



The Cygnet

THE HIGH SCHOOL MAGAZINE.

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Price: One Shilling.

Editorial.

THE bright and cheerful days of summer are at hand as we make our appearance with the present number, and we thank all those who encouraged us to further effort by the support they gave us in June. In the genial sunshine of continued favour we shall doubtless grow strong and flourish exceedingly. With the present issue we are making a determined effort to enlist the sympathy of the Old Boys for our venture. We want the CYGNET to do its share in keeping those whose schooldays are over in touch with one another, and we are free to confess that in addition we have a selfish regard for the prosperity which the loyal support of Old Boys will confer upon ourselves. We therefore commend to the attention of our readers the communication received on this subject from our correspondent who desires to be known once more as "The Squib"; a name which suggests itself as having been his familiar appellation in days gone

by. Very possibly his recital of one phase of school experience will open the floodgates of reminiscence in others who look back with pleasure to the irresponsible delights of existence when the heart was young.

Our other features include a monologue which we trust may be of interest, especially as the author does not insist on the moral which might easily be drawn from it. It reminds us of the well-known story of the railway passenger who placed a bag on the seat and announced to other passengers that it belonged to a friend, hoping thus to secure for himself the space that properly belonged to two. When the train started without any appearance of the supposed absentee another man in the carriage said, "Well, anyhow, your friend mustn't lose his bag," and heaved it out on the platform. The lesson conveyed is that it is sometimes possible to be too clever.

Lastly, we should like to emphasise the value of our accurate record of what has been done in the way of sport during the winter months. While the various events are fresh in our memory the chronicle of results may seem to be of only passing interest. But in schools that publish no such magazine as ours it is astonishing how difficult it is to collect trustworthy records after the lapse of a few years. Some memorable game is played, and at the time it seems impossible that either players or spectators should ever forget the score. But ten years afterwards, if six of the players are asked what the result was, there will probably be half-a-dozen different statements of the exact score itself, and endless contradictions as to the incidents of the play and the names of those who took part. Nothing is pleasanter for those who are obeying the universal law and growing old, than to turn to the old numbers of their school magazine and refresh their memory with the account of games in which they themselves participated. So we beg the present generation not only to buy the paper but also to keep it.

Eights Week at Oxford

This is an annual institution at Oxford, and in the opinion of undergrads is by far the most important event, or series of events, of the "Varsity" year.

In itself the title is rather ambiguous and may confuse a stranger. A little explanation then will not be out of place.

When the term begins on October 13th as many as possible of the Freshmen are induced to go down to the river to be "tubbed." This consists of being taken out in couples in 2-oared practice boats of pleasure-boat type to learn rowing. After this elementary coaching the best oarsmen are put into 4-oared "tubs" (boats with fixed seats). These men go into training and each college sends in crews for "tub" fours races at the end of the term. At the beginning of the next term, viz., January 19th, the best of last term's oarsmen are put into eights with fixed seats, and go into training. Towards the end of the term the "Torpids" are held. The college eights are called Torpids and each college generally has two boats on the river. These races last for six days and cause endless excitement. At the beginning of the last term of the 'Varsity year the best oarsmen in the college are put into a racing eight and go into practice for the races which make "Eights Week" famous, and which give the occasion its name.

This year "Eights Week" began on May 25th and lasted for six days. For two weeks previously the various college eights were training hard and the prognostications were very conflicting. A week before May 25th visitors, mostly relations and friends of the undergrads, began to congregate in Oxford and to take lodgings. On the eve of the first day the city was entirely altered in appearance by the crowds of fashionably dressed ladies so rare in Oxford under normal conditions.

The races are rowed in two divisions on account of the large number of

boats. Positions are marked along the bank at intervals of about three lengths. The boats are held at the end of a rope by the cox, who must not let go until the proper time. They take their order according to the position of the college crew on the river, and the coveted honour is to be "Head of the river." To attain this object each boat strives to catch and bump that next above it and so on all along the line.

The 2nd division, consisting of boats at the bottom of the river, begins at 4 p.m. and the crew are all at their stations by 3.45 p.m. At 3.55 p.m. a gun is fired called "The 5-minute gun." At this the men divest themselves of sweaters, etc. At 3.59 p.m. another gun is fired called "The minute gun," and the crews begin to get ready to start. The various coaches also begin to count the seconds for the benefit of the cox. At 4 p.m. the starting gun is fired, and the coxes, letting go the rope, begin to urge on the men in the boats. They start off like lightning to try and gain on the boat ahead. The moment the start is made a huge crowd of 'Varsity men in light apparel begin to run along the towpath abreast of the college boat, encouraging the crew to impossible herculean efforts. Some of these men are equipped with wooden rattles, others with bells, while a third party is let loose with loaded revolvers in their charge. When their boat is a length behind the next above them, the *rattlers* begin to "pour forth sweet music," on their boat reaching to within half-length, the campanologists also contribute to the harmony; when the boats are almost touching a revolver is fired off and on the bump being made it is not safe to be near the firing party who give violent expression to their overwrought feelings. The bumped and the bumping boats immediately draw into the bank to let

the boats behind pass and not to block them. If a boat is successful in not being bumped, it must row over the whole course of about two miles.

So much for the boats and their crews; now for the onlookers.

