn't like to ask her father herself on account of the little difference of opinion we have alluded to. Now Scaevola knew his father-in-law well. He was an old man of narrow and almost childish views on public matters, a fact which had secured for him a high position among the augurs who ran the political show with various becks and nods and wreathed smiles. He had been a politician for many, many years, and the sound of his voice was as food and raiment to him, and an appreciative audience almost a necessity of ex

istence. He particularly liked to tell of the days when he and a few others had been the chaps to save the country, and of his friend the Aedile, and the bridges he had built, and the buildings he had put up, and the statues he meant to erect when the market recovered from the war and he could float another loan. Now this Aedile had, among other powers, that of appointing men to a sort of dockyard they had, where they repaired their shattered ships and tinkered at various other odds and ends of their political stock-in-trade—at least on such days as it was lawful to work. These days were few, for it was a pious age. *Rari apparent nantes in gurgite vasto*, one of their poets said of them. "They are as scarce as plums in a sailor's duff." Mrs. Scaevola thought this was just the thing to suit her beloved left-hander—a nice, light, gentlemanly employment—and she pointed out to him that if he could only get old Laelius to speak to the Aedile the thing was as good as done. Scaevola felt his father-in-law was a little more than he could take on single handed, so he went to his brother-in-law, Fannius, and asked him to see him through. Fannius agreed, and so the pair of them went to lure that poor old politician on to his favourite topics, well knowing that after he had talked for a few hours he would do anything they wanted to show his gratitude for their appreciation. Of course it was very wrong of them to take advantage of

his weakness, for though he had been a politician (statesman he called it), he was not a bad old soul, and perhaps in days long gone by might even have had principles of his own. But we must remember that they lived in times when "all were for the party, and none were for the State"—not in such enlightened days as ours when the facts are just the other way round, as we all know. So Laelius swallowed a large dose of flattery—and perhaps a suspicion of something to moisten his throat—and, settling himself comfortably in his armchair, let himself go. All through the long, hot, drowsy afternoon the ancient maundered on, and only those who in the dog-days have followed his wanderings can understand what Fannius and Scaevola must have suffered. Truly they had to pay a heavy penalty for their deceit towards their father-in-law. The modern mother-in-law is held up as a terrible thing in the comic papers of our time; but the most awful of the species couldn't have been a patch on a father-in-law like Laelius.

In the course of our inquiries we have found out many other things that might interest your readers when they are able to read of them in the language we prefer to use; but we are afraid of exhausting the editorial patience. However, we trust these imperfect notes may at least tend to clear up the doubts existing in many minds as to Mr. and Mrs. Scaevola.

The Best Place to Spend a Holiday.

[In answer to our request for some notes on holiday resorts, we have received the following, and trust their number will be added to in time for our next issue.—Ed. T.B.]

THE COLO RIVER.

There is no locality within the same distance from Sydney so little known as the upper reaches of the Colo River, one of the main tributaries of the Hawkesbury. It is truly a magnificent stream, and I feel that I cannot do justice to the beauties of its surroundings.

About this time three years ago I absented myself from school to undertake a pioneering expedition with a party, piloted by two hardened bushmen. We left by the evening train for Richmond, where we stayed the night. Having ordered a four-horse coach, we started at daybreak on the second stage of our journey, which consisted of a drive of about 27 miles. The road, which leads from Richmond to beyond Singleton, known as the Bulga or Putty-road, proved most interesting from a tourist's standpoint. It is one of the oldest in the State, and is mentioned in the Post Office Guide of 1833. It must have been a most expensive one to build, and, in order to get a feasible grade, it is in many places built on the zig-zag principle, as the descent from Kurragong Heights to Wheeny Creek is very great. The outlook as one descends upon the upper Colo is picturesque in the extreme, as the valley is dotted with the richest of cultivations. We crossed the Colo in the coach, for the river happened to be low. Then we started to ascend till we got to an elevation of some 1500 ft. above sea level.

