

The Fortian.

Faber est Suae Quisque Fortunae.

Vol.2 No. 1, Model School Jan. 31st. 1900 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

OLD BOYS' COLUMN.

Carl Basche, Bennett, Agassiz, Gilchrist, Dodd and Houison are en route for South Africa to fight for the Queen.

....Basche is the youngest officer in the Second Contingent. He is a capable young fellow.

....Dodd passed through the School in '92. His name appears first on the Honour Board, as Medalist in Geometry, at the University Junior of that year. He was a great favourite with the masters, and particularly so with Mr. Mannell, formerly First Assistant in the Model School.

....Bennett was a good shot in the old Cadet Corps, and was a prominent footballer in the 1893 team, the strongest, probably, that the School ever produced. Among his confreres were Capt. Dick Combes, Norman and Stewart Murray, Sid. Wilkes, Vin. Dowling, Ebsworth, Ernie Heden, Yeomans, and Cyril Caldwell.

Mr. W. F. Mc.Manamey was the Coach in those days. Bennett has the right 'grit' for a soldier.

THE FORTIAN.

....Agassiz hails from Quirindi, and belongs to a company of the Australian Horse. He is very young and plucky.

....Gilchrist comes from a military family. His father is Major Gilchrist, headmaster of the Public School, Willoughby, and the son is "a chip of the old block". Gilchrist is a good horseman and knows his drill well.

....Houison surprised us all the other day when he called to say that he was off to South Africa to join the Cape Rifles. We did not think he would forsake his desk in Loftus Street for life at the Cape. He is a loyal fellow and is sure to give a good account of himself.

....Spooner, one of the 1899 Junior, passed the A. M. P. examination at the end of last year and received his appointment on the first of the month. He called at the school to inform his masters and to thank them for services rendered.

....Baumgarten formerly captain of the swimming club, writes from his native city, Batavia in Java, and sends the season's greetings to his classmates.

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Changes in Teaching Staff:— Mr. E. Broome has gone to Quirindi as assistant master, and Mr. G. F. Longmuir to Broken Hill in a similar capacity. Both have received well merited promotion.

THE TRAGEDY OF A SCARLET QUILT.

A dull winter afternoon in June, succeeded by the usual rainy evening—first a few large drops, then faster and faster, until the trees and grass before the little “Bijou Villa” become saturated, and the chrysanthemum blooms hang their heads heavily with their burden of moisture. With depressing persistence drifts the rain, showering it; sprays of drops against the window where they seem to rest awhile to peep within, before proceeding to chase each other slowly down the glass outside. Within, is light, a fire and an abandoned tea-table, and before the fire a little plaintive voice with babyish persistence is repeating—“And that was M’ver’s shoe Daddy, wasn’t it? M’ver’s shoe?” The Daddy addressed at last turns his eyes from the fire, and gazes on the curly head beside him. Ah! how like “Bubbles,” with his mass of yellow curls, and blue eyes filled with a questioning wonder. There he sat, a white figure, just ready for bed; hugging a worn bronze slipper whose steel buckle, glittered in the firelight. They had been inseparable, he and the old slipper. Curly had turned it out from some corner. “His M’ver’s Shoe!”—the link that bound him to the past, and brought him nearer to the mysterious silence of the present.

“They tookened her away, an’ Curly tan’t find her, he tan’t! He has looked everywhere. He explored the kitchen and the coal-cellar and ever a neighbour’s back yard. Then from the depths of the old store-cupboard he had unearthed this treasure—this slipper! Waking or sleeping it had been in his possession, till Daddy, with an intense longing to comfort the child, had taken Curly that afternoon to his mother’s last resting place, and with the sad patience of the strong but broken-hearted man, had striven to teach that wondering little mind that Mother was there. And now Curly was full of it; he could think of nothing else. The life and soul of this little creature had been wrapped up in this mother of his. She had been all the world to him, and he had been all in all to her. “Surely Muver would be back some day; so Curly would be a good boy, and eat his bread and milk, and grow up into a big man like Daddy”—and he looked up at the stern face, with intense admiration.

“I don’t think heaven’s a vewry nice place Daddy,” he remarked, “and all that dirt must be vewry heavy for poor Muver;—I’m sure Muver ’ud rather be here than out there in the wet rain!” The restless voice, became shrill with sudden anxiety, and the blue eyes filled

with tears "Oh Daddy do you think Muer'll get wet? Oh Daddy! Muer didn't ever like the rain. Oh! will she get wet, out there by herself? Daddy gathered the little restless body and old shoe into his arms and talked gently of a comfort he himself could never feel. At last he lifted him gently down—"Daddy has a meeting tonight, and it is your bedtime now, so be off to Nancy. Don't forget to say your prayers my boy! Ask the angels to take care of mother tonight." As he watched the little figure slowly leave the room, the great responsibility of its future, seemed more than he could undertake. How the loving guidance of that dear dead one would be missed! The awfulness of death! Ah that day when he had returned home eager for the welcome that should be his; longing for the bright, happy face that would beam at this unexpected return. But they had told him that the bright eyes were closed in the sleep of death!

Presently he rose and went out to his meeting.

Curly went to Nancy, but Nancy, with the usual independence of the maid in households lacking the guiding hand of a woman, is deep in a thrilling narrative to the charwoman and the charwoman with a "poor dear" "tut tut" sympathetic expression, is in no mind to be

disturbed either. So Curly goes at last by himself to the room where the lamp sheds a gentle glow on the white baby-bed, a dainty little nest with its white curtains and pillows, relieved by the vivid scarlet of a little eider-down quilt, a much beloved quilt of Curly's, his very own from baby-hood—a quilt which Mother had never failed to tuck firmly round her darling, with a goodnight kiss.

Would Nancy ever come! Curly flattened his nose on the window-pane and stared dismally out. The "swish—swish" of the trees in the wind and rain made him feel troubled again. "Surely Daddy is wrong; poor mother must be cold and wet out there in all that rain." Then Curly spied the quilt. Just the thing! He would take it down to Daddy, and Daddy would take it to cover Mother's grave, and then she couldn't get wet. Trailing the scarlet quilt behind him, he entered the room he had recently left. But Daddy wasn't there. He must have gone to the 'meeting', and 'Muver' would get wet after all. Then he wandered out through the open street door. Perhaps Daddy had'nt gone far, or perhaps—Curly could take it, and cover mother up his very own self. Filled with excitement at the thought, the little restless child in white

pyjamas, bare-foot, trailing the scarlet quilt, quickly hastened down the garden path, out into the street, whilst the rain-drops moistened the mass of curls, and splashed the chubby feet. Ah mother ! where is thy guiding hand for those little footsteps now, splashing through the mud in the roadway, stumbling on, the scarlet quilt always in evidence — a vivid trail behind !

The four horse Waverley 'bus is making a rapid journey to-night. How the clumsy, lumbering vehicle seems to lurch and totter. The passengers bear resigned expressions, and have determined to report that driver tomorrow.—A childish scream brings a sudden halt, a wild stamping and slipping of horses, dismounting of passengers, and the usual confusion of an accident. On the road, in the mud, lies a little huddled mass, with frightfully shattered limbs, and blue eyes that glare with the ghastly stare of the dead in the light of a hastily brought bus lamp. Dyeing the mud is a stain deeper than the hue of the scarlet quilt.

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Now the rain falls at times on a smaller grave beside ' Muver's ' .

Ethel A. Corthorn.

Mr. Wallace Clubb, in charge of Matriculation Fifth in days gone by, now head of the Public School East Perth, West Australia, the second school in the Colony, writes "There is this remarkable quality about Fort Street that, once one has been connected for any time with it, one can never cease to feel interest in its welfare and pride in its achievements."

Mr. Clubb's work and worth are duly appreciated in the Western Colony. He is in the very front rank of our brilliant young teachers.

Mr. Pincombe, the business manager of the 'Fortian', is looking about for some volunteers.

Fred Conway has hitherto worked like a Trojan in the machine room and has been ably assisted by several willing hands, but these workmen cannot give so much time in the future in consequence of preparing for the Junior and other examinations. We must not lose sight of the fact that increased labour will follow the introduction of the larger press. In selecting from volunteers, preference will be given to those whose fathers are in the trade, and who therefore may be relied upon for having some practical knowledge of the business. Those interested will please apply to Mr. Pincombe early.

The Fortian.

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Vol. 2 No. 2, Model School Feb. 28th. 1900. $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

— THE SYDNEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EXAMINATION —

At the first examination for junior commercial certificates, under the commercial education scheme lately initiated by the Sydney Chamber of Commerce, the prizes and certificates were awarded as follows:—

1. Edward Harold Swain, (Fort Street)
Certificate and prize of 10 guineas
 2. Henry Arthur Timbrell, (Fort Street)
Certificate and prize of 3 guineas.
 3. Leighton White, (Fort Street.)
Certificate and prize of 2 guineas.
 4. Oscar Czerwonka, (Fort Street.)
 5. Victor Raves, (Petersham P. S.)
 6. Percy Hubbard, (Fort Street.)
 7. A. M'Vicar, (Newington Coll.)
 8. Cecil Wickham, (Petersham P.S.)
 9. E. Butterworth, (Burwood P.S.)
- } Certificates

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BOYS' SCHOOL. — Class Items—

There were 1000 boys in attendance last week.

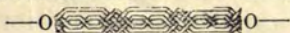
5 F. Barrow has been appointed to the Govt.

Savings Bank; Harry Moore to the Statistician's Department. Their appointments have followed quickly upon the Public Service Examination. Good work tells. Whitney's success in the Beauchamp Prizes for literature was well deserved. We are glad to hear of his progress in Latin. With his bent it could not be otherwise. Lloyd deserves encouragement. He is a hard worker. Ebbsworth and Wyatt gained top marks in the Mathematical exam. last week, 287 out of 300. Sharp is sitting for the Matric. He will help the class to eclipse last year's record of five bursaries out of six given.

5 D—75 sat for places in the 1900 Junior. We hear that Williams and Collins sent in very good papers in Geometry. Chidgey and Swain, who sat for the Forestry Cadetship expect a good pass Frost has gone into an Engineering firm; White into the office of Gilchrist, Watt & Co.

5 C, 5B, 5A.—Clive Smith is showing out well. He is very quick of comprehension. Grant's progress in Euclid is indeed remarkable; fine evidence of future strength. Mr. Robertson is very pleased with the class's work in the first book of Euclid. We are pleased to hear of Arthur Hill's meritorious progress in Latin

SWIMMING NOTES.



What a wonderfully good swimmer young Dick Cavill is! His performances at long distances are excellent. His time in his heat for the 100 yards Australasian Championship, swum at Sans Souci, was also a great effort, and he was unfortunate in not being allowed to compete in the final for the same event.

Attention is directed to the following changes in the management of Swimming in Fort St. School. Mr. Steinbeck is reluctantly compelled to give up the control of the Club on account of uncertain health. Mr. Howarth will take up his duties. The members of the club will in future be divided into two classes—Swimmers and Non-Swimmers. Arrangements will be made for the former class to practise on Thursday afternoon in each week, and handicaps for the classes will be introduced immediately. Mr. W. E. Bethel of the Farm Cove Club will give the swimmers the benefit of his knowledge and will act as starter at the practices. The Non-Swimmers will continue to receive attention in the art on Tuesday afternoon. It is not too late for boys to join. The Head Master will be pleased to see a large additional enrolment this month.

Bob Pert (3. G.) is a coming champion. He swam the 100 yards in a competition during the holidays, and came first—beating some good “men”—in a little over 1·9. If Bob attends well to his school and his studies, Fort Street will be proud to have him as representative at the All Schools’ 1900 Championship.

Swimmers—young and old—appreciate the efforts being put forth by Mr. E. W. O’Sullivan, Minister for Works, in the direction of increased bathing accommodation in Sydney Harbour.

Members of the Club must keep in view two matters which should receive early attention—first, the appointment of a captain; second, the fixing of a date for the annual carnival. A public meeting will be called early to deal with this business.

SCRIPTURE EXAMINATION

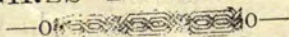


At the yearly Scripture Examination (in connection with the Church of England) held in December last 579 children from the various public schools in Sydney and suburbs attended. The examiners stated that the conduct and attention of the children during the examination

were admirable.

Fort Street School comes out first this year. It has the honour of obtaining both the Gold Medals. The successful candidates are Eva Dearin and James McKinnon. Mildred Lovell also receives a senior prize. Amongst Intermediates Norman Scott Connall, Stanley Twigg, Harold Sherwood, George Johnson. Mabel Wilson, Beatrice Tearle, are prize winners. In the Junior Division, May Gordon takes a prize.

GIRLS' DEPARTMENT.

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We are pleased to state, that Miss Maud Austin, an ex-pupil of Fort Street School, a young lady of great ability, (who has already distinguished herself in the Art of Cooking) has been appointed assistant to Miss Gelding. An additional Cookery Class is now formed; girls from this school attend for instruction every Monday Wednesday and Thursday.

We must compliment three of our girls upon their success in winning Departmental Bursaries which will entitle them to £10 per year, free education, passes, all text books, and payment of Junior University Fees. The girls elect to remain as pupils in this school.

THE FORTIAN.

GIRLS' SWIMMING CLUB.

There are now 145 members in this club. Some of the new members are making good progress, and all are enthusiastic. At the Carnival held on Wednesday 14th. instant in connection with the Western Suburbs Public Schools, Fort Street was represented by Annie Adams and Marion Small in the only open race, 100 yards Championship of Public Schools. Annie Adams won easily, and Marion Small obtained 3rd. place.

Class Honors:—In Cert. Arith. 5.C. gained 93.3 per cent marks, topping the list. In specimen writing 5.B. gained the honors.