Immediately after lunch, punts full of gaily-dressed ladies with college friends begin to make their way down the Cherwell river towards the course in order select a point of vantage from which to view the race. Canoes and pleasure boats also are strongly in evidence. By 3 p.m. the river by the Barges is covered with punts and canoes, and the eights, which go out at about this time for a preliminary spin, have the greatest difficulty in avoiding catastrophes. Now, too, the toepath becomes crowded with people, mostly energetic 'Varsity men, making their way towards the starting point. Minstrel singers arrayed in most grotesque costumes form no inconsiderable and unimportant part of the crowd here. When the time for the race draws near, all the punts, canoes, etc., draw over to the towpath side of the river and make fast by driving poles and paddles deep into the water. The effect is most grotesque, as one can see a perfect forest of punt poles all pointing at various angles. Much pleasantry and conversation is continually going on, and the hum of voices can be heard at a considerable distance away. Each college has a houseboat called "The Barge," in which the crews dress and undress, and on the top of which visitors stand and take tea while viewing the race. The Barges are crammed with people, and, needless to say, the ladies are very strongly in evidence. As 4 p.m. draws near, the watching multitudes are seized with growing excitement, and to a stranger the sight is most thrilling. The race is over in 10 minutes and then all the moored punts

start up the river in front of the Barges to go somewhere to tea. Then the confusion of craft on the water is amazing to watch. Punts collide and get locked; frequently men fall overboard in their clothes to the intense amusement of the onlookers. Gradually the river becomes clear, but only for a short time. At 6 p.m. the 1st division race starts and exactly the same things take place as I have mentioned above, only perhaps with considerably more excitement because naturally the best crews are in this division.

All this is repeated on each of the succeeding five days of the week. A boat which bumps another in front of it to-night changes places with it to-morrow and so on. On the last night the excitement of crews, college men and visitors reaches the climax because the races decide what is going to be the final position of the various colleges on the river. Those, who have run along the towpath generally gather together after the races and swim across to their Barge opposite, sublimely indifferent to the clothes they are wearing.

During the week undergrads entertain their friends who have come to Oxford, either at lunch, dinner, or at the theatre, and plenty look over the colleges. Two days after Eights Week Oxford resumes its normal condition, and men settle down again to work and look forward to next year's Eights Week.

J. L. WALKER.

Old Boys' Column.

We have set aside a column under the above heading with the hopes of arousing the interest of the "Old Boys," by whose co-operation we feel assured

that this magazine will materially assist in preserving all the old traditions of our school. Those traditions which are indelibly impressed on the memory, and which for years after one has forgotten even the rudiments of his studies, unconsciously influence the whole character and give it tone. We invite communications from any "Old Boy," and shall welcome the opportunity of recording news of his whereabouts and doings.

Who knows but what this column may be the means of bridging that yawning chasm which immediately gapes once a boy has severed his daily connection with the school. It has been stated that the formation of an "Old Boys" Association is impracticable by reason of their interests carrying them into such remote districts, but by just dropping a line to the Editor of this paper they may easily keep in touch with all school news. The School (for to us it is the only School) would then become more apparently and more connectedly the centre of that ever widening circle of its influence.

TO THE EDITOR.

Dear Mr. Editor—I understand that you are intending to devote a portion of your School paper to the uses of "Old Boys." Allow me to congratulate you on your enterprise and to wish you every success. The copy of the first edition which you were good enough to forward has pleased me immensely. Since it is now your intention to cater for both past and present boys I sincerely trust that you will be assisted in every way. You may at least call upon my help and feeble as it is it will be rendered very heartily. The fact which most impressed me during my school life was the superiority

of boarders over day boys, whether in school work or sports; and after leaving school they are still to be found in vanguard. This masterfulness may I suppose be attributed in some degree to the fact that a boy away from home must become self-reliant and learn to fend for himself. In the school lessons he realises that he has left home for a specific purpose. He is as it were an apprentice. Every evening he has a stated time to prepare his work for the ensuing day and not being disturbed by the many home attractions that divert the attention of the day boy he must of necessity apply himself to his task. Again in sports he has always sufficient company, and healthy rivalry stimulates him to nobler endeavours. He rubs shoulder to shoulder with strangers and soon learns to gauge his own capacity and ability as well as that of those he meets. I have never yet known a boarder, that is to say one of at least three years' standing, who was conceited or a snob. In conversation with many old boarders I have had related to me incidents which while painful in their happening are now recorded with feelings of pride mingled with thankfulness for the opportunity of passing through the mill and proving themselves men.