Here our coach journey ended, our final stage being over the roughest possible track, which had been specially cleared for our benefit. The distance from the road to the river, although only about six miles, took us three hours to accomplish. The steepness of the track can be imagined when the aneroid showed the level of our camp at the upper reaches of river to be only about 50 ft. above sea level. After this tiresome trudge it took us shorter time than it takes me to record it to divest ourselves of our scanty garments and heavy swags and jump headlong into the stream, which was here quite deep and wide enough to float the "Great Eastern." But, in spite of its great depth, every pebble on the bottom is easily discernable through the crystal water. Having thus refreshed ourselves, we did ample justice to the pork and beans prepared by the camp cook, who had preceded us. With the aid of a light skiff we explored the upper reaches and some of the tributaries for miles. Where we could not carry the skiff over the extensive cataracts, we availed ourselves of the track (now partly obliterated) made by the early surveyors when it was proposed to take the railway that way to Mudgee. The only sign of civilisation is the remnant of the camp of the late Surveyor Townshend, who carried out the trial surveys many years ago. The river consists of a series of reaches, probably half a mile in length and of great depth, broken by cataracts, always to be found at the mouths of the many feeders running into the river. The cataracts are formed by huge boulders washed down by the floods. The banks on both sides are very



"CARTREF," BAY ROAD.—MR. DAVIES' BOARDING HOUSE.



THE PARRAMATIA RIVER, &C., FROM "CARTREE."

steep, rising from 500 ft. to some 2500 ft., the latter being the height of Mount Tutie. The vegetation is grand, trees frequently running up 150 ft. before throwing out a branch. The river abounds with fish. We did not go prepared to fish, but by setting night lines we caught some very large eels. We saw many lyre-birds, wild ducks, dingo tracks, wallabies, &c., &c., but never a sign of man (except that already mentioned). During the time of our visit the river was very low, owing to the series of dry seasons; but we saw evidence of the flood waters having reached 70 ft. above the then gentle stream. The bulk of the country drained by the Colo is rough and mountainous, and apparently useless for settlement; and, like the Kuringai-Chase, should, when better explored and made accessible, become a happy hunting-ground for the tired and jaded schoolboy. So far its sources and feeders have never been accurately surveyed. Some day a dam may be constructed across the river, which will impound its waters and form an immense inland sea, thus at once making it the great touring place of Australia. I forgot to mention that the Colo is accessible from the Hawkesbury, but for some 20 miles from its mouth it is very shallow, its banks low and flat, where there is a good deal of settlement. To reach the upper portion of the river (where we were camped) by this route would, however, be a most arduous task, and would require a more extended holiday than I managed to steal for the purpose. Slight as was my experience in exploring unknown country, it was quite enough to make me realise the infatuations of an explorer's life.

D. H. R.

A TRIP TO QUEENSLAND.

ON Saturday, the 26th September last, I embarked upon the well-known inter-colonial steamer "Tyrian" for the round trip to Brisbane, Rockhampton and Townsville. Before leaving the wharf an incident happened which may, perhaps, be worth mentioning, at least, as a warning to other youthful and inexperienced travellers like myself. A smartly dressed and good-looking fellow, apparently a passenger, invited me to accompany him to the city to buy presents for friends in Queensland. I declined the invitation, as I had read and had been warned as to what is known as the "Confidence Trick." Had I accepted the pressing invitation, my would-be friend, on being called upon to pay for the presents, would have discovered he had left his purse on the ship and have asked me to lend him the necessary money, which he would return. I may state the gentleman left the steamer for the city, but if he bought the presents he did not return to the ship. The voyage to Brisbane was a pleasant one, and though the "Tyrian," according to her captain, neither pitches nor rolls, yet she succeeded in getting off the perpendicular and horizontal so constantly that she was not many miles outside the Heads before I deemed it prudent to seek the seclusion which the cabin grants, and I had a bad time of it for a few hours.

The voyage up the Brisbane River was interesting, and near the city there are some strikingly beautiful residences abutting on it. Brisbane is prettily situated and possesses some fine public buildings, clubs and commercial houses. The Victoria Bridge is a fine structure, and electric trams connect the suburbs with

the city. The Botanical Gardens are charming, and contain beautiful specimens of tropical growth. Trips to the beauty spots and to the theatre in the evening passed away the first day most happily. Next day we left for Rockhampton. On leaving the Brisbane River I noticed the "Glass House," a conical high hill referred to by Captain Cook in his voyage along the East Coast of Australia in 1770. The sea was calm, especially when we were inside the Barrier Reef, and all the passengers on board enjoyed themselves immensely. We did not land at Rockhampton, but they say it is a fine go-ahead town, and has good buildings and parks. Townsville, our next and last port of call, is 1370 miles from Sydney, and is the most important town in Queensland outside Brisbane. It is picturesquely situated on the Ross River, with Castle Hill rising from the town to a height of about 1200 feet. Although spring, the temperature, like the hill, was too high, so I remained satisfied by viewing it from afar. There is one long wide street in which nearly all the business is transacted, and in which there are some fine business houses. The great mining centre of Charters Towers, and hundreds of miles of good pasture lie at the back of Townsville, and it is these two factors which give to Townsville its importance. The town was founded by, and called after R. Towns, a Sydney merchant, some 40 or 50 years ago. Alligators were numerous in the river until a few years ago, but there are none there now. The disastrous effect of the cyclone which devastated the town are still to be seen; the Grammar School, over which our present headmaster presided for some years, was one of the buildings razed to the ground. I met many of Queensland's