Florrie Everitt who has gained many honors for this school has left, and is now studying for Senior Honors in Music; the examination takes place in Sept. next.

Barbara Abbott is Eva Dearn's successor as Senior Monitress of the school.

Ivy Beattie, 5 E., has passed the Civil Service Examination.

CRICKET.

Cricket matches took place as usual on Friday at Birchgrove. A visit to this ground is much appreciated by our boys.

THE FORTIAN.

4 C. and 4 D. met and defeated 5 A. and 5 B. by an innings and 87 runs. Scott 42 runs, and Henderson 23, deserve great credit for their free hitting, while Haydon and Scott were on the spot with the ball, getting 5 wickets each.

4 Matr. won their match with 4 A by 8 runs. Scores were small. Hanks and Rooke bowled well for the winners, while Owers did the work for 4 A, taking 7 wickets and performing the hat trick. The scores were: 4 M. 32, 4 A. 24.

Boys should always keep in view that fielding is one of the most important departments of the game, and that it depends very largely on the quality of the work shown in the field which side is to be victorious.

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—CLASS ITEMS— (See Page 2.)

5 A, B, & C (Contd.)—Claude Flynn winning a Departmental bursary prefers to take it at his old school. We like that. The map in the corridor, showing the 'scene' of the 'Lady of the Lake', is by Lance Wilkinson. Lance is sending us a contribution. Clarence Mitchell's good qualities are appreciated by every boy in the class. It is good to be worthily popular.

4 M. — Woolcott's English Composition and Bayly's work in Latin lately have been good.

4B—Broadfoot, Fenwick, Matthew, Judges and A. Thomas. are pleasing Mr. Morgan. 'Hard work' is the report from 4C—a good report too.

Bravo 3A! You are shaping splendidly. Ask Mr. Brown who are the ten 'most worthy'. Binns of 3E, we are glad to hear such good reports of you. Smith of 3B is doing good work. Glad to get 'new' boys like you, Smith.

3E. and 3G. hold what they call a 'Reunion of 1899' about Easter. Each boy is giving a penny a week for picnic purposes. The teachers say Dale of 3G. and Crook of 4A₂ are the most worthy of mention in those classes. Mr. Learmonth says he is pleased with his new class.

THE BEAUCHAMP GOLD MEDALS for ENGLISH LETTERS.

Last year the promoters of the Australian Art Review instituted a competition in English Letters for the encouragement in the Colony of literary taste and the reading of the best English literature. The competition was open to all schools and colleges. His Excellency, Earl Beauchamp, acted as chief adjudicator, and promised a gold medal to the winning girl and to the winning boy. The other judges were His Honor Mr. Justice Stephen, and the Editor of

the Art Review. The works set for study were to be read as literature; verbal criticism was eschewed. The course included:—

Shakespeare: Richard II. Jane Austin: Emma.
 Tennyson: Ænone, Morte d'Arthur, Tithonus,
 Lotos Eaters, May Queen, Lady Clara
 Vere de Vere, Dora.

Macaulay: Essay on Bacon.

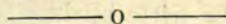
The final award of the judges resulted:—

MEDALS.

Florence Annie Everett, } Model Public School,
 George C. Whitney, } Fort Street.

HONORABLE MENTION.

- 1 J. Edgley, All Saints College, Bathurst.
- 2 Percy R. Watts, Mod. Public School, Fort St.
- 3 Harold Ritchie, Grammar School, Bega.
- 4 R. H. Doyle, Bourke Street, Sydney.
- 5 Mildred Lovell, } Model Public School,
- 6 William H. Mason, } Fort Street.



ORIGINAL POETRY.

ALGERNON CHARLES SWINBURNE.

Upon these later winds of ours there moves along
 A strain of melody so sweet and strong
 That men are charmed to hear, and wonder long,
 The potent-pulsing flood of Swinburne's fearless
 song. (tongue
 Oppression's callow brood, or fiends of crafty

May cringe and shudder as the veils are rent
 That hide their sinful mysteries; when pent
 Within the lists, their giants are bruised and
 bleeding flung. (brow,
 This King of modern singers sits with laurelled
 'Wielding his subtle sceptre-harmonies
 Before Urania's shrine, while on our knees
 Bending with awe, we offer him our homage now.
 Geo. C. Whitney. 20-1-1900.

GERTIE.

She's bright as the sunshine,
 And tall as the wheat,

The brightest of girls,
 With swift glancing feet.

She has eyes of light hazel,
 And heart without stain,
 She's sweet, is this damsel,
 And Gertie's her name.

Many were the wild notes,
 Her gay voice would pour,
 Many the little birds
 That warbled them o'er.

Oh! I dream of Gertie,
 With the lovely dark hair,
 Floating like a vapour,

On the soft summer air. (May Lee.)

Swimming Club has 563 members; 600 wanted
 before Carnival 7th. April. Mandelson is Capt.

Printed at Fort Street Model Public School.

The Fortian.

Faber est Suae Quisque Fortunae.

Vol. 2 No .3, Model School Mar. 26th. 1900. $\frac{1}{2}$ d

MARCH MATRICULATION—1900.

At the recent Matriculation Examination the School was represented by 13 boys and 1 girl. Twelve boys passed, and three of their number gained bursaries—Sharpe, Noake and Cullen. Florence Coutts also gained a bursary. Maxwell has been awarded a bursary by the Senate of the University on his excellent work at the last Senior. This is the largest number of passes obtained by the school at the March Matric. We heartily congratulate our boys on their success. The successful Candidates were:—

Norman F. Biden	Thomas W. Nicholls
Frank V. J. Cullen	Arthur R. Noake
Thomas H. Dick	George F. Sharpe
Samuel W. Ebsworth	William H. Stanley
Arthur S. Lloyd	George C. Whitney
Timothy G. M'Donald	William W. J. Wyatt
Margaret Coutts.	

With the sincerest regret we have to record the death at Kimberley, South Africa, of Horace W. Gilchrist from enteric fever. He left us a

little more than two months ago with the First Australian Horse. We little thought when we referred to him in our January number that we would be parting for ever. His classmates will ever remember him as an honourable, manly, lighthearted friend. His parents have our sympathy in their great bereavement.

Jack Norman gained first place at the recent Cadet Engineering Examination conducted by the Public Service Board. The position is important and we are glad Jack has done so well. Giraud and Searl, (old boys,) passed the same test

Wellisch received the appointment of clerk in the Sydney Mint on 1st. January. It is his intention to go through the University by means of night lectures. He has been offered a scholarship in St. Paul's College, and it is probable that he will go into residence there while attending the University.

The Carnival is approaching; the loyal support of all is desired to make it a success. The display of swimming; Relief of Ladysmith; March past by our boys, under Mr. 'Tums' Cavill, will be worth going a long way see.

The girls' carnival takes place on the 10th. April and will prove exciting and interesting under the guidance of Miss Kilminster

Fitzgerald has been elected Captain of the school in succession to Maxwell.

On Thursday 1st. Mar. at the Merchants' Exchange the first distribution of certificates for juniors under the scheme of the commercial education sectional committee of the Chamber of Commerce took place. The president of the chamber (Mr. A. F. Robinson) occupied the chair, having the Mayor of Sydney (Sir Matthew Harris) on his right, and the Hon. J. Perry (Minister of Public Instruction) on his left.

The President distributed the certificates and prizes as follows:—1, E. H. F. Swain, certificate and special prize (£ 10 10s) 2, A. H. Timbrell, certificate and prize (£ 3 3s) 3, Leighton A. White, certificate and prize (£ 2 2s) 4, O. F. Czerwonka, 5, V. S. Raves, 6, P. H. Hubbard, 7, A. C. M'Vicar, 8, C. Wickham, and 9, E. S. Butterworth, certificates.

Mr. G. S. Littlejohn, the prime mover in the present educational efforts of the Chamber, read a paper on "Commercial Education." He pointed out that in the examination the Public Schools came out well to the front. Out of 47 candidates only nine passed, and of these no less than eight were trained in the Public schools of the colony; and Fort Street school claimed five of those successful candidates out of six

THE FORTIAN.

entries. The first four prize-winners in the order of merit were Fort-street boys.

The Hon. J. Perry, Minister of Public Instruction said that as an old Fort-street boy first, then as the Minister of the Department of Education, he was most gratified at the proud position occupied by the Public school system of the colony, as out of nine passes, eight were gained by Public school boys, and all three special prizes were won by Public school boys. Old Fort-street sent in six pupils, and five passed. He was sorry to find from the report of the examiners that all the candidates were so defective in writing. He would make a special inquiry into the matter. He was determined to leave no stone unturned to make the Public schools as perfect as possible, and he had to thank the Chamber of Commerce for initiating the movement.

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—GIRLS' SCHOOL.—

A lively interest in the 'Fortian' having been awakened on the Girls' side, their enthusiasm finds an outlet in the form of a Debating Club in connection with the paper. The plan is for a subject to be proposed in one issue. The members shall send their written opinions to the Committee, where they are to be judged by two

or more teachers. The best conceived argument shall be published in the succeeding issue. The subject for the next debate is: "Kipling as the national poet."

CLASS HONORS

In V E.—Emily Gruinger, Ouita Langley and Amy Bourne are doing good work. Judging by the work being done we expect some brilliant results at the next examination.

In V D. Ethel Russell headed the list at the Monthly Exam. with an average of 94 per cent—a splendid record.

Mary Butler did such excellent work in V A. (Prep. Jun.) that she has been placed in V C. (P. J.) where her work is giving Miss Black entire satisfaction.

Gladys Reynolds, Gertie Chowne, and Grace Wilson did such good work in 3 D. that they have been put up into 4 A.

In III B. Kathleen Montgomery and Edith M'Cord head the list of class marks for the month of February. Lizzie Roach, Millie Roxby, Ethel Leaver, Kathleen Montgomery, and Neta Butler gained 100 p. c. at the special Arith. Exam.

Ruby M'Laren and Minnie Keam rank as the best girls in Eistory in III A. Bertha Wilson has the honour of having the best exercise in the class.

THE FORTIAN.

Emily Trowbridge and Alice Coker are the best writers in III C. Janie Whitelaw is doing good work all round, especially in Arithmetic. Evelyn Collier was top in the Geography examination, gaining 100 per cent.

Ivy Davis and Grace Richards have the best exercises in IV A, while Margaret Ivers and Ruth Moore draw the best maps.

MISS MOUNTNEY'S PATIENCE.

(A Serial)— By Lola Gornall.

She was tall and slight. Her glossy brown hair was loosely coiled low down her gracious head, while a little runaway strand affectionately kissed her broad low brow. There was nothing of the battered, nerveless, smileless veteran of pot-hook lore about Miss Mountney.

The grey eyes were fast losing their patient expression.

“Wherever can they be?” she said, crossing the school-room, and standing on the landing outside. No sign of Dorrie, Berrie, or Lyle greeted her. ‘Blenheim Hall’ seemed unusually still and quiet. Mary, the house maid, came out of a room on the landing below

“Mary”, called Miss Mountney, “please tell my pupils to come to me at once”. Mary jerked assent and departed for the lower regions.

Miss Mountney leaned thoughtfully against the banisters, and listened to Mary's down-at-heel canvas shoes, going 'clap-clop, clap-clop' until distance dulled the sound.

"They might have known I did not mean them to go," she said in self-justification.

Mary reappeared upon the scene. "They ain't nowhere about," she announced, with a great grammatical effort, and then tramped off again. Two puckers of annoyance appeared on Miss Mountney's brow.

"Well I'll find them if I have to hunt all day," she determined, going back to the school-room for the garden-hat she had left lying there.

(To be continued.)

THE SENIORS' OUTING.

It was an ideal day for a picnic when on Friday 9th. March the teachers and the boys of the Senior Matric. Room held their annual March picnic. Taking boats at Snails' Bay, they pulled up Lane Cove, as far as the Chicago Mills. Landing at a suitable spot the camp was pitched.

The programme of sports began with an impromptu performance by Mr. Stoyles which caused much merriment to all but the performer;

however—'uvida suspendit potenti vestimenta maris deo', and thereafter joy was unconfined. The river was explored as far as the boats could be taken. After the return to camp boat-races and other exciting contests were indulged in. During the afternoon Mr. Lasker and Mr. Stoyles captained two teams in a cricket match, which was never slow, owing to the vagaries of the wicket, the field, the umpire, and the special rules which governed the game. After tea a pleasant pull home in the moonlight, to the sound of music, concluded a most delightful day.

P. Watts.

COMPLAINTS THAT ARE CATCHING.

The wonders wrought by the scientists of to-day are something astonishing. It is a matter of history how the Bubonic Plague was traced from the human body to fleas and from fleas to rats. More diseases than one are traceable to fleas. An eminent scientist the other day remarked to a friend that he had traced insanity to them. "How's that," replied his friend, "is it the inoculation of the sane from the insane?" "No!" replied the scientist, "it is because so many fleas die annually cracked"!!!

Lancelot V. Wilkinson.

IN MEMORIAM: THE BLACK WATCH.

(“The privates of the Black Watch who perished in the attack on Magersfontein were buried feet to feet, dressed in their kilts, with their sporrans covering their faces.”—Major Reay, in Melbourne Herald.)

I

Feet to feet they lie,
Awaiting that dread day
When Earth shall shrivel
as a scroll
And all things pass away!

II.

Feet to feet they lie!
The bed is wide and deep
Where Wauchope and his
Highlanders
With placid faces sleep!

III.

Clad as they fell, they lie—
His kilted lads, and he—
More honoured in that
gloomy grave,
Than flushed in victory.

IV

The stalwart forms are still
That once were Scotland's
pride,
But never yet in vain her
sons
Have nobly fought and
died!

