

Presented to
W. Williams Esq. B.A.
from the
"Forsman" Staff.
Dinas 1902.



Vol. IV. No. 1.

SYDNEY, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10th, 1902.

Price 1d

THE FORTIAN.

A YEAR'S WORK.

THURSDAY December 12th, was "prize day" at the Model Public School, Fort-street. The class-room, in which the presentation took place, was taxed to its utmost capacity by the very large gathering of "old Fort-street boys," friends of the school, including clergy of the Protestant and Roman Catholic churches, and also the Jewish Synagogue.

Among those present, in addition to Mr. Perry (Minister for Education), were Mrs. Perry, Mrs. See, M. Baird d'Aunet (Consul-General of France), Alderman Lees, and several members of the State Parliament.

The proceedings opened with several musical numbers excellently rendered.

The headmaster (Mr. J. W. Turner) delivered a lengthy address, and exhaustively dealt with the work of the school during the past year. Reference was made to the necessity for increased accommodation. The enrolment for each quarter had been about 2,200, with an average daily attendance of 1,845—1,000 boys, 583 girls, and 262 infants.

Epidemics of influenza and measles had reduced the attendance, as had also the removal of several families

from the resumed area. While expressing pleasure at an average attendance of 84 per cent., the principal expressed satisfaction at the introduction of legislation to deal with that question.

The success of the school during the year at all the public examinations had been very pronounced. At the junior University 51 boys were successful, of whom 15 obtained matriculation passes. The average number of subjects in which passes were obtained was 6.3 out of a possible seven. The total of "A" passes was 103, "B" passes 104, "C" passes 117, and, in addition, medals were obtained in arithmetic (Adam), algebra (Davis), geometry (Davis), history (Hill), and prox. acct. in English arithmetic (3), algebra and French. Four candidates were successful at the March matriculation examination. At the senior examination five boys were successful, all of whom also matriculated, and four qualified for entrance in the Engineering School. In addition, medals had been won in arithmetic (Foxall), English (Whitney), French (Foxall), and prox. acct. in French. The total number of matriculation passes was 24. H. G. Foxall obtained first-class honours in Latin, French, and mathematics; W. H. Mason first-class honours in French, and second-class honours in mathematics; G. C. Whitney, first-class honours in French, and second-class honours in Latin; W. Vickers, second-class honours in French; and Bruce Willis, third-class

Honours in French.

At the Junior University examination 33 girls were successful, of whom one obtained the medal for physiology, and the average pass was 5.8 out of a possible seven subjects.

During the year nine boys have passed the public service examination, seven in the clerical division, and two in the professional division. Four boys gained the (Diplôme de Commerce certificate, one of them (Griffiths) was especially mentioned for arithmetic. G. C. Whitney obtained first prize in the recent essay competition inaugurated by Mr. Wilson Barrett, open to all schools, and Emswary and Hill also obtained prizes. The school has shown marked success in the examination held by the Alliance Française. The competition partook of the character of an inter-school competition—a departure from the practice of previous years, when a prize was given to each school, and the Grand Prix was awarded to one of our representatives—H. Douglas—and another was bracketed for second place.

At the annual inspection in October last, an extract from the official report summed up the position: "The results in all classes reveal a high standard of proficiency. Under both oral and written examination, the pupils acquit themselves in a very creditable manner." Mr. Turner made reference to the school newspaper, which has a circulation of 1,000, and also the library, interest in both being well maintained.

The cookery class, established twelve years ago, continued to be an important and, at the same time, a popular one. Regarding manual training, about 100 boys had taken up the work, first sketching objects, and afterwards constructing them from the drawings. Under the new standard introduced during the past half-year, where the teachers had the best opportunity for studying the bent of the boys, prospects were very encouraging. There were in the school matriculation classes for boys desirous of entering a profession; commercial classes for those boys who intend to follow commercial pursuits; and also technical classes, in which science work was regularly given, specimens and concrete illustrations being made use of, and, where necessary, experiments performed. In concluding his remarks, which were well received, the headmaster stated that the school had come up to expectation, not only in examination results, but in the general tone in all points. To the Minister for Education and Mrs. Perry he expressed thanks for the great interest they had taken in the welfare of the school.

The Minister for Education (Mr. Perry) spoke of the recent school concert, held in the Town Hall, and thanked the staff and the pupils for the treat; such functions would induce parents to take a greater interest in the work of the public schools. He believed it would be a wise step if the department insisted upon more frequent displays, which tended to popularise the public schools. The headmaster's very commendable report clearly showed that the school had been successful during the year; but it was only what was expected from Fort Street, and they were never disappointed.

Concerning the attendance, the average, he said, was good, but he would like to see it much nearer the full roll. It was possible to increase the average attendance of public schools, and he was very tired of so frequently reading reports that said "the compulsory clauses of the Act are ineffective." In that matter he was determined to make the clause effective; the result must be good for all, beneficial to the scholar and to the department. The accommodation at Fort-street was fully taxed. It might, however, be possible to do something for the school, and the country, by increasing it, and with that view he had carefully watched the operations of the

Advisory Board. That part of the city was to be reconstructed, and with that reconstruction, it might be found that a little more ground would be added to the school property.

He was pleased that the teachers had done so well. His idea was to increase the number of those who passed through the training schools to follow with a University course, and an opportunity should be given to those in the country to obtain a higher course of instruction. The result of the examinations proved that the schools had turned out pupils who had done good work. The system of education followed by the department had been unfairly carpied at and criticised by some people who had not an intimate knowledge of that system, and probably had never been in a public school; if they had, their powers of observation must have been very small. Possibly the only grievance against the system that these critics can advance was that the department enforced such a high standard of education that pupils were often attracted from other schools, which naturally meant a diminished roll and a proportionate reduction in revenue. If that was the reason which prompted the adverse comment, they could be excused. That there were difficulties and defects to be overcome must be admitted. It was almost impossible to prevent defects, but the department was not lagging behind for the want of good advice to those in authority. Changes would be made from time to time. The truancy clause was elastic; it could be remedied, as well as any other matters which the officers of the department might advise upon.

Dealing with the proposal to send a representative from New South Wales to inquire into the educational systems in vogue in other parts, Mr. Perry condemned the attitude that had been taken up, and asked who better could be entrusted with that duty than officers of the department who had an intimate knowledge of the system? It had been said that the officers of his department were not qualified to secure the desired information. This he resented as a direct slur.

He was determined to send men from the department who were thoroughly familiar with the methods followed in the state, and that decision was endorsed by his Ministerial colleagues. He had an intense love for the system, and any alterations he could introduce would be for its betterment. There would be no whittling away of the system, and the bringing together of all classes and denominations was what he hoped to promulgate in the public schools of New South Wales.

The prizes were presented by Mr. and Mrs. Perry, who addressed a few words of congratulation to the recipients. M. Biard d'Aunet (Consul-General of France) complimented the prize-winners for their excellent work in connection with the competitive examination in the French language.

A vote of thanks to the Minister was proposed by Mr. W. M. Daley, M. L. A., who stated that one member of the Advisory Board entrusted with the reconstruction of "The Rocks" area had favoured the old school should be swept away. Describing the educational system, he classed it as the finest, most liberal, and freest that had come under his notice. If any attempt were made in Parliament to tamper with it, he should fight the matter to the end, and would never record his vote in favour of granting State aid to denominational schools.

Archdeacon Langley, in support, endorsed all that had been advanced in support of the educational system, and as far as he knew it was the finest in the world. He did not mean to convey that it was perfect, therefore was pleased that inquiries were to be made in other countries to find out all that was of advantage. That was the right line of conduct. That the Fort-street school was to be enlarged was a matter of extreme gratification, for nothing should be lacking to make all schools effective.

The vote of thanks was carried by acclamation, and in reply, Mr. Perry, after expressing his pleasure at once more taking part in the annual prize-giving, remarked that he hoped to put into effect the advice tendered by Sir Hector Macdonald, and arm the cadets, not with a toy weapon, but a real Mauser rifle. He believed that 1,000 Mauser guns captured from the Boers could be secured, and if they come to New South Wales, and he had hope that they would, the cadets should have them.

**PRIZE LIST
GIRLS' DEPARTMENT.**

Matriculation class: prizes presented by Mrs. Perry, Julia Robschmidt, Latin and Arithmetic. Hannah O'Reilly, Euclid and Arithmetic. Irine Heiliger French and Algebra.

Junior class:—Special prizes:—Maggie Turner, Gold medal for Junior University 1901. Minnie Ranson, Medal and Prize for Physiology, also Prize for English and French. Christina Wetherill. Miss Muir's Prize for Class popularity also for good University pass and English.

GENERAL PROFICIENCY.

Rosie Polley, Special Prize to Senior Monitress. Lily Dick, Dr. Bohrsmann's Prize for Languages also Dux of Class Annie Allum, 2nd place in Class, Junior Geography and music. Stella Atkinson, 3rd place in Class. Josie Smith, 4th place in class and Junior Geography. Mary Butler, good pass in University Junior and Class, also Junior English. Evelyn Bradley, Class French. Lizzie Christie, Class Arithmetic. Edith Moore, Class English, Junior Geography and Physiology. Hester Cass, Class History. E. Pring, Class History. Edith Dilling Junior Music, Class music, Penmanship and Home Exercises. Hilda Wiles Florrie Nelson, Cloe Smith, Nellie Dodge, Jeanie Given: Progress.

Special Prizes, Junior History, English and Geography and Class Arithmetic, Eva Valkenburg.

Junior Geography, Class Music, and Miss Black's prize for Class Popularity. Nettie Lees.

Good University Pass and Class French. Florrie Lewis.

Junior English and Class Geography. May Farrier.

Junior Geography and Class French. Joanna Downie.

Junior Arithmetic, Miss Partridge's special Arithmetic and General Proficiency. Ida McClure.

Junior Geography and Class English. Adeline Hampton.

Class French. Elsie Hetherington.

Class Arithmetic. Alice Elliott.

Class French. Ella Stening.

Class Music, Belle Quinn.

General Proficiency. Ethel Booth.

F. Vaughan, C. Smith, E. Sherwood, L. Lowick, R. Waddell

B. Tearle, E. Mc. Carthy: Effort.

F. Levinge, Progress.

5D:—Elsie Patton, Mrs. Perry's Prize for Dux of Class and Needlework. Mary Talty, Special Prize History, Arithmetic, French. Ethel Shaw, Special Prize French and Arithmetic. Kathleen Dill-Macky, Special Prize English and Gen Proficiency. Grace Watson, Teacher's Prize, History and Geography. Teresa Anglim, Highest marks in class and Physiography. May Smith 1st. Prize General Proficiency. Sarah Whiddon, French and History. Ruth Emanuel, Gen. Proficiency and Needlework. Bessie Bringhurst, History and Arithmetic. Amy Hind, Georgina Belshaw, Lily Carfoot, Nellie Wootten, Una Tucker, May McGoogan: General Proficiency. Elsie Roberts, Needlework and Gen. Proficiency. Esther Johnston, General Progress. Ethel Josephson, Needlework and Progress. Vera Read, Arithmetic.

5 C. Dux:—Gertie Butler: Lucy Cobham 2, Mary Waring 3, Stella Gormley 4, Mary Smith 5, Mildred Edwards 6, in year's

Examination and work. Adelaide Anderson, Arithmetic and French. Göta Fogelin, Composition and Earnest Work; Francis McLachlan, Steady work. Elsie Hallett, Steady work. Nina Harricks for Oral Work. Bessie Wass for Good Work. Ellie McMurtrie, Sewing, History and French. Annie Coyle, Music and Earnest Work. Mina Lyall and Bonnie Read, Earnest work. Bessie Macphail, Examination Work. Cathie Bregenger, Earnest Progress. Alice Macreath and Blanche Russell, Writing, Mapping and Good Work. Nellie Murray, General Good work. Effie Warton, Edie Young, Olive Fawlkner, Eva Jay; Earnest Progress. Lily Carugati, Good Work and Examinations. Haidée Ebbsworth Olive Sadler, Valerie Kingsbury. Bay Fitzgerald, Good Work and Improvement.

Special Prizes:—Gertie Butler, Geology and Physiology. Valerie Kingsbury, Geology and Music. Gertie Butler French, English and History. Lucy Cobham Geography and Arithmetic.

5B: Dux—May Hall, also prize for sewing.

English and French: Irene Henderson, Geography, Physiography and Music; Hilda Cox, Arithmetic and History; Dona Folster, General Proficiency and Sewing; N. Robertson, Edna Rose, G Richards. General Proficiency: M. Thwaites English: I. Tasman. General Proficiency: J. Jones, E. Allum, A. Palmer, I. Tirman, E. Cohen, E. Davis, I. Hattersley, L. Gummarsley, C. Burton, F. Wynne. Gen. Prof. and Writing: G. Waddell. Gen. Prof. and Geometrical Drawing: V. Grange. Gen. Prof. and Sewing L. Chidzey. Steady Perseverance F. Denholm. Gen. Prof. and Sewing V. Chidzey. Sewing: Grace Sykes.

5A:—Dux: Irene Howard. Brilliant Work: Olive Malcolm. English and History, Queenie Bamford. History and earnest work, Ruth Walker. French and Theory: Lily Bubb. Geography and History, Bessie Young, Elsie Smith, Zillah Bocking. Geography (Special) Irene Heunert. Sewing and good work (Special) Mary Doyle. Arithmetic and French Gladys Cunningham. Arithmetic (Special) Beattie Pendered Science and Theory, Dolly Vos. History and French: Dagmar Hanson. French and English: Lillian Cox. Writing (Special) Florrie Langley. Arithmetic and Theory: May O'Connor. (continued on page 4)

4B:—Dux: May King. General Proficiency: Ida Anderson 2. Gracie Chapman 3. Needlework: May Hart 1. Needlework and Good Class Work: Essie Guille and Elsie Steele. Gen. Proficiency: Lucy Ashton, Alice Benwell, May Ibbotson, Jennie Alexander, Laura Alexander, Berta Alpen, Jennie Gilmore Steadiness and Good Work: Florrie Haughton. Good Class Work: Florrie Whitford, V. Bell and M. Pidgeon. Penmanship: Emmie Kilminster. History and Composition: Florrie Allen. Attention and Diligence: Lizzie McKenzie. Scripture and History: Lou Johnson. Homework: L. Johnson. Class work: Florrie Korff.

4A:—Dux: pearl harris. General Proficiency elsie peddle, i m'urtrie, w. earle, e. elliot. Arithmetic: k. smith f. cork. History: d. lillieblade, i. gardner, k. montgomery, a. graham. Spelling: may gordon, g. annan. Writing: L. Trott, F. Lambert, g. ambler. Sewing: i. m'urtrie, e. clinch, p. harris. Mapping: m. jackson, d. lillieblade. Homework: m. jackson, i. gardner. Preparation: m. drake, e. waddell, a. graham. Steady Improvement; d. m'cully, l. dawes, l. ham, e. wilson. r. harris. Cooking: Special, c. hewlett, e. clinch.

3D:—Dux: w. chapman. History and General Proficiency: daisy hamill. Needlework and General Proficiency: v. marshall. Needlework: E. Jones. General Proficiency: E. graham, d. perry, E. cohen, E. nelson, k. partridge, L. ives, m. malcolm, A. coker, m. nelson, A. symons, A. bowman, m. coulson. m. hutchinson, A. bond, n. stewart f. cundy, L. johnson.

P. Traynor, E. McLachlan, E. Knight, O. Clarke. History and General Proficiency: K. Bear 3rd prize, E. Hatt-ersley 2nd prize.

Class 3C:—Dux: Dulcie McIntyre. General Proficiency: A. Schulze, E. Dawes, E. Priestly, E. Woodgate, J. Scott, E. Fuller, M. Ravanagh, M. McGeady, B. Wilson, R. La Fraik, A. Peters, M. Blake, G. Smith, E. Hunter, F. Ryan, M. Keam Attendance: D. Capwin, M. Coffill. Sewing: A. Woodbridge H. Hall. Arithmetic: G. Williams, A. Stanning. Progress during year: B. Smith. Reading: E. Hunter. Neatness in work: I. Lett.

3B:—Gen. Prof. and effort, P. Denholm. Gen. Prof. N. Ham. Special prize for effort and attention: E. Griffiths. Arithmetic—M. Likely, J. Partridge. Grammar—A. Eisenberg D. Byles. Mapping—V. Colenutt, S. Reece. Sewing—L. Traynor, L. Partridge, W. Cox D. Schulze. Exercise—L. Traynor. Proficiency and Industry—I. Nielson, N. Arnold. Writing—F. Smith. Composition: D. Car'lyle. Dictation: R. Bear, E. Strachan, H. Back (special) Drawing: D. Lundin Geography and Gen. Prof: R. Middlecoat, V. Burchell. Reading: L. Stuth, R. Thompson. History: D. Schulze, M. Lever, Drill: L. Hughes. Writing: M. Price

2A:—General Proficiency—A. Russell, E. Silvester B. Chidzey, C. Wulf, C. Barker, W. Burns. Arithmetic—E. Cox, A. Alluer, O. Saintilan M. Thomas, E. Stewart. History—M. Barker, R. Mc. E van, N. Stanford, E. Johnson. Exercise—E. Reta, A. Symonds. Sewing—L. Puckeridge, B. Drake.