sons whom Mr. Hodges had taught, and all of them spoke in terms of the highest respect and affection for their old master. Here I struck an old veteran of S.C.E.G.S., who insisted upon doing the honours of host to guest. Although our school is not a very old one, its boys would appear to be spread all over Australia, like the veritable gum trees. I have met them in the bush and all over New South Wales, and in Queensland they seem to be numerous. It is pleasant to meet them and talk of old times, and to experience the generous feelings which they entertain towards the Old School and its boys. I was much struck with the off-handedness and good-heartedness of all the Queensland people with whom I came in contact, traits of character doubtless due, in great measure to the tropical climate. The voyage from Rockhampton to Brisbane was calm and uneventful. After a short stay at Rockhampton we left for the "Harbor City" and had a good passage until we arrived off the coast of New South Wales, where we met a heavy southerly, which once more compelled me to miss an excellent dinner. Eventually we entered the Heads of Port Jackson and reached the wharf at King street. I never appreciated the deep harbour of Port Jackson until I returned from the North, where the ports are reached by shallow winding rivers by anchoring in shallow bays and removing passengers and cargo by lighters or by going alongside breakwaters. We Sydney people are accused of boasting about our harbour, but I now think we have something to talk about, although we did not make it.

Although the colours of the School have been worn by many boys in the North, there are people there unac-

quainted with them. For instance, a passenger to Rockhampton came up to me and asked me if I were an officer of the Salvation Army. I asked him why, and he replied "on account of your jacket, although it is not red."

Another passenger pompously asked me if the "Fire Brigade Annual Demonstration" was to take place this year at Brisbane. He was informed I was the Secretary to the Fire Brigade Board, and he observed I wore my official dress, referring to my cap and blazer. I have wondered since what else I was taken for in consequence of wearing my blazer.

The captain, who likes his joke, told me the following incident, which he assures me Mr. Hodges can verify, as he was a passenger on the ship at the time it occurred:—The revered head master of a well-known Grammar School in the North was travelling South with the captain, and was indulging in his favourite pastime on board by trying to catch sharks. The line had been out a few minutes when Captain Joy sent one of the sailors down to the saloon with a large pole with a hook at the end of it. The sailor put the pole through one of the port holes, and with one, two, three tugs at the line, the headmaster displayed an amount of activity and agility in getting in the shark, which he never excelled at "Rugby," at which game it is understood he was a champion. Just as the monster should have been landed it somehow slipped off the hook, and in the language of the disciple of "Walton" he lost the biggest shark he had ever hooked, for it was not an inch shorter than 16 feet.

I fear I have already taken up too much of your space, so will conclude by stating that I spent a most pleasant fortnight on board the "Tyrian" and at the

ports of Queensland, and that I derived a large amount of benefit from the voyage, both mentally and physically. I can recommend my confrères to take the journey at the right time of the year, and may state that they cannot do better than travel under the care of the experienced and kindly-hearted captain of the Tyrian.

H.B.

LAKE MACQUARIE.

If any of our readers are in doubt as to where and how to spend a holiday, they will, I hope, after reading this, know they can go and enjoy themselves to their heart's content, indulging in all kinds of sport, such as rowing, sailing, swimming, shooting, and fishing. The place of which I speak is Lake Macquarie, which is situated about 90 miles by rail from Sydney and 14 from Newcastle, and is one of the favourite pleasure resorts of N.S.W. Lake Macquarie, though generally termed a lake, is not really one, as it opens by a small mouth into the Pacific Ocean. At the mouth is Swansea, a small village, and one of the favorite parts of the lake for tourists. Here there is a draw-bridge, and small vessels sail right up and take away timber to Sydney from the sawmills. Of the parts most favoured by tourists Toronto perhaps comes first, chiefly on account of it being the handiest to town, and having the best accommodation; for after being there you will see that it has not the appearance of an ordinary country town. It possesses a first class hotel, fitted up with electric light, and all its appointments are up to date. Belmont, which is accessible by road from Newcastle, is also patronised a good deal.