V.

Then twine the laurel wreath
O willing hand of Fame!
For, as of old, our Black Watch died,—
All honour to their name!

(Marion Miller—State School, Box Hill, Victoria.

In “The School Paper.”)

A SOLDIER'S PRAYER.

The following beautiful words are said to have been written by General Colley just previous to the battle of Majuba, 1881:—

“Lord ere I join the deadly strife
 And battle's terrors dare,
 First would I render soul and life
 To thine Almighty care.
 And when grim death in smoke wreaths robed,
 Comes thundering o'er the scene,
 What fear can reach a soldier's heart
 Whose trust in Thee has been ?”

PUZZLE COLUMN

(Address answers to J. G. care of Editor.)

1. A conundrum for the hot weather, for the Balmain and North Sydney boys especially :
 Why don't people stay on this side of the water ?
2. Why is a certain South Australian cricketer, giving his young brothers half-sovereigns, like the rising sun ?
3. Why is an amiable and charming girl like one letter in deep thought, another on its way to you, another bearing a torch, and another singing psalms ?

Printed at Fort Street Model Public School.

The Fortian.

Faber est Suae Quisque Fortunae.

Vol. 2, No. 4, Model School Apr. 30th. 1900.

UNIVERSITY HONOURS.

At the recent conferring of degrees by the Sydney University we notice the following successes on the part of old Fort Street pupils:

Faculty of Arts:—

Isaiah Mutton B. A. Second Class Honours in Latin Third Class Honours in Greek.

Alexander Sadler B. A.

Honours—First Year Examination:—

Constance Mackness. First Class Honours in French and University prize for Physiography.

Scholarships at Matriculation:—

Ernest Montagu Wellisch: Aitken Scholarship for general proficiency, and Barker Scholarship No. II, and Horner Exhibition for Mathematics.

Faculty of Medicine:—

Second Year Examination; Percy Leslie Hipsley (first on the list.)

First Year Examination; William Mawson, First Class Honours in Physics.

Faculty of Science:—

Ernest Charles Heden, B. A. First Class Honours and Caird Scholarship for Chemistry. First class honours, Deas-Thomson Scholarship

equal with Newman; prox. acc. for Professor David's prize for Geology.

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RAILWAY EXAMINATION.

We notice that several of our boys were successful in passing this examination: Brettell of V E was second on the list.

THE IMPERIAL BUSHMEN'S CONTINGENT.

We recognise the names of several Fort street boys in the official list of the I.B.C. Stanley Cullen-Ward. Stan. Lipscombe, Les. Parish, Ruthven, Coggins. We wish them success.

THE LATE LIEUTENANT C. O. BASCHE.

The death of this fine young officer at Bloemfontein from enteric fever is announced. Carl visited the old school in company with his chum W. Smith, on the very day he left for South Africa. We, in common with his schoolmates mourn his untimely death and our sympathy is with his friends in their particularly sad bereavement.

'FORTIAN' GIRLS' DEBATING CLUB.

The subject for the past month was "Kipling as the National Poet". Very interesting papers were sent in by Nellie Flahey, Irma Haliger and Nellie Woodgate. As full extracts from the best essay as our space will allow appear below.

The essay by N. Woodgate was also good, but

lacked the polish of that written by N. Flahey.

The subject for next month is:—"From which does the mind gain more knowledge—Reading or Observation?"

SONNET TO FORT STREET SCHOOL.

Nor murmuring stream, nor terraced soft incline,
 Nor 'wildering maze of spires, nor circled dome
 Compels the gaze of wonder-sated eye;
 Nor are they meet for lowly learning's home.
 A modest edifice of studious brown,
 With happy faces noblest art thou decked,
 That through the rolling years shall stablish thy
 renown.

The nursery of a nation's intellect.
 Within these hallowed walls what joys are bound!
 What chords responsive do the Muses sound!
 Uplifting all, the teacher and the taught,
 In one grand, silent, harmony of thought.
 Eye hath not seen a grander vision. Nay,
 A golden sunbeam, in the even cool,
 Slow leaves the solemn surface of the bay,
 And loving lingers o'er the Grand Old School.

Percival R. Cole. Fort Street 24-4-'00.

"KIPLING AS THE NATIONAL POET"

That branch of Kipling's art to which some deny
 the name of poetry is a national concern of essential
 importance, for it elevates invigorates and ennobles
 a nation.

A national collection should contain choice examples of the various phases of character of the people to whom it belongs; for in such poems lessons are taught, stories are told and examples conveyed.

Rudyard Kipling is a poet with a voice and a physiognomy of his own, and the new man of a few years ago is now one of England's possessions, and not the one of which she is the least proud. Nature endowed him with uncommon qualities, and circumstances sent him into the sphere in which those qualities could be most fortunately exercised. It seems strange that the great store of treasure which he opened to us should have been unhandled and unknown so long.

'Kipling ranges from deep seriousness to exuberant laughter, and his grasp of character is firm and sure, whether he deals with Mrs. Hawksbee or with Dinah Shadd, with a field officer or with Mulvaney, Ortheris and Learoyd with the Inspector of Forests or with Mowgli.'

'Who will not agree that a man of Kipling's genius, his knowledge of the various phases of character of the individual Briton, the combined qualities which characterised the great English poets and the kind of influence his thought, his life, his work, exercise on humanity, arousing all to a true spirit of enthusiasm and patriotism.

linked with a large amount of generosity, is fully entitled to his position as our popular National poet.' (Nellie Flahey.)

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A report of the Boys' Swimming Club Carnival, the Quarterly Prize lists in the Girls' Dept., and other items have been crowded out of this issue.

GIRLS' SWIMMING CLUB.

The Club Carnival was held on Tuesday 10th April, at Lavender Bay Floating Baths, kindly lent for the occasion by Mr. Warbrick, the proprietor. The kindness and courtesy of this gentleman and of his sister through the Swimming season cannot be too highly spoken of.

For the Championship of the School, 60 yds, four entries were received. Annie Adams was again victorious—time, 65 seconds.

In the next event—20 yards, for girls under 12, Ethel Jones won, but owing to a protest as to a bad start the race had to be repeated. Ethel Jones did not appear, so lost her chance. The result was:—1. Ida Mc Murtrie, 2. Ida Bradley. In the Wading Race, Annie Woodley, Minna Whyte and Ruth Brown won heats— and the final showed:—1. Ruth Brown, 2. Minna Whyte.

The Old Members' Race resulted:—1. Ethel Russell, 2. Bertha Peter.

Beginners' Race (across baths):—1. Elsie Steel 2. Mary Mackenzie. 3. Myra Johnson.

In the 30 yards Handicap the heats resulted;—

1. { 1 Estelle Murray, 2. { 1 Renee Stafford,
 { 2 Marion Small. { 2 Sidonia Pugh.
3. Bertha Wass 1, Venie Brown & Alice Dodd 2.

The final was a very close and exciting race with this result:—1. M. Small. 2. R. Stafford.

Estelle Murray won the Floating Competition, with Elsie Hill second; and in diving, Marion Small and Elsie Hill were first and second respectively for Neatest Header. In the distance diving Annie Adams won easily, swimming at the bottom almost the length of the Baths.

The 50 yards Handicap was another closely contested event. Result:—

1. Annie Adams. 2. Estelle Murray.

E. Murray is a very strong swimmer and should give a good account of herself next season. A beginner who shows great promise is Ettie Symons.

In the Relay Handicap (which, with the final of some other events, had to be decided on Wednesday morning, the weather on Tuesday afternoon being too boisterous and cold for the continuation of the Carnival, five teams, 3 a side, started; the winning teams were:—

1. { Estelle Murray 2. { Marion Small,
 { Ivy Williams { Bertha Wass,
 { Beatie Walters. { Jessie Mountford.

On Tuesday about 140 girls were present with Miss Partridge, Miss Mc Rae, Miss Masters and Miss Kilminster in charge.

THE SKYLARK SINGING.

Once I wandered, musing,
In a lane; abusing
Thoughts I shaped, accusing
Fortune of refusing
Joys that man had justly earned.

Lo! a dainty hedge-row,
Where sweet brier and sedge grow
Looked I o'er its edge low;
Flutter in the meadow
And a tiny brown bird dull earth spurned.

And I felt a thrilling.
All my being filling
All my doubting killing;
'Twas the skylark's trilling
Cleaving upward, high above the world.

Ever lovely symbol,
Chanting hope-writ hymnal
Like an echoed dim bell
In a mist autumnal,
Down the passion of thy song is hurled.

ENVOI.

Bird, thy song sublime
Shall endure what time
Winds and woods keep tune
In their calm commune
Like the majesty of plenilune.

March 1900.

Geo. C. Whitney.

MISS MOUNTNEY'S PATIENCE (Contd.)

(By Lola Gornall.)

Scarcely an hour ago her three pupils had been sitting at the long polished table giving irritating little sighs and groans, all testifying to the fact that to-day's History was totally unprepared—and in the intervals when the grey eyes were off them, they surreptitiously caught flies, half drowned them in ink, and let them crawl to the extreme corners of the table where they had been placed to prevent 'copying'.

Lyle had captured a 'real beauty'—a greeny goldy thing which had been tormenting everybody in the room. It made beautifully 'clear' tracks right across to Berrie, and succeeded in finding a landing place on her "history paper" such as it was. Berrie cast a quick glance at Miss Mountney. Yes, she had seen, and what was more, she was now leaning over Berrie, scanning her paper. Dorrie and Lyle scribbled away for dear life. Without a word, but oh, with such a look Miss Mountney came round.

"What have you written there Lyle?" Lyle flushed crimson. "It was'nt my fault", her brain had said, and her pen mechanically traced the sentence.

"Did you learn your history last night Dorrie?" The voice had rather an anxious ring, for Dorrie was really the 'model' of the

three, though she had her mischievous fits.

“No Miss Mountney.” The girl’s eyes dropped and Miss Mountney’s patience flew away on sudden wings. “You may all go” she said, with a little dramatic movement. “This last month there has not been a lesson thoroughly learnt and I’m just sick of it.” A little pink stole into her cheeks, her eyes sparkled. “As for Berrie and Lyle— I’m simply hopeless about you!” and she walked out of the room.

The three were silent for a whole minute, then Lyle’s eyes danced wickedly.

“She said we could,” she said gravely, packing her books in a pile at her end of the table and springing from her seat. “Yes, and I’m not going to disobey her”, supplemented Berrie virtuously. “I don’t think she meant it,” said Dorrie undecidedly.

“Well people can’t expect us to know what they mean if they don’t tell us what they mean,” and under cover of this piece of logic Lyle crept from the room.

“No of course not,” and Berrie followed her.

Dorrie was left alone. “I don’t think they should have gone,” she said. And then she noted that the Parramatta River looked particularly inviting. “I don’t see why I shouldn’t go too,” she said. The sudden temptation overcame her, and seizing her hat, she went softly downstairs.

All this had happened an hour ago, and Miss Mountney, just now come from her room, had found that her pupils had gone.

“Took me at my word,” she said, and the least suspicion of a laugh appeared in her eyes. She searched high and low— behind the piano and sheltering bamboo furniture of the drawing-room; behind the easels and half finished pictures in the studio; and behind the massive book cases in the study. Her search was unrewarded much to her secret disgust.

PART II.

The sun dipped into the West and made glorious shafts of golden light pierce between some threatening clouds. Puffs of wind crept up, silently, mysteriously, and a flock of birds flew far away up the river. A fairy-like boat was trying bravely to push its way down stream, and three white-clad figures shivered as a strong gust of cold wind brushed past them, fore-telling a rapidly approaching storm.

(To be continued.)

Answers to Puzzles in our last issue.

1. Because the hot weather makes them cross.
2. Because he (Clem. Hill) “tips the little Hills with gold”.
3. Because she is A— musing, B— coming D— lighting and N— chanting.

The Fortian.

Faber est Sine Quisque Fortunae.

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THE '1900' JUNIOR EXAMINATION.

For this examination which begins on Monday 4th. June, the School will send up 56 candidates, 45 boys and 11 girls. Twenty boys are entered for the Commercial Junior, while twentyfive are candidates for a Matriculation pass. We wish our representatives success in the test, and expect their best efforts for their own and the School's credit.

The 1900 Junior's' Picnic to Bulli on Saturday 26th. inst. followed by a Dinner and Concert at the School at night, was a most enjoyable excursion, to be described in our next issue.

Mr. A. Robins, second assistant and lately in charge of 5 D. and 5 E, has passed his final examination and gained his first-class certificate as a Public School teacher. He has been appointed to the temporary charge of the Public School, Parramatta North. The '1900' Juniors made him a very nice present on Saturday last, to show their appreciation of his kindly advice and valuable instruction during the past twelve months. His colleagues on the staff congratulate him on his well-earned promotion.

THE FORTIAN.

The first meeting of the Girls' Tennis Club was held on Tuesday 13th. March. The rules were read and agreed to. It was resolved that a new net should be bought. There are now 14 members in the club. F. Nelson was unanimously chosen captain. The President is Miss Partridge and Miss Brewster is Hon. Secretary.

OLD BOYS.

Cecil Kiss, who passed the Junior in 1899 and the Public Service Examination last December, writes from Cooma, where he has been appointed Assistant Clerk of Petty Sessions, wishing the 1900 Juniors success.

O. Larcombe, of the 1897 Junior, now Assistant to the Curator, Geological Survey Branch, Department of Mines, passed a very fine examination in Geology and Mineralogy at the Technical College. He was the only candidate in the first year who gained double honours.

Houison sends us a very interesting letter from the front. His classmates will read it with pleasure.

Joe Ranson has received an appointment in the Department of Agriculture.