2 B:—General Proficiency and Sewing: G. Oliver. Dictation: E. Strachan and K. McGeady. Arithmetic: E. Moore, J. McKeloni, V. Hallet and J. Cohen. General Proficiency: V. Ball, M. Harding, L. Wilson, M. Whitelaw, C. Lee, B. Fletcher, M. Anderson, E. Forbes, M. Voge, M. Tweddle, A. Asplet, A. Philip, L. Simms, K. Dow, G. Dillmacky, R. Mc. Cann, D. Bowyer, K. Doyle, M. Davis, A. Brown.

2 A: Gen. Proficiency: R. Young, G. Stuth, J. Dunross, S. Symonds, M. Hodgson, F. McMillan, M. Pedersen, B. McMurtrie. Spelling: B. Coffil, T. Burns Sewing: A. Jacobson, E. Josephson. Arithmetic: M. Wulf, D. Perlman. Arithmetic and Sewing: A. Landsbury, K. Keith.

5A: (continued)

History and Geography: Vera Goard, Mary Tunnie. History: Clarie Fairland, Agnes Keith, Gertie Chowne. Geography: Hilda Priestly, Pauline Brownhill, Nellie Adams. Oral work: Alma Cole, Ivy Thompson. Arithmetic: Belle Martin. English: Elsie Fancourt. Geography and Sewing: Agnes Caldwell. French: Ethel Gilmore. Sewing and steady work: Lucy Mechelsen. Steady work: Connie Partridge. Steady improvement: Gertie Hodge.

Mr. Kenny gave an admirable rendering of "Out on the Deep" and Mr. Turner, Mr. Williams and Mr. Hatfield spoke in terms of highest praise of Mr. Stoyles both professionally and personally, and after the guest had suitably responded the proceedings were terminated with "Auld Lang Syne"

The Staff of the School met on Friday afternoon to wish Mr. Morgan farewell and congratulate him on his appointment to Hillgrove.

Messrs. Turner, Williams and Browne spoke in high terms of Mr. Morgan as a teacher and a man. Mr. Morgan feelingly responded. He expressed regret at leaving old friends but was glad to feel that in his new sphere of labours he would have the esteem and sympathy of his fellow colleagues.

—:o:—

SCHOOL NEWS.

We have much pleasure in announcing the following successes of the pupils of the school.

1. Peter Nichol Russell Scholarship: won by John L. Norman:

The holder is entitled to £75 a year for 4 years to cover the whole cost of training in the Engineering School of the University. There was keen competition for this very valuable scholarship but the brilliant work done by Norman at the Senior of 1899 stood to him and brought him out top. Jack is eloquent about the value of a good Senior training. We heartily congratulate him on his success.

2. Public Service Examinations. (a) Engineering Cadetship. Three of the six positions fell to pupils of the school.

Arthur Lloyd, Junior 1898 and Matriculant 1900 was top.

William Mason, one of our distinguished Seniors of last year was second.

Horace Douglas, who has passed numerous University Examinations was sixth.

(b) Cadet Draftsmanship. The top position in this division was gained by our only candidate, L. A. V. Cotton. We noticed too the name of J. Ranson, Junior of 1899.

(c) Clerical Division. Two of our candidates secured passes, T. H. Compagnoni, S. V. Toose.

3. A. M. P. Society. W. H. Graham who made a fine Junior pass last year passed this examination with great credit and has already received his appointment.

4. Mutual Life Assurance Society. C. A. Mitchell, another successful Junior of last year beat all comers at a competitive examination held by this Society.

5. Chamber of Commerce: Two candidates from the school gained certificates—A. Polsen, R. Sinclair.

6. Electrical Engineering—Railway Institute—Arthur de Kloot, Junior 1899, passed this examination with honors.

REMOVALS AND PROMOTIONS.

BOYS' DEPARTMENT.

The severance of Mr. Stoyles' connection with the Old School on Friday the 24th ult. was made the occasion of a pleasing little function when the Staff met to bid farewell to this popular young teacher and to congratulate him upon his promotion to the head-mastership of Wentworth Pub. School. Matric. Junior I. had presented Mr. Stoyles with a cigar case as a token of their esteem and his fellow teachers now added a tannet racquet in earnest of their appreciation.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(The following is one of several letters sent to Miss Partridge from THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. We publish it for our readers and also the reply by Valerie Kingsbury.)

Public School, Number 85.
New York, U. S. A.
2nd. December, 1901.

Dear Australian Cousin and Fellow Scholar,

I can imagine how surprised you will be at receiving letters from the antipodes. I will try to make this letter interesting to you, by telling several facts about our country. I suppose you do not know much about our country; as we know little of yours; but in geography we have just taken up the study of it.

Although our country is older than yours, in 1889 we adopted your method of voting. This new idea is very good because many men did not vote independently before your method, the Australian or Secret Ballot as it is called, was adopted.

I will now tell you of the progress of our country; how it grew from a few small colonies along the Atlantic coast to the great one which it now is, reaching from ocean to ocean. Since we fought for liberty from your mother country England and attained it, our country has been fast excelling in manufacture, commerce, and many other things.

I suppose you do not know much about the death of our late President, William McKinley. He was shot while standing on the steps of one of the buildings at the Pan American Exposition at Buffalo, shaking hands with the people. While he was shaking hands a short man stepped forward and instead of accepting the hand offered him by the President, he fired two shots at him. The President fell back; while a crowd rushed upon the assassin and almost killed him. The President was taken to an adjoining house, while the assassin was taken into custody. The President died several days after he was shot. He was taken to his birth-place and there buried.

In the Autumn of 1886 the statue of Liberty was unveiled and lighted in the Harbor of New York. The statue is the largest of its kind ever made and was presented to our country by several citizens of the Republic of France, as a memorial of the friendly feeling towards the people of our country.

The statue is made of bronze and represents the goddess of Liberty holding high in one hand a torch, which is lighted to show the way to those who seek the shores of the New World. The figure looks beautiful as it stands there at night giving light to incoming vessels.

Another great work was the building of a great bridge called the East River Suspension Bridge. It connects New York City with Brooklyn. This bridge was built at a cost of nearly fifteen million dollars. It took 14 years to finish the structure; which has the total length of nearly a mile.

I close my letter hoping that your country will prosper as it has been doing; and to receive an answer to this imperfect letter.

Yours sincerely,
Augusta Krueger.

[THE REPLY.]

Model Public School,
Fort Street,
Sydney.

Dear American Friend Augusta,

From your letter as a whole I should think your opinion of Australia and its inhabitants was not a very good one as regards its general learning and knowledge.

It is no small island over-run with blacks, wallabies and kangaroos where no news ever travels. On the contrary (to take your own example), our papers were full of the news of the assassination of Mr. Mc. Kinley almost before the deed was done.

Our Educational Staff is, I believe equal to any in the world.

The school I attend (the Model School), has an enrolment of over two thousand scholars, a great number of whom are preparing for public examinations.

Sydney is a large town and contains many magnificent buildings. Among the principal of these are:—

The Post Office noted for its great height and magnificent tower; The Queen Victoria Markets noted for their length and dome; The Houses of Parliament; Government House; The University and not the least grand The Town Hall. It is one of the largest in the world and contains the second largest if not the largest organ in the world. But enough about our buildings; we also have grand scenery. Your harbour is certainly a splendid one for commerce but ours has (combined with this) real beauty.

Two great headlands shut out the outer turbulent ocean from the inner calm harbour with its hundreds of little ferry boats gliding along its surface to all our picnic resorts, to the scores of sandy beaches which surround it. O, how exquisite! We not only can boast of our harbour but also of our mountains—The Blue Mountains of New South Wales within 100 miles of Sydney. The deep valleys bounded on both sides by mountains covered with their fine foliage of tree fern &c. and with their numerous cataracts dashing o'er the precipitous cliffs. These also are fine.

Now, Augusta I will close, hoping your opinion of Sydney, and Australia in general, is somewhat altered. Perhaps you would write and let me know if it is.

I am
your fellow scholar,
Valerie V. Kingsbury.

1901 SENIOR PICNIC.

Australian picnics are generally racy of the soil, *al fresco*, and associated with free air and the blue smoke curling from the billy. Without these associations they would be stiff and formal, and it is this that rewards an expedition for sundry 'duckings' and many sunburns. "Mais revenons a nos moutons." The Senior picnics generally occur in March and November, and, as usual, this year we chose the Lane Cove River as our resort. Embarking in boats at Belmain, it was fully 11 a.m. before we reached our clump of quince-trees and 'sale tabentes' flung ourselves on the soft sward in the shade.

After dinner everyone went further up the river. One venturesome boat-load filled with a desire to find the source, found a resting-place on the rocks instead, but this was a mere detail beside other happenings.

Here two members of the expedition somewhat reluctantly furnished us with what might be likened to the mediæval miracle-play, viz— a return to Nature in the shape of a Twentieth Century Garden of Eden. After the other swimmers had forsaken the water, Bridge and Willis minor were still disporting themselves like maenads in its cool depths, and, silently, while they were on the other bank, our boat put off bearing away their clothes. In a most irrational manner they objected, in spite of its being pointed out that the last trammels of civilization now removed, they were free to emulate their first parents. In his joy at this, the writer waited breathlessly to see the forbidden apples springing from the tallest gum-tree, and the sinuous movements of the serpent gliding along the bank.

But as we wished to get back to the quince-trees we took them on board and proceeded leisurely down the stream to the tune of "Green Leaves", a wonderful song of noble simplicity in which the 1st and

149th verses are both:—

Green leaves they are,
Green leaves they are,
Green leaves they are,
Green leaves!

Coming home before the moon had "raised her lamp above" the expedition grew sentimental under the stars and occupied itself with singing about "Clementine"—and other people. As we reached the boat-head the moon rose in a glaze of gold in the east. I have only one regret; it is that I did not see a single naiad.

G.C.W.

GIRLS' NEWS.

We regret to have to report the removal of Miss Black 2nd Assistant. This lady has been for the past four years at the Fort-street School, and has done excellent work in connection with the preparation of the girls for the Junior University work; she has been appointed to the position of Head Mistress of the Infants' Department at South Broken Hill.

We are all exceedingly sorry to hear of the illness of two of our capable staff, Misses Parr and Drummond who are both at present absent on sick leave and we hope soon to see them with us again.

Unfortunately we have also lost Miss Tinson, who has severed her connection with the Teaching profession.

DYING FOR FREEDOM.

They never fail who die
In a great cause! The block may soak their gore;
Their heads may sodden in the sun; their limbs
Be strung to city gates and castle walls;
But still their spirit walks abroad. Though years
Elapse, and others share as dark a doom,
They but augment the deep and sweeping
thoughts
Which overpower all others, and conduct
The world at last to freedom.

—BYRON

A VISIT TO THE ART SOCIETY'S EXHIBITION.

On Tuesday morning 26th. November the ordinary routine of school work was interrupted by a delightful visit to the Art Society's Exhibition in Pitt Street. This visit was one both of enjoyment and instruction to the lads whose happy privilege it was to be under an obligation to the Secretary of the Society for his kindly invitation to inspect the Society's Works of Art. When we reflect on the advantages derivable from art and on the application of which it is susceptible to some of the best interests of mankind we cannot but regret that so great a source of human happiness should not be better and more generally cultivated. The Secretary seemed to have his mind on this when he asked the boys to excite in them a lively interest in the pictures (though methinks such an impulse was by no means necessary), to make a selection of those which from their view were the five best works of Art in the salon.

The boys on arrival at once started on their round of inspection. Some lingering here and there over what they considered to be a masterpiece were surrounded by others of their fellow critics whereupon an animated discussion arose as to the merits and demerits of the picture under consideration. That the lads evinced a lively interest in the hangings was testified to by a frequent reference to the catalogues.

Amongst the most universally admired of the pictures, and which are more to receive a place in the vote of nearly every visitor, were the two beautiful works by J. W. Longstaff entitled "Mignon" and "Marjorie" both eloquent studies on beautiful subjects.

It would but be presumption on my part to attempt to criticise, nay even to describe with justice such beautiful studies. Another picture which attracted much attention was that entitled "The Last Long Weary Tramp" while Mr. Julian Ashton's "Wave" also merited its support by the majority of the visitors. This picture presented a white-capped roller, huge and seething, rushing to its speedy destruction on the reef showing in the foreground.

It would be impossible to find here a place for the names of all the pictures which each particular set of boys fancied; a few of the most admired only can be cited. Amongst these were "Poppies" a study in colour, the rose of the beautiful maiden's cheeks forming a strong contrast with the purple of the poppies which she held in her hand; "Alone", a study in expression of an old man utter misery and dejected hopes depicted in every muscle of his face; "Ex-Camarades," also a study in expression but of a different style while the fantasies of Sid Long and D. H. Souter should by no means be omitted especially the character sketch by the former of that well known figure about town "Specs."

Another feature of the exhibit was the exquisite

miniatures which compare very favourably with the masterpieces of that art in the possession of Lord Beauchamp and exhibited formerly in the National Art Gallery of N.S.W.

After a very enjoyable hour spent in undisguised admiration of the pictures and when our souls artistic for the time being, were soaring above the trite feelings of this mundane sphere, Mr. Turner called us back from the sublime to the practical by announcing that it was time to make our return to school which we did after having paid a hearty vote of thanks to the Secretary for his courteous invitation.

P. P.

CRICKET.

FORT STREET v AUSTRALIAN COLLEGE.

On December 4th Fort Street visited the Australian College and having lost the toss went into the field.

The Australian College's batting was very slow and showed poor form, their strokes being feeble. They were all sent out for 76. P. Ellis made 29 and A. Ellis 16.

S. Moore and Golledge were the most successful with the ball, getting 3 for 8 and 4 for 15 respectively.

Fort St. lost 4 wickets for 68, the scoring being too slow and the fielding good.

Powell 2, Foxall 0, Portus 21, Oatley 7, Penman 5 (not out) and Moore 81 (not out) being the batsmen.

Moore played a slow but sure and useful innings.

The friends of Mr. C. O. G. Larcombe will be pleased to hear of his success at the examination recently held at the Sydney University in connection with the Department of Science, he having obtained first-class honours in advanced geology and mineralogy, at the third year examination. We may also mention that Mr. Larcombe passed with honours the first and second year examinations in the same subjects at the Sydney Technical College. It is to be hoped that in the future Mr. Larcombe's efforts will be crowned with further success, for it is his intention to pursue his studies in some other branch of the science.

Extract from The Campbelltown "Herald."

THE CHARGE OF THE HEAVY BRIGADE
AT BALACLAVA.

THE charge of the gallant three hundred, the
Heavy Brigade!
Down the hill, down the hill, thousands of Russians,
Thousands of horsemen, drew to the valley—and
stay'd;
For Scarlett and Scarlett's three hundred were
riding by
Where the points of the Russian lances arose in
the sky;
And he call'd "Left wheel into line!" and they
wheel'd and obeyed.
Then he look'd at the host that had halted he knew
not why,
And he turned half round, and he made his trumpet
sound
To the charge, and he rode on ahead, as he waved
his blade
To the gallant three hundred whose glory will
never die—
"Follow," and up the hill, up the hill, up the hill,
Follow'd the Heavy Brigade.

The trumpet, the gallop, the charge, and the might
of the fight!
Thousands of horsemen had gather'd there on the
height,
With a wing push'd out to the left and a wing to
the right,
And who shall escape if they close? but he dash'd
up alone
Thro' the great gray slope of men,
Sway'd his sabre, and held his own
Like an Englishman there and then;
All in a moment follow'd with force
Three that were next in their fiery course,
Wedge'd themselves in between horse and horse,
Fought for their lives in the narrow gap they had
made—
Four amid thousands! and up the hill, up the hill,
Gallop'd the gallant three hundred, the Heavy
Brigade.

Fell like a cannonshot,
Burst like a thunderbolt,
Crash'd like a hurricane,
Broke thro' the mass from below,
Drove thro' the midst of the foe,
Plunged up and down, to and fro,
Rode flashing blow upon blow,
Brave Inniskillens and Greys
Whirling their sabres in circles of light!
And some of us, all in amaze,
Who were held for a while from the fight,
And were only standing at gaze,
When the dark-muffled Russian crowd

Folded its wings from the left and the right,
And roll'd them around like a cloud, —
O mad for the charge and the battle were we,
When our own good redcoats sank from sight,
Like drops of blood in a dark-gray sea,
And we turn'd to each other, whispering, all dis-
may'd,
"Last are the gallant three hundred of Scarlett's
Brigade!"