Lake Macquarie has a foreshore of 400

miles; and is 6 miles wide in its widest part. Scattered all round its shores are country houses of business men, who manage to fly down to them from Saturday to Monday, and country residents come there in great numbers. Many fishermen earn their living upon the lake, and it is interesting for us to watch them and get an idea of the hardships they have to put up with, and of the small profit that they are able to make. These men have to be out at all times, and are liable to catch their death from cold. On a Friday afternoon all the fishing boats can be seen making their way to the railway stations to send their week's fish to Sydney. Private persons sometimes have a small prawning net, and catch their own prawns for bait; but these people are able to choose their own weather for doing it, as they are not dependent upon it for a living. The best time for prawning is at night, when you must select a nice shallow and sandy spot. It is also necessary to have a large lantern.

Boating is the most attractive sport. If you take your boat for a sail you are no sooner away from shore than you are challenged for a friendly race. Of course you always accept the challenge, and generally some good fun follows. School boys always seem to be at home upon the lake. If not out in the boats, they find amusement in going about on an old raft, in shooting all kinds of birds in the bush, in building bungalows, in swimming or in riding, using probably somebody else's horses which have been turned out in the bush.

At times it is very squally on the lake, and it is then dangerous to go out in the boats. Quite a number of people each year lose their lives by drowning. Parties go out camping, and are always treated kindly by the residents, who give them water and provisions if they run short. With all these recommendations Lake Macquarie may justly be called the Brighton of N.S.W.

K. B.

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.

At a Committee Meeting held on December 4th, H. V. Jacques was unanimously elected to the vacancy on the Committee caused by the resignation of W. A. Bull. Bull has been transferred

to the Bowral Branch of the Commercial Banking Co. of Sydney, Ltd., and as he does not think that he will be in Sydney for some time he sent in his resignation from the Old Boys' Union Committee.

Old Boys tender their sincerest sympathy with D. T. Kilgour and his family in their recent bereavement.

A very good photograph of G. L. Hobson appeared in the *Sydney Mail* on November 18th on the occasion of his receiving his South African war medal and

the Distinguished Conduct medal. The following note accompanied the photograph:—

An interesting feature of the proceedings was the presentation to Corporal Hobson of the Distinguished Conduct medal. This gallant youth, whose portrait is herewith published, is a son of Mr. J. Hobson, of North Sydney. Quiet and unassuming in demeanour, he has proved himself to be of the stuff of which heroes are made, and never was honour more worthily bestowed. The particular action which gained him this distinction was in connection with an engagement at Korannafontein, in the south-western Transvaal, on May 10, 1901, when a handful of the Mounted Rifles were suddenly surrounded by an overwhelming force of the enemy. There was no way out of the trap, for Boers were everywhere, and the main body of the British was fully three miles away. With splendid courage the New South Wales men fought until their ammunition had become exhausted, and then, with five of their comrades lying dead and seven wounded, they had no option but to submit to capture. There were many brave deeds done that day, and Hobson's was one of them. When the supply of ammunition began to give out he volunteered to ride back for re-inforcements, and started off only to find himself, after going a short distance, in the midst of a large force of Boers. He was called on to surrender, but refused, and, preparing to sell his life as dearly as possible, clubbed his rifle and brought it down upon the foremost of the Boers approaching him. The Boer succeeded in grasping the rifle, and together they wrestled in deadly earnestness, when Hobson, who preferred to die rather than surrender, fell with three bullet wounds in his body. For some months he was in hospital, but had no sooner recovered than he was back again with his regiment and his comrades of B Squadron.

Sir Harry Rawson congratulated Corporal Hobson very warmly; and in the course of a stirring, manly speech to the troops expressed his appreciation of their service to their King and country.

Congratulations to A. D. Fisher on being picked to represent N.S.W. against the English XI. The following note is taken from the *Sydney Referee*:—

New South Wales selectors—Messrs. M. A.

Noble, S. E. Gregory, and F. A. Iredale—have sprung a surprise on cricketers by including A. D. Fisher, of University Club, in the eleven to meet the Englishmen. Fisher's exclusion, as well as that of others, from the Next Thirteen, was surprising, and it merely accentuates astonishment now felt with regard to his elevation to the representative team. Nevertheless, while one fails to follow the selectors in originally overlooking Fisher when picking the best twenty-four players of the State, one feels that, apart from the inconsistency, the selectors are giving a young player of promise and good performances a trial. A. D. Fisher is a Church of England Grammar School boy, and lives at North Sydney, where he at times practises with the local club. He is a right-handed bowler, takes a good run, and bowls about fast medium pace, with a high and free delivery. He is better known to Sydney sportsmen as one of the best three-quarter backs in the University Rugby fifteen. The young Varsity representative never played Senior cricket prior to last season, when his performances with the ball for the University in the First Grade were:—One for 17 and one for 26 v. Sydney, two for 50 v. L.B., four for 37 v. North Sydney, none for 39 and none for 16 v. Waverley, four for 74 v. Burwood, seven for 55 v. Glebe, one for 19 and two for 15 v. Central Cumberland, six for 48 and four for 28 v. Redfern, and two for 66 v. Paddington. This season he has taken five for 60 v. Glebe, three for 71 v. Burwood, and 6 for 98 v. Paddington. His performances last season—thirty-four wickets at 14.39—were inferior only to those of Marsh (forty-eight wickets at 12.58), O'Connor and Bowden. He was more difficult to score from than Marsh, owing to his greater accuracy of pitch. Fisher is a fair bat and a rather good field in the slips.