A cablegram from South Africa tells us that it was Charles Gilchrist, not Horace, who died of enteric fever at Bloemfontein.

THE FORTIAN.

“Nelson” the pet St. Bernard dog of the South Australian Contingent, was captured by the Boers, who prized him much, but he escaped from them and returned to the South Australians, who have since refused 50 guineas for him.

MISS MOUNTNEY'S PATIENCE (Contd.)

“Hurry up, Lyle. what are you bothering with the rudder for?” Dorrie's voice was fretful.

“That's my business”. The afternoon's adventure had not improved my heroines' tempers.

“Dorrie, sit more in the middle”, grumbled Berrie casting a sympathetic glance at her blistered hands— Berrie was always oarsman.

“Lyle what are you making that horrid—

A vivid flash of lightning cut through the clouds and timid Dorrie cowered to the bottom of the “Bluebelle”. “We'd better pull ashore”, and Lyle steered her boat accordingly.

“Your father will be angry when he hears we had “Bluebelle” out in a storm,” prophesied Berrie comfortingly; Lyle knew he would but said nothing. “I'll fasten her securely to this tree”, said Berrie, “and then I'll come early in the morning and pull her to the boat-shed”.

They made the boat fast and set off at break-neck speed for the house, but the storm caught them, and three very drenched figures, splashed in dismal silence through the little pools of water accumulated in the drive of ‘Blenheim Hall.

THE FORTIAN.

Very lagging feet ascended the stairs, in muddy shoes, and hesitated outside Miss Mountney's door. It opened and Miss Mountney stood before them. With one accord the three rushed to her gasping broken little sentences in which 'sorry', and 'never', and 'again', were the principal words.

What could Miss Mountney do? She raised and kissed each miserable face and—forgave them

Lola Gornall.

The End.

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“LINKS OF EMPIRE.”

The following interesting letter addressed to: Pupils (aged about 11) of Largest English School Sydney, N. S. W., Australia. was forwarded to Fort Street by the Post Office authorities. We invite pupils, both boys and girls, in our 3rd. classes, to reply. We shall send the best letters received to Canada.

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Gagetown,
New Brunswick,
March 22nd. 1900.

Dear Australian Friends:

Our teacher told us about a school in England that wrote to a school in the City of St. John, so we thought we would like to write to you. St. John is at the mouth of the

river St. John about 50 miles down from here.

We like to write to you— not only to find out about your country, but because you belong to the British Empire like we do, and because your soldiers and ours are fighting together in South Africa. This makes us like you more than ever. We were all very sorry to hear of your soldiers being killed.

Would you like to hear something about our weather? In the winter the thermometer stands as low as 25 below zero, and in summer it is as high as 95 in the shade. I suppose that seems quite bad to you. In winter we have great fun in the snow, making snowballs and snow-houses. We have lots of skating and snow-shoeing too. Our school has two rooms, a primary and an advanced. In our next letter we will tell you what we learn in our Primary room. Now we would like to ask you some questions which we know you will be kind enough to answer. In return we will try to answer any questions you ask us.

1. How hot is it in Sydney in summer, and how cold in winter?

2. Did you ever see any black swans, kangaroos, or native Australians?

3. What does the country look like around Sydney?

4. How many churches and schools have you?

THE FORTIAN.

5. Do you have any skating?

Would you kindly send us a copy of one of your newspapers. When you answer would you sign your names as we do so we can see your writing.

From your Colonial Cousins.

(Signed.)

Grade V:—Marian Casswell, 11 years old, Charlie H. C. Weston 12, Bruce V. Weston 12, D. Stanley Dunn 10, James Law 10, Wesley H. Brooks 8, Fred. W. Burpee 10, E. Percy Babbit 10, Allen Otty 11, Vivien T. Porter 12, Frank H. Du Vernet 11.

Grade IV. Helen Howard 10, Fred. W. Hamilton 10, Winfield Allingham 9, Bessie Parker 7, Jean Bridges 9, Edith P. Casswell 9, Nora S. Peters, 11, Maggie L. Law 8

Grade III. Arthura M. Babbit 7. Frances H. Casswell 7. Katheen L. Bridges 7.

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3 F. AND 3 G. REUNION.

3 F. and 3 G. (Boys' Dept.) are like sensible brothers; they do not "fall out, and chide and fight", but they agree as little birds in their nests are said to do. They combine to hold picnics. A penny-a-week fund was started some months ago, and by Saturday 28th ult., sufficient cash had accumulated to provide for an outing in proper style. Four of Coffil's five-horse drags took about 100 boys, under the care of their teachers, Messrs. Kenny and Howarth, to Sans

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SPEECH DAY.

In accordance with a long-established practice, on the Friday before the week of the Junior University Examination, the 1st inst., there was a large gathering in the Main Room to say good-bye and to wish success to the School's Contingent for this year's Junior. In addition to the '1901' Juniors, the 'possibles' for the '1902' Junior, from the Fourth Classes were present, and, with Senior Fifth, completely filled the great room. Mr. Turner gave the School's representatives his final words of counsel, warning, and encouragement, and read letters from Old Boys including Messrs. E. Wellisch, Ivo Ferr, and G. McAlister, conveying greetings to those about to undergo the well-remembered ordeal.

Messrs. J. J. Brown, Robertson, Bourke, Roberts and Schrader, also briefly addressed the candidates and the proceedings closed with hearty cheers given them as they filed out.

'AT THE JUNIOR'.

Monday morning, the first day of the examination. "Where is my place?" That is the

THE FORTIAN.

interesting preliminary to be settled. A crowd surrounds the notice-boards where candidates' names and numbers appear. All the girls and a hundred boys find their quarters in the Great Hall, the Mealey Museum accommodates the remainder.

Fine weather prevailed at first and all hoped for a good week of it, but this cheering outlook was darkened by the rain setting in on Wednesday and continuing throughout the week.

'History' was the first subject on Monday and with this and every other subject, after the first 5 minutes, no sound broke the solemn stillness, and save the steady pacing to and fro of the 'bull-dogs' none moved about the room.

Fort Street boys and girls could be seen in every part doing their best for themselves and for the honour of their School, and it was noteworthy that our representatives stuck to their papers till the last minute.

In the Great Hall the dim rays through 'storied windows, richly dight' necessitated the use of electric light, which showed the beauty of the stained glass windows and of the finely carved roof. In the Museum also though the building was not lit up in the same fashion, the boys were comfortable.

After each subject, especially the Mathematical, our boys gathered together to compare

answers, and numerous were the ejaculations such as: "Not bad was it?" "Wasn't it a terror of a paper!" (This applied particularly to the Geometry); and so on.

H. Laird.

OLD BOYS' COLUMN.

Stanley Cullen Ward, whose departure for Beira in the Armenian as a member of the Imperial Enghmen's contingent was noted in a recent issue, has, since leaving Sydney, been promoted to be Sergeant. His appointment was notified in due form in General Orders recently. His photograph appeared in the



pages of "Young Australia" this month. By the courtesy of the proprietor of that paper we are enabled to reproduce it for our readers.

Since leaving school he spent some time in New Caledonia and in Cooma, gaining some practical experience in mining before going to a School of Mines to qualify himself to be a mining engineer.

Being only 17 years 1 month old when he joined the Bushmen, he is the youngest soldier in their ranks. His skill as a rider, and a short stay in the camps at Kensington and Rookwood resulted in promotion to his present rank. We wish him a successful career in South Africa, and a safe return to Australia.

—————): (—————

Ivo W. Kerr is in the Boggabri branch of the A.J.S. Bank. He is rendering credit to his training at Fort St. In an essay competition in that far north western township his paper on "The resources. Mineral and Agricultural, of New South Wales" was awarded first place.

G. McAlister is at Armidale, apprentice d to a dentist in the metropolis of the Northern Tableland.

George Lee and Myro Lumsdaine who passed at the last examination for Junior Clerk held by the Public Service Board have received appointments in the Department of the Treasury and of the Lands respectively.

GIRLS' DEPT.—Alice Irish of 5 D, who in March last passed 4th. out of 102 candidates for the Pupil Teachers' examination in the Parramatta District, has just been appointed to the Public School, North Parramatta, where Mr. Robins is headmaster.

V.A₂. In the Monthly exam. Gertie Butler, Frances McLachlan and Nina Austin were head girls getting 96, 95, and 94 per cent respectively. V.A. Bessie Clarke headed this Class with 94 per cent and Bertha Peter came second with 87 per cent.

IV A. In the quarterly examination for Geography Eva Cummings was first with 98 per cent and Mary Deigan and Ella McKenzie were second with 86 per cent.

III D. May King and Grace Chapman came highest in Arithmetic examination.

SWIMMING CLUB.

The distribution of prizes won at the recent Carnival will take place next Friday in the Main Room, at 2:30 p. m. All friends and supporters of the club are cordially invited to be present.

The winners included: Boys' Handicaps:—
 9 and 10 years: S. Pert 1; J. Doutry 2.
 11-12: H. Macdonald 1; Godefroy 2; Dawson 3.
 13 years: W. Ferguson 1; Henderson 2. Kelly 3.
 Over 14: J. Monro 1; Elkington 2; Twist 3.
 Championship of the Model School: R. Pert 1;
 W. Aldritt 2; S. Elsworth 3.

THE FORTIAN.

ADVANCE AUSTRALIA!

(These lines were written by Andrew Lang an English poet of the present day, on the occasion of the departure of the New South Wales troops to the Soudan, after Gordon's death in 1885. They are not inapplicable at the present time.)

Sons of the giant ocean isle.

In sport our friendly foes for long;
Well England loves you, and we smile
When you out-match us many a while,
So fleet you are, so keen and strong.

You, like that fairy people set
Of old in their enchanted sea,
Far off from men, might well forget
An elder nation's toil and fret.

Might heed not aught but game and glee.

But what your fathers were you are

In lands the fathers never knew;
'Neath skies of alien sign and star,
You rally to the English war;

Your hearts are English, kind and true.

And now, when first on England falls

The shadow of a darkening fate
You hear the mother ere she calls,
You leave your ocean-girded walls

And face her foemen in the gate.

THE FORTIAN.

7

A THOROUGH FRIGHT.

A True Story.

I was just eleven years of age when it happened and for a present Mother had given me a little toy pistol. Two of us slept in the same room, my brother H—, and myself. H— was about 20 years of age, and worked for a George St. firm. Tonight he was "working back" and I went to bed feeling a bit frightened. For a long time I could not go to sleep; but wearied out at last by thinking of different things I fell into a doze. I dreamt that a burglar had broken into the house and murdered everybody except me, and was on the point of driving the still dripping knife into my breast. Suddenly I woke. Then I heard a sound as if someone was climbing up the verandah roof. I listened closely. Yes, it was so! I distinctly heard scraping and scratching on the roof! I pinched myself to make sure I was awake. Then terror overcame me. What was I to do? I could not cry out, I was too frightened. I could not run into father's room because the window was between my bed and the door. Just as a head and shoulders came into the moonlight I remembered my pistol. I don't know how I managed to raise enough pluck for the purpose; but I caught up the toy and pointed it at the figure.

"Move another step and you'll never steal again"

THE FORTIAN.

Then the figure spoke. "Sh-h-h! Its only H—
It's all right. You are a plucky kid for all that".

If he had only known how frightened I felt, I think he would have agreed with me that I did not deserve that praise.

R. Beale.

THE '1900 JUNIOR' TRIP TO BULLI.

Most of the week it had rained, blotting out Mafeking Day and Queen's Birthday altogether, for of what account is a holiday if a veritable deluge shuts one indoors. 5 D. and E. were particularly disconsolate as the date for the Juniors' picnic to Bulli drew near, and the rain continued to pelt. On the 26th. inst., however, the sun appeared once more, perhaps to reward the School Captain's diligence in "lifting his weather eye" before 5 a. m.

Well provided with mackintoshes and umbrellas, however, for we were not yet assured that the school's lucky star was in the ascendant, we mustered at Redfern to the number of over 50 and occupied a carriage reserved for us on the 8. 30 a. m. train for Illawarra. Nearing Tempe we saw the flooded country there with many houses standing in water 2 or 3 feet deep.

Passing the National Park we welcomed the assurance which bright sunshine now gave of an ideal day for picnic purposes. Soon issuing from the long tunnel through Bald Hill we were in

Illawarra — "The Garden of Australia". Seen under such favourable circumstances as attended our visit.—its clear atmosphere, and the freshness of its foliage after heavy rain, its coast fringed with a broad strip of foam as a heavy ground-swell rolled to the shore, and bright sunshine over all—the title of the district to the name claimed for it by its inhabitants is possibly more valid than that of "any given" town just yet to be the capital of Federated Australia.

Our road now lay along the coast. In places the line runs along the face of the cliffs, and we had the sea 300 feet below us. On the other hand the Illawarra Mts. rose abruptly as a wall. Leaving the train at Thirroul, our way led steeply upwards along the mountain-side, with tree-ferns and other beautiful semi-tropical foliage on either hand, while in many a corner small cascades fell and streamlets crossed our path. We lunched at the top of the pass, and then went on to the 'Lookout'.

The abundance and freshness of the foliage several hundred feet immediately below us, and the far stretching view of sea-coast and mountain-range, and the district dotted with towns and villages made a most beautiful picture. A return was now made to Thirroul, after cheers to Mr. and Mrs. Knight who being informed of our visit by Mr. Turner, had come to the top of the Pass to meet us and had pro-

vided tea for all. A keen struggle took place between the Marine and the Commercial Juniors for supremacy at football, but the result was a drawn game, each side securing a try. At 4 p. m. the return journey was begun, and on reaching Sydney all were ready for a good "tucker".