"Lost one and all" were the words
Muttered in our dismay;
But they rode like Victors and Lords
Through the forest of lances and swords
In the heart of the Russian hordes,
They rode, or they stood at bay —
Struck with the sword-hand and slew,
Down with the bridle-hand drew
The foe from the saddle and threw
Underfoot there in the fray —
Ranged like a storm or stood like a rock
In the wave of a stormy day;
Till suddenly shock upon shock
Stagger'd the mass from without,
Drove it in wild disarray,
For our men galloped up with a cheer and a shout,
And the foemen surged, and waver'd, and reel'd
Up the hill, up the hill, up the hill, out of the field,
And over the brow and away.

Glory to each and all, and the charge that they
made!
Glory to all the three hundred, and all the Brigade!

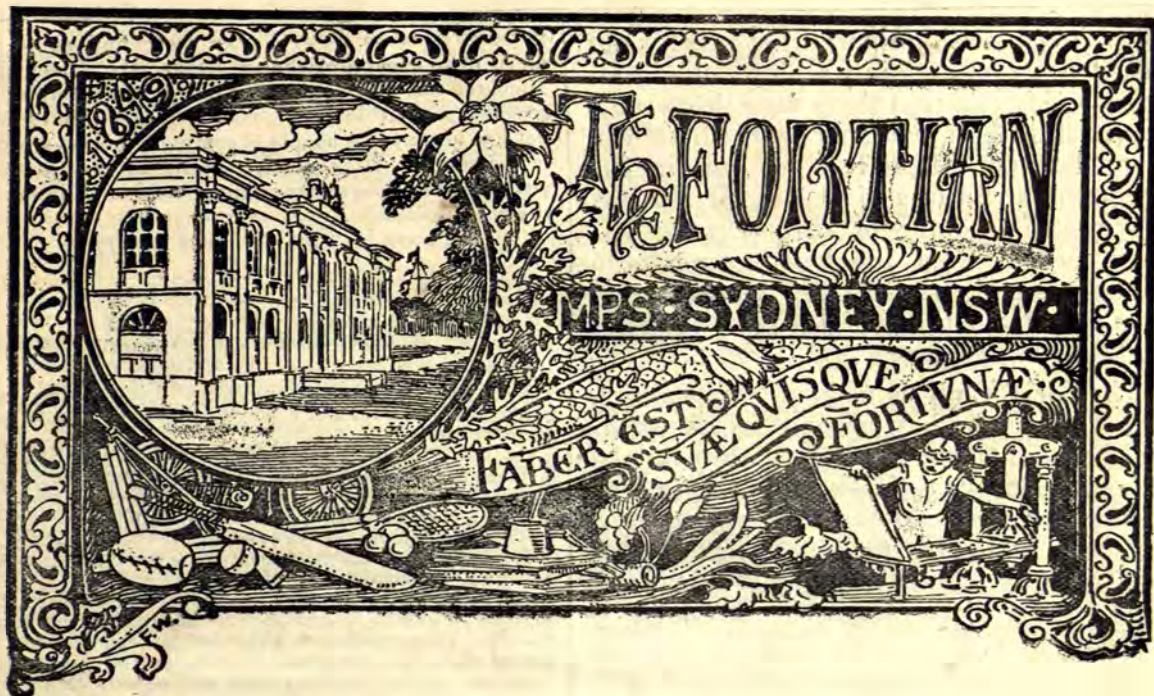
Tennyson

MERCY.

[FROM "THE MERCHANT OF VENICE."]

The quality of Mercy is not strained,
It droppeth, as the gentle rain from heaven,
Upon the place beneath. It was twice blessed;
It blesseth him that gives, and him that takes.
'Tis mightiest in the mightiest; it becomes
The thronèd monarch better than his crown.
His sceptre shows the force of temporal power,
The attribute to awe and majesty,
Wherein doth sit the dread and fear of kings;
But mercy is above this scepter'd sway,
It is enthronèd in the hearts of Kings;
It is an attribute to God himself;
And earthly power doth then show likest God's
When mercy seasons justice. Therefore, Jew,
Though justice be thy plea, consider this,
That in the course of justice none of us
Should see salvation. We do pray for mercy;
And that same prayer doth teach us all to render
The deeds of mercy.

SHAKESPEARE.



Vol. IV. No. 2. SYDNEY, MONDAY, MARCH 10th, 1902.

Price 1d

THE FORTIAN.

SWIMMING 1902.

WHAT a great sight it was when on Tuesday afternoon, February 11th, nearly 400 boys left the school grounds and in sections of tens marched away orderly and promptly to the Swimming Baths in Woolloomooloo Bay to indulge in the weekly swimming practice! Tuesday afternoon is set apart for the swimmers and Thursday afternoon for those learning the art. Every boy in the Tuesday class can swim well and it is pleasing to note that in the beginners' class no less than 60 boys have overcome the initial difficulties and only require practice to make themselves fair swimmers. There are close upon 300 boys in the Thursday class, nearly all of whom can swim a little, and we feel sure that these lads do not regret taking our advice at the beginning of this season when we strongly recommended them to join the Club and learn to swim.

We then made a promise to give these lads every opportunity for visiting the Baths and we outlined a scheme of land drill followed by water practice for each individual boy. This scheme has been put into force with the best results by the gentlemen who manage swimming matters in the school—Messrs. Pike and Green—ably assisted by several of the expert swimmers among the bigger boys. These gentlemen bear testimony to the good conduct of the boys on the road to and from the Baths and during the time of the swimming practice, and we are pleased to state that, although large numbers are taken to the Baths twice each week, and two dangerous crossings—George St. and the tram line at Bent St.—have to be passed, no accident has occurred.

The Annual Carnival this year has been fixed for Saturday, March 15th., at Hellings' Baths. The programme is an attractive one and has been framed with a view of satisfying patrons and performers.

There are several important events for our own boys, who certainly are our chief concern, and in addition there are other events in which the best swimmers of the State will compete. One of the best features in the programme will be a display of Life Saving. A very strong club for this purpose has been formed from the best swimmers in the school and practice is going on very regularly under the able direction of Dr. R. E. Roth.

The Girls' Club is making fair headway, and we hear the best account of their general behaviour, but we think with such capable and enthusiastic swimmers as Miss Kilminster and Miss Hetherington the numbers deserve to be much larger. We are of opinion that it is just as necessary for every girl to learn to swim as it is for every boy.

Ladies' bathing clubs are extending in England, and contests in distances up to a mile are included in the programme. We are informed that the Girls' Carnival will be held on March 24th, in the Lavender Bay Baths. We strongly advocate a larger membership in so valuable an institution as the Girls' Bathing Club in the Model School.

THE LIGHTER SIDE OF CRICKET.

(Extract from The Sydney Morning Herald.)

We should all appreciate by this time the fact that cricket is a serious pursuit, light'y to be regarded as in the days of Mr. Pickwick. Captain Phillip Trevor, however, perceives that the strain may even now be relaxed in fitting season, and he has accordingly written "The Lighter Side of Cricket" (Methuen's Colonial Library). This is mainly an interesting collection of anecdotes and of bits of personal gossip and criticism. Now that the English Eleven is drawing near the end of its programme it is worth noticing what Captain Trevor has to say of its leader. He excused himself from placing Mr. Maclaren in the very front rank of English batsmen on the ground that the exigencies of his work prevent him, as well as Mr. Steel, from devoting that absolute attention to cricket which he had regarded as essential to complete success. "Many of the Australian cricketers," he observes, "declare that Mr. Maclaren is the best of English batsmen, and, indeed, we scarcely require

to travel as far as Australia for testimony as to the merit of so great a cricketer. Like Mr. Steel, Mr. Maclaren has been wont to burst out after forced retirement and to achieve instant success, but never yet has he played a couple of complete cricket seasons in succession. However, he is only in his thirtieth year, and age is nowadays a mere incidental detail in the cricket field."

(The book is in the reference library.)

VALUABLE ADVICE.

Long years ago, when the events related in this story took place, there was a town in France that was very famous as a place for law.

One day, a farmer, who could neither read nor write, and who had never had occasion to go to a lawyer, was in the town. As he had heard his neighbours sometimes speak of getting a lawyer's opinion, he thought he might as well get one too. He had an hour or two to spare before starting for home, and more money than usual in his pocket, so that the opportunity was too good to be lost.

He inquired at once where Lawyer (Longhead) lived, the only lawyer's name he could call to mind. Having found the office, he took his seat in the waiting-room, and had to remain there such a long time that his patience was almost worn out. At last, his turn came, and he was shown into the great man's room.

Mr. Longhead asked him to sit down; and then, settling his glasses on his nose so as to get a good look at his client, begged him to state his business.

"Upon my word," said the farmer, uneasily twisting his hat in his hand, "I can't say that I have any business with you; but, as I happened to be in town to-day, I thought, that I should be losing an opportunity if I did not get an 'opinion' from you."

"I am much obliged," replied the lawyer. "You have, I suppose, some law-suit going on?"

"A law-suit?" said the farmer, "I should rather think not! There is nothing I hate so much; and I never had a serious quarrel with any one in my life."

"Then, I suppose, you want some family property fairly divided?"

"I beg your pardon, sir: my family lives with me in peace; we draw from the same well, as the saying is in our part of the country, and have no need to think of dividing the property."

"Perhaps, then, you want an agreement drawn up about the sale or purchase of some property?"

"Not at all! I am not rich enough to buy any more property, and not poor enough, I'm thankful to say, to wish to sell any."

"Then, what on earth do you want me to do, my friend?" said the perplexed lawyer.

"Well, Mr. Longhead, I thought that I had already told you that," replied Bernard, with a sheepish laugh. "What I want is an 'opinion'—I am ready to pay for it. You see, I am in town, and it would be a great pity if I were to lose the opportunity."

The lawyer looked at him, and smiled; then, taking up his pen, he asked the farmer his name.

"Peter Bernard," replied the latter, quite pleased that the lawyer at last understood him.

Your age?"

"Forty-five years, or somewhere about that."

"Your vocation?"

"My vocation—what's that?"

"What do you do for a living?"

"Oh! that's what 'vocation' means, does it? I am a farmer."

The lawyer, still smiling, wrote two lines on a piece of paper, folded it up, and gave it to his strange client.

"Is that all?" cried Bernard. "Well, well, so much the better; I dare say you are too busy to write much. What is the price, learned sir?"

"Six and eightpence."

Bernard paid the money, gave a bow and a scrape, and went away, delighted that he had not missed his opportunity of getting an "opinion" from a great lawyer.

When he reached home, it was four o'clock in the afternoon; he was tired with his journey, and he made up his mind to rest for the remainder of the day. It happened, however, that his hay, which had been cut for some days, was now quite dry, and that one of his men came to ask whether it should be carried in and housed that night, or not.

"This night!" said Bernard's wife, "who ever heard of such a thing? Your master is tired; and the hay can just as well be got in to-morrow."

The man said that it was no business of his, but the weather might change; and the horses and carts were at hand, and the labourers had nothing important to do for the rest of the day.

To this the wife, who did not like to find her self opposed in this way, replied that the wind was from a favourable quarter, so that there could be no chance of any rain, and that they would not be able, if they were to try their utmost, to get the work done before nightfall.

Bernard, having listened to both sides of the question, was at a loss how to decide it, when, all of a sudden, he remembered he had in his pocket the paper that the lawyer had given him. "Stop a minute!" cried he; "I have an 'opinion'—a famous opinion—an opinion that cost me six and eightpence. That's the thing to put us straight. You are a scholar, my dear, and can read: tell us what it says."

His wife took the paper, and, with much difficulty, for the lawyer's writing was far from good, read out these words:—"Peter Bernard, never put off till to-morrow what you can do to-day."

"That's the very thing!" exclaimed the farmer. "Quick! Come along! Out with the carts! Every one to the hay-field! It shall not be said that I bought a six-and-eight-penny opinion from a lawyer, and made no use of it. I'll follow his advice." He hurried off, and did not return home till he had seen all the hay safely housed.

As it happened, what followed seemed to show the foresight of the lawyer. The weather changed during the night, and a sudden storm broke over the district. The next morning, it was found that the river had overflowed, and had carried away almost all the hay that had been left in the fields of the neighbouring farmers. Bernard, alone, had not suffered any loss.

His first experience gave him such faith in the lawyer's opinion, that, from that day forth, he took it as his rule of conduct, and became, therefore, one of the richest farmers in that part of the country.

Nor did he forget the service Mr. Longhead had rendered him, for he sent him every year a present of two fat, young fowls; and, whenever the talk turned upon lawyers, he never failed to remark that, "after the ten commandants, there was nothing that should be more strictly followed than the 'opinion' of a good lawyer."

SCHOOL NEWS.

Davis of the Senior Class has been elected captain of the School in place of Foxall who has decided on a University course.

Archie Roberts and Horsfield have secured positions with Dalgety & Co. It is our opinion that both lads will give satisfaction to the firm.

We welcome Mr. T. Chandler back to the Old School. When he was on the Staff a few years back he worked hard with his boys. Cricketers should keep their eye on him.

Bruce Willis's name has been added to the list of successful candidates for the position of cadet draftsmen by the examiners to the Public Service Board.

Cyril F. Elwell made a good pass in physics at the last examination held by the Technical College. He took honours in Electricity and Magnetism, Course C; honours in Elementary Mechanics, Course A; second grade in sound, light and heat.

Orchard Clark gained the only honours in Manual Training, Third year, Public School Course; F. D. Fletcher came second in the Third year; D. Carrol came third. Clark we hear, has got employment with a firm of builders. He is following up his bent alright. Mr Lockley has a good opinion of Clark and thinks he will do well. He admires his patience, industry, and perseverance.

Pollock, Barrett, Puddicombe, made first grade passes in the Second year.

C. C. Ross, Jackson, Chatfield, made first grade passes in the First Year. Ross' writing is of superior quality.

Mr Lockley informs us that the Fort Street Manual Training Workshop is now a centre for eight schools; that he has about 130 boys in attendance; and that he has room for 30 more. Any boy wishing to take up manual training is recommended to apply to Mr Lockley who will willingly supply all particulars. Parents of boys who desire to enter in this class of work are cordially invited to pay a visit to the Manual Training Workshop.

A BOY'S ESSAY.

A schoolboy's idea of the kangaroo is quoted in an amusing shape by 'May Vivienne' in 'Travels in Western Australia' (Heinemann):—"The kangaroo is a quadruped, but two of his feet is only hands. He is closely related to the flea family, an' jumps like him, an' has the same kind of resemblance. He is Australian by birth, an' has a watch-pocket to carry his children in. There is two or more kinds of kang'roos, but they are mostly male and female, an' live on grass, cabbage an' curren buns. The kang'roo's tail is his chief support; it is thick at one end, an' runs

Teacher: "What is the meaning of the word 'excavate'?"

Small pupil: "It means to hollow out." Teacher: "Correct."

Now form a sentence in which the word is properly used."

Small pupil: "Stick a pin in a boy and he will excavate."

to the other end; it is good to jump with, an' the kang'roo when its ent off don't know his way home, and has to walk on his hands. The kang'roo is good for makin' soup, an' bootlaces an' putting in zoos, and sometimes he is presented to the roil family to represent Australia.

GEOLOGICAL ITEMS.

The key to success at geological examinations is practicality.

In the Junior not much encouragement is given to this end for the text books are English or foreign; yet the study of local rocks and excursions in the field will not be wasted even for this examination and the examiner may be spared foreign examples as Italian Marbles, Kentucky Caves, and Iceland geysers where equally good examples could be furnished locally.

We are very fortunate too in having a well stocked geological case and numerous geological friends such as Mr. Clarke who has offered the benefit of his extensive mining experience and who has presented a fine set of ore specimens fossils and a case illustrating the rock-oil producing resources of New South Wales. Besides specimens of the overlying and underlying rocks, the case is replete with the oil rock and the oils in all stages of refinement.

We hope to see these useful gifts made the subject of some interesting and useful lessons. We also trust that the geological excursions so enthusiastically begun by the girls' Junior class are as popular and frequent as their importance merits.

We tender hearty thanks to Bertie Gardiner of 4A for additional geological specimens. We are pleased to find parents taking a practical interest in the school and can commend the study of this important subject early in a school career. The asbestos and galena specimens will be very useful.

BATHS IN PUBL' C SCHOOLS.

It has been decided that the public schools of Boston shall be provided with well-appointed bath-rooms.

This movement (says a Boston contemporary) was begun two years ago, when the Paul Revere school was built, and in future all schools are to have such conveniences. When a child presents himself for admission to a school, and gives evidence that he has not been as well groomed at home as a proper regard for its health and the comfort of its classroom associates demands, it is the duty of an instructor to lead him to a bathroom, and give him a lesson in the hygiene of the person. Not until he has passed a satisfactory inspection is he permitted to take his place in the class to which he is assigned. Children are naturally sensitive to classification among the unclean, who must while in that condition be denied the privilege of fellowship with those whose parents take better care of them, and as a result the boy or girl thus treated is very likely to go home and read the Riot Act to those responsible for the condition inviting it. Teachers in the Revere school report that the system works admirably. The scholars came to school much cleaner than formerly, and the work for both teachers and pupils is better—probably because the class-room atmosphere is less depressing.