In addition to Fisher, A. J. Hopkins, and R. N. Hickson played for the N.S.W. XI and N. Y. Deane for the Next XIII. In the match v. South Australia Hopkins performed the *hat trick*. He performed the same feat in the match Australian XI v. Cambridge University last year. A. B. S. White secured his century for the University Veterans v. the Commercial Banking Co. of Sydney. T. H. Dent got 5 wickets for 87 for Newcastle v. the

English XI., and made the second highest score on his side (27).

The annual Old Boys' Cricket Match v. The School took place on Friday, December 4th. The Old Boys were represented by H. M. Barker, G. G. Black (capt.), W. B. Clarke, N. Y. Deane, V. Y. Deane, S. H. O. Holtermann, H. V. Hordern, J. Lyne, C. W. Rundle, N. W. Turton, E. R. Way, A. B. S. White. The Old Boys won on the first innings. A detailed report will be found in the cricket article. Notwithstanding the counter attraction of the inter-state match, there was a good gathering of friends of the School, who were entertained at afternoon tea by Mrs. Hodges. In the evening the annual Smoke Concert took place in the School Hall. There was a large number of Old Boys present, and the concert proved a great success in every way.

The following took part:—Messrs. Barnett, Foggitt, V. Y. Deane, Goodin, Kelynack, Mack, Stephens and Stewart. Light refreshments were supplied during the interval. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to our visitors, the representatives of the other Schools, to our entertainers, and to Mrs. Hodges for her kindness in entertaining the Old Boys and their friends during the day.

Congratulations to G. N. Larkin on his engagement to Miss Sayers.

The Hon. Treasurer begs to acknowledge the receipt of subscriptions from the following for the year ending May, 1904:—Messrs. D. W. T. Osborne, G. A. More, Dr. E. O. Pockley, Rev. D. Davies, Dr. G. R. C. Clarke, the Headmaster, Messrs. C. H. B. Bradley, R. S. Reid, D. Taylor, F. C. Adams, H. V. Jaques, R. N. Hickson, F. G. M. Simpson, W. G. B. Boydell, W. J. Morson, H. C. Wilson, F. D. W. Oatley, C. H. Linton, E. R. Holme, G. E. Browne, C. P. Allen, C. W. Rundle, E. Bullock, J. E. R. McMaster, C. Terry, D. T. Kilgour, H. M. Barker, H. Nicholls, J. Burns, N. W. Turton, H. Shelley, O. F. Ash, J. W. Gibson, D. F. Roberts, H. A. Roberts, J. F. Reid, C. H. Calvert, L. A. Minnett, H. P. Harriott, A. B. S. White, H. McWilliam, G. T. Uther, O. E. Friend, R. C. Adams, A. Sulman, O. Hargrave, E. Twynam, J. F. Fitzhardinge, A. J. M. Simpson, G. Milbourne-Marsh, R. Moodie, A. T. Carlisle, J. B. Yeomans, V. Y. Deane.

In the event of any mistake in the above list, kindly write to the Hon. Treasurer.

Boat Club.

THE weather has not been so favorable for rowing as is usual for this time of the year; westerly and southerly winds make the water very lumpy on our side of the harbour; whereas the north-easter suits

us well. Nevertheless, crews have been out three or four days a week, and the smaller watermen have given the new "pleasure boat" a fair amount of use.

After the holidays we shall have to look round for material for a couple of

crews, and there ought to be a sufficient number of boys keen enough to go through the regular steady work necessary to fit them to represent the School about Easter time. Taylor, who is now captain of the boats, is reliable; Park also has had a fair amount of experience; Dean and Fitzhardinge may turn out satisfactorily if they can get enough practice, their cricket, of course, makes considerable demands on their time, but two rows a week is very insufficient.