The banquet was provided in the Art Room. Our best thanks are due to Mr. and Mrs. Given for decorating the room and setting forth the table. After the dinner Mr. Turner announced the Concert, and a programme of patriotic and other popular songs was rendered by Messrs. Turner, Robins, Ecurke, Roberts, and H. Laird J. Elkington, C. Rogers, B. Fubb, and G. Fitzgerald, with recitations by F. Conway and P. Portus. These items were most enthusiastically received.

The last item on the programme was the presentation of an 'Afternoon tea set' to Mr. Robins, by Mr. Turner, on behalf of the Juniors, as a memento of his connection with the school, now severed owing to his appointment to the charge of the Public School at Parramatta North.

Hearty cheers given for "The gallant defenders of Mafeking", for the School, Mr. Turner, Mr. Robins, and the other teachers, closed a most enjoyable day's varied proceedings.

The Fortian.

Faber est Suae Quisque Fortunae.

Vol. 2: No. 7. 31 st. July. 1900. Price $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

THE 1900 JUNIOR.

ANOTHER GOOD RECORD.

Second only to that of the Jubilee Year.

Forty-five boys and nine girls were successful, fourteen boys obtaining matriculation passes.

The Chief Inspector, Mr. Bridges, wrote and congratulated the Head-master and his staff on the position on the lists attained by the School—its passes outnumbering those of any other establishment represented at the examination—and on the quality of the passes recorded.

Stephen Noake's pass is most noteworthy—7 subjects, including Latin, Greek, French, and Mathematics—5 'A's and 2 'B's

F. A. Williams' pass comes second in order of merit on the School's list—4 'A's and 2 'B's.

Cizzio was successful in his 7 subjects, and his pass includes a Proxime in Arithmetic.

45 boys obtained 62 'A's 97 'B's and 94 'C's. On the average, therefore, each candidate satisfied the examiners in 5.62 subjects.

In the following list 'M' affixed to a name indicates a matriculation pass.

THE FORTIAN.

'1900' JUNIORS IN ORDER OF MERIT.

1. Stephen Noake	M	23. C. H. Griffiths	
2. Fred. A. Williams	M	R. Nash	
3. Ernest C. Cizzio	M	G. W. Savage	aeq
4. A. H. Douglas	M	J. C. Trotter	
E. H. F. Swain	aeq. M	27. E. Bayly	M
K. A. Golledge	M	E. D. Redfern	
7. H. H. Laird	M	C. W. Rogers	aeq
T. W. Thornley	"	K. Oatley	
F. Harris	M	31. F. G. Baynton	
10 D. Ross		R. G. Begg	
J. M. Bridge	" M	H. Morgan	
12. R. Jarvis		H. K. Gillham	aeq
C. Collins	" M	J. K. Elkington	
P. J. Portus	M	R. Valkenberg	
15. A. J. Burrows		37. H. N. Posner	
H. G. Fitzgerald	M	J. T. Geeson	aeq
H. S. Fewings		F. T. Horton	
S. Parkes		40. A. McDonald	
E. Vance	"	W. B. Rowe	aeq
W. A. Williams		42. E. R. Bubb	
B. H. Willis	M	F. Conway	aeq
T. E. Knight		44. A. E. Clarke	
		W. A. Murray	aeq

OLD BOYS' COLUMN.

Cizzio prox: acc: in Arithmetic, has accepted a position as clerk to a firm of wool brokers.

Bayly has secured a position in the office of the Sydney Gas Company.

Ernest Withycombe is on the staff of that splendid institution—Newington College. Isaiah Mutton has recently been appointed to a position among the masters of Cooverwill Academy. We heartily congratulate the two young graduates on their appointments, and welcome them as workers in the great cause of education.

Swain has taken up his appointment in the Forestry Department. He passed the examination some months ago but did not enter on duties then as he was anxious to pass the Junior.

Joubert has been apprenticed to the engineering trade with Mort's Dock Co. He should prove a useful man to his father later on.

Fred Conway, the first business manager of the "Fortian", has cast in his lot with the Railway Department.

Boys and teachers alike miss the cheery presence of Mr A. E. Massey who, consequent on his promotion, has removed to Ballina.

Before his departure the staff met to bid him farewell and to present him with a travelling case as a token of their esteem. Mr. Massey was a zealous worker in the interests of "Old Fort Street" and a general favourite for the past seven years. We all tender him our heartiest good wishes in his future career.

THE FORTIAN.

From HENRY VIII. Act V. Scene 5.

Cranmer:—

This royal infant (Heaven still move about her!)
 Though in her cradle, yet now promises
 Upon this land a thousand thousand blessings,
 Which time shall bring to ripeness: she shall be—
 But few now living can behold that goodness—
 A pattern to all princes living with her,
 And all that shall succeed: Saba was never
 More covetous of wisdom and fair virtue
 Than this pure soul shall be: all princely graces,
 That mould up such a mighty piece as this is,
 With all the virtues that attend the good,
 Shall still be doubled on her: truth shall nurse
 her,
 Holy and heavenly thoughts still counsel her:
 She shall be loved and fear'd; her own shall
 bless her;
 Her foes shake like a field of beaten corn,
 And hang their heads with sorrow; good grows
 with her.
 In her days, every man shall eat in safety
 Under his own vine, what he plants; and sing
 The merry songs of peace to all his neighbours.
 God shall be truly known; and those about her
 From her shall read the perfect ways of honour,
 And by those claim their greatness, not by blood.
 Nor shall this peace sleep with her: but as when
 The bird of wonder dies, the maiden phoenix,

Her ashes new create another heir
As great in admiration as herself,
So shall she leave her blessedness to one,—
When heaven shall call her from this cloud of
darkness,—

Who, from the sacred ashes of her honour,
Shall star-like rise, as great in fame as she was,
And so stand fix'd. Peace, plenty, love, truth,
terror,

That were the servants to this chosen infant,
Shall then be his, and like a vine grow to him;
Wherever the bright sun of heaven shall shine,
His honour and the greatness of his name
Shall be, and make new nations; he shall flourish
And, like a mountain cedar, reach his branches
To all the plains about him; our children's
children

Shall see this and bless Heaven.



COMPOSED upon WESTMINSTER BRIDGE

September 3rd, 1803.

Earth has not anything to shew more fair:
Dull would he be of soul who could pass by
A sight so touching in its majesty:
This city now doth like a garment wear
The beauty of the morning; silent, bare,
Ships, towers, domes, theatres, and temples lie
Open unto the fields and to the sky,

THE FORTIAN.

All bright and glittering in the smokeless air
 Never did sun more beautifully steep
 In his first splendour valley, rock, or hill;
 Ne'er saw I, never felt, a calm so deep!
 The river glideth at his own sweet will:
 Dear God! the very houses seem asleep
 And all that mighty heart is lying still!

Wm. Wordsworth.

GIRLS' DEPARTMENT.

JUNIOR RESULTS:— These were very satisfactory this year. The successful candidates were:—Emilie Gruninger, Irma Heiliger, Ouita Langley, Julia Rothschildt, Annie Allum, Hannah O'Reilly, Evelyn Bradley, Ella Downey, Catherine Jones.

Miss Crane, first assistant in the Girls' Dept., although her departure is regretted by all, must be congratulated on her promotion. She is now Head Mistress in Grafton Girls'.

Miss Muir, from Maitland High School, is Miss Crane's successor.

Miss Walker has been transferred to Wickham. Great sorrow is expressed by 3rd D. girls, and indeed by all, for the loss of this popular teacher.

The 'Sappho Literary and Debating Society' met on Friday afternoon 20th inst, when there was a heated discussion as to "Which is the

THE FORTIAN.

7

Chorus in 3 parts—with a choir of 50 boys and girls also in Class V—Sight Reading Test—with 30 boys chosen from Fourth Classes.

Mr. Brown is training a choir of 50 voices—30 girls and 20 boys from Third Classes—for the Chorus and for the Sight Reading Test in the intermediate section.

From the Second Classes Mr. Smith has a choir for the junior division Chorus, and one also for the Sight Reading Test for that section.

For the Solo the candidates are: Gladys Alpen, Kenneth Welch, Harold Evans, and Arthur Gordon; and for the Sight Reading Solo:—

Gladys Alpen, Emmeline Rpoke, Herbert Cadwallader, Herbert Collins.

The choirs and soloists number 308 all told.

THE EDITOR'S BOX.

It has been the desire of the promoters of this paper to make it of use and interest to all sections of the school. Hitherto, however, this has only been possible within limits. Now through the kindness and industry of Mr. Spence of the Training College, and of Mr. Lockley the Instructor in Manual Training, this difficulty has been removed, and a handsome box has been placed on the Notice-board in the Corridor. Boys and Girls are invited to make use of this means setting their views before the Editor, as well as of answering problems etc. which appear in the paper from time to time.

Tom and Harry were apple-merchants each having thirty apples in his basket. Tom intended selling his apples at the rate of two for a penny, and Harry at the rate of three a penny.

Harry saw a chance of earning an honest sixpence by carrying a parcel for an elderly gentleman, so he proposed that Tom should sell both lots of apples in return for a share of whatever the gentleman should give him.

“Right”, replied Tom. “And as you are selling yours three for a penny, while I give two for a penny, we will throw them together and give five for twopence, which will be the same thing.

When Harry returned he was pleased to find that all the apples had been sold. So Tom proceeded to divide the money, stating, “I sold the lot at five for twopence. There were sixty apples so in all I received twentyfour pence.

As I had thirty at two for a penny, I get fifteen pence and that leaves nine pence for you”

No says Harry “I had thirty apples at three for a penny, I should get ten pence”. But in spite of all their arguments the mysterious penny is still missing, and they cannot account for it. Where has the penny gone?

THE FORUM.

I

greater source of crime—Wealth or Poverty”.

The debate was opened by the President, Ivy Beattie, who denounced poverty. The opposition was led by Jessie Stone, ably supported by Amy Zions, Edith Moore, and others. The President was supported by Irma Hiliger, Muriel Lublin and others. On division, the weight of responsibility for the evil that men and women do was laid against wealth by 16 votes to 13.

SWIMMING CLUB.

The 22nd. ult. witnessed the final event of the Swimming season's fixtures. The prizes won at the annual Carnival were presented by the Hon. J. Perry—M. L. A. Minister for Public Instruction. Before presenting the prizes the Minister spoke kindly words of advice to the club and particularly to the younger members.

He encouraged every boy and girl to learn the art of swimming. The great interest he possesses in the club he promised to maintain through seasons to come.

Mr. Perry then presented the prizes to the winners, whose names appeared in earlier numbers of this paper.

For his kindly assistance to the club in past seasons Mr. H. W. Griffiths, of the Balmain Club was the recipient of a silver mounted pipe. In response he made a happy little speech, and

showed us that he will be willing at all times to render his valuable aid. The Girls' Club also evidenced its appreciation of much help rendered throughout the season, by a present to Mr. and Miss Warbrick of the Lavender Bay Baths. Both presentations were made by the Minister.

OLD BOYS' COLUMN. (Continued.)

Harold Jay of the '97 Juniors is employed in the Queensland Bank of Australasia, Eugenden. His penmanship attracted the attention of his masters while at school. He was recently complimented by his inspector on keeping the neatest set of books in the bank's service.

Angus McDonald is in the employ of James Martin and Co., Clarence St.



THE SYDNEY MUSICAL COMPETITION.

Great interest is being taken by all the musically endowed on our staff, and in the various classes throughout the school, in the Sydney Musical Competition to be held on the 3rd 4th and 5th September next. Entries have been sent from this school for all sections open to Public Schools, and daily the one o'clock bell calls the devotees of harmony to vigorous practice under Messrs. Kenny, Brown, and Smith.

Our Senior division is under the guidance of Mr. Kenny, and will compete in Class I—

THE FORTIAN.

THE BURIAL OF SIR JOHN MOORE.

Not a drum was heard, not a funeral note,
As his corpse to the rampart we hurried;
Not a soldier discharged his farewell shot
O'er the grave where our hero we buried.

We buried him darkly at dead of night,
The sods with our bayonets turning.
By the struggling moonbeam's misty light
And our lantern dimly burning.

No useless coffin enclosed his breast,
Nor in sheet nor in shroud we wound him;
But he lay like a warrior taking his rest
With his martial cloak around him.

Few and short were the prayers we said,
And we spoke not a word of sorrow
But we steadfastly gazed on the face that was
dead
And we bitterly thought of the morrow.

We thought as we hollowed his narrow bed
And smoothed down his lonely pillow,
That the foe and the stranger would tread o'er
his head,
And we far away on the billow!

THE FORTIAN.

Lightly they'll talk of the spirit that's gone,
And o'er his cold ashes upbraid him;
But little he'll reck if they'll let him sleep on
In the grave where a Briton has laid him.

But half of our heavy task was done
When the clock struck the hour for retiring;
And we heard the distant and random gun
That the foe was sullenly firing.

Slowly and sadly we laid him down,
From the field of his fame fresh and gory.
We carved not a line, and we raised not a stone--
But we left him alone with his glory.

The Fortian.

Faber est Sine Quisque Fortunae

Vol. : No. 8. 31st. August 1900, Price $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

VALEDICTORY TO Mr. FINNEY.

Mr Finney after being master of the Practising School and lecturer in the Training College for 10 years has left us and gone to Grafton, where he has taken charge of the Superior Public School. On Friday 10th Aug. Mr. Finney was entertained at a gathering of ex-students at Quong Tart's rooms in King Street. He was made the recipient of a handsome walking-stick and of an address which testified to the high esteem in which he is held by all the ex-students.

SYDNEY MUSICAL COMPETITION.

Places were obtained by the School's representatives as follows:—

Unison Chorus for Infants.....2nd prize.