Our "Old Boy" has gone so far as to assert that any one boarder is equal to any two day boys. I asked him to particularise this general enunciation and give reasons. Among other experiences he mentioned the ancient and honoured pastime of toelining. For the edification of the uninitiated I should like to put on record the prominent features of that phase of education. It is one of the subjects not used in the curriculum touched upon by the day-boy, who, as a set off, has the privilege of inspecting the blue frog which for generations has resided in the bath-

room. But this privilege is by no means to be compared with the sensations experienced both by the toeliner and the toelinee. Imagine the toelinee peacefully slumbering and dreaming of "Lowing herds wind slowly o'er the lea"; imagine him suddenly electrified as something or somebody softly and lovingly embraces his big toe. He sits up—hair on end—eyes like stars starting from their spheres, a something comes over him which cannot be described, a thrill which sets vibrating every chord of his being, then (I am speaking of a novitiate, a veteran toelinee says, throws things about) a shrill sweet wailing sound cleaves the clear evening stillness and drowns the soft snoring of the slumberers, then howls *ad lib*. Now that his big toe has become such a prominent feature of his anatomy the spirit of inquiry prompts him to make its closer acquaintance and since the toe will not come to him he wisely resolves to go to the toe. Immediate action is necessary—to hesitate is to bump—for now he is on the verge that beetle's o'er the dizzy heights extending from the top of his bed to the floor. As I have said—to hesitate is to bump. None of your day boy bumps but a good solid boarder bump by way of introduction to Westralian Hardwood. I may here confess that under similar circumstances I have expressed my approval of those lowly beds mentioned in Gray's "Elegy." Now if the toelinee lacks concentration, the grains mingle indiscriminately, and he makes frantic efforts to reach that *ignis fatuus* which ever recedes from him. I have heard it remarked that difficulties call forth a corresponding amount of energy and I think I am justified in saying that energy calls forth a corresponding number of difficulties—at least it is so in this case—for his efforts are repelled by a legion

of boxes and iron bedsteads, which, each in their turn, Shylock like, demand their pound of flesh. Woe is him! After travelling the length of the dormitory on his aforesaid hump he comes to close quarters with his toe, only to find it connected under a door with his unknown tormentors. Release at last, he charges into the adjoining room to find everything still, where the soft dews of kindly sleep have gently steeped the wearied eyelids of these pure souled, high minded and virtuous schoolmates of his. He limps back to bed where he sits nursing that abnormal toe and soliloquising on the cursedness of things in general and board schools in particular. Sleep then knits up his ravelled sleeve of care and after the pain of the night joy cometh in the morning: for has he not passed through his baptism of fire? Henceforth and for ever he becomes a devoted toeliner. This suffices for the experiences of the novitiate toelinee; elsewhere I hope to say a few words about the embryo toeliner. For the information of novitiate toelinees I would state that a boarder of some standing generally sleeps with his socks on and keeps within easy reach a good supply of boots, clothes, brushes and other moveable furniture.

Yours truly,

THE SQUIB.

Football.

Old Boys v. School.

(BY CENTRE.)

This match took place on the Association Ground on Thursday, August the 17th, when a most enjoyable game was played. It had been raining heavily

for two or three days before the match and in consequence the ground was not in the very best condition; in fact we might have played water polo instead of soccer. The School won the toss from the Old Boys' skipper and elected to play towards the river with a strong wind in their favour. F. Leake set the ball in motion and the School obtained and off they raced for the goal, but Rowe was up and ready and cleared out to Bolton who in turn passed to A. Leake and play was then transferred. After some mid-field play the Old Boys' forwards obtained and off a corner scored their first goal, kicked by F. Leake. Soon afterwards half time arrived with the score 1 to 0 in favour of the Old Boys. After the usual five minutes breathing space the teams livened up again. This time the School had to face a very strong wind which was blowing straight down the field. In spite of this some splendid runs were made on the left wing and from one of these a goal eventuated. The Old Boys' custodian overstepping while in the act of clearing, a free was given with the above result. This made the scores level, 1—1. The Old Boys now woke up a little and kept the ball in the School half for the rest of the game, scoring two more goals, kicked by F. Leake and G. Burt. Thus ended a most enjoyable game, and now the ice has been broken I hope this match will become an annual fixture. There is no mistake that, considering the School only started British Association football this year, they performed remarkably well. Those for the School whose play shone out were Walker, Hardwick, Harwood and Fleay. The goal kicker for the School was Hardwick. The Old Boys' team was as follows:—S. H. Rowe (goal), F. Parker, C. Snell (backs), F. A. Moseley, G. H. Burt (Capt.), J. D. Caris

(halves), K. Bolton, A. Leake, F. Leake, F. Miller, F. J. Bates (forwards).

Hockey.

Old Boys v. Perth Club.

(BY CENTRE.)

Immediately after their football match with the School, the Old Boys played the Perth Club at hockey. A very tough game ensued, the sides being very evenly matched, although on paper the Club was expected to win. But, nothing daunted, the Old Boys took the field determined to score another victory, and so, after a game which I think many will remember, the Old Boys left the field victorious by three goals to one.

The teams were:—Old Boys: A. Leake, J. Hassell, K. Bolton (Capt.), M. Law and Letch (forwards), F. Leake, G. H. Burt, H. Parker (halves), H. Harper, H. D. D. Rowe and Winfield (backs).

Perth Club: Chamberlain, Sketchly, Sholl, Simpson, Dr. Kelsall (forwards), Harper, P. Stone (Capt.), Heaps (halves), A. Stone, Ramsden, Draper (backs).

Old Boys' Colours.

We have been asked to state that several of the Old Boys are anxious to have some distinctive colours. One suggestion offered is that the Old Boys' ribbon should have the colours slanting from top to bottom instead of being parallel to the top and bottom as in

the case of the Present Boys' ribbon. We think this is a good idea and would like to hear some opinions expressed upon it. The ribbon might be made a little smaller than our present ribbon and would look very well if most of the Old Boys would wear it and show that they are not ashamed of the old School.

EDITOR.