Snell possesses strength and power which might enable him to do good work in a boat. Woodcock also shows promise. Irving, Gate, Doddemeade, Edols and Hutchinson should do regular work. With Bullock in three's seat we should be much strengthened, but he will not be available. At any rate, the School should see that it will not be necessary to get a crew together in five or six weeks, as was the case last year.

School Notes.

THE present Term will end on Thursday, December 17. School will re-open on Tuesday, February 2nd, at 2.30 p.m. New boys will be examined on Monday, February 1st, at 2 p.m.

The annual confirmation by His Grace The Archbishop took place at Christ Church, North Sydney, on Tuesday, December 8. The following boys were confirmed: A. W. Broodbank, G. W. Broughton, D. G. Campbell, J. D. S. Chapman, F. M. Coxon, G. H. Cummings, O. B. Dibbs, E. V. Doddemeade, E. V. Duffy, J. F. G. Fitzhardinge, R. G. Fitzhardinge, W. P. Hutchinson, S. J. Hoskisson, H. P. Keatinge, E. K. Kemp, C. C. Linton, K. B. F. Lumsdaine, G. P. Milson, C. O. Newman, A. D. Newmarch, R. C. J. Pitt, J. E. Taylor, O. J. Taylor.

The following new boys joined this Term:—W. R. Browne, A. C. Child, H. S. Connor, C. W. J. Fowler, J. F. Fraser, D. le B. Gainford, L. W., G. Last, S. E.

Lufft, D. Macintyre, R. O. Middleton, G. L. Oswald, R. L. C. Royle, T. C. Weedon, R. W. Woodruff.

The following have left since our last issue:—A. H. Campbell, L. E. Giblin (Sub-Prefect, Junior Athletic Shield, 1st XV.), G. M. Goldfinch, W. MacDonnell (1st XV.), H. B. Shaw (Junior Exam. and Matriculation, 1903).

The fourth instalment of the School Register will be published early next Term.

C. P. Allen and H. S. Bland were successful in the recent Law Matriculation.

R. B. Minnett and O. H. Dean have been awarded their cricket colours.

The Sports' Club have given bats to the following:—Dean 105 v. Newington College, Duffy 110 v. The King's School, R. B. Minnett 55 v. Newington College, and Smith iii, 7th XI. Besnard received a bat from Mr. Frith for his score of 43

against The King's School 2nd XI, while Hall iii and Sayers have been presented with bats by Mr. Yarnold for good scores against junior teams.

Mr H. H. Massie is giving two bats. One will be given to the member of the 1st XI who aggregates the highest number in School Competition matches this season, and the other to the 2nd XI on the same conditions.

R. V. Minnett, R. B. Minnett and Dean represented us in the All Schools' Match. Dean made second highest score, 48 not out, while the elder Minnett made 18 and the younger 16 not out.

LIBRARY.—Since last Term some of the volumes entered in the "Suggestion Book" have been bought, but the most notable addition to the library stock that we have had for many a long day is comprised in a gift of over 300 volumes from Mr. C. H. Woolcott, of Ivy Cliff, North Sydney. We have no space to furnish a complete list of the books included in the donation, but among the more valuable volumes we may mention Vols. 1-13 of the *Cornhill Magazine*, *Illustrated London News*, from 1848-1856, also a number of volumes of the *Leisure Hour*, *Sunday at Home*, *Household Words*, and *All the*

Year Round complete sets. We take this opportunity of expressing our very hearty thanks to Mr. Woolcott.

Dr. Welldon, ex-Bishop of Calcutta; Headmaster of Harrow from 1890-1900, paid us a visit last week. We had hoped that he would address the School, but engagements prevented him from coming during School hours. He was much impressed with the magnificent situation of the School, which he considered the finest site in Sydney.

The following Elections have been made to Scholarships:—

Council's Junior: For boys in the School

Desmond A. Williams.

Claude J. Tozer (for two years to the Scholarship rendered vacant by the departure of Williamson for England).

Council's Junior: For boys outside the School—

Brian C. A. Pockley (Mr. Trelaven's Preparatory School, Wahroonga).

Church Primary School Scholarship—William Sheppard (S. John's, Darlinghurst).

Prox. acc.—

Gordon Lane (S. John's, Darlinghurst).

Swimming Club.

THE Committee arranged two scratch races, which were held on November 24th, at the Lavender Bay Baths—66 yds. (2 laps) for Seniors, and 33 yds. for Juniors. There were only fifteen entries, which

was very disappointing, considering the number of boys belonging to the Club.

The Senior Race was won by Snell in good style, in 47 4-5 secs. There was a keen struggle for second place between Brooks and Garvin, the judge being unable

to separate them, and in the swim off on the following Thursday, Brooks won by a touch in 49 secs.