Chorus for Junior Classes.....1st “

Sight reading for Senior Classes.....1st “

Do Intermediate “2nd “

Do Junior “3rd “

Do. Solo, 1 Gladys Alpen 2. Emmeline Rooke.
Solo.....Kenneth Welch 3rd prize.

(Chorus for Senior Classes—“ Steven's difficult madrigal “ Ye Spotted Snakes,” was chosen by two choirs from Fort-street and Albion-street respectively, who appeared to many to run each other closely for first prize.” S. M. Herald.)

THE FORTIAN.

GIRLS' DEPARTMENT.

V. D. In the Quarterly examination May Edwards came first with 96 per cent. Several girls, viz. C. McKinnon, 91 per cent, J. Downie and V. Read showed great improvement.

R. Bubb was first in this month's exam.

V. C. Result of last monthly examination:—
Section I: 1 Adeline Hampton 2. Nettie Lees.

“ II: 1 Elsie Hetherington 2 Mary Butler.

V A An interesting contest took place between sections I and II, viz. a History Bee. The girls chose captains viz. V A¹ Nellie Murray, V A₂ Ellie McMurtrie. Some of the questions were excellent. The result was a draw after a most exciting struggle.

III B. In the Geography Competition A. Booth's side won. In the History No 2 side, E. Leaver captain, won; P. Brady (98) and L. Hunter (97) were highest in History.

The Sappho Literary and Debating Society of Fifth E held an impromptu debate on Friday 24 th inst. on “Which gives the greater pleasure Memory or Hope”. Ivy Beattie opened giving her views in favour of Hope. The opposition was led by J. Stone, supported by Leila Smith, Amy Zions, and Rosa Polley. The vote showed 22 for Hope and 6 for Memory. Notwithstanding its defeat the opposition was a very merry party.

BOYS WANTED.

1. Boys of spirit, boys of will,
Boys of muscle, brain, and power,
Fit to cope with anything—
These are wanted every hour.
2. Not the weak and whining drones
That all trouble magnify;
Not the watchword of "I can't,"
But the nobler one, "I'll try."
3. Do whate'er you have to do
With a true and earnest zeal
Bend your sinews to the task,
Put your shoulder to the wheel.
4. Though your duty may be hard,
Look not on it as an ill,
If it be an honest task,
Do it with an honest will.
5. At the anvil or the farm
Wheresoever you may be—
From your future efforts, boys,
Comes a nation's destiny.

Anonymous.

(From the 'School Paper', Melbourne.)

"Keep all thy native good, and naturalise all
foreign of that name." (Fuller.)

"A man conducts himself abroad as he has
been taught at home." (Danish maxim.)

A LETTER FROM SOUTH AFRICA.

Houison's friends, and particularly his old class-mates will be glad to receive news of his welfare. His troop of Kitchener's Horse was posted when he wrote on the southern Transvaal boundary, in the district recently traversed by the Free State Commandant De Wet; so he has probably taken part in the recent fighting there. Following are extracts from his last letter to Mr. Turner:—

Vereeniging,
22nd June 1900.

Dear Sir,

I last wrote you on 11th April from De Aar after my return from the rebel country. We left De Aar on the 13th, en route for Bloemfontein by rail. We reached Springfontein when to our surprise we received orders to detrain, and half our squadron marched as an escort for 500 mules. We left the mules at Edinburgh, continuing our journey to Bloemfontein in pouring rain, as an escort for ammunition.

At Bloemfontein I contracted fever and dysentery. After several weeks in the hospital I was discharged and sent to 2nd Mounted Infantry Depot from whence I was sent to Vaal River. From Bloemfontein to the Vaal River we were on $\frac{1}{4}$ or $\frac{1}{2}$ rations which means only 1 or 2 biscuits a day. Our duty here is to patrol

the country well to find the whereabouts of a large Boer force. Last week one of our patrols was cut up and another was chased. There is very little news to give you. I have not heard from anyone for nearly two months, so I am anxious to know Sydney news.

Yours sincerely,

Ernest O. Houston.

— o —

FOOTBALL.

On Saturday August 11th. the School Football team journeyed to Penrith to try conclusions with the Penrith Public School team. About twenty-five assembled at Redfern, under Mr. Humphreys' management. Penrith was reached at 3 p. m. The football ground is pleasantly situated in a paddock close to the town, surrounded by trees and notably at the time of our visit with wattles in bloom. On the ground we were met by Mr. Smith, Headmaster of Penrith Superior Public School, who welcomed us heartily. The local team evidently considered our lads a race of giants, and strengthened their side by the inclusion of half a dozen ex-pupils.

Penrith kicked off and a very fast and even game ensued. Result: win for Fort St., 6 to nil.

The pace of the back division carried the day. Rimoldi was always in evidence and scored both tries. Penman as full back was magnificent

and Grant in the forwards was a tower of strength. All did their work well; the combination was good, and the game was played essentially as it should be. At half-time a bag of oranges was—well—besieged! Some of the players seemed a little glower in the second half too. Penrith should have introduced those oranges before the match. Play over—tea at the 'Sutherland' Refreshment Rooms, with only a few minutes to catch the train, so scones and butter disappeared magically, Mr. Humphreys having to temporarily reinforce the waiting staff. We left Penrith at 6.25 after hearty cheers for Mr. Smith and the S.P.S. footballers. (W. S.)

Our footballers have been busy since the formation of the club. The weather has been fine and every Friday team from various classes could be seen bound for Birchgrove Park. The Seniors have a good team, as was shown in their match against the Students. Appended are the results of matches to 24th August.

Seniors defeated Art and Chemistry rooms	13 to 3.
Fifths (Fitzgerald Capt.) defeated Fifths	
(Powell Capt.)	18 to 3.
Seniors lost to Art and Chemistry Rooms	8 to 3.
Fort St. defeated Penrith P. School	6 to 0.
4A and B „ 4A ₂ and 4C by	8 to 3.
3G, D. and B „ 3E, F. and C by	11 to 0.
Students „ Fort St by	18 to 11.

THE FORTIAN.

With rent and ragged rigging,
 With sma-hed and splintered mast,
 Her wooden sides ripped open,
 She gripped the foeman fast,
 And, through the swirl of waters,
 And through the lashing gale,
 Brought back the prize to old Spithead
 In days o' wood and sail.
 Now goes she swift and sudden,
 And knits the separate zones,
 With ma'l of steel patrolling
 The vasty world she owns.
 With 'Powerful' and 'Terrible',
 With 'Blenheim' and with 'Blake'—
 Lo! England guards the ancient way
 Of Nelson and of Drake.

When War heaps high his furnace
 And England tries the steel,
 God prove it honest metal
 From conning-tower to keel,
 God grant in Armageddon
 We strike the ancient stroke—
 'Neath England's steel alive and true
 The British heart of oak.

Harold Begbie, in London 'Morning Post.'

An Old Boy:—Private A. S. Wheeler of the
 N. S. Wales Mounted Infantry was invalided to
 England after an attack of enteric fever, sailing
 in the Tintagel Castle on 11th. August.

Printed at Fort Street Model Public School.

THE FORTIAN,

Liverpool P. S. defeated Fort St. II by ... 14 to
Fort St. " " St Leonards P. S. 23 to

WOOD AND STEEL.

Old names that live in story,
New names on many lips,
The old and new one glory—
The fame of British ships!
The 'Victory' and 'Powerful,'
White sail and drifting smoke:
The 'Temeraire' and 'Terrible,'
New steel and ancient oak.

When England rode to battle,
On Neptune's open plain,
With Howard, Drake, and Frobisher
To sweep the troubled main,
When good Queen Bess ruled England,
With eighty ships a-sail
The strength of Spain was broken,
And strewn upon the gale.
When England rode to battle
And Nelson served the King,
Still went she forth in ships o' wood
With canvas fluttering.
And with the valiant 'Victory'
And fighting 'Temeraire'
Swept through the Frenchman's double line
And stripped his glory bare.



Vol. III. No. 1.

1 DECEMBER, 1900.

Price, 1d.

THE FORTIAN.

1st December, 1900.

A REVIEW AND AN OUTLOOK.

STARTED amidst the preparations to celebrate the Jubilee of the School's existence, and occupying, so far as we know, a unique position among papers and magazines, since it is managed and printed on school premises by pupils and teachers of a school, our paper has run its course hitherto in stirring times. There has been no lack of events either within our walls, or concerning those who have had their place among us, but are now making their way in the world in widely different quarters. Many of these events have had some brief record made of them in the pages of one or other of the fifteen issues which have preceded the present number. Nor does

the future fail to promise a wealth of topics which might well find a place in our pages. Ours is not the plaint of Sir Bedivere :—

“For now I see the true old times are dead,
When every morning brought a noble chance,
And every chance brought out a noble knight.”

The varied incidents of school life in so large an institution as ours, the important occurrences of the holiday period on which we shall soon enter, and the doings of former pupils of the School in South Africa, China and elsewhere will provide a sufficiency of material for all who are so inclined to shape for our use.

With this issue the “Fortian” takes a considerable step in advance, which will doubtless commend it to the notice of our readers. Its size is no longer so insignificant as almost to necessitate an apology for its existence, while such improvements have been made as ensure clearness and regularity of print. Small as it has been,

and limited, in consequence, as has been its scope, this paper has yet, we believe, filled its niche, or rather has provided a strand to be woven into the complex thread of the School's life. Some now in attendance at Fort Street, though not so many as was desirable on all accounts, have thought and written for it. The performances and successes of present pupils, and of Old Boys and Girls in various departments of study, business and athletics, have been recorded; frequent inquiries for "the next number" have been made, and all issues have been purchased by many, and read with evident interest; and, lastly, our boys and girls have been provided with something within the range of their knowledge and capabilities, whereon to exercise the critical faculty, some contributions to our poet's corner, perhaps, excepted.

"Faber est suae quisque fortunae," says our School motto; and the aim of the "Fortian" is ever, as announced in its first issue, to do its part in equipping Fort St. boys and girls to be the builders of their fortunes.

ANNUAL DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES.

The Annual Distribution of Prizes will take place in the Town Hall, Sydney, on Thursday evening, December 13th at 8 o'clock. The Hon. John Perry, M. P., Minister of Public Instruction will preside. The Head Master requests the presence of parents of the pupils, and friends of the School on the occasion. A short programme of music will follow the official proceedings. Tickets may be obtained at the School.

PERSONAL.

THE "OLD BOYS" of Fort Street will be pleased to learn that Richard A. Wearne Esq. B. A. has been appointed to the important position of Head Master of the Boys' Grammar School, Ipswich, Queensland. Mr. Wearne completed his term as pupil-teacher in December 1891 and gained the Jones' Memorial Gold Medal on his entrance into the Training College in January 1892. He matriculated in March of the same year, and was a member of that session when students attended lectures in the Arts Course at the Sydney Univer-

sity in the morning and received instruction in School Method, Manual Training, and practical teaching at the Training College in the afternoon. At the close of his University Course he obtained his B. A. degree, and at the final examination in the College he received the highest mark in his session for skill in teaching. He was appointed assistant in his old school in 1895 and held the position till the end of 1896 when he left to take up the duties of assistant master in the school over which he now presides. During the six years he spent in Fort Street School and Training College Mr. Wearne had the confidence and esteem of the Head-master, who quickly recognised the young student's worth, especially in preparing the senior boys for the different University Examinations. We offer our congratulations to Mr. Wearne on the occasion of his appointment to the Head-mastership of the Boys' Grammar School, Ipswich, for we believe he possesses all the qualifications necessary for the successful management of that fine institution.

The following extract from the 'Coerwull Magazine,' which is printed in the interests of the Coerwull Academy, Bowenfels, will be read with pleasure by many of Mr. Mutton's friends. Mr. Mutton's status in the School may be learned by a reference to the Honour Boards of 1893 and 1897:—"Changes in Staff at Coerwull Academy.—First Assistant Master: Mr. I. Mutton, B. A., of Sydney University. Mr. Mutton was a resident student of St. Paul's College in the University of Sydney during his Arts course (three years). He matriculated with first-class honours, held the Edward-Aspinall Scholarship, obtained first class honours in his first and second years, and in his third year graduated with honours. He more particularly discharges the duties of Mathematical and Science Master."

DEATH.—With the greatest sorrow we have to record that Charley Pratten, of 3 C, died on Saturday morning, the 17th inst., after an illness lasting only a few days. On the previous Thursday he was to all appearances in his usual state of health. On Friday word reached the Head Master that he was dangerously ill, but even then it was hoped that fatal results would be averted. The cause of death was blood poisoning due it is thought to the bite of a spider. Charley was a favourite with the teachers and his class-mates on account of his happy, genial manner. He was a boy of intelligence, loyal to his school and conscientious at his lessons. His influence in the class was good. Many of his mates did not know of his death till Monday and hence were not at his funeral on Sunday. They are now raising a sum of money to purchase a coral wreath to place on his grave at Waverley. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to the distressed father and mother.

SCHOOL MEMORIES.

BY AN OLD BOY OF THE "SEVENTIES."

"Just fifty years ago, 'Old Fort Street' entered upon its useful and honoured career as the nucleus and centre of Public Education in New South Wales. No more interesting landmark exists to-day than the old school, serving to recall the time when Sydney was a garrison town, and its social and political life was being patiently formulated by pioneers whose names are now engraved in the history of Australia."

THE above extract from the School Jubilee Circular is an apt text for the few reminiscent lines I propose to furnish for this edition of the "Fortian," which all will be pleased to greet in its enlarged form.

So much has been written about the old school that it is somewhat difficult to ring a change. However, a few of my own personal recollections of a quarter of a century ago unpretentiously offered, may prove interesting, particularly

to the boys of to-day, who now climb the same stairs and scamper over the same playground as we all did so many years ago.