Annual Sports.

There are to be three events for Old Boys in our annual sports. An obstacle race, 100 yards handicap, and 120 yards hurdles handicap. We hope to see a good number competing. The sports take place on October 14th.

The Old Boys' Match and Dinner.

This match will probably take place somewhere about the middle of December. The dinner, which we hope is also to become an annual fixture, will probably be on the evening of the same day. It is hoped that as large an attendance as last year will be recorded. It will be remembered that more than 90 Old Boys were present last year. We hope this effort to gather the Old Boys together will meet with the success it deserves.

A Monologue.

BY EMBER CLINTON.

What? Fred? You here, and to share my room? Well that's luck! Mrs. Madam said she hoped I would

not mind sharing a room but she never said I'd have *you*!

Awfully comfortable chair this, don't feel as if I want to move—nice fire, too; just what I like.

Where did I come from? Oh, I'm at Perth, batching with Tom. Awful fool Tom. Oh no! He's gone to Barelands for the holidays. Oh yes! he's quite well. Awful fool though, fearful worry to me I can tell you. How? Oh well, he's so confoundedly careless and untidy. But I've given him a lesson to-day though. Ha! ha! serve him right. I'll tell you.

What? Better dress for dinner? Pooh, pooh, my dear Fred I don't take an hour to dress. This chair's too cosy to leave just yet. Oh *you* can if you like but I'll tell you about Tom. He's just the opposite of me you know, I am so neat and careful. I have, I think, at least a *little* commonsense. But he has none and he nearly drives me silly. Now he knew his train was going before nine and I packed my things while he was messing about cooking eggs for breakfast, and yet, when I came home at two (we get lunch in town on Saturdays) he was not back and had not packed! It made me swear for I knew I'd have to do it for him. I always do. What, dress? Why dash it man what a fuss you are! There's heaps of time! So I started to pack his things and I swore as I thought how he'd take it all as a matter of course and blame *me* if anything was forgotten, so I just thought I'd pay him out. So I sewed up his pyjamas. He won't get into them in a hurry. And I put him in two dirty shirts, odd socks, some old ties and that yellow blazer, and I put in my old dress suit. I have a new one myself, a beauty, but the old one is all split at the joints, and torn in the seat. Oh dear, I declare I'll die laughing.

What? Oh Fred, what *do* you take me for? I can easily dress in five minutes. I must finish telling you first. He came rushing in just as I had finished. "Where's the bag? I haven't packed!" he said, "I'll miss that confounded train." "No," I said, "you needn't if you hurry. I've put your things up for you!" "You're a brick, Joe! It's jolly good of you!" he said, seizing the bag and rushing off. I nearly *burst*; in fact I laughed so long I nearly missed my own train and had to rush myself.

What, ten to? Well you are a beauty, letting me sit here with no idea of the time. How the deuce can I change in that time? Where's that bag? Hang it man, can't you chuck it over? You're like a funeral.

What? Why—oh lor', what's this? Great Scott! it's Tom's. Heavens! he must have collared mine. What are you laughing at, you silly ass? Yes—yes! Go down—say I'm ill. Say I'm dead—oh—.

[The rest of the remarks are better left to the imagination.—Editor.]

Prize Day.

On Monday, 21st August, the annual distribution of prizes took place at the Queen's Hall in the presence of a large audience of parents and old boys. Dr. Hackett presided and His Excellency the Governor, Sir Frederick Bedford gave away the prizes. After Dr. Hackett had opened the proceedings, the examiners, Canon Lefroy who had examined VI. and V. in Latin, French and Greek, and Mr. Buchanan who had examined VI. and Upper V. in the

English Subjects, read their reports. Mr. Faulkner then spoke and in the course of his remarks said that he was very pleased with the year's work and expected excellent results in the approaching Adelaide Examinations. He complained of the inadequate accommodation of the school and hoped that arrangements might be made for selling half the land at present used as a play-ground and building a properly equipped school on the ground reserved for it next the Observatory. Dr. Hackett in his speech also referred to the present school buildings saying that they had been originally a hospital and that not only the nurses' quarters and infirmary but even the mortuary itself were now being used. He said that the boys of Western Australia were greatly handicapped in their race with the East in not having a National University. His Excellency at the close of the proceeding in a very humorous speech expressed his pleasure in congratulating the Headmaster and Governors of the school on the good work the school was doing. Dealing with the dilapidated condition of the fence surrounding the school ground, His Excellency referred to the notice that billstickers would be prosecuted, he thought a billsticker would not be able to find a level place to stick a bill on. He also urged that a cadet corps could quite easily be started without having a drill hall and he certainly thought all boys ought to be taught how to use the rifle. He hoped next time he came to hear the boys sing "God save the King," saying there was no need for a music room to learn it in. At the conclusion the school gave three cheers for His Excellency and three more for Lady Bedford. They then cheered the Headmaster, and, on the moving of a complimentary vote to His Excellency, again cheered the

Governor. Subsequently an excellent gymnastical display was given.

PRIZE LIST.

Greek—Riley I.

Latin—VI., Riley I; V., Davy; IV., Montgomery II.; Upper III., Riley III.; Lower III., Smyth; II. and I., Maslin I.