- 1st—Snell i, 47 4-5 secs.
- 2nd—Brooks, 49 secs.
- 3rd—Garvin ii, 49 1-5 secs.

The 33 yds. race for Juniors, under 14, was also brought off on the same date.

There were only four competitors for this event, and it resulted in a win for Goulstone in 26 secs with Dibbs ii second

in 26 4-5 sec; and Jacobs ii just behind.

- 1st—Goulstone, 26 secs.
- 2nd—Dibbs ii, 26 4-5 secs.
- 3rd—Jacobs ii.

SNELL i—A strong swimmer, but somewhat slow in recovering from the dive. He has a rather clumsy action, but gets through the water fairly well.

BROOKS—A neat swimmer with a good style. Should be faster, judging by appearance in the water.

GARVIN—Plenty of dash and fairly fast, will improve with practice.

Athletic Sports.

The following is a comparison of performances in the Australian Schools and the Public Schools in England during the year 1903:—

	100 Yds.	440 Yds.	880 Yds.	Mile.	Hurdles, 120 yds.	High Jump.	Broad Jump.	Putting the Weight.	Throwing Cricket Ball.
	secs.	secs.	m. s.	m. s.	secs.	ft. in.	ft. in.	ft. in.	yds. ft.
N.S.W. ...	10 ³ / ₈	53	—	4 51 ² / ₅	16 ¹ / ₂	5 5 ¹ / ₂	20 0	—	112 1
Victoria ...	10 ² / ₅	55	2 11	4 49	16 ² / ₅	5 4 ¹ / ₂	20 7 ³ / ₄	33 1 ¹ / ₂	—
S. Australia ...	10 ² / ₅	—	—	—	—	5 6	18 11	—	—
Eng. Pub. Schls.	10 ² / ₅	55 ¹ / ₂	2 5	4 45	16 ² / ₅	5 5 ¹ / ₂	21 0	37 6	107 2

In addition to the above, the N.S.W. Schools have the 220yds. (23³/₈ secs.) and the Football Kick (65 yds. 1ft. 5in.); the Melbourne Schools the Pole Vault (9ft.) and the Mile Walk (8 min. 21 secs.).

School Calendar.

October	6	1st Day of Term.
	17	1st XI. v. Zingari Vets. Lost. 131 to 5 for 144.
	21	1st XI. v. Commercial Bank. Lost. 93 to 137.
	30	1st XI. v. Newington College. Won by innings and 6 runs, School 256, N.C. 136 and 114.
	31	

November	4	}	1st XI. v. St. Joseph's College. Won. School 136 and 184 for 6 wickets (innings closed), St. J.C. 138 and 125.
	7		
	9		1st XI. v. Gladesville Hospital. Lost. 76 to 126. Whole Holiday in honour of the King's Birthday.
	13	}	1st XI. v. T.K.S. Won. School 284 and 4 for 187, T.K.S. 253.
	14		
	20		Half-Holiday for N.S.W. XI. v. England.
	25		1st XI. v. Mr. J. Searle's Team. Drawn. School 191 against 4 for 166.
	28		1st XI. v. University III. Won. Three for 160 to 112.
December	2		Combined Schools' Match.
	4		Past v. Present Match. Lost. Present 72 and 182 to 159.
	5		1st XI. v. S.G.S. Lost. 139 to 8 for 203.
	8		Confirmation at Christ Church.
	17		Last Day of Term.

Hospital and Mission Fund.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
1903.							
Balance from last year	2	6	0	Drought Relief Fund	10	0	0
Feb. 25th.				Sydney Rescue Society (Jan.)	1	0	0
Collection in aid of Drought Relief Fund	9	10	1	" " " (Dec.)	1	1	0
Donation to Drought Relief Fund	0	9	11	Townsville Cyclone Fund	5	0	0
May 9th.				New Guinea Mission	5	0	0
Offertory at Anniversary Service	7	13	5	Royal North Shore Hospital	2	0	0
July 28th.				Yarrabah Mission	2	0	0
Offertory at Morning Prayer	3	7	10	Church Missionary Society	1	1	0
Nov. 13th.				Childrens' Hospital	1	1	0
Offertory at Morning Prayer	3	3	8	Diocese of Carpentaria	1	1	0
Dec. 2nd.				Balance in Hand	0	16	5
Offertory at Morning Prayer	3	9	6				
	£30	0	5		£30	0	5

Correspondence.

DEAR SIR,—A good many buildings have been put up lately by the Council, and we are very glad to have a decent Gymnasium and Library.