CRICKET.

Fort St. Model School v Training College.

This match which had been looked forward to with a great amount of interest was played at Birchgrove on Friday February 21st and ended in a drawn game the scores being: Training College 154, School 96 for 4 wickets. Penman lost the toss to Hammond and the School Eleven took the field followed shortly afterwards by the College's opening batsmen, Baillie and Patrick. The latter fell in the second over for 5 but Baillie played well through the innings for 68. Others who helped to swell the score were Giltinan (19), Mackenzie (20) and McKean (26), no one else reaching double figures. Bowling for the school P. Portus took 3 for 15, Penman 3 for 29. Mr. Humphreys and Moore opened the innings for the School and careful and correct cricket followed till the score was taken to 32 when Moore was unfortunately run out. His partner did not long survive him retiring caught and bowled for 23 with the score at 38. Adam and Portus were then quickly dismissed and the score was 4 for 50 when Penman and Mr Roberts became associated. Playing carefully these two brought the score to 96 without further loss, scoring 22 and 21 respectively. Giltinan secured two wickets and Mc Kean one for the College. The fielding on both sides was generally good and the interest in the game was sustained right to the end at 6.15 p.m. Mr Turner umpired.

OLD BOYS v PRESENT BOYS.

The annual match between the Past and Present of the Old School took place at Birchgrove on Friday, 28th. February and resulted in a win for the School by 3 runs on the first innings. The Present batted first and were disposed of for 34 runs. Nothing but the great uncertainty of cricket can account for the low score for the bowling was not above the average for these matches. No one obtained double figures. The Past in their try only realized 31. An excuse can be entered for them, for it is no easy task to make runs when out of form against such bowling as Penman and Golledge sent down. Penman (the Jones of the team) and Golledge who did the hat trick came out with the fine average of 5 for 13 and 5 for 16 respectively. In the second innings the Present notched 77 for 4 wickets, Penman 44 not out and Powell 14 not out playin g with great determination.

PRICES OF WILD ANIMALS.

The director of the Leipzig Zoo has just published some interesting statistics concerning the price of wild beasts. According to age and race, a lion, it appears, is worth from £40 to £150. For a Siberian tiger £250 will be paid, against the tiger from Bengal, who is valued at only £125; while his brother from Java is cheaper still, his price being not at all above rubies, but merely £75. No zebra worth its salt (or is it hay?) is sold for less than £125, and a bison will fetch from £125 to £200. The lowest price for an African elephant is £300; but the rarest and most expensive of zoo treasures is the giraffe, which wavers, according to supply, between £750 and £2500.

GIRLS' NEWS.

CHANGES IN THE STAFF.

Since last issue, several changes have been made in the Girls' Department viz:—Misses Hetherington and Bourke have been transferred from the Infants' School, and Misses Trotter and Sherring have been added to the Staff. We are pleased to state that Miss Drummond is well again and has returned to her duties.

When Miss Black left us, her girls showed their

appreciation of her excellent work by presenting her with a gold bangle and pearl necklet. The teachers also gave her a brooch as a parting gift.

The girls of 5A and Miss Dillon spent a very enjoyable day at Manly on 1st March. The day was a perfect one for a picnic and the girls made the best of it in playing games, swimming and gathering shells. During the day Miss Dillon was the recipient of a beautiful present from her girls. An impromptu concert was held on the boat during the return journey, each girl contributing something towards the programme. The Quay was reached at 7.45 and each dispersed to her home thoroughly satisfied with the day's outing.

CLASS ITEMS.

Nineteen girls, who have already passed the Junior, are preparing for the March Matriculation Examination. Good reports are given of them, and we look forward to fine passes when the results come out.

In the Junior class there are some fine workers and judging by their present work we hope to have excellent results at the next examination. Miss M' Rae has taken over the Junior work since Miss Black's removal.

5B. At the quarterly examination the following per centages were obtained by the girls:—Average in all subjects: I. Anderson 91, B. Martin 87, E. Bogle 87, R. Howard 85, M. Taylor 100 in Arithmetic, H. Priestly 100 in Grammar, Z. Bocking and C. Fairland 100 in History.

4A.

The results of the monthly examination held last week were very satisfactory. The following girls gained 100 per cent.

Dux of class Maggie Barnes, C. Talbot 2nd. Geography A. Schulze. Arithmetic O. Stephenson, A. Symond L. Arnold. Australian History M. Barnes, L. Longworth, C. Talbot, A. Schulze, A. Bond, Lena Johnston. Dictation M. Barnes, L. Longworth, S. Tasman. Grammar G. Jackson, S. Tasman, M. Barnes, (95 per cent.) Composition C. Talbot, R. Cohen. English History C. Talbot.

Third E had their first written examination on February 27th. and 28th., with the result that, Eva Hunter came first with 90 per cent, F. Ryan second with 88 per cent, and G. Allum third with 85 per cent. These are very good marks for the first attempt. The neatest papers all through were K. Ford's. Other girls doing splendid work are M. Moore and V. Waddell.

In 3C. Violet Colenutt, Florrie Smith, Marjorie Likely, Isa Barnes Celia Wulf, Lena Partridge, Jeanne Partridge, Nellie Arnold, Elsie Owler, Lena Jessop and Lyla Murray deserve special mention for effort and advancement.

Friday 7th inst. saw the arrival of the long looked for and first honour board in the Girls' department. The girls are very pleased to see their 33 names on it and are waiting for the ceremony which will place it in its permanent position on the wall of the 'good old establishment.'

NEW BOOK.

"The Crisis."

A new novelist has arisen in the United States who bids fair to achieve an equal popularity on both sides of the Atlantic. We allude to Mr. Winston Churchill, who has already gained fame and reputation by his spirited romance, "Richard Carvel," one of the great successes of last year. But if "Richard Carvel" was 'good, his new novel, "The Crisis," is even better, and it may confidently be prophesied that it will be read and re-read by those into whose hands it falls. "The Crisis" is a story of the American Civil War, a theme as inspiring to the American writer of genius as the English Civil War has proved to some of our best romancers. But, so far as we are aware, there has hitherto been no novel on that subject produced in America to equal either the "Woodstock" of Sir Walter Scott or Whyte-Melville's "Holmby House." That reproach is at length removed by Mr. Churchill, and "The Crisis" will bear comparison with either of these justly famous books. The scene is pitched in St. Louis, the capital of Missouri, one of the border States, where public opinion was sharply divided on the great questions at issue. There we are introduced to the "dramatis personæ." We have Colonel Carvel, a typical Southern gentleman, the soul of honour and chivalry, whose life-long friend has been Silas Whipple, a fiery tempered lawyer, who has devoted his energies and fortune to preaching the cause of the Union and denouncing the institution of slavery, but a man with a heart of gold, despite his rugged exterior. Into his office there enters the hero of the tale, one Stephen Brice, from Boston, who arrives at St. Louis with an open mind, but gradually becomes a warm supporter of the Northern cause. He is the hero-in-chief, but there is a second just as skilfully drawn, Clarence Colfax, a handsome but idle young aristocrat, a butterfly in time of peace, but a brave and dauntless soldier when the South call for men. And, of course, there is the heroine of the tale in Colonel Carvel's daughter, Virginia, who reminds one sometimes of Esmond's Beatrix, at other times of Diana Vernon, and yet is American of the Americans, self-willed and headstrong, but tender and devoted. To summarise the story would be to spoil it. Suffice it to say that, in spite of herself and her passionate attachment to the South, Virginia is drawn by fate to give her heart to Stephen Brice. But "The Crisis" is something more than a clever romance, skilfully compounded of episodes of love and war. Mr. Churchill works on a broader and more imposing canvas. He gives us history as well as fiction, and the English reader will obtain a more vivid and lasting

impression of the mighty principles involved in the American Civil War, of the inevitableness of the tragedy and of the imperious necessity which led to the slaughter of thousands, by reading this book than by studying a dozen histories.

(From The London Daily Telegraph.)

COAL AND ITS GENESIS.

Some scientists attribute the vast accumulation of vegetable matter, which in a consolidated form has become coal, to the action of rivers in transporting large trees from the interior to pre-historic sea coast, where, becoming water-logged, they formed a thick deposit of vegetable matter upon the sea floor.

Others who are advocates of the "growth in place" theory, maintain that coal was formed from the debris of vast forests growing in swampy grounds in districts which were in a constant state of subsidence. That new giants of the forest took root and flourished upon the remains of those which had previously fallen and decayed away, and that an occasional inundating water, carrying detritus from the neighbouring uplands, was sufficient to explain the interlarding of the coal measures with beds of grit or sandstone.

Mr. A. Strahan, of His Majesty's Geological Survey has never accepted either of these theories in toto. He has always urged that coal was formed by sedimentation of vegetable matter, and that the evidence is not conclusive that the forests gave rise to coal seams in the place of their growth. In support of this he mentions the interesting fact that while trunks of trees are found in the underlying sandstone, they are not found in coal itself. He suggests that the general sequence of events preceding the deposition of a normal coal seam was (1) the outspreading of sand or gravel with drifted plant remains, followed by shale as the currents lost velocity; (2) the gradual retreat of the water, leaving the surface open to the air; (3) the deposition of very fine sediments; (4) the rooting of a mass of vegetation in the deposit so formed, in which mass were caught wind-borne vegetable dust and floating vegetation.

Recent investigations of Mr. Strahan materially substantiate the theory. He has found an example of a pure coal shading off into pure dolomite, which, in the circumstances, can only have been formed under water. Hence it follows that the coal which lies side by side with the dolomite must have been laid down under the same conditions. Dolomite can be formed in other ways. Why should not Dame Nature, in pre-historic ages, have possessed that fickleness which is to-day characteristic of her sex, and have varied from time to time her method of storing the black material to which we now owe so much? Hundreds of geological wonders are capable of more than one explanation, yet the geologists cling tenaciously to some theory which accounts for the greater majority of the instances which come before their notice.

Those who can clear their minds of scientific bias will be glad to admit Mr. Strahan's theory as explaining the formation of some of our coal seams. To admit that all coal seams were formed in this way would be as chimerical as to refuse to adopt any part of Mr. Strahan's argument.—Engineering.

GOOD OLD JACK.

TO THE MEMORY OF A SHEEP DOG.

[From the Stock and Station Journal.]

Black-and-tan he was, with longish hair, thus betokening a strain of the collie in him, but he boasted an untold pluck and hardihood that in our hot climate the genuine collie lacks, as a rule. Even in his youthful days he had the term "old" applied to him, but more in a sense of true friendliness than anything else; also, because he was even then noted for his staid, sensible ways, with an eye and mind ever set on doing his best when needed. It was "Good Old Jack! Good Old Jack!" except in over-excited moments, when things would persist in going wrong, and then he would be treated to some classical names not to be found in most dictionaries. But you never minded it, dear old Jack. You would merely gaze up at your boss, as much as to say, "If I've done wrong, then here's for putting it right." No faint-hearted one was Jack; never easily offended; and, oh, such a grafter! When the days were scorching hot and long, and an everlasting cloud of dust hung over sheep yard and shed, it was then brave old Jack was worth his weight in gold. The other dogs from the deep shade of an overhanging wilgar would look on, half-sarcastic, and pretend not to hear our calls; but Jack would not wait to be called—he knew his place, and even friendly shade and the company of his mates could not make him shirk his duty. Hardly one dog in a hundred would work as Jack was ever ready to do on the shed grating, forcing the stubborn sheep from sweating pen to catching pens. Often the sheep would hurt old Jack's feet on the grating as they trod on him in their excitement. But he was game, was our Jack, and after a little yelp or two of pain would be doing his best as of yore. Faithfully-accomplished work—that was your motto; I might even say your religion, trusty Jack. Yes; you had a religion, a better one than many humans can boast, for you looked for no selfish reward here or hereafter.

There is little need to recapitulate the many exceptional feats that old Jack must forever be credited with. There is one other who knew him longer than I did and perhaps esteemed him more if that is possible, and in his mind and heart Jack's wondrous special efforts on memorable occasions are enshrined forever. Good old Jack! How vividly I recall you, when time and toil had aged and maimed you, and you were quietly ending your career of usefulness. There came a period when deafness and lameness were cruel handicaps to you, my brave old Jack. Ah, me! the longing, loving look from the depths of your dear brown eyes, getting dim with age—what volumes it spoke to me! How you pleaded to be petted and caressed when work was done. I can sometimes feel again the soft, silky touch of your old ears, and once again I am helping you to pull those annoying burrs and bindis from your foot. There arrived a time when we no longer asked you to work, good old Jack, but the old habits in you were ever uppermost, and you would often arrive at the scene to superintend things, if we had a mob of sheep to deal with. Naturally, you made many mistakes, and were ordered to quit, which at last you would do, somewhat unwillingly, giving place to a younger generation of dogs that, alas! never equalled you in your prime. In these days I speak of you needed our forgiveness often and it was ever readily forthcoming, because of what you had proved yourself to be in times gone by. Often in your half-blind, half-crippled state you would unintentionally cut a lamb or a ewe off the mob, when to keep wide was too much of an effort for you. When being hunted away you would look back half-reproachfully, as much as to say, "I meant well, boss, as of old but I'm done up now—I'm done up; and will you pardon me, won't you?" Dear, kind, even-tempered, never-failing, hard-working Jack, you are at peace forever some years past now. With us your memory will be kept green forever, good old Jack, a sharer of our toils and troubles in the days that were.

"Rest well, after many years' labours
In sheep yard, in shed, on the track;
In vain 'mongst the sheep dogs we're owning
We look for the likes of you, Jack."

—REBEL.

TRANSPOSING EXTRAORDINARY.

Students of grammar know how necessary it is when analysing poetical sentences or sets of verses of poetry to transpose words, phrases, and clauses, and make a literal paraphrase of the whole, so as to obtain the correct grammatical construction.

It is surprising how many different renderings of one line or verse can be made without transgressing any of the laws of grammar, pure and simple. One line in Gray's "Elegy" perhaps carries off the palm for this. It can be twisted into at least twenty-six different readings without materially altering the sense:—

"THE PLOUGHMAN HOMEWARD PLODS HIS WEARY WAY."

The ploughman plods his weary homeward way.
The ploughman weary homeward plods his way.
The ploughman weary plods his homeward way.
The ploughman homeward weary plods his way.
The ploughman weary his way homeward plods.
The ploughman plods his homeward weary way.
The weary ploughman plods his homeward way.
Weary the ploughman homeward plods his way.
Weary his homeward way the ploughman plods.
Weary the ploughman his way homeward plods.
Weary the ploughman plods his homeward way.
Weary the ploughman homeward plods his way.
His homeward way the weary ploughman plods.
His homeward way the ploughman weary plods.
His way the weary ploughman homeward plods.
His way the ploughman weary plods homeward.
His way the ploughman homeward weary plods.
His way the ploughman weary homeward plods.
His homeward weary way the ploughman plods.
His weary way the homeward ploughman plods.
His weary way the ploughman homeward plods.
Homeward his way the weary ploughman plods.
Homeward his way the ploughman weary plods.
Homeward the ploughman plods his weary way.
Homeward the weary ploughman plods his way.
Homeward his weary way the ploughman plods.

And anyone with a little patience could easily add to this number of different renderings, all correct from a simple grammatical point of view.

Where Month Comes From.

The word "month" is descended from the Saxon, and simply means the time when it "mooneth." "January is from the latin word "Janus," a two-faced god looking both ways; "February" is from the latin word "Februarius," and means the month of expiration, because the Roman festival of purification occurred in February. "March" is from Mars, the "god of war," and was the first month in the Roman calendar. The Jews began their year at the same time. "May" and "June" were named in honour of the goddesses Maia and Juno. July was "Quintilis" or fifth month after March but its name was changed to July in honour of Julius Caesar. "August" was "Sextilis," or sixth month after March. In honour of Emperor Augustus its name was changed to August. Septem, octo, novem, decem,—seventh, eighth, ninth, and month months—give names to September, October, November, and December.

THE FUSILIERS' DOG.

Go lift him gently from the wheels,
 And soothe his dying pain,
 For love and care e'en yet he feels,
 Though love and care be vain;
 'Tis sad that, after all these years,
 Our comrade and our friend,
 The brave dog of the Fusiliers,
 Should meet with such an end.

Up Alma's hill, among the vines,
 We laughed to see him trot,
 Then frisk along the silent lines,
 To chase the rolling shot:
 And, when the work waxed hard by day,
 And hard and cold by night;
 When that November morning lay
 Upon us, like a blight,

And eyes were strained, and cars were bent,
 Against the muttering north,
 Till the gray mist took shape, and sent
 Gray scores of Russians forth—
 Beneath that slaughter wild and grim,
 Nor man nor dog would run;
 He stood by us, and we by him,
 Till the great fight was done.