Mathematics — VI. and Upper V., Riley I.; Lower V., Terry; Upper IV., Fowler; Lower IV., Riley III.; III., Fleay; II. and I., Curthoys II.

English—VI., Turnbull I.; V., Davy; IV., Brine; III., Riley III.; II. and I., Low.

French—VI., Riley I.; V., Davy; IV., Montgomery I.; Upper III., Riley III.; Lower III., Smyth; II. and I., Mitchell.

German—Gorrie.

Drawing—Woods II.

Book-keeping—Harwood.

Shorthand—Ewing I.

Carpentry—McLarty.

Gymnasium—1, Harwood; 2, Clifton 1; 3, Caris.

Dr. Hackett's prize for Best Examination—Riley I., 83 per cent.

Mr. R. A. Sholl's Game Challenge Cup—C. E. Fleay.

Most Popular Boy—C. E. Fleay.

Our Early Days.

The CYGNET in its original form contained only eight pages, but its contents were very varied, and it may be interesting to the present generation to be told how things were done more than a quarter of a century ago.

Our first number (Vol. 1. No. 1) is dated March 1st, 1879, and immediately scores one point in its favour—as compared with ourselves—by announcing that it may be purchased for the sum of sixpence. It opens with the conventional apology for any shortcomings, and proceeds with an editorial which is a cross between a newspaper leader and a school sermon with opposite quotations such as “*Manners makyth Man.*” Fortunately for the comfort of the reader he is mercifully spared the infliction of “*Mens sana in corpore sano,*” but he does not escape a pointed reference to *esprit de corps*. The boys of that day are encouraged to behave in such a way that when the time comes to look back upon their school life, they may feel with thankfulness that nothing they have done has tended to subvert a friend. One cannot help feeling that this is very sound and sensible. The policy of subversion has its dangers, and if there are any to-day who feel themselves likely to fall victims to the habit of subverting, they cannot do better than revert to the ways from which they have inadvertently been diverted.

Then come some rather scathing Answers to Correspondents. One poor well-meaning contributor is informed that two negatives generally make an affirmative, and that “excellent” is spelt with two “l”s. The correspondence that is printed is amusing. One writer begs for a little space to ask the Eleven whether they really wish to improve in cricket. If so, their actions, he thinks, belie their intentions. He wants to know why it is that so few bowl round-hand. This certainly takes us back to the mediaeval period in the history of cricket. Another correspondent advocates the formation of a School Debating Society, and his proposal seems to have been adopted in time

for the first meeting to be chronicled on another page of the same issue. They do not seem, however, to have discussed any more momentous question than the form of rules that should guide their future deliberations.

Next comes the most interesting feature of the number, an account of the School Theatricals at the end of the previous term. The programme was long. It opened with a glee. (What should we make of a glee nowadays?) Then came a solo—the singer’s name is a great one in Northam to-day—which received the honour of an *encore*. Unluckily the singer pitched his voice in another and higher key when he endeavoured to repeat his success. The curtain then rose on the farce of “Out off with a Shilling.” Reading between the lines one can only conclude that this was a distinct failure. Two of the characters forgot their parts. Most of us know the dreariness of a farce in which the heaviest rôle falls to the person who plays the part of prompter. It is satisfactory to read, however, that Saw I. was really good, and any little shortcomings were only due to bashfulness. We are tempted to say with Mr. Joe Gargery in “Great Expectations”

Whate’er might be the failings in his part,
He was both good and bashful in his heart.

The farce was succeeded by a duet which gave pleasure, despite its length, and this in turn was followed by the event of the evening, the burlesque of “*Bombastes Furioso.*” It is reported that the audience evidently anticipated some fun and was not disappointed, as both acting and singing were in every respect very good, and this success was largely due to the efforts of Mr. J. C. H. James who was responsible for the production. The singing of “*Domum*” brought the entertainment to a close. It is pleasant to think of the audience

plodding its way home through the sand in a fairly cheerful and contented mood.

We are shocked to discover that the next column is headed "Poetry." There might be some excuse for it if the School had contained clever versifiers as well as bashful actors and high-pitched soloists, but the poems are labelled "Cowper" and "James Montgomery," and under its present management the CYGNET will not attempt to interest its readers in this particular fashion.

Some stray notes on cricket, dealing chiefly with the history of the game, are followed by a well-written sketch of a village cricket-match in England. It is called "Our last match of the season," and the day is said to have been in October. This seems to show that cricket used to intrude much further than is usual nowadays upon the time held sacred to football. In the present instance, it is perhaps not very accurate to describe the article as an account of a match at all, since the point of the story is that an idiot named Jones, who took the railway tickets for the team, booked the whole crowd to the village of Humbleby instead of the village of Humbleton, and as these two places lay in exactly opposite directions, there was no game possible that day. But the account of the humours of the journey and Mr. Jones' general foolishness occupies a quarter of the whole paper and runs over to the next issue, in which it is concluded.

Some items of School news complete the table of contents. There is a report of a match between Perth and New Norcia. Why it is chronicled in the School paper does not appear, but it contains the curious bit of information that after the cricket there was some competition in throwing the cricket

ball, and the remarkable throw of 109 yards was accomplished by a native named Johnny Wolly.