But I think there are still one or two things which we ought to have. Look what a splendid thing it would be to have a Tennis Court. There

are always some boys who are not playing cricket or rowing, perhaps they can't do either; then they could get together and have a game. The best of tennis is that a couple of fellows can go and have a good game on their own. On Saturday mornings or whenever there are not enough boarders to get up a cricket match it would be a great benefit. The question is, where to have it. Could room be found by pulling down the fence between the School Ground and the garden? I think the strip would be wide enough. Or what about taking part of the paddock where the cows are near Mr. Massie's fence. There is room there too.

Another thing worth thinking about is a swimming bath. It would be more difficult to find a suitable place for that, but surely some corner might be found. The sides would have to be pretty high, and the bath itself would be of concrete. I know one School near Sydney where they have a very good one of this kind, and although the initial cost was heavy, it has more than paid for itself and now brings in money. The Water and Sewerage Board supply fresh water every week, and from what I hear it does not cost very much.—Yours

CRITIC.

To the Editor of the TORCHBEARER.

DEAR SIR,—In last issue of the TORCHBEARER I noticed that a very generous Council had given the School a much needed Gymnasium, and think that it would not be a bad idea if they kept their reputation for generosity by giving us a swimming bath. Certainly the outlay might be large, but other Schools have tried it, and found it very successful. Very soon the outlay would be returned, if every boy member paid a few shillings a quarter, which I am sure would not be begrudged by the parents. Apart from the healthy sport which it is, it should be part of a boy's education, and should be encouraged. We only have to take up our daily papers to see the benefit of people being able to swim, and to learn how many lives have been lost through neglect of this useful art. The baths would be loved by all the boys so I hope in a very short time we will have them.

The last few years the School has been progressing by leaps and bounds, so fast indeed that we find it impossible to keep time with it: in the last year four new buildings have gone up, but

another thing that is wanted is a Tennis Court. Of course some boys will say we have football in the Winter; but at the same time it is not all parents who desire their boys to play football. In the Winter it is very unpleasant for the boys who are not allowed to play football in the afternoon. You become tired of the Gymnasium, and as this is the time for exercise and you can't readily get it, you simply mope about—a very miserable thing to do. This part of the question is more particularly meant for boarders. We can't expect everything, but certainly we ought to have a Tennis Court as it would be very inexpensive, and would be sure to meet with the support of the boys.

Another great improvement to the School would be a Debating Society. By debates on current questions some interest in public questions would be awakened, and this would encourage the boys to take an interest in their country, and with interest goes love, and these two cannot be formed too young. Our School days are our greatest character-forming days, and this would bring out our character more than anything. The School has shone at Cricket, Tennis, Rowing, and in the field of battle. Why not give it a try at politics?

BOARDER.

(To the Editor of the TORCHBEARER).

DEAR SIR,—I do not know whether I am right in writing to you about this subject, but as I suppose, any contributions are welcome, I should like to say what I have noticed for some time.

I mean that ever since I came here two quarters ago, it has seemed to me that the boys here "barrack" one another more than they generally do at most schools, especially when a match is going on. Sometimes even when the firsts are playing (though not so often then) some fellows will sing out to one of their chums if he makes a duck or if he misses a catch, or sometimes when he does well, such as hits a ball over the fence. Of course its only just for fun, but I know some people from outside think it is bad. At another school I was at we always used to get "roused" on if we did anything like it. They used to say it was bad form, whatever that meant. Of course I think it takes a fellow down when he tries to put on "side," but it must make him nervous and not able to do his best. So I hope you won't mind me writing.

NOVUS PUER.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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Communications for the next number of the TORCH-BEARER should be sent in before the end of March, to "The Editors," S.C.E.G.S., North Sydney. Contributions should be written on *one side* of the paper only, and must be signed by the author as a guarantee of good faith and originality.

The Editors of the TORCH-BEARER beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following Magazines:— *Alma Mater, Armidalian, Aurora Australis, Bathurstian, Christ's College Register, Coorwull Magazine, Cinque Port, Droghedean, Fettesian, Geelong Quarterly, The King's School Magazine, Leodiensian, Melburnian, Newingtonian, Rossalsian, St. Peter's School Magazine, Sydneian, Tonbridgian, Ululu, Uppingham School Magazine, Wanganui Collegian, Wesley College Chronicle, The Sundial, The T.G.S., Wykehamist, The High School Reporter, Prince Albert College Magazine, Sybil, Lux, The Brisbane Grammar School Chronicle, Saint Andrew's College Magazine, Ascham Charivari, Dovorian.*