And right throughout the snow and frost
 He faced both shot and shell;
 Though unrelieved, he kept his post,
 And did his duty well.
 By death on death the time was stained,
 By want, disease, despair;
 Like Autumn leaves our army waned,
 But still the dog was there:

He cheered us through those hours of gloom,
 We fed him in our dearth;
 Through him the trench's living tomb,
 Rang loud with reckless mirth;
 And thus, when peace returned once more,
 After the city's fall,
 That veteran home in pride we bore,
 And loved him, one and all.

With ranks re-filled, our hearts were sick,
 And to old memories clung;
 The grim ravines we left glared thick
 With death-stones of the young.
 Hands which had patted him lay chill,
 Voices which called were dumb,
 And footsteps that he watched for still
 Never again could come.

Never again; this world of woe
 Still hurries on so fast;
 They come not back, 'tis he must go
 To join them in the past:
 There, with brave names and deeds entwined,
 Which time may not forget,
 Young Fusiliers unborn shall find
 The legend of our pet.

Whilst o'er fresh years, and other life
 Yet in God's mystic urn,
 The picture of the mighty strife
 Arises sad and stern—

Blood all in front, behind far shrines
 With women weeping low,
 For whom each lost one's fame but shines,
 As shines the moon on snow.

—Sir F. H. Doyle.

SCHOOL.

[WILLIAM COWPER.]

Be it a weakness, it deserves some praise,
 We love the play-place of our early days;
 The scene is touching, and the heart is stone
 That feels not at that sight, and feels at none.
 The wall on which we tried our graving skill,
 The very name we carved subsisting still;
 The bench on which we sat while deep employ'd,
 Though mangled, hack'd, and hew'd, not yet de-
 stroy'd;

The little ones, unbuttoned, glowing hot,
 Playing our games, and on the very spot;
 As happy as we; once, to kneel and draw
 The chalky ring, and knuckle down at law;
 To pitch the ball into the grounded hat,
 Or drive it devious with a dexterous pat;
 The pleasing spectacle at once excites
 Such recollection of our own delights,
 That, viewing it, we seem almost to obtain
 Our innocent sweet simple years again.
 This fond attachment to the well-known place,
 Whence first we started into life's long race,
 Maintains its hold with such unfailling sway,
 We feel it e'en in age, and at our latest day.

MERRY ENGLAND

They called thee Merry England in old time;
 A happy people won for thee that name
 With envy heard in many a distant clime;
 And, spite of change, for me thou keep'st the
 same
 Endearing title, a responsive chime
 To the heart's fond belief; though some there
 are
 Whose sterner judgments deem that word a
 snare
 For inattentive fancy, like the lime
 Which foolish birds are caught with—Can, I
 ask,
 This face of rural beauty be a mask
 For discontent and poverty and crime,
 These spreading towns a cloak for lawless will?
 Forbid it, Heaven!—and Merry England still
 Shall be thy rightful name in prose and rhyme!

WILLIAM WORDSWORTH



Vol. IV. No. 3. SYDNEY, MONDAY, APRIL 14th, 1902.

Price 1d

THE FORTIAN.

SWIMMING BATHS.

THE necessity for more capacious, up-to-date swimming baths in the city area was very much emphasised on the occasion of our Annual Swimming Carnival, Saturday 15th. March. Scores of parents and other supporters who evince a warm interest in all our work were unable to gain admission owing to the fact that the limit of attendance allowed by regulation was reached very early in the proceedings. We regret that so many patrons should have been disappointed in witnessing one of the most successful public functions held by the School. In pointing out the great need for better accommodation we have no wish to cast any reflection on the management of the public baths in Woolloomooloo Bay. The lessees having so short and uncertain a tenure cannot be

expected to spend much money in improving the condition of their respective baths, but the fact remains that the City of Sydney with the greatest natural facilities for practising the art of swimming is in a very backward state, as compared with less favoured localities, in the matter of proper bathing accommodation for the masses. That our State is at the present time far in advance of all others in Australasia in natation is not due to anything admirable in our baths but rather to the reason that Sydney boys take naturally to the water. We hope the day is very near when Mr. E. W. O'Sullivan, our progressive Minister of Works, will compete his scheme of city baths. At the same time we can never believe that a busy centre of shipping trade such as Woolloomooloo Bay now is will provide clean baths. We still hold the opinion that for city people no site can approach Farm Cove which has the additional advantage of being clean.

A SPIDER AND A TUNING-FORK.

A contemporary tells how a gentleman was recently watching some spiders, when it occurred to try what effect the sound of a tuning-fork would have upon them. He suspected that they would take it for the buzzing of a fly. He selected a large ugly spider, that had been feasting on flies for two months. The spider was at one edge of its web. Sounding the fork, the man touched a thread at the other side, and watched the result. Mr. Spider had the buzzing sound conveyed to him over his telephone wires, but how was he to know on which particular wire it was travelling? He ran to the centre of the web very quickly, and felt all round until he touched the thread against the other end of which the fork was sounding: then, taking another thread along, just as a man would take an extra piece of rope, he ran out to the fork and sprang upon it. Then he retreated a little way, and looked at the fork. He was puzzled. He had expected to find a buzzing fly. Then, strange to say, he got on the fork again, and danced with delight. Evidently the sound was music to him.

.....

POLITENESS.

Self-denial has a large share in making up good manners. One must sacrifice one's own comfort or convenience for the sake of others, in thousands of ways.

One must often give up a seat in a tram-car: one must wait at table, or serve others, when one is hungry; one must listen when one would rather talk, or be obliged to entertain when one would prefer to be entertained.

Good manners insist upon our leaving the largest piece of cake for some one else; and call upon us to step aside, in order that our companions may have the first, and best chance, to go forward.

A person may, however, make all of these sacrifices, and still be very impolite; his manner may be so cold, or so ungracious, that his courtesy offends more than it pleases.

A really well-bred person will learn to perform all these duties pleasantly, whether he likes to do them, or not; but, to a really polite person, these small self-denials, these "petty sacrifices," are not unpleasant to make.

Springing from a kind heart, every such sacrifice is a generous offering, which carries its reward in itself, and "blesseth him that gives, and him that takes."

Nobly unselfish was that last act of kindness which closed the life of Sir Philip Sidney—a life all gentleness and courtesy. As he was being carried wounded from the battle-field of Zutphen, he complained of thirst. A bottle of water was procured for him with difficulty from a distance. As he was about to drink, he was touched by the wistful look of a soldier who lay mortally wounded on the ground close by, and, taking the water untasted from his lips, he handed it to the poor soldier with these words:—"Take it, friend; thy necessity is greater than mine."

In society, that person is really the most polite, who puts you most entirely at your ease; who makes it natural for you to talk, or agreeable for you to listen; and, who sends you away, not only delighted with him, but pleased with yourself.

If he has made sacrifices, you were not conscious of them. You admire him; but he has not dazzled you. You respect him; but he has not overawed you. He has been very attentive; but not in a way to embarrass you.

But true politeness grows out of a kind desire to make those around us comfortable and happy, and may be found, like the diamond, "in the rough."

Not only must we desire the comfort and happiness of others, but we must have a quick eye to detect their discomforts, and a willingness to relieve them.

There was this ready courtesy in Dr. Franklin; and upon no occasion was it shown with more tact, than in the amusing anecdote which he related to Thomas Jefferson, when that gentleman was suffering under the criticisms and amendments, offered during the violent debate preceding the adoption of the Declaration of Independence.

Dr. Franklin, sitting near Mr. Jefferson, and seeing him agonized under the strictures, comforted him with this anecdote.—

"I have made it a rule to avoid drawing up papers to be reviewed by a public body. I took my lesson from this incident:—When I was a journeyman printer, one of my companions, an apprentice hatter, having served out his time, was about to open a shop for himself.

"His first concern was to have a handsome sign-board, with a proper inscription. He composed it in these words,—'John Thompson, hatter, makes and sells hats for ready money.' A figure of a hat was subjoined. But he thought he would submit the inscription to his friends for amendments.

"The first to whom he showed it thought the word 'hatter' not necessary, because it was followed by the words 'makes hats': it was struck out. The next observed that the word 'makes' might be omitted, because his customers wouldn't care who made the hats, if they were good: he struck 'makes' out.

"A third said he thought the words 'for ready money' were useless, as it was not the custom of the place to sell on credit: they were parted with, and the sign now read,—'John Thompson sells hats.'

"'Sells hats!' cried his next friend. 'Why, nobody expects you to give them away!' 'Sells' was struck out, and 'hats' also, because there was a hat painted on the board; so, the sign was reduced finally to John Thompson, with the figure of a hat."

In this kind way, Dr. Franklin drew Mr. Jefferson's attention from the annoying debate.

Even better than an eye quick to detect discomforts, is a thoughtful mind, alert and able to foresee what might embarrass another, and having the ready tact to avert the unpleasant occurrence.

A kind heart, though uncultured, is quick to see and to feel what may be agreeable or disagreeable to another; but it requires the culture of the heart to dictate just what to do or say at the right time, and tact to know just how to do or say it.

Natural tact and delicacy were shown by the little peasant girl in her charming answer to the question put to her by King Frederick of Prussia. The King, paying a visit to a village school, held up an orange, and said, "To what kingdom does this belong, children?"

"To the vegetable kingdom," replied a bright little girl. "And this?" continued the King, holding up a piece of gold money. "To the mineral kingdom," she answered. "And to what kingdom, then, do I belong?" the King asked, expecting her to say, "To the animal kingdom."

The little girl, looking up into his kind face, sweetly replied, "To the kingdom of Heaven, Sir."

That, too, was a very pretty reply which was made by the little girl who opened the door to let General Washington pass out. In answer to his "Thank you, my dear!" she said "I wish, sir, it was to let you in."

(From The Victorian School Paper.)

PRESENTATION TO Mr. J. W. TURNER

When it became known that Mr. Turner had been appointed to proceed to Europe and America to act as a Commissioner to investigate and report upon the systems of education in operation in those countries, it was felt, both by members of the staff and pupils, that Mr. Turner could not be allowed to sever his connection with the school even temporarily without some acknowledgment being made of the esteem and honour in which he was held and of the great work which he had done during his occupancy of the position of Head Master.

A similar movement was started by the past pupils of the school, and it was decided to combine the two and endeavour to give Mr. Turner a send-off which would be worthy of the school and of the occasion which demanded it. The outcome was seen in the large and enthusiastic gathering of past and present pupils and members of the staff who assembled in the girls' play ground on the afternoon of Friday 11th inst.

The minister for Public Instruction, (Hon. J. Perry) and Mrs. Perry, Mrs. Turner, Mrs. Stewart, Mrs. J. Meares, Mr. G. H. Knibbs (Mr. Turner's colleague) were among those present; and the past school was represented by Messrs. W. C. Shipway, (who occupied the chair) Q. L. Deloitte, A. Martin, F. C. Boulton, F. Kellerman, W. Bethel, D. E. Fraser, H. Duff and Dr. Bohrsmann and many others.

A letter was read from F. Bridges Esq., Chief Inspector, expressing his regret that medical advice prevented his attendance, and stating that Mr. Turner would do every justice to the important mission entrusted to him.

The chairman said that the Government had decided to send a Commission to Europe and America to enquire into the systems of primary, secondary and technical education with a view of engrafting upon our own system something that would benefit the youth of this young nation. This decision could be tarnished by appointing the wrong men, but on this occasion the Government had appointed two gentlemen who had every qualification to carry out their important duties. The past and present pupils and staffs of the Model School had met this day to do honour to one who had been a staunch adherent of the old school, and was the beloved master of the present one.

Mr. Q. L. Deloitte said that nearly 50 years ago he went to Fort-street School, and when he visited it again that day although many of the old landmarks had disappeared yet it looked as if it were only a few days since he played on its grounds. When he remembered what a small school it was nearly 50 years ago, as compared with what it is now, it afforded a striking illustration of the great progress made by the City of Sydney. The school had kept pace with its progress owing to the labour of several head masters. They had been good masters to many New South Wales citizens whose careers were a credit to the establishment which had laid the foundation of their moral and intellectual life.

He then presented Mr. Turner with a handsomely illuminated and framed address—the work of Mr. Max Meyer an old Fort Street boy—couched in the following terms:—

"To John W. Turner, Esq., Principal of Fort Street Training College, and Headmaster of Fort Street Model Public School:—

"Dear Sir,—The pupils and the teaching staff, past and present, of the Fort Street Model Public School, having

heard with great satisfaction of your appointment by the Government of New South Wales as one of the Commissioners to investigate the primary, secondary, and technical systems of education of Europe and America, take this opportunity of expressing their high appreciation of your work as principal of the Training College and headmaster of the Model Public School.

"During the 13 years of your occupancy of the headmastership of the old school you have practically transformed its character so that its pupils now possess the unique advantage of graduating from the infants' school to the University, and qualifying themselves for any public examination. During this period, too, the school has attained the high-water mark of its prosperity and usefulness. In all the various fields of its activities, moral, physical, and intellectual, it has taken first rank amongst the primary and secondary schools of the Commonwealth.

"The wide popularity and the reputation for efficiency and success which the school enjoys to-day and which is testified to by an enormous daily attendance of about 2000, are due to that enthusiastic devotion to duty, that progressiveness, and that rare power of administration which you have ever exhibited during the period of your control.

"The past teachers and scholars and the present teachers and scholars all join in this tribute to work well and thoroughly wrought, and they wish to add that the manner in which you have discharged various public duties which have devolved upon you, has increased for you their great esteem and regard.

"They cannot therefore allow you to depart on your important mission without some manifestation of their deep gratitude and sincere admiration.

"In congratulating you on your distinguished appointment they request your acceptance of the accompanying token of their high esteem.

"Wishing you a life of continuous good service in the cause of education to which you are so deeply devoted.

Signed on behalf of the

Past School,
W. C. SHIPWAY
Q. L. DELOITTE
ALEX. MARTIN
F. C. BOULTON
C. A. MACINTOSH
G. KILLMINSTER
O. BOHRSMANN
W. BETHEL

Signed on behalf of the

Present School,
W. WILLIAMS
S. LASKER
ADA PARTRIDGE
E. L. BANKS
A. P. DAVIS
EMILY GRAHAM
W. MAXWELL
H. O'REILLY"

When this ceremony was over the chairman called upon Mrs. Turner to accept a purse of sovereigns requesting that she would purchase for Mr. Turner a souvenir suitable for the occasion. At the same time Jinnie Given presented a bouquet of flowers to Mrs. Turner and little Vera Papps pinned a buttonhole in Mr. Turner's coat.

Addresses were then delivered by "Old boys" of the school representing decades from 1850 to 1890. The first of these was Mr. Martin who attended the school between 1850 and 1860. Then came Mr. Duff 1860 to 1870, Dr. Bohrsmann 1870 to 1880, Mr. S. Lasker B.A. 1880 to 1890, and Mr. Armitage B.A. 1890 to 1900. The present century was represented by H. Foxall (captain 1900), A. P. Davis (present captain), Miss H. O'Reilly (captain girls' school), and Mr. W. Williams B.A.

The Minister for Education said it was with pleasure he was present at the ceremony, to indicate his appreciation of the ability with which Mr. Turner had conducted Fort Street School. He expressed his firm conviction that as one well acquainted with primary education, Mr. Turner would be able to gather important information in that branch of the educational inquiry. The desire of the government was to bring the educational status of New South Wales up to the highest standard. He had every confidence that the labours of the Commis-

sioners would be attended with very beneficial results.

Mr. Turner, on rising to respond, was accorded a most enthusiastic reception. He thanked the old boys and old girls too (if there were such) as well as the young boys and girls of Fort Street for their warm hearty cheers. In these thanks he included the teaching staff than whom a more loyal and devoted band of men and women he had never been associated with in all his life. He thanked them for their kindly worded address with its beautiful and artistic embellishments, and had been asked by Mrs. Turner to say how much she appreciated the kindly feelings that prompted the gift to her. He had completed nearly forty years of service as a school teacher in New South Wales, twenty of them in charge of primary schools in Sydney and thirteen of these he had spent at the Fort-street Model Public School. Knowing the splendid work of the headmasters who had preceded him he had endeavoured to do his best to uphold the reputation of the school, and assisted by a devoted and loyal band of teachers he felt that he had succeeded. It would not be fair if he did not say that a great deal of his success was due to the sympathy and co-operation of the old Fort-street boys as far back as 40 years. The name of one man he would never forget, and that was Mr F. Bridges, Chief Inspector of Schools. He considered it an honour to see around him so many old Fort St. boys who had risen to prominent and worthy positions in the professional and commercial life of Sydney, and their presence ought to be an incentive to the present scholars to keep up the reputation of the school. He had great confidence in the teachers who would be in charge during his absence. In conclusion, he urged the pupils to be loyal to their teachers, regular in their attendance, earnest in their work, and to carry out their instructions to the letter.