If these few records of the days of twenty-six years ago are found to interest readers of the CYGNET, a future article may be devoted to the contents of two other issues of the same year, and the issue of December, 1881, when the magazine appears in a more pretentious form with ten pages of advertisements. Should any reader be able to lay his hand on any other copy of this period he would be conferring a favour on the present editorial staff if he would lend it to them on the chance of its containing matter which it would be of general interest to reproduce. The copy would be returned as soon as any such purpose was served. For ourselves, we freely offer our efforts of to-day to our successors of twenty-six years hence, assuring them that they may make any comment they please on our humble production. We only hope they will find us as interesting as we have found our predecessors.

School News.

His Excellency the Governor has very kindly offered two prizes for the best essays on the battle of Trafalgar. One prize is for boys over 14 and the other for those under that age. The essays must be in to Mr. Faulkner by October 21st, and the two winning essays will be shown to the Governor. It was on October 21st, 1805, that Lord Nelson beat the combined French and Spanish fleets in one of the most famous battles in the world's history off Cape Trafalgar.

Our Annual Athletic Sports are to be held on Saturday, October 14th, on the the W.A.C.A. ground. Entries closed in the School on Monday, the 2nd. The programme will this year include throwing the cricket ball and an obstacle race, sack races, egg and spoon races, long jump and high jump and hurdle races. His Excellency the Governor has very kindly given us two trophies towards the prize list. We hope to see a large number of people present to watch these sports.

We have better success during the season with British Association Football than we used to have with the Australian game. We played twelve matches in the "B" grade and won two, drew two, and lost eight. We also played the Claremont Training College but were beaten badly and the Old Boys beat us by three to one. Our second eleven played three matches, losing two against the James Street Boys' School and winning one against the Subiaco State School. Franklin, Eastwood and Maley played best in these matches.

We desire to draw a veil over our share in the boat race. For about three quarters of the way the Guildford Grammar School boat was leading and our boat and that of the Scotch College were close together behind them, with the Christian Brothers fourth. Suddenly No. 2 in our boat collapsed and we did not finish. Guildford won by several lengths off the Scotch College and the C.B.C.'s were third.

The gymnastic display given at the end of Prize Distribution was a great success. The performance opened with

club swinging followed by a good number of well performed exercises on the horizontal bar. Half way through one exercise the bar broke away from its holding and so spoilt the effect by some extent. Dumbbells came next and then parallel bars and horse and at the end the boys formed pyramids and the afternoon ended with the playing of "Rule Britannia."

With the new term the cricket season has opened. Practice went on during the holidays on the concrete wicket but as soon as the term began we started practice on our turf wickets which are looking splendid. Last year they played as well as any in the State ; but the outfield requires a lot of attention. The wickets are made of Merri Creek soil and have now been down some seven years. They are firm and hard and play very truly. Our batting and bowling is all that one could desire. But the fielding, although fairly accurate, lacks brilliancy ; and the running between wickets is not up to the mark. These two deficiencies are always noticeable in school teams. Nowadays, with the use of big nets, very little attention is paid to fielding, and yet a good fieldsman is of great value. Boys take a long time to get into the way of running to meet the ball. Then the return is very seldom as accurate as it might be. Throwing the ball into the wicket-keeper or to the bowler is a thing a boy will do with the utmost carelessness.

Our junior cricketers were very successful during the past season.

There were three teams playing regularly, and they all did equally well. The second eleven was of course

the most important. They played nine matches against the other schools, winning six and losing three. Among their number were some very promising colts. Forrest, the captain, Clifton and Connor being strong both in batting and bowling, while Caris and the young Woods brothers gave every promise of becoming stylish and clever batsmen. Some of these boys will be required for the first eleven this season, and as far as one can judge at present they will not weaken its strength. The team was very strong in bowling. This may be looked upon as very encouraging, for while a batsmen can be "made," a bowler, generally speaking, is "born."

from one cap to another. The only other thing to do would be to abandon the idea of a swan and to have light blue cord sewn over all the seams from the button to the edge and also round the edge. The peak might also be covered with light blue material if one could be procured of a lasting colour. I think if these suggestions are tried they will be found to produce a cap more comfortable and less of an eyesore. In most of the caps worn at present the blues are as different from the University blues as chalk from cheese, if I may use a common simile. Hoping that this may meet with approval.

I remain,

Yours etc.,

"P.L.E."

Correspondence.

TO THE EDITOR.

Dear Sir—Please allow me some space in your valuable columns to answer your correspondent "N.Z." While heartily seconding a motion for a change in the present school cap I think his suggestion is not altogether the best. In the first place anyone who looks at the Cricket and Football caps and the badge worn by the football team will immediately begin to puzzle his brains as to the nature of the curious animal there depicted. In short, the Swan worked on in front is an absolute failure. Again the light blue silk with which it is done soon fades. The only way to keep to his idea would be to have the swan made in light blue enamelling and attachable to the cap in the military fashion by a pin. The initial cost would be fairly heavy but the swan would last for several years and could be transferred

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—Having read the letter of "N.Z." in the last number of this Magazine, I feel that it is a pity that the idea of a change in the school cap should be dropped owing to the want of someone else to second it. "N.Z." is not the first person I have heard complain of the present cap. The great objection to it is that the light blue fades very quickly when exposed, and if "N.Z.'s" suggestion was adopted there would be only a very small portion of that colour.