The old place looks much the same. There are many better school buildings in New South Wales, but none so old, so distinctively old, as Fort Street. The school has grown larger, and a good deal of the playground space has been taken up with a motley collection of class-rooms that are not as beautiful as they are necessary. The old building has served two noble purposes. First, as a military hospital, its walls sheltered the sick and dying soldiers of the Queen, and for the last fifty years thousands of boys have been prepared for the world's work many of whom to-day, it is pleasing to record, occupy high positions in the public and commercial life, not only of New South Wales, but of Australia.

In my day, the old lodge at the gate was a one-storied building, where dwelt "Old Flanagan," a bent, bearded, bushy-browed old soldier, whose views on boys were somewhat stern. I think Flanagan must always have thought what a fine place Fort Street would have been without its boys. Just in front of the school was a large grass oval; this was very well kept, and any boy detected by Flanagan trespassing thereon would be hustled off by him with strange and guttural threats, all the more impressive because of the terrible indignation that accompanied them. Somehow or other, through this jealous attitude of old Flanagan, this grass plot got to be regarded as the one-time burial place of soldiers who had given up the ghost in the hospital days and this legend, as it grew into a popular belief amongst us, did more than Flanagan's interdict to keep us off the sacred area.

When recently the woodman's axe was ringing in the avenue, and the fine old fig trees were brought crashing to the ground, their dying lament must have raised old Flanagan's ghost, for I did hear somewhere that the figure of the angry old soldier was seen on the night when all the trees lay prone, walking up and down muttering imprecations against sewer-pipes and all new-fangled things that had led to the signing of the death-warrant of the trees—the good old figs that had rustled welcomes and good-byes to so many boys as they entered and left the school. Ah well! 'twas a pity, but the old beds must not be allowed to remain disused. Something will have to be planted, that in growing, will leave the potential drains alone.

While on this topic, let me say that a novel planting will take place at the School on the 26th instant. A long straight spar (some 50 or 60 feet long) will be firmly placed in the ground at the top of the avenue, in the right-hand corner, and though this tree will bear no leaves nor flowers, yet from its top will float an emblem that will represent the birth of Australian nationhood, and will teach its daily lesson of patriotism to all the boys of the School as it rises and falls in the breezes that blow on Fort-street Hill. I rather think this sort of tree will largely propitiate the ghost of old Soldier Flanagan.

We used to play cricket where the Practising School stands, also rounders and goodness knows what. An old wicket-cashed stood where the present southern classroom stands, and at the back thereof, I went through a nine-round fight, resulting in a draw and (to me) in a black eye. I would be reflecting upon the discipline of the School in those days and upon the playground supervision, did I not state that this pugilistic encounter came off after School hours. I also remember knocking a master down in the School ground. Such a good fellow he was too—kind and considerate and much beloved of the boys—and yet I knocked him down. This reads very badly for me, that is till I tell you that it was an accident. You all know how a westerly blows across the ground in winter, cyclonic somewhat. Well, on this particular day it did blow, and, as monitor, I was endeavouring to carry a large blackboard from the shed to the main School. Each squall would nearly flatten me out, and my course was like unto that of a drunken man when both sides of the road are not enough for him. After going about several times and getting into stays, I made a violent jibe, banged hard into something and collapsed—so did the something, which turned out to be the assistant master, and that he was a good fellow is proved when I tell you that after picking himself up, he assisted me to my feet and gave me a hand with the ungainly board to the School. Accidents are not always taken so kindly.

What an old time Fort Street boy misses most when he enters the school ground nowadays, is a great clump of willow trees, which, for very many years graced the south-western corner. These trees grew in a huge sandy hollow that was shut off from the higher ground by a big retaining wall. On hot summer days, that hollow was an Elysian field to us boys! And then what fine rough-and-tumble games we used to put in there—leap-frog, tugs-of-war, sacks-on-the-mill—all could be played with impunity, for all the falls were soft ones. We got a bit dirty perhaps, but that did not matter, and it is not too much to say that the hollow was the most popular part of the ground.

I was delighted, on revisiting the school the other day to find what used to be in my time an old dingy lavatory, turned into a bright, bonny room. It is wonderful what a little judgment—and paint—will do.

Frequently—I am speaking of the seventies—the 4th class would be brought into this lavatory for certain lessons and somehow or other there was an atmosphere about that particular part of the school that seemed to call forth the mischievous tendencies of our particular class. We were no better nor worse than you boys of to-day and we occasionally forgot ourselves and received condign and well-merited punishment. The senior boys of the class occupied the back seat, which ought to have had three legs, but only had two and, as a consequence, drooped in the middle. When the master was out of the room, this seat became galvanised into motion, and the sight of a form of nearly a dozen boys bobbing frantically up and down was a rather exhilarating spectacle which never failed to make an impression.

We took a risk one day. The master hadn't left the room, but his back was turned, and someone started the form. It was a good sort of form in its way, because it did not make any creaking give-away noises; but the base uses to which it had been so continuously put had so strained it, that, on this particular occasion, it parted, with a great crash, in the middle and down we all went like so many McGintys in a sprawling heap on the floor. We paid for that little escapade in a way that I suppose most of you boys are not unfamiliar with. We didn't forget it in a hurry, nor did we try it on again.

When I stood in this room the other day and noticed the improvements effected—the divided walls removed and the other walls nicely coloured—I was pleased to hear that it was to be largely dedicated to library purposes. With 2000 books and a lot more to be shortly added to the list, Fort Street may indeed be proud of a development that will tend to combine so much mental pleasure with profitable instruction.

Looking cursorily over the books, I was simply charmed to see what excellent taste and judgment had been displayed in selecting them. We had no library in our day, and you boys cannot estimate too much the advantages which have been placed at your disposal in this respect.

The encouragement given to school children to-day to read good books cannot be undervalued. Left to himself, the average boy, with his limited means, is too apt to drift into the region of the penny dreadfuls, wherein criminals are presented as heroes, and bad courses in life are held up for the admiration of the youthful mind. But with such interesting books as those of R. L. Stevenson, Manville Fenn, Weyman, Stables, George Eliot, Rosa Carey, Everett-Green, good, healthy matter is provided, and there is no doubt that the good will always be preferred to the bad if given a fair show.

The library also seems to possess a fair amount of the higher class of educational work and the makers of English modern and otherwise are well represented.

In your own little paper, we have been treated to some of the work of one of your most talented schoolfellows—I refer to young Whitney, whose poetical efforts are full of the highest promise. Amongst others, Earl Beauchamp was greatly struck with the quality of Whitney's work, and this young literary scion of the school is the proud possessor of a gift of admirably selected books, presented to him by His Excellency in recognition of unusually meritorious work. May he do well for himself and always remember the school in which his talent has been so sympathetically fostered.

I have come to the end of my allotted space and must conclude this brief sketch. On the 26th instant, a number of very Old Boys are coming up to greet you and to present you with a Commonwealth flag, and one of the songs we wouldn't mind hearing you sing on that occasion is that goodly chorus that you rendered so well at the Jubilee—

“Glory to our grand old school,
Flourish long her kindly rule.”

November 20th, 1900.

NOTE.—This contribution was furnished on the assumption that it would be published before the 26th instant.—EDITOR.

OUR COOKERY SCHOOL.

“Instead of being regarded as a servile employment, cookery is here exalted into a science.”

Perhaps this may be considered the most popular of all the institutions connected with Fort Street Model School, and one who has known it since it was first established may be allowed to write a few words in appreciation of its management past and present. The School has now been about twelve years in existence. It was started by Mrs. Fawcett-Storey, an educated lady, thoroughly versed in the science as she delighted to term it, and the girls' clas-room now known as No. 3 was the scene of her earliest efforts when this valuable branch of education was added to the curriculum.

In those days this little room did duty for kitchen and for demonstration work, and here Mrs. Storey gathered together and instructed large classes of ladies for about three years. Several of these ladies had undergone a course of training as pupil teachers and some had gone through Hurlstone College. The dining room at this time was part of the class-room now occupied by girls as the Matriculation Room. During Mrs. Storey's time at the School and while the class was still very young at its work, two vice-regal visits were paid, the first by Lord and Lady Carrington, the second by Lord and Lady Jersey. The whole arrangements for entertaining the distinguished guests on each occasion were carried out by Mrs. Storey and her staff of lady pupils assisted by the senior girls of the School. Both functions were a distinct success, and the possibilities of usefulness, if not greatness, in the new departure became more evident.

On the completion of the course of training several fresh cookery classes were formed in the suburbs and in the more important country centres, and the trained teachers mentioned above were placed in charge.

Cookery was now well established in the school curriculum for girls, and the success of the new movement was placed beyond all doubt. So great was the development that better arranged and more commodious premises were necessary at Fort Street and the present rooms became the Central School of Cookery. These were fitted up with the very best of appliances and suitable provision was also made for a separate demonstration room, a kitchen with a splendid range of stoves of modern make, and two clean and comfortable dining rooms.

Miss Storey, now in charge of the Cookery School, Technical College, succeeded her mother at Fort Street, and remained in charge for some years, when she was promoted to the wider sphere of work. Miss Gelding, the present occupant of the office, followed Miss Lance, who was but a short time in charge.

Miss Gelding has two junior assistants, Miss Maud Austin and Miss Phyllis Howick, both former pupils of the School, and whatever the opinion of the girls may be, the boys testify to the excellence of the food prepared and to the kindness of the chief cookery teacher and her obliging staff.

CRICKET.

Three inter-class matches took place on Friday 9th inst. two at Norwood Park and one at Birchgrove. On the latter III. F. defeated III. C. by an innings. Lewis, playing for III F, batted splendidly for 34; while McDonnell, although his style was less attractive, placed 29 opposite his name. The scores were: III F, 73 runs; III C, 5 and 19. Lewis did the bowling for the winners and Parkes for the losers.

IV B lost to IV A¹ by 2 runs after a most exciting finish. Scores:—IV A¹, 54; (A. Gordon 13, Collins 9); IV B, 52; (Hungerford 20, H. Webster 7; McKechnie, 8; Hazelton 8).

For the winners G. Williams, 6 for 19, Collins, 2 for 16; Rooke, 2 for 14; did the bowling; while Webster, 5 wickets; McManus, 3; and Hungerford 2, bowled well for the losers.

V B and C were defeated by V A, D, and E by 13 runs. Sefton (10) for the former was the only one to make double figures; Roberts contributed 8. Hanks was top scorer for the latter team with 9. For the winners, McLean, 7 wickets for 12 runs—including the hat trick twice—and Hanks 2 for 9, were on the spot; while for the losers, Adam, 5 for 15, and Steele, 5 for 14 did the best work.

SWIMMING.

Harry Campbell and Sam. Ebsworth are swimming well for their respective clubs, both having won in recent handicaps. At our own Carnival on March 16 th. 1901 we should have a fine contest in the Old Boys' Handicap. Misses Kilminster and Brewster who manage the Girls' Club, and Messrs.

Howarth and Green, the Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer of the Boys' Club, report that the enrolment this year exceeds all past records. This is good news but there are scores still outside the Club. We would like to see many of these join early, in order to get the benefits of the Tuesday and Thursday practice and to qualify for entrance at the great Annual Meeting in March.

PICNIC OF III C AND III B.

On Saturday October 27th III B and III C held their picnic at Sandringham. The boys were conveyed there in three drags, leaving the school at 9 o'clock. A lengthy programme of sport was carried out during the day, including an inter-class tug-of-war and cricket match. After a very exciting contest III C pulled their opponents over the line and won amid great excitement. The cricket match ended in a draw, there not being time to finish it.

The chief winners were—

III C—Champion of class—Running, E. M'Intyre; prize, a silver medal.

Walking Championship of class—P. Heery; prize, British Battles on Land and sea.

Handicap, over 13 years—E. M'Intyre.

Handicap over 12 years—D. Galdsworthy and T. Maroney.

Handicap, under 12 years—C. Fleming.

Batting average—E. M'Intyre.

Bowling average—F. Portus.

Best fielder—E. Preece.

III B—Class champion, running—S. Fox; prize, butter dish.

Walking championship—B. Corrie; prize, medal. Ben is a very quick walker.

Handicap, over 14 years—B. Corrie.

Handicap over 12 years—J. Delany.

Handicap under 12 years—W. Ward.

Bowling average—J. Daley who secured 7 wickets for 20 runs.

The final race was a Consolation Race for boys who had not won a race and every boy entering secured a prize.

A start was made for home at 4 o'clock, and after a very pleasant drive all reached the General Post Office at 6 o'clock. Cheers were given for the School and all went home having spent a very pleasant day.

IV D. PICNIC.

On Saturday 3rd November the members of IV D Class held their annual picnic at Balmoral. An early start was made from the Circular Quay and Mosman Post Office, the rendezvous, was reached about 10 a.m. Here much amusement was afforded by the eccentric performances of a barrel of ginger beer, which was prevented from making a determined bolt down hill only at great peril—Steel even falling in its way to prevent its escape. The beach reached, a bivouac was formed, and the thirsty ones who had dared so much to secure the liquor—like end-of-the-century Rip-van-Wiackles—now tested its quality and pronounced it good.

Two hours were then devoted to a cricket match between the "Pets" and the "Sets," the former defeating the latter by 20 runs, thanks to Mackay's fine score of 20, which gained him the medal offered to the highest scorer. Mr. Longmuir and Mr. Drew then arrived and were vociferously welcomed. Field sports followed; the racing being very exciting and the amusement grand. The jockey race and three-legged race caused much mirth. J. Marshall won the Class Championship medal. Other winners were too numerous to be recorded.