SWIMMING.

FORT-STREET MODEL SCHOOL BOYS' CARNIVAL.

[From The Daily Telegraph.]

On the occasion of their 12th annual carnival last Saturday afternoon Fort-street Model Public School Swimming Club had the unique experience of having attracted a much bigger crowd of onlookers than had ever previously been seen inside a Sydney swimming enclosure. Every inch of sitting and standing room in Hollings' Domain Baths was occupied, and large numbers who failed to put in an appearance early were turned away at the gates disappointed. Among the most interested spectators was Mr. Perry (Minister for Education). The management pleased everybody, swimmers and spectators alike. It was quite the most enjoyable gathering of its kind witnessed in Sydney for a very long time. To Mr. D. A. Pike, the hon. secretary, belongs the lion's share of credit for the flattering state of affairs, heably aided by the hon. treasurer (Mr. J. Green) worked early and late, and always in a well-directed manner.

The principal event of the programme was the 500 yds. Flying Squadron (or Club) Championship of the Colony, which fell to East Sydney by 10 yds. The successful combination covered the various "hundreds" as follows:—C. Healey, 1 min. 3 4-5sec.; Lane 1 min. 1 3-5sec.; Baker, 1 min. 7 1-5sec.; Meade, 1 min. 6 2-5sec.; Cleary, 1 min. 7 3-5sec. The full time was 5 min. 26 2-5sec.; showing the remarkable average of just over 1 min. 5 1-5sec. for each man. The prior Australasian record, set up by Balmain, was 5 min. 42sec. As no like event is contested in England or any other country, a comparison of East Sydney Club's fine figures with those of swimmers elsewhere is impossible, but it is safe to assume that it will be many a day before that time is beaten, as rarely indeed will five swimmers from one club be found capable of averaging nearly so well. The Otters were second and during their swim Dick Cavill is said to have been privately timed to do 1 min. 0 1-5 sec.

The final of the Water Polo Championship, wherein East Sydney and Mort's Dock Club teams faced each other, was hotly contested from beginning to end, but Mort's Dock proved just a little too strong, and won by two goals to one.

Mr. K. Chambers was responsible for a clever exhibition of fancy diving and swimming, and Messrs. Griffiths, Chambers, Cunee, Christian, Shipway and O'Dea took part in an amusing sketch. Not the least interesting item was an excellent display of the Life Saving Society's methods of rescue, release, resuscitation by a squad of Fort-street School boys, in charge of Mr. Pike. A water melee concluded the programme. Results:—

33 Yards Handicap, for boys under 12.—First heat: A. Brett, 1; H. Congden, 2. Time 27sec. Second heat: H. Day, 1; W. Martin, 2. Time 27sec. Third heat: C. Nightingale, 1; A. Buteau, 2. Time 25sec. Final: Day, 1; Martin, 2. Time, 26 3-5sec.

33 Yards Handicap, boys over 12.—First heat: W. O'Sullivan, 1; H. Laldem, 2. Time, 31 3-5sec. Second heat: S. Grange, 1; J. Doultrey, 2. Time, 28 4-5sec. Final: S. Grange, 1; G. Boshell, 2. Time, 1 min 2 2-5sec.

66 Yards Handicap, boys 13.—R. Brown, 12sec., 1; C. Robertson, 3sec., 2; C. Fay, scratch, 3.

100 Yards Old Boys' Handicap.—First heat: D. Jenkin, 1; J. Mackay 2. Time, 1 min. 10 4-5sec. Second heat: C. Harold I, L. Chounding 2. Time, 1 min. 15 3-5sec. Third heat: N. Whitehorn 1, H. McDonnell 2. Time, 1 min. 25sec. Final: Chounding 1, Jenkins 2.

100 Yds. Championship of School.—L. Murray 1 C. Smith 2. Time 1 min. 15 1-5sec. Won by a yard.

Department of Public Instruction Officials' Handicap, 66 yds.—Salmon, 1; Forbes, 2; Bethel, 3. Time, 57 4-5sec.

100 Yards Handicap, boys over 14.—S. Law, 1; C. Morrell, 2; A. Marshall, 3. Time, 1 min. 23sec.

500 Yards Flying Squadron Championship of New South Wales (previous holders, East Sydney Swimming Club.—East Sydney S. C., 1; Otter S. C., 2. Time, 5 min. 26 2-5sec.

66 Yards Sobraon Boys' Handicap.—Horrigan, 1; Kearan, 2; McMahon, 3. Time, 50sec.

Novelty Race.—J. Mill 1; H. Rivett, 2.

66 Yds. Students' Training College Handicap.—H. Johnson, 10sec., 1; T. Redmond, 6sec., 2. Time, 57 1-5sec. Water Polo Championship of N.w South Wales (previous holders, Balmain S.C.).—Mort's Dock defeated East Sydney by 2 goals to 1. Grant and Davidson threw goals for the winners, and C. Healy for the losers.

GIRLS' CARNIVAL.

The Girls' Carnival was held at the Lavender Bay Baths on Monday afternoon 24th ultimo. It proved to be a great success. Over 200 girls went over, in charge of their teachers, and the girls who had entered for the various events provided a pleasant and interesting afternoon's amusement for the spectators. The weather was all that could be desired, and altogether the Club may feel proud of their 1902 Carnival.

Results:

20 yds. (a) Handicap.—A. Bond 1, S. Ball 2, A. Cochrane 3.
20 yds. (b) Handicap.—E. Cox 1, Coral Keppie 2, May Nelson 3.
Championship of the School—(2 entries.) Eileen Liske.
25 yds. (a) Handicap—Eva Cunee 1, E. Steele 2, S. Ball 3.
40 yds. Handicap—Ida Mc Murtrie 1, E. Lister 2, N. Mew 3.
A very close and exciting finish.
25 yds. (b) Handicap—Effie McMurtrie 1; E. Cox 2, H. Priestly 3.
10 yds. (a) Handicap for beginners—E. Priestly 1, K. Dow 2, J. Hart 3.
10 yds. (b) Handicap—C. Hassall 1, M. Hassall 2, G. Smith 3.
30 yds. Handicap—Doris Thompson 1, N. Robertson 2, Iris Everitt 2, N. Mew 3.

5yds. race for little girls—R. Thompson 1, M. Barker 2, E. Cox.

Wading (a) race for non-swimmers—A. Peters 1, M. Kean 2, M. Kavanagh 3.

15yds. (a) Handicap—B. Andreeon 1, Ruby Robinson and Bertha Nelson 2.

15yds. (b) Handicap—May Nelson 1, Louie Johnson 2, E. Hunter 3.

Diving Competition—Ida McMurtrie 1, E. Lister 2, L. Puckeridge 3. The competition was very keen and the girls for second and third places deserve special mention. Race for swimming on back.—Gladys McCully 1, Sarah Gallagher 2. An amusing race.

Wading (b) race—E. Nelson 1, B. Drake 2, N. Walker 3.

40 yards race—(non members) N. Murray 1, G. Walker 2, D. Seed 3. A very close finish.

Relay race—4 teams 4 a-side—D. Thompson, S. Ball, E. Steele, E. Cuneo. 1. I. Everitt, G. McCully, N. Mew, E. Cuneo. 2.

Miss Partridge and Miss McRae acted as judges, Miss Brewster, starter, Misses Smith, Hetherington marshalls, and Miss Kilminster, time keeper and check starter. Next season we expect to have a much bigger club, and more entries for the Carnival. This year there were 147 members, and great progress has been made by many of the beginners. Miss Kilminster and Miss Hetherington give in good reports of the girls' conduct to from and at the baths. The weather has been favourable right through the season for swimming, not one day being missed.

PRESENTATION OF SWIMMING PRIZES.

The swimming season was brought to a close on Thursday afternoon, 10th inst., when the members of the club, both girls and boys, held a meeting in the Main Room of the Boys' School to present the prizes which had been won at the recent carnivals. Mr. Turner was in the chair, it being the last occasion upon which he could preside at such a gathering for some time. He gave the members some good advice upon swimming matters, and expressed the intention of finding out what was done in London while he was there in all matters pertaining to physical education. Mr. Pike read the Annual Report. It showed the largest roll since the Club has been in existence. The Club in other respects had progressed satisfactorily during the year. Mr. Green read the Treasurer's report and Balance Sheet which shows the satisfactory credit balance of £5. Mr. Turner proposed and Mr. Williams seconded and it was unanimously carried that the reports should be adopted. Mr.

Turner proposed a vote of thanks to Misses Kilminster and Hetherington and Messrs Pike and Green for their efforts during the year. Mr. Lasker proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Turner. This was carried by acclamation.

FOOTBALL.

A well attended meeting was held in the Main Room on Friday 18 inst. for the purpose of reforming the football club. Messrs Roberts, Treas. and Humphreys, Sec. read their reports of the previous season's work which were adopted and carried unanimously. Mr. Roberts was appointed Secretary vice Mr. Humphreys resigned, P. Portus, Assistant Secretary. The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the retiring secretary and treasurer. Mr. Williams presided.

Word has been received from Mr. Turner from Melbourne and Adelaide. He tells us he is quite well and sends best wishes to the School.

GIRLS' NEWS

Some of our girls have been distinguishing themselves out of school hours. At the Ladies' Swimming Carnival held at the Redfern Baths on Tuesday evening 25th ult. there were numerous entries for the 54yds handicap races. In the race for Public School girls the 3 places were filled by Fort Street swimmers. This was a most exciting race, E. Murray and Eileen Lister, who both started at scratch, giving Doris Seed 22sec. [limit] made a determined fight for first place, but the handicap proved too much. The result was: Doris Seed 1, Estelle Murray 2, Nellie Murray 14sec. Nellie Mew 17sec. 3. Doris Seed also won the race for girls 14 years and under [18sec.] and Estelle Murray, scratch, got third place. Other competitors from the school were Mina Whyte, Doris Thompson and May McGoogan.

REMOVALS.

Miss McHardy has been removed to the Goulbourn Public School. Before leaving, her class (3E) presented her with a writing desk nicely fitted. The teachers gave Miss McHardy a purse as a memento of their association with her at Fort St.

Miss Muir, till lately the first Assistant in the Girls' Dept., has severed her connection with the service. On Wednesday, 26th March, a pleasing ceremony took place in the Main Room, when all the teachers in the Girls' Department met to wish Miss Muir good luck, and to present her with a very handsome silver and glass salad bowl, which served a double purpose—a wedding gift and a token of esteem from all concerned. On the same occasion 5E and 5F girls presented Miss Muir with a very handsome silver afternoon tea-kettle on a spirit stand.

AUSTRALIAN LETTER.

The following is an extract from the Church Bells and Illustrated Church News, London:—

We are in the middle of an active campaign to obtain a reform of the Queensland State Education Act, an Act which, with a cruelly logical interpretation of the word 'secular,' has excluded for thirty years all religious instruction from the school curriculum, and has led to mangling the 'Wreck of the Hesperus' by the excision of that beautiful reference to 'Him Who stilled the wave on the Lake of Galilee.' In the New South Wales Public Instruction Act the word 'secular' was defined to include 'general religious teaching as distinguished from dogmatic or polemical theology,' a practical example of the wisdom of not being too logical where life is concerned. The Irish Lesson-book is used, and the clergy in New South Wales find that the Bible is not an unknown book to Confirmation candidates, as, alas! it is too frequently found in Queensland. Again, in our Mother-Colony the clergy have the right of going into the schools during school-hours for the purpose of teaching their own children. Here we can, if we like, attempt the hopeless task of getting the children together out of school-hours, so adding to a working day already too long for children living in a sub-tropical climate. About a year ago a large deputation of the Bible in State Schools League waited upon the Queensland Premier (the Hon. R. Philp), asking for a reform of our Act on the lines of the Act of New South Wales. Mr. Philp said that, if it could be shown that the majority of the parents of scholars attending the State schools were in favour of the reform, he thought that it should be granted.

I strongly commend the consideration of New South Wales Public Instruction Act to educationists at home. The Official Report, which I enclose for the information of the Editor, shows that there are no sectarian difficulties between the clergy of the various denominations who take advantage of the opportunity of teaching the children in school. Each denomination has the right of entry; but, as a matter of fact, the Anglicans are frequently the only ones who avail themselves of the privilege. And as for the general instruction by the teachers, the report is just as favourable. About two years ago arrangements were made for me to see general religious instruction given in all the classes of one of the largest schools in Sydney, the Fort Street School. I was favourably impressed by the manner in which the various teachers gave lessons taken from various parts of both Old and New Testament. I was deeply moved by the lesson given by the Head Master. It was given to about 150 boys of apparently fifteen and sixteen years of age, and was upon part of the Sermon on the Mount. When I saw the forest of arms go up when questions were asked upon our

Lord's sublimest teaching, my thoughts went back to poor Queensland, where the Bible is becoming more and more a closed book, especially to the young men. I know quite well what is said about a colourless religion and its connection with undogmatic instruction. Those who say it in England would speak differently if they had to preach to people who practically do not know the Bible at all, or to prepare for confirmation those who frequently do not know the simplest details of the Saviour's life. We have Sunday schools, but in England they can do little, and here they can do less, because the distances are larger, and there are fewer clergy. The future effect of the general teaching in New South Wales must be very great. It is something in the present for 150 young men to know the Sermon on the Mount.

Brisbane.

G. H. FRODSHAM.

DEPARTURE.

Yet another departure—that of Mr. Hatfield who had been connected with the old school for over five years. Fourth and fifth class boys will feel the loss of a good teacher and a boy's friend. Mr. Hatfield has gone to well earned promotion to Cook's Hill Superior Public School. On the eve of his departure Mr. Hatfield was accorded a send off by the members of the boys' staff and presented with a suitable token of their esteem for him. Mr. Williams presided and referred in an eloquent address to Mr. Hatfield's good work. Messrs Lasker and Schrader also spoke in praise of Mr. Hatfield's worth as a teacher and a man. Mr. Hatfield replied very feelingly and suitably.

We wish Mr. Hatfield every success in a long-wished life.

JOTTINGS FROM MAORILAND.

"As the child so the man" is a very debatable maxim; but applied to the recent Australian Federation is very true.

Tasmania geologically was formerly a part of Australia, New Zealand was certainly not. Tasmania forms part of the Commonwealth, Maoriland does not and probably never will. Apart from such controversial matters Maoriland has much to recommend it both as a home-land and as a tourist resort. The writer after visiting all the large towns of the North Island was much impressed with the general cleanliness, neatness of dwellings, love of flowers, outward appearance of prosperity and absence of dogs.

The equability of the climate and the plentitude of rivers and small streams make agricultural and pastoral pursuits possible despite the marked sterility of the soil in most districts.

Hawke's Bay is the finest district for sheep and cattle, while Taranaki is well known for extensive dairying industries.

To visitors from the "otherside" the North Island presents many novelties. Wellington introduces its "winds" and dust. It is said that spectacles are often broken by flying pebbles (cum grano salis); that short trousers are fashionable to counteract windy effects and that Wellingtonians invariably clutch the hat with both hands on nearing a street corner elsewhere.

New Norfolk shows Mount Egmont in the distance snow-clad—solitary—misty—grand.

Auckland has a "harbour" larger but not as beautiful as "our own." Russel is the home of the giant Kauri and the unfortunate gum digger.

Napier and Gisborne are prosperous and the centres of the Maori-King districts.

But the main interest centres round Rotorna and Taupo the centres of respective thermal districts: where if judging from names the wondering visitor would assign the entire region to Pluto.

Here are the Tartarean Gates, the St. Lucian Springs, the Stygian Pools, the Acheronian punch bowl; the Satanic stream and finally the Devil's reception house.

On another hand a fine collection of Maori names are encountered (if translated they would make a fair rendering of the sentiment above). The village is Whakarewarewa, the stream Puarenga and the chief geysers Pohutu, Waikorohihi and Rotopikopiko.

This village lying some two miles out of Rotorna is the site of a large Maori Pa; for the Maori is nothing if not cleanly and lazy and hence delights to form his habitat among steaming pools which can be used for bathing when tempered and cooking when left natural.

It would be a novel sight for our city children to see the Maori hauling up the Xmas pudding from a natural steam vent—well cooked and edible. Visited at dusk the Pa presents a strange appearance—the steam rising from every spot—dark heads above the water line—voices from the deep—a continuous bell ringing from the "Carved House" to announce the Haka and Poie dances for the edification of the visitors and the enriching of the general coffers. These are the national dances modified—well executed—strange—showing muscular power and ear for music—time excellent—effect good. Then again Rotorna is the resort of the weak, weary and infirm to obtain the much talked of healing and curative effects of the mineral baths at the Sanatorium.