Yours, etc.,

M. F. J.

We are going to press a few hours too early to be able to announce the result of the election of Cricket Captain, but we have no doubt that the choice of those who have votes will have fallen on a worthy successor to the skilful captains of recent years.



Football.

On Saturday, May 20th, the School played the first Football match against the "Rangers B" team. The match was played on Loton's paddock, play beginning at 2 o'clock. The School was beaten by two to nil. The first half of the game was very fast and the School seemed to be holding its own. The Rangers got a penalty kick but failed to score off it; however, soon afterwards they got a free kick close to the goal and the ball bounced in off one of the School boy's legs. Later on in the same half another goal was scored for the Rangers; the goalkeeper in trying to punch the ball out struck a player with it and it bounced back. In the second half no goals were scored. Fleay who was goalkeeper stopped many shots and did excellent work all through. Among others Walker, Franklin, Brine and Harwood played well. The Rangers kept pressing in the second half and the backs had plenty of work to do. Somehow the forwards got mixed up with the half-backs and whenever the backs got the ball away no one was in place to take it up the field. The School would probably have made a better stand if several of the players had remembered to get tags on their boots. Many also of the players were knocked up towards the end of the game.

On Saturday, May 27th, the School played the second match on its own ground. The match was against the Cottesloe team and resulted in a win for the latter by two goals to the School's none. The weather was showery but play went on all the same. The game began at 3 o'clock and was very fast. There was no scoring at all the first half and the two teams seemed evenly matched. The "Cottesloe's" however, rushed the game at about a quarter of an hour to time and succeeded in scoring two

goals. The School team made a good attempt to catch up again but owing to rather wild shooting nothing was scored. Another thing was that one of the Cottesloe backs kept coming up the field so that when the ball was brought up near the goal it was often "offside." Fleay, Walker, Harwood and Franklin played best for the School. Fleay did splendidly as goal keeper and Harwood as full-back on the left wing. There was more combination than in the last game and the team generally, kept their places well.

On Saturday, June 3rd, the match was against the "Albions" and resulted in a defeat by five goals to three. It was played on the Claremont Park and was the first time the School had scored. In the first ten minutes the Albions rushed the game and scored three times. The School team, however, pulled themselves together and scored before the end of half time. Another goal was scored by the School boys but was ruled off-side. The game was very fast all through but the Albions seemed to have the best of it. During the second half Brine got hurt in the eye and was compelled to go into goal and Wilkin also had to stop playing owing to an injured leg. The School team taken all round played better than in the other two matches but there were several weak points in the forward line. For the Albions Hedley, Epps and the goalkeeper were best, while Forrest, Hardwicke, Walker and Harwood played well for the School. The School forwards, in spite of several defects, kept a better line and played better than in the other matches.

On the 10th of June the School played the "Ex-Students B" on the Park ground. The match ended in another loss by one to nil. Nothing was scored on either side during the first half. The Ex-Students tried to make the pace and the School forwards succeeded in carrying the ball up the field but failed to shoot straight. It was this inability to shoot properly that chiefly lost these first four matches. In the second half the Ex-Students scored; the goalkeeper failed to clear a shot and one of the forwards rushed the ball through. After this the School team simply fell to pieces. Nearly everyone was knocked up and no one seemed to have any condition at all. The Ex-Students kicked another goal but were called up for off-side. The School had the better of the game in the first half but affairs were changed in the second half. The School forwards had scarcely any chance at the ball during the second half and this match was the worst from the School's

point of view, of all these first four. No one could be said to play specially well for the School.

On the Wednesday following the match versus Ex-Students a practice match was played against the Claremont Training College on the College ground. The latter won by eight goals to nil with an incomplete team. The School team played fairly well considering the superiority of their opponents. The ball kept travelling from one goal to the other for most of the first half. It was only the College team that did any scoring however. In the second half, however, the School forwards probably did not carry the ball beyond three quarters of the way up the field more than six times. The backs kept missing their kicks and all the team wanted more energy. The various players did not keep their places enough. During the match the College outside right was hurt and retired. Fleay, McLarty and Walker played up most for the School, while Tuke, Senior and Palmer were most conspicuous for the Training College.

On Saturday, June 17, the School Eleven scored their first victory. They were drawn to play the Reserves on the School ground and beat them by 4 to 1. During the week immediately preceding this match the School boys had practiced to some purpose and were much improved. The shooting, however, was still rather weak. The School started the scoring in the first half. During a tussle round the goal the Reserves' goalkeeper punched the ball out. It was headed in again by Riley and Walker sent it through. This was only the second match in which the School had scored and consequently the boys were eager to keep their lead. In the second half McMillan centred the ball to Brine shortly after resuming play and the latter scored off it, and later on Brine placed the ball in a shot so that the sun was in the goalkeeper's eyes. This made the third goal, and shortly afterwards the Reserves succeeded in scoring. The School scored once more and the final scores were 4 goals to 1. Fleay played splendidly in goal and McLarty, Harwood and Walker were best of the remainder of the team. All, indeed, played well and the forwards kept a fairly good line. For the Reserves the most conspicuous were Jeffries, Smith, Johnson and Oakley.