After so much exertion all were prepared for and did ample justice to a well prepared and sumptuous dinner. After dinner the prizes offered for throwing at the wicket was won by H. Evans. Matches at quoits were arranged—the feature being the defeat of Mr. Schrader by Mr. Longmuir. Next came the baths where the Class Swimming Championship was won by A. Marshall, who also carried off the over 14, Handicap. D. Garrick won the under 14 Handicap, and F. Beale the fancy swimming and neatest headst contests, his performances being very fine. Out again to the Novelty Race over which there was great excitement. Threading needles, untying string, and eating buns is no easy task for boys. Finally D. Carrol carried off Messrs. Kealy and Philip's prize. The contest of the day, a pick-a-back fight, came next; the strife continued long and fiercely. Mackay and Shaw at last vanquished all opponents. Tea was welcomed by all, cakes fruit and drinkables disappearing with great rapidity. Keepsake lollies were given out bearing the emblems:—Fort Street, Class 4 D, and C. P.-Schrader. Prizes to the number of 40 were then distributed and a guerilla warfare engaged in for about an hour. Here Mr. Schrader proved a tower of strength in scaling rocks and kopjes, but was surrounded and forced to show the white flag.

A homeward start was made about 7 p.m. and an impromptu concert was held on the boat, V. Vial, A. Marshall, and the Chorus contributing well ren-

dered items. The Quay was reached at 8 p.m. Cheers were given for Mr. Schrader and the Committee, who had worked so hard to make the picnic such a great success. The Good Old School received a great outburst of cheers, and the party dispersed.

To others visiting Balmoral, some 4 D boys say, "Prenez garde des fourmis de guerre".

MUSIC.

Musical matters in connection with the School are by no means being neglected. A permanent Senior Choir of 300 Fourth and Fifth class boys and girls has been established and is now well in hand practising for the breaking-up at the end of the present year. Daily rehearsals are held in the the Boys' Main Room, the members of the choir showing their loyalty to the School by giving half an hour of their dinner-time. The choruses are "Ye Spotted Snakes" and "Federated Australia" and all concerned are anxious to make these items the most enjoyable on the programme.

Mr. Brown's intermediate choir is also actively practising "Fairy Elves" for the same gathering, and from Mr. Smith's junior choir are to be heard daily the strains of "Swing Song" floating across the play ground. These are also very fine choirs and should render a good account of themselves.

Nor are the Infants slow to appreciate their opportunity. Two very pretty choruses are to be given by them—"Butterflies Gay" with suitably picturesque "action," and "Swinging." These two items are in Miss Morgan's capable hands.

Another very pleasing voice has quite recently been discovered to exist in the School—and its possessor, Master Clive Pickup (5 C), is to sing "United Australia," (with a cornet obligato by Master Brooks (3 D) and "The Englishman." Master Kenneth Welch (III G)—will sing "Love's Lullaby." These songs should prove very creditable items on the programme.

PRESENTATION OF SCHOOL FLAG.

An event deserving a few remarks in our school paper is the pleasant ceremony in the school grounds on Monday afternoon, 26th November, in which pupils and friends alike took part. Simple as were the proceedings, the occasion was unique, representing as it did, the flying of the first Public School Flag in this Colony. Possibly, also, it may be the first in Australia, although advices received would indicate that two at least of the other Colonies were a little ahead of us in the inception of the movement for supplying flags to schools. Some of those Governments have offered to supply the flags when the schools have erected the necessary poles. In the case of Fort Street, however no help has been asked either from the Education Department or from the pupils themselves, and it is gratifying to know that the flag and flagstaff will be a free gift to the school on the part of the old pupils, now grown up and occupying many and widely differing positions in life, but who preserve an interest in, and pleasant recollections of the school of their boyhood.

The flag—or pair of flags—that waved for the first time on Monday amidst the hearty hurrahs of those assembled, is of course not the flag that will float permanently on Fort Street heights. We have to await the adoption of the Commonwealth Flag before hoisting its colours from the top of our pole. Then shall we proudly once more unfurl our banner as a witness of our abiding loyalty and patriotism—loyalty to the old flag, patriotism for the new. Long may the heart of Young Australia respond to both feelings.

Boys and girls may ask, "Of what use is the flag? Why attach so much significance to its hoisting in the school premises? The answer is that the value of the flag is in what it represents. It is a symbol, an emblem, of something tangible and precious. The Queen is the head of the Government. The flags on our public buildings are emblematic of the Queen's authority. The army fights to preserve that authority: the flag is the rallying point of the army, symbolising that where the standard is borne there the cause has to be won or lost. The navy sails to a new clime, the commander lands and by the planting of the flag makes known that the territory is taken possession of in the Queen's name, that her authority and her protection henceforth extend over the inhabitants. Thus the flag is the essence of the thing itself, explaining how a soldier will die rather than allow the colours of his regiment to be captured, how a young subaltern will persist in climbing a pole amidst the hottest crossfire of the enemy in order that the flag shall be kept flying while the battle wages. We, on our part will regard the flag as representing the unity of the school, as showing our determination to uphold its honour, as a sign, visible to all, that we feel pride in our institution and will maintain our privileges as scholars. Something has been said concerning the old and the new flag, You will have observed at Monday's ceremony that the "Red Ensign" floated above a flag denoting the Federal Union. How happily did that typify the first article of our Australian union, "Federation under the crown." I think it will be long indeed ere school boys and girls of today will ask for, or will suffer any alteration of that relationship. Do not our ardour of patriotism and pride of race have their source in English History? Does not our love for the flag centre in the Union Jack, the Royal Standard, the tanners that have their history written on all battle fields of the world? Proud as we are, and shall be in the future with greater reason, of being Australians, who would give up his or her right of connection with British History as a subject of the Queen? No question now of independence. Have not the South African War and the China War proved that we can fight for the flag, and shall live under the flag.

At the annual Fort Street Old Boys' Dinner in October last a public spirited suggestion was made that a flagstaff and a Commonwealth Flag be presented to the Model State School. The resolution having been carried unanimously, the Executive (Dr. Bohrsman and Messrs. Shipway, Kilminster and Bethel) were deputed to make the necessary arrangements. The Executive brought their labours to a successful issue on Monday afternoon. A magnificent pole,

fully 60 feet high, had been erected in a prominent position in the school ground. On it will subsequently be placed a plate inscribed as follows:—"From the Old Boys of Fort St. to the Boys of the present day—1849-1901. Presented on behalf of the subscribers by Q. L. Deloitte, Esq. The Hon. J. Perry, Minister of Public Instruction; J. W. Turner, Esq. Head Master."

The Minister for Education (Mr. Perry) briefly explained the character of the ceremony, and introduced Mr. Q. L. Deloitte who was to make the presentation.

Mr. Deloitte said he supposed he had been selected because he was one of the oldest, if not the oldest, Old Boy there that afternoon. It was 43 years ago since he was a pupil of the School. Ever since then he had experienced happy memories of the times spent in school. The Old Boys owed a debt of gratitude to Mr. Kilminster for having conceived the idea which had brought them there, (Applause,) and to Mr. Bethel who had carried the idea through. (Applause.) He would ask the Head Master to accept the flagstaff. The character of the Federal Flag had not been decided on, but Mr. Barton had allowed them the use temporarily of the flag which had been given him during the Federal campaign—(applause)—and he would ask Mr. Turner to allow that to do duty until they could replace it with one that would be truly the Federal Flag of Australia. (Cheers.) Though it might be, as Mr. Perry had said, that they would not in the future, see quite so much of the Union Jack of Old England he felt certain every young man and maiden present would never forget that flag. (Cheers.)

The Flag was then hoisted by Mr. Wallace Ross, who had that day been voted flag-captain by the school.

Mr. Barton, in the course of a short congratulatory speech, said it was happy inspiration that had suggested a flag to fly on that flagpole as a continual mark of the loyalty which should dominate a big Public School like Fort Street. (Cheers.) When he was a boy at Fort Street, it was a great school. It was now the greatest school in Australia. (Cheers.)

Mr. Bridges said: Mr. Perry, Ladies and Gentlemen, boys and girls.—I shall not keep you long, but as the oldest of old Fort Street boys, one who has been connected with the school from its beginning I am very much pleased to be here today and join in this demonstration. I am thankful indeed to old Fort Street boys who have taken such an active part in preparing and presenting to the school this flag and flag pole. Since the establishment of the school the Fort Street boys have been remarkable for their loyalty to the school. Whenever they have gone they have always spoken of the old school with affection, and I am glad to find that that spirit is still retained. Fort Street boys have made their mark in all parts of Australia by their ability. I trust the young ones will follow in their footsteps, and that Fort Street boys will be remarkable for their good character in the future as they have been in the past. I hope this flag which has been flown to the breeze will ever fly over boys and girls who will grow up to be wise intelligent and good men and women. I do not want to detain you beyond again expressing my great pleasure to take part in this important ceremony. It reminds me of my own school days when the school had only 21 pupils. Now it has over 2000. Such has been the growth of the Fort Street School. (Loud Cheers.)

Mr. Turner, Headmaster, on behalf of the School, thanked the Old Boys for their valuable and appropriate gift.

After the unfurling of the flag the various departments of the school were visited. The Girls gave an admirable rendering of the song "Federated Australia" and there were calisthenic displays by the Boys and the Girls of the school.

It is highly complimentary to the School that so many gentlemen should have given up an afternoon of their time to attend the function, and the readiness with which the movement was taken up is an earnest of the co-operation that may be expected in future ceremonies where the school is concerned. The silk flag used is the property of Mr. E. Barton who is never loth to testify his interests in school matters as one of the Old Boys.

H. G. Foxall has been elected School Captain and Wallace Ross Flag-Captain.

A PRESENTATION.

On Monday, 29th October, the boys of 4 C assembled in the Orderly Room, to present Mr. Morgan with a slight token of their esteem for him. Mr. Kenny was asked to make the presentation, which was a "Smoker's Companion." Mr. Morgan said he was completely surprised, and that it was very pleasant to know that the boys thought so much of him; and he also hoped that they would strive to occupy prominent positions in the School, and become good citizens.

GIRLS' DEPARTMENT.

CLASS III B.

Olive Clarke and Trixie Wright send us the following pleasing description of their annual class picnic:—

"On Saturday, November 10th, our teacher, Miss Kilminster, took her pupils to Manly for a picnic. We were determined to have a good day, and so we caught the quarter past nine boat from Circular Quay. On landing at the pier we went straight to the Baths where as the day was very warm, we spent a very enjoyable time. The next item in our programme was dinner, so we all moved off to Shelly Beach, on the ocean side, where we made our arrangements for lunch. We spread out our food on a big cliff facing the Pacific, and while admiring the great expanse of water and eating our provisions, we felt the benefit of the lovely cool breeze.

After lunch we went down to the big beach and had a great many games, among which was one which we called the 'pig.' Our teacher drew a pig without an eye, and each of us, blindfolded, had a turn to see who could put the eye nearest its proper place, and the one who could was to get a prize. This caused great fun. Leah Bevan won. We had several other games on the wet sand, and foot races for the girls of different ages in our class were eagerly contested. In the afternoon we saw two men drawing in a net that had been set to catch fish. We took great interest in their work and satisfied our curiosity at the expense of a good wetting. We packed up our traps, left Shelly Beach, and spent the remainder of the afternoon wandering through the Maze, riding on the merry-go-round, and listening to the talking dolls.

Our teacher now kindly invited the whole class to tea at her home in Manly. Before we departed eight of the girls, on behalf of the class presented Miss Kilminster with a silver-mounted purse to show how much we think of her as a kind teacher. We caught the quarter to six boat back, and returned to our homes tired but happy, after spending a most enjoyable day."

CLASS III C.

III C class girls, held their picnic at Balmoral Beach on Saturday, the 10th ult. There were about 40 girls present. We went into the baths in the morning and had a very enjoyable swim, after which we were ready for lunch which passed off very merrily. During the afternoon the baths were again largely patronised. Then we had games of various kinds and tea about 5 o'clock, after which we were obliged to make a start for home. Going home we had great fun trying to pack 40 girls into a tram which was already half full, but we all reached home quite safely after spending a very happy day.

DEBATING CLUB.—The members of V D class held a meeting on 5th November and formed a Debating Club to be known as the "Carlyle Debating Club." Elsie Swyny occupied the Chair, and Christina Mackinnon and Mary Talty are Secretaries. The subject of the first debate was, "Who exercise the greater influence, Women or Men?" The cause of women was ably supported by E. Swyny, Mary Kearney, and Ruby Settree, while the Opposition was led by May Edwards and M. Logan. The result of the vote was a majority for "Women" by 35 votes to 8.

THE GIRLS' SWIMMING CLUB now has 135 members and the "dip" on Tuesday afternoon of each week is much appreciated. Our non-swimmers all hope to be swimmers before the end of the year. The N. S. Ferry Co. kindly allow the Fort Street Club members to travel to Lavender Bay for 1d. return.

CLASS NEWS.—5 D.—E. Russell, B. Bubb, E. Patten and A. Hume obtained 96 per cent. in Mr. Dawson's Examination, as their average marks in all subjects; and M. Kearney, M. Talty, R. Settree, and E. Swyny 95 per cent. 5 C.—Adeline Hampton was the winner of the Teacher's Class Prize for the half-year. Elsie Kerr prox. acc.

ANNUAL BREAKING-UP.

THE Infants will contribute some very pretty items at the "Breaking-up" at the Town Hall, on Thursday evening, 13th December. Forty-eight of their number will give an exhibition of Free Exercises under the direction of Miss Morgan; 21 will join in the Maypole Dance, directed by Miss Maerker; and the Infant Choir will sing two action songs, in one of which the pupils will appear in appropriate costume and perform a pretty dance.