These baths are from natural springs, but are regulated to temperature and conservation. There is a story connected with each and miracles with some. Here is the Blue Bath; it is for pleasure alone, here the Priest, here the Postmaster, this the Duchess and girls, this is Madame Rachael's—a course of

baths in it will ensure a perfect complexion—the first gives a beautiful red color to the skin, the second takes the superfluous skin off and if the remainder are survived success is assured. The Sanatorium grounds are ample, well laid out, with trees, walks, and recreation grounds.

This is the district of great geysers. The largest is Waimunga which throws up a column of mud, stones and water in diameter 100 feet and in height sometimes 1,200 feet. It is not beautiful, as are some of the smaller such as Pohutu and the Feather which throw up columns of clear water in fantastic forms, but only to some 50 to 200 feet. These geysers are beginning to be very irregular and so on great occasions soaping is resorted to—I cannot better describe the effect than by saying that it acts as an effective and violent emetic. Some of the boiling mud pools are loathsome but look deadly.

Hot springs and boiling pools are everywhere in proximity to the cold streams; the little Maoris after dexterously performing for stray pennies in the icy water console themselves in the warm pools at hand.

The cold lakes of the North Island are situated here in the form of a semicircle with a radius of about 30 miles; they are in order Rotorna, Rotomiti, Rotoma, Okataina, Tarawera, and Rotomahana. Farther south lies Taupo, the largest, in solitary grandeur.

These lakes are all fresh—the larger shallow, the smaller unfathomable and sometimes of very beautiful colors from reflection or the color of the bottom.

Rotorua measures 8 miles across, is circular, and shallow with the small island of Mokoia in the centre. It is fed by a wonderful spring Hamurana, which yields 5,000,000 gallons per diem.

The other lakes are less regular but have more picturesque scenery on the rivages.

Taupo is almost circular and measures 35 miles across. In fine there is so much to describe that time and space will not permit; but it is reluctantly that I hold over the description of the buried village of Wairoa, the Maori Xmas and the many interesting and far fetched Maori legends.

—O—

"BAITED" BREATH.

Frank Stockton, the novelist, tells the following amusing story. A gentleman asked a question of a boy who was fishing. The boy mumbled an indistinct response.

"Why don't you speak plainly?" said the gentlemen. "What have you in your mouth?" "Wums, wums for bait" answered the boy. "That was the first instance I ever knew," remarked Mr. Stockton, in telling the story, "of anyone really speaking with baited breath."— "The Golden Penny."

ADMIRALS ALL

Effingham, Grenville, Raleigh, Drake,
 Here's to the bold and free!
 Benbow, Collinwood, Byron, Blake,
 Here to kings of the sea!
 Admirals all, for England's sake,
 Honour be yours and fame!
 And honour, as long as waves shall break,
 To Nelson's peerless name!
 Admirals all, for England's sake,
 Honour be yours and fame!
 And honour, as long as waves shall break,
 To Nelson's peerless name!

Essex was fretting in Cadiz Bay
 With the galleons fair in sight;
 Howard at last must give him his way,
 And the word was passed to fight.
 Never was schoolboy gayer than he;
 Since holidays first began;
 He tossed his bonnet to wind and sea,
 And under the guns he ran.

Drake nor devil nor Spaniard feared,
 There cities he put to the sack;
 He singed his Catholic Majesty's beard,
 And harried his ships to wrack.
 He was playing at Plymouth a rubber of bowls
 When the great Armada came:
 But he said, "They must wait their turn, good souls,
 And he stooped, and finished the game.

Fifteen sail were the Dutchmen bold,
 Duncan he had but two:
 But he anchored them fast where the Texel shoaled,
 And his colours aloft he flew.
 "I've taken the depth to a fathom," he cried,
 "And I'll sink with a right good will,
 For I know when we're all of us under the tide,
 My flag will be fluttering still."

Splinters were flying above, below,
 When Nelson sailed the Scound:
 "Mark you, I wouldn't be elsewhere now,"
 Said he, "for a thousand pound!"
 The Admiral's signal bade him fly,
 But he wickedly wagged his head;
 He clapped the glass to his sightless eye,
 And "I'm hanged if I see it," he said.

Admirals all, they said their say,
 (The echoes are ringing still);
 Admirals all, they went their way
 To the haven under the hill.
 But they left us a kingdom none can take,
 The realm of the circling sea,
 To be ruled by the rightful sons of Blake
 And the Rodneys yet to be.

Admirals all for England's sake,
 Honour be yours and fame!
 And honour, as long as waves shall break,
 To Nelson's peerless name!

HENRY NEWBOLT.
 (by permission).

NAPOLEON'S FAREWELL

(From The French)

Farewell to the land where the gloom of my glory
 Arose and o'ershadowed the earth with her name—
 She abandons me now—but the page of her story,
 The brightest or blackest, is filled with my fame!
 I have warred with a world who vanquished me
 only

When the meteor of conquest allured me too far,
 I have coped with the nations which dread me thus
 lonely.

The last single captive to millions in war,
 Farewell to thee, France! when thy diadem crown'd
 me,

I made thee the gem and the wonder of earth;
 But thy weakness decrees I should leave as I found
 thee

Decayed in thy glory, and sunk in thy worth.
 Oh! for the veteran hearts that were wasted,
 In strife with the storm, when their battles were
 won

Then the Eagle, whose gaze in that moment was
 blasted,

Had still soared with eyes fixed on victory's sun!

Farewell to thee, France! But when Liberty
 rallies,

Once more in thy regions, remember me then—
 The violet still grows in the depth of thy valleys;
 Though withered, thy tear will unfold it again.
 Yet, yet, I may baffle the hosts that surround us,
 And yet may thy heart leap awake to my voice;
 There are links which must break in the chain that
 has bound us,

Then turn thee and call on the Chief of thy choice!

Lord Byron.

NEGRO HOWLERS.

The writer of the Contributors' Club in the "North American Magazine" gives some examination "howlers" perpetrated by negroes:—

What was the religion of the Ancient Britons?—A strange and terrible one; that of the Dudes.

Where is the earth's climate the hottest?—Next the Creator.

What can you tell of Ben Jonson?—He survived Shakespeare in some respects.

What causes perspiration?—The culinary glands.
 What is the spinal column?—Bones running all over the body, and very dangerous.

What is the function of the gastric juice?—To digest the stomach.

For what is John Milton famous?—keeping bad angels out of heaven.

Name some of the early Christian Fathers?—Jerome, Oxygen, and Ambrosia.

What is the form of water drops?—Generally spherical, for reasons only known to the gracious Providence, who makes them.

Printed and published at the MODEL PUBLIC SCHOOL,
 Fort Street, Sydney, in the State of New South Wales.



Vol. IV. No. 4. SYDNEY, MONDAY, MAY 19th, 1902.

Price 1d

THE FORTIAN.

EDITORIAL.
A SCHOOL PAPER.

A visit was paid to the School recently by Mr. R. Paterson, Head Master of the John Street Higher Grade Public School Glasgow. He is, or should be an old friend to most of us as he was the schoolmaster of our Inspector, Mr Dawson. He expressed himself highly delighted with the school, and with everything which he saw and especially with our school paper. He had had the idea of having a school paper printed and published at his own school for some time, and said that his having seen what was done at the Model Public School Fort-street Sydney would bear fruit in his own school when he returned to Scotland. He took away with him various numbers of the "Fortian" to show to the members of his staff and the pupils of his school. The fact that a man of Mr. Paterson's high position and long experience in school-life was so interested in the matter should not only make us feel proud but should impress us with the value of a school paper. That should be the lesson we should learn from his visit.

On this point we do not think that most of us are sufficiently impressed. In a large school such as ours the school paper is really the only medium which pupils in one part of the school have of knowing what is being done in another part. It should abound in school items written for the most part by pupils themselves. Boys and girls who read good books or interesting newspaper items which they know would interest others of their own class or of their own age should make extracts of these for publication in its columns. The doings of pupils who have left the school should there be chronicled to keep us in touch with the past, and to foster the feeling (without which no school can be truly great) that our school not only is but always has been one of the great educational establishments in the State. Space prevents us enlarging upon this subject, but the greatest amount of good can only be obtained not only by every pupil becoming a subscriber, but by a great number becoming contributors to its columns.

The Editor's Box stands in the vestibule and is open for contributions of all sorts—original matter, newspaper clippings, extracts from books, and items of interest generally concerning pupils both past and present. We hope that in the future the box every month will be filled with matter so that our duty will merely consist in choosing the most suitable for publication.

ODE TO WINTER.

Winter! What joy its recollection brings to me!
 With what ecstasy its shadows I recall,
 As oft, basking in God's mighty sun,
 Dreaming of the winter past the summer come,
 I think of all.

I remember how those bygone days were spent,
 How, revelling in the keenness of the air,
 And childlike, tramping miles of inland bush,
 I thought sweet nothings, and ever on would push
 Without a care.

Out of the broiling sun of summer days,
 But in Australia's cooler wintry beams,
 Enjoying the fragrance of the leaves of gum,
 The ferns, and all things which for us have won
 Fame seldom seen.

Winter! When I think of thee of yore
 I welcome thee, with all my heart once more.

F. CONWAY.

The Old 'Rocks.'

At the request of Mr. E. W. O'Sullivan, Minister for Public Works, Mr. Roderic Quinn prepared a sketch of the history of the above locality. It has been issued from the Government Printing Office, and contains much interesting matter. We reproduce some of its contents:—

It is not recorded on what point of the fore-shore of Sydney Cove the British flag was earliest unfurled. The name of the first white man to leap ashore and the place of his landing are similarly unascertainable. This is the way of history. Memorable events mostly have doubtful beginnings, because the actors in them are sometimes without prevision as to their future importance. We only know that, on the evening of the 26th January, Arthur Phillip, and those who had come with him in the vanguard of the "First Fleet," assembled at the head of Sydney Cove, where a flagstaff had been erected; and there, with the Union Jack above them, several toasts were honoured, the marines volleying at the conclusion of the ceremony. Exactly where that flagstaff stood is, and may always remain, a matter for conjecture. The obelisk in Macquarie-place is sometimes indicated as its site, and tradition, with various tongues, speaks of it, at one time, as having been situated at Point Maskelyne, and, at another at a spot near the present Observatory. Also, some with long memories say (they heard it said by some who came in the "First Fleet") that the first white man landed on a little sandy beach close to the foot of Argyle Street; but memory and tradition alike lack historical confirmation.

Notwithstanding an absence of accurate evidence as to whether or not the flag was first unfurled within the limits of the area afterwards known as the "Rocks," there remains good and sufficient warrant for bestowing on that district the title of the cradle of Australian settlement. It was on Point Maskelyne, now Dawes Point, that the formal proclama-

tion of the Colony took place. There, on the 7th February, 1788, Arthur Phillip called upon Captain Collins to read the various papers establishing the colony. Marines and convicts stood around, and, when the reading was at end, Phillip addressed the assemblage, giving utterance to certain wise words of encouragement and warning.

As it stands, the "Rocks" district offers a bewildering field of intricacies to the feet of the curious. It is a place of steep hills and winding ways, with intersecting lanes in which two men find it difficult to pass each other. There is an absence of design everywhere, and settlements seem to have laid down and just sprawled in all directions. When people came to perpetuate their wooden residences in more enduring materials, they paid little heed to the regular conformation of the streets. The streets likewise, taking the line of least resistance, had a way of avoiding difficulties. If a rock or a ridge stood in their path it was seldom that it worth the work and while to cut a way through the obstacle. The easier method was to go round or over it, and the result is the curious curvings, twistings, and crescents that meet the eye on all sides. There was but scant desire among the people to make the surroundings of their dwellings artistic and orderly, and this in face of the fact that no sweeter site for man's habitation could be imagined than that which is offered by the "Rocks." On one side a sweep of islanded water stretches as far as Ball's Head, and on the other lies the full, blue bosom of the harbour; yet, strangely, no quarter of the city betrays such utter incapacity to profit by the advantages of its setting. To say that the early settlers on the "Rocks" lacked an appreciation of the unique beauties of their situation might be to do them an injustice. It is more likely that their feelings were those of birds of passage—here to-day and there to-morrow—and that their minds and hearts were turned eternally on the country from which they had been exiled. In this way, it is reasonable to suppose that they would take little interest in the beautification of the place where they lived. As time wore on, however, and when the first generation of Australians had become an important numerical factor in the population of the colony, the habitations on the "Rocks" began to shed their casual wayside character, while here and there houses which, doubtless, at one time were mansions—built of stone and fitted with cedar—betrayed the dwelling place of the settlement's favourites of fortune. These old residences were built to endure, and in no wise have they disappointed the ambition of their builders. Stone was cheap, and it was a period of lots of time, and, since men were not hurried at their work, they worked well. Some of these houses still front the main streets; others have been crowded back into by-ways of such doubtful reputation that no favourite of fortune any longer cares to dwell in them. It is easier to read a history in a house than to decipher a sermon in a stone, and many of a past grandeur reveal the character of the times in which they were built. An illustration of this may be observed in the cottage numbered 99, Cumberland-street, the walls of which are of great thickness, and the fire-places and mantel-pieces elaborately carved from stone; but these latter are so blackened by the thousand fires that roared in them that one might easily mistake them—the mantles for wood and the fire-places for iron. The cedar stair-posts are ornamented with polished spheres of whalebone, cedar being easily accessible and whales plentiful. But the most enlightening commentary on the times in which it was built are the shutters that secure its windows. These are strongly fashioned, and easily might stand a siege of no mean violence. Looking at them, one is tempted to think that men could not have been very honest in those days.

It was not till 1811 that the streets on the "Rocks" assumed sufficient definiteness to be dignified by names. At that time all things came from England; and so it was, but fitting that old-world names should be appropriated fo

the purpose. These still remain, though those who bore them are dust; but, among other common every day uses, they serve to immortalise that sense of loyalty in Macquarie which inspired him in his task. Prince-street (corrupted into Princes-street) was called after the Prince of Wales; while Clarence, Kent, Cumberland, Sussex, Cambridge, and Gloucester streets took their titles from the royal dukes of the period. At a later date intersecting ways were honoured similarly, as in the case of Essex and Argyle streets. In addition to their names, however, some of these streets are not without an honour of their own; for, at a house numbered 67 Princes-street, William B. de Dalley was born, and Henry Kendall, the poet, resided at 130 in the same thoroughfare. Daniel Henry Deniehy was born in Kent-street.

The years have lessened our anxieties, and with the majority of us, at any rate, there is no longer any need to trouble about the essentials of life. Food is abundant, the air is everyone's, and, if water will quench it, few need endure a lengthy thirst. It was not so in other days, the air that filled their lungs being the only article on which the early settlers could rely. In 1790 a food famine stared the little community in the eyes, and water was always scarce. On the "Rocks" wells were sunk—how many no man knows; but they must have been in great plenty, since, in the space of less than an acre in Princes-street, the sites of three still may be seen. One of these, lately opened was found to contain clear, sweet water, fresh as the day on which it was broached, a fact which illustrates the excellent cleansing virtues of the Sydney sandstone formation.

(From The Public Service Journal.)

GIRLS' NEWS.

We are pleased to record the success of an old pupil Constance Mackness who has obtained her B. A. degree with first class honours in English, French, and History.

Emily Graham and Margaret Coutts also old pupils of Fort-street, have now entered upon their third year at the University.

The following was written to the Editor by one of the girls in class 3C.

My dear Sir,

I am going to tell you a little about South Africa, as my auntie, who is over there, wrote us, and told us all about the customs of the country. They have rickshaws there, like a sulky, but much smaller. They have rubber tyres, and are made very light; so that a blackboy can pull them along; and he dresses so funnily. He wears a white, but very dirty jumper trimmed with red braid, and short pants to his knees, with about a dozen rows of braid around them, and at the side of each leg all the braid flows out for about a foot. Most of them wear two horns on their heads; others wear ribbons; others have feathers and all sorts of decorations. They are very strong, and they run with you a long way for threepence. There is a place called "Back Beach." It is ten miles long—not a bit like Coozee Bay. You don't see any trees or rocks—just dirty sand. Auntie said she asked several people why it is not white sand; but was told it is all the same round the coast of Africa. There is another sort of blackboy over there (if they are a hundred years old they call them blackboys), they mostly come from India. They are called Coolies, and dress in long, white coats, white trousers, and a white turban. And there are

also a lot of Coolie women. They have rings through their noses, bracelets round the arms and legs, and rings on their toes and around their ears, and they drape their figures in gaudy colours, some silk, others cotten. Some of the Kaffir women only wear a blanket worked in beads. The policemen there are Zulus, a fine race of men. They wear short pants and jumpers of navy, and helmets like the police in Sydney. None of the blacks wear boots. The Kaffirs wash their clothes by banging them on the stones of the nearest river, and they blue them to the color of indigo. Hoping you will be pleased with my letter, and with best wishes to all, I remain, your friend,

Dorothy Carlyle (aged 10 years).

CLASS ITEMS.