On the following Saturday the School played the Rangers B. to begin the second round of matches. The game resulted in a win for the School by 2 goals to nil. This was the second

win for the School and a good number of School boys assembled to encourage the team. The game was unusually fast, but the School had the better of the game for most of the time. More goals should have been scored, but chances were often missed. McMillan kicked a well-judged corner in the first half, but no one put the ball through. Similar chances were continually missed. Play, in addition to being fast, was also rather rough. The team had continued to improve since the previous week, and in consequence its combination was better. For the School Walker, Turnbull and Fleay did best, and most noticeable of the Rangers were Wright, McLarty and Smith.

On the 1st of July the Claremont team was played for the first time on their own ground. The game resulted in a beating by 4 to nil. In the first half two goals were scored, the first of which was knocked in by one of the School backs. The School forwards were outclassed, and, though several good rushes were made, their weakness in shooting was much in evidence. Another noticeable fault was the bunching together of the forwards into the centre where they spoilt each others play. The game was fast and rather too much so for the School; this partly accounts for the fact that the team was knocked up at the end of the game. The Claremont forward line made a good many splendid rushes and often passed the School backs, the latter frequently missing their kicks. The Claremont team played a fine combined game and deserved their win. The School team wanted more life in its play and more combination. Fleay played splendidly in goal and saved many times.

The following Saturday the School had a bye, but on the next Saturday (July 15) the School played the return match against Cottesloe at Cottesloe, play starting at the usual time. The home team had the kick off and scored within five minutes. While the Cottesloe team played well from the start, the School team, on the other hand, did not at first show its usual form, being especially weak in the forward line. Towards the middle of the first half Walker sent Brine into goal and put Fleay inside right and took centre himself. This change was successful, for shortly afterwards the first goal was scored for the School. The scores were thus Cottesloe 2 to School 1. After half time the School team played up well and brought the scores level. All the second half play was fast and well contested, and, though the tide

seemed to be turning in favour of the School, Cottesloe succeeded in scoring again. This left the scores Cottesloe 3 and School 2, and this was the final result. The School forwards were not so fast as their opponent's line, but in spite of this the ball was in their control quite often enough for them to have scored further. Brine, in goal, did splendidly and the School full backs played better than they had done before and kicked strongly and surely. The halves also played well and kept the forwards well supplied. This was really the most satisfactory match yet played, even though victory rested with the other side. Perhaps Watkins, Walker and Harwood were most conspicuous among the School team.

The next match (Saturday, July 22) was against the same team as on the preceding Saturday—Cottesloe, played at Cottesloe. This was the first match for the Challenge Cup. The game was fast from the start, but Cottesloe scored first in the first half; the School replied by means of Fleay who was playing as at the close of the game on the previous Saturday, Brine being in goal. Neither side scored during the second half and at the end of time the scores were level—one all. To decide the game it was agreed to play for 15 minutes each way. This time the School scored first and then Cottesloe scored, bringing the scores to 2 all. However within two minutes of time the Cottesloe forwards carried the ball swiftly down the field and scored. On kicking off again Walker sent the ball away up the left wing, but the Cottesloe backs were too strong and kept the forwards away from the goal till time was up. Cottesloe thus won by 3 to 2. The School team was, if anything, slightly better than a week before, and there was scarcely any difference between the teams. The whole School team played well, but Walker, Fleay, McLarty and Turnbull were, if anything, the most conspicuous.

On July 29 the return match was played against the Albions on our own ground. The result was a draw—1 all. The Albions succeeded in scoring first, but only a few minutes later Walker succeeded in getting the ball through after a scuffle. During the first half the Albions had most of the ball and made plenty of work for the School backs. In the second half, however, the School forwards had

it a good deal and should have scored a good many times, but, as usual, failed to do so. On neither side did the forwards show their usual form, but the forwards were best on the Albions' side and the full backs on the School side. Fleay played splendidly in goal and McLarty also worked hard at centre half. From the on-lookers' point of view the game was slow and uninteresting to watch.

The match against the Ex-Students B. was played on the following Saturday. The match was supposed to take place on Loton's paddock, but owing to heavy rain on the previous day it was played on our own ground. Harwood was unable to play, so McLarty took his place as left full back. Riley was playing centre half and Brine centre forward, but soon afterwards Walker sent Riley forward and Brine took his place. Later on Brine changed with McLarty but they changed back again soon after and the team kept the same places till half time. Towards the end of the first half the Students succeeded in scoring after a sharp fight round the goal and they maintained this lead till the end. At the beginning of the second half Brine took goal and Fleay went centre forward and the rest of the team had the same places. There was no scoring during the second half but the game was all in the School's favour. The Students' forwards scarcely had the ball at all during this half and the play was chiefly on the left wing of the School's forward line. Watkins was hurt in the second half and had to stop for a while. Hardwicke, Walker and Fleay played best in this match, which should not have ended in defeat.

The last of the regular matches was played on the 8th of August, at Cottesloe, against the Reserves. The result was a draw. After the ball had wandered about a good deal it was taken up the field by the School forwards and Fleay passed to Hardwicke and the latter scored at his second shot. The Reserves, however, succeeded in drawing level again. They obtained a corner, and it was so well kicked that the forwards succeeded in knocking it through. Neither side scored any more, though many good rushes were made especially in the last few minutes. A good deal of time was wasted during the match owing to the ball being continually kicked out of play. The whole team played well but Caris, Hardwicke, Walker and Turnbull were perhaps the best.