5B—In a recent examination the percentages were as follows:—I. Firman 91, R. Howard 87, H. Wiley 86, I. Anderson 86, A. Watson 85, E. Donnelly 85.

In composition the following girls obtained full marks:—H. Wiley, E. Donnelly, R. Bogle, V. Chidzey, A. Benwell, K. Clarke, G. Cunningham, I. Howard, I. Wilson, L. Bubb.

In Physiography: I. Firman, K. Clarke, H. Priestly, L. Vader, M. O'Sullivan, S. Vader, A. Palmer, A. Benwell, M. Morton, Z. Bocking, I. Howard, G. Cunningham, I. Wilson, L. Bubb.

In History Author: I. Howard, I. Anderson, A. Watson, R. Bogle, G. Hodge.

In History: N. Adams,

In Geography: H. Wiley, E. Smith.

5E girls are working very hard for the Junior University examination. They are now busy with the Test, which is conducted on the lines of a Junior.

We hope for good results at the coming examination.

4B—The monthly examination was very satisfactory. Minnie Boyce Allen was dux of class, Olive Clarke second, Lily Trott third, Majorie Boyce Allen fourth.

4A—The monthly examination was very satisfactory. A. Schulze was dux, but as she has left for Germany E. Graham takes her place.

The highest mark was awarded to E. Graham for Arithmetic, L. Longworth and H. Schulze for Geography, E. Warren for Composition (90), A. Schulze (95), D. Perry (95), and E. Allen (91) for Grammar.

F. Butler, A. Sander, M. Coulson, L. Cook are mentioned for marked improvement.

3C—Spelling Bee prize. Isa Barnes and Agnes Alluer both 100 per cent. divided.

Last month Violet Colenutt was first, Eva Cox, Olive Huxley and Dorothy Walsh equal for second place.

History—Lola Traynor, Lena Partridge and N. Gillies 100 per cent., E. Griffiths C. Wulf, W. Burns, I. Barnes and V. Colenutt 99.

Composition—Lyla Murray 100 per cent.

3E—In the May examination Florrie Ryan was first, G. Allum second and B. Finch third.

2B—Dorothy Swinbourn won the prize for best effort during March quarter.

Cookery Scholarship Examination.

A theoretical examination in connection with the Cookery classes of Public Schools was held at the School's Cookery rooms on 26th ult. under the supervision of three senior teachers of cookery—Misses Rankin, Monro, and Kirby. Eighty candidates presented themselves for examination and the twelve who gained the highest percentage of marks were subjected to practical tests. Each girl was required to cook a dinner sufficient for four people in 3 hours. From these the six best were chosen and each in turn took complete charge of a cookery class of six, giving a demonstration and practical instruction. The 3 most successful were—Miss Ettie Buckland (Penrith), Miss May Hart, (Fort Street) and Miss Charlotte Noble (Penrith.)

Three scholarships were tenable in the city and one in Newcastle and entitles each girl to two years training in a Cookery School and a course of High Class Cookery at the Technical College.

We are pleased to see a Fort Street girl among the chosen three.

GREAT ATTENDANCE.

It is pleasing to record that great attendance have been put up this quarter. The pupils of the school have evidently followed Mr. Turner's injunction as regards regularity. The attendance in all departments for the week ending 9th. May was 2002. In the boys' department on May 13th there were 1100 present out of an enrolment of 1161.

TWISTED GRAMMAR.

A class in grammar was reciting, and one of the younger boys was asked to compare "sick". He began thoughtfully, "Sick", paused while his brain struggled with the problem, then finished triumphantly—"Sick, worse, dead".

Sportsman — "Is there anything to shoot up here, my boy?"
Schoolboy (with the afternoon's chastisement still fresh in his memory) — "Yes, sir, there's the schoolmaster coming over the hill."

OLD BOYS' NEWS.

W. Makin finished his University Course last year passing his examinations for his B. A. degree.

He has accepted a position in the Young Grammar School as assistant master. We are pleased to hear that Makin is getting along so well and congratulate him on his success.

I. Mutton who for many months has been an assistant master at Cooverwull Academy, Bowenfels, has been appointed to a similar position at Newington College, Petersham.

The following names appear in the supplementary pass list of the Public Service Examination:—(Fort-street) W. Norman, A. C. Roberts, K. Scott, L. Ferrier. Each of them has received an appointment in the Public Service.

FOOTBALL.

The club is now in full swing and the members already number over 100. Three matches have already been played two of them Inter-class matches and the third a trial match between Possibles and Probables. This match, arranged for the purpose of selecting the first XV was looked forward to by the boys with much interest and when the teams assembled at Birchgrove Reserve on May 2nd all the players were on the "qui vive." The game was an even one (3-3) Powell and Law scoring a try each and judging on the day's play the following boys will greatly strengthen the school team: Holcombe, Morell, Alanson, Marsh, Dennis, Davis.

On the same day Mr. Chandler's Class team rather easily defeated a mixed team from Fourth Classes.

Teams picked from 3rd, 4th and lower 5th classes, captained by Dupain and Fay played an even and enjoyable game on Friday, May 9th; at half-time Fay's team was leading 3-0, but shortly after the second half began the score stood at 6-6. It remained so till 10 minutes before time, but in those last 10 minutes, 10 points were scored and the game ended at 13-9 against Dupain's team. In this match Fay, Fogarty, Mackay, Batchelor, Chounding and Morrow showed best form.

Many boys are playing the game in the proper spirit and with considerable skill, and when a few more of the 3rd and 4th classes have completed their teams, the programme of inter-class matches will be carried out with more ease and a higher standard of football throughout the school will be reached.

First fifteen v next eighteen.

The third match of the season was played on the Birchgrove Reserve on Friday 16th inst. between the above teams and resulted in an easy win for the fifteen. The game could not be called an interesting one, still some very good football was shown. During the first half the eighteen kept together fairly well, but in the second half the strength and weight of the "firsts" told against them. The eighteen failed to score through the match but were very close to their opponents' line on two occasions. At the call of "no side" the game was 33-nil. For the winners Fred Powell, A. Davis, M. Davis, Penman Rooke and Alanson did best work—Fred Powell's run from one end of the ground to the other caused some excitement—and Taylor, who played a dashing game, with Frank Powell, Parkinson, Duff and Fogarty (full back) were the most conspicuous players for their side.

Fort Street School v St. Joseph's College.

The School team journeyed to Hunter's Hill on Wednesday the 21st to try conclusions with the above team. A very fast and enjoyable game ended in a victory for the Collegians by 9 points (1 try and 2 penalty goals) to nil, the condition and combination of the winners being superior to our own. In the first half the game was even, our own forwards held theirs in the scrums, our own backs kicked well but failed to take full advantage of the touch line and the only score registered was a try in a scramble over the line. On changing ends the Collegians made many pretty attacks on our line but, owing to good defence on the part of Holcombe, Taylor and Powell among the backs none proved successful. Before the whistle blew the college boys had increased their score to 9 by means of two penalty goals kicked from easy ranges. The "Forts" though beaten by a better trained team, played well for an opening match and the referee (Mr. J. Conlon) expressed the opinion that they would develop quickly into a good team. The backs already mentioned together with W. Davis shaped best, while good solid work was done by all our forwards.

COMPOSITION.

The Examiner in his report upon the Sydney Chamber of Commerce Examination for the Junior Certificates points out some errors which were made in Composition. We append that portion of the report which deals with this matter, because similar mistakes are commonly met with in school work, and the art of being able to compose correctly is of the first importance. The report states:—

Punctuation is still weakly treated, but ordinary rules of Grammar suffered very severely in very many instances; while capital letters were used indiscriminately or according to individual fancy.

Errors, as illustrated in the following, were not uncommon:—

(a) In a conditional sentence, where the antecedent clause did not agree with the consequent clause, as: "If you "went" into the country, you would see farms."

(b) Where the number of the noun or pronoun did not agree with the verbs, as: "The Australian sheep is noted all over the world for "their" wool;" or, again: "Each "have" the right, &c."

(c) Where the intransitive verb was used for the transitive, as: "I will work hard so that they will "rise" my salary.

(d) A redundancy of prepositions, as: "with which I am satisfied "with."

In the framing of a sentence to include a given word and, at the same time, to show the meaning of the word, the results were fair. Although a sentence may be correct, it does not follow that it always conveys a knowledge of the meaning of the word. Three boys, in writing a sentence to include and show the meaning of the word "brevity," said that "Brevity is the soul of wit," an apt answer, but not quite what was wanted; another, that "Brevity was a column in a newspaper." In treating the word "embarrassing," one wrote that "John found himself in the embarrassing position of being surrounded by ladies." The examiner would, however, require to know something of John's temperament to be able to judge whether the writer knew the meaning of the word embarrassment or not. To say that "the dog is black," may describe the dog as to complexion, but it does not show a knowledge of the meaning of the word black, unless the examiner is acquainted with the animal, and is aware that its colour is referred to.

A POSTAL CURIOSITY

A gentleman in High Wycombe, England, has had a curious article handed to him by the local postman. It consists of a portion of one of the hard biscuits served out to the troops in South Africa, and was sent by his son, a trooper in the Bucks Imperial Yeomanry, free from wrapping or label of any kind, the address being written in ink on the back of the hard-bake. In transit the biscuit had been broken in two, and half of it had disappeared. Fortunately, the name and part of the address were intact, "High Wyc—" In addition were the words—"Good luck! Wishing you a happy—" Even the portion which arrived had been broken, and was carefully tied together by a thoughtful Post Office official. The biscuit bore no stamp or post-mark and nothing was charged on delivery, the postman, handing it in with the laconic expression: "Sorry I am only able to bring half your lancheon, sir."

News from Mr. Turner.

Everybody connected with Fort Street School will be pleased to know that Mr. J. W. Turner is having a delightful trip in the "Konigin Luise." In a recent letter to Mr. Williams dated from Freemantle he says that he has become quite young again and can play cricket and deck quoits with the champions. He sends his best wishes to the School especially to the boys and girls studying for the "Junior," and to them he wishes the best luck at the forthcoming examination. Now that he is about to leave Freemantle he realizes that he is leaving Australia and his friends far behind, "and it is now," he says, "that I shall miss my friends at Fort Street knowing I shall not see them for many months." We hope the remainder of Mr. Turner's voyage will be as pleasant as it has been to the present.

SCHOOL NEWS.

Before the next number of the "Fortian" has been issued, the School will have been in competition with other schools at the Junior University Examination. At the time of writing, the number of candidates who will present themselves has not been fixed, but there will probably be about 40 boys and the same number of girls. The school will eagerly watch for the results and devour them with interest, expecting that some of our candidates will as usual, show themselves prominently in the Honour List.

Some considerable excitement was caused in 2C class on May 9th. by the holding of a Spelling Bee. Mr. Spencer had given notice about a fortnight before that the words of certain lessons in the Reading Book only would be allowed, and the boys entered into the matter in earnest. The work done by the class was very satisfactory, the winner Ernest Rohrsen, being called upon to spell no less than 56 words.

Thackeray once told Dickens that he could never see a schoolboy without wanting instantly to give him a guinea. One of General Baden-Powell's most treasured mementoes is a guinea which the big-hearted novelist bestowed upon him while he was a youngster at the Charterhouse.

Faithful Dapple.

Old Dapple was so tired when hay-time was over, that Grandfather made up his mind to give him a rest for a whole week, with oats for his dinner every day. "You are a faithful old fellow," he said, lovingly stroking Dapple's nose. "Now you shall have a holiday, and munch hay instead of raking it. I'll push the big rake under the shed out of sight, and you'll forget that there was ever any such thing in the world as work."

Then Grandfather went in to dinner with Grandmother, and "The Twins," as everybody called the two little boys who were the joy of the old farmer and his wife.

It was quite late in the afternoon when their grandfather asked "The Twins" to lead old Dapple to water. "Let him stay and drink as long as he wants to," he called after them. "You needn't wait: he knows the way back alone."

So old Dapple stood, and drank his fill of the clear, sweet water, and The Twins ran back to their place. But it was not long before their grandfather saw them coming towards him at the top of their speed. Their faces were flushed, and as they ran, they shouted out, "O, Grandpa! Grandpa! quick! look up in the 'hay paddock' Old Dapple is up there raking all alone, without any rake or any hay. He's going to and fro like everything."

And, when their grandfather had put on his glasses, he looked, and, sure enough, saw faithful old Dapple trudging up and down, making neat turns at the end of each "bout." The old horse's tired legs wavered, but he kept on. The afternoon sunshine lay on his rough back, and dazzled his old eyes on the return trips, but he showed no sign of stopping.

Something suddenly dimmed Grandfather's glasses, and he took them off. "Faithful old fellow," he muttered. "Go, lead him back, children, and give him oats for his supper."

How The Twins hugged the old horse while they were doing it!

—Adapted from The Children's Paper.

WAS SHOTT SHOT OR NOTT?

A duel was lately fought in Texas between Alex Shott and John Nott. Some said that Nott was shot and Shott was not. If so, it was better to be Shott than Nott. But it was proved after that the shot Shott shot at Nott shot Shott by accident, and the shot Nott shot at Shott shot past and so shot him not.

Thus the affair resolved itself into its original element, and Shott was shot and Nott was not.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The following letter which was received by Mr. Turner just before he went away, speaks for itself. The boys of the Senior Class have taken the matter in hand and we hope to publish in future numbers some extracts from the letters which are received. It will be extremely interesting to know what girls and boys who speak the same language are thinking and doing in distant parts of the world.

London Fields Board School,
Hackney,
London, N.E.
3. 3. '02

Dear Sir,

The older boys of this school would like to correspond with some Australian boys. They are studying the Geography and History of the Empire, and have read with pride of the prowess of their Australian brothers in South Africa.

We hope to open correspondence with schools in Toronto and Cape Town, and shall be pleased, if your boys wish it, to send copies of the letters we receive to them.

If agreeable to you, we should like to send one letter—contributed to by our upper standards—once a month, or once in two months—as you like,—and we should like to receive one from your boys once a month.

We shall have a great deal to tell you this year about the Coronation processions etc. and the doings of our little town of London.

Our school has about 500 boys, and perhaps the doings of our Football, Cricket, and Swimming Associations might be of interest, as the sports of your school would interest us.

We hear now and then from an Old Boy who has gone to live in Germany, and from one or two who are out in the War, so we hope our correspondence will be interesting.

The majority of our boys are sons of artisans.

The Agent General for New South Wales has kindly given me your address, and also that of the Head Master of Cleveland Street School, so, if you cannot grant our request would you be so kind as to pass this letter on to him.

I think our correspondence would help to foster right brotherly Imperial feeling among our youngsters.

Hoping dear Sir you will be able to gratify our wishes.

I remain

faithfully yours,
Robert Cook.

P. S. We shall look forward to receiving a letter from the boys—(written by the top boy?) in May. Be merciful with Maclaren's team. We are looking forward to the visit of the Australian team.

An Anecdote of George Washington.

One day, during the American War of Independence (1775-83), when his army was in camp, Washington was walking about alone to see what was going on. As it was winter he had put on a long overcoat that hid his uniform; and so the soldiers among whom he passed, unless they were acquainted with him, did not know that he was the general.

At one place, there was a corporal with his men building a breastwork of logs. They were just about raising a very heavy log when Washington came up.

"Heave ho!" cried the little corporal who was in command of the party. "Up with it, men! Up with it!" But he did not put a hand to it himself. The men lifted with all their might. The log was almost to its place, but it was so heavy they could not move it any farther.

The Corporal cried again, "Heave ho! Up with it!" The men were not able to do more; their strength was almost gone; the log was about to fall.

Then Washington ran forward, and, with his strong arms (he was a powerful man, and over six feet in height) gave them the help they so much needed. The big log was lifted upon the breastwork, and the men looked their thanks at the stranger who had been so kind. But the corporal said nothing.

"Why don't you take hold and help your men with this heavy lifting?" asked Washington.

"Why don't I!" said the little man. "Don't you see that I am the corporal?"

"Oh, indeed!" said Washington, as he unbuttoned his overcoat, and showed the uniform which he wore. "Well, I am the general; and, the next time you have a log too heavy for your men to lift, send for me, and I will gladly come to help you again."

You can imagine how the little corporal felt when he saw that it was General Washington who stood before him. It was a good lesson to him.

A LITTLE GIRL'S PRAYER.

A good story is told in a recent magazine of a little girl named Polly who was sent on a certain occasion to spend the night at a neighbour's house. When bedtime came Polly knelt with her head upon the lady's knees, as accustomed to do with her mother, to say her prayers. A little form of her own she remembered only in part, and the lady could not prompt her as mother did so Polly's prayers came to a sudden stop. Then she said: "Please God, 'scuse me, 'cause I don't 'member my prayers, and I'm stayin' wif a lady what don't know any."—The 'Weekly Telegraph.'

Britain's New Ally In The East, The Island Empire Of Japan.

Japan! What a wonderful country it is! Lying as it does, surrounded by the deep waters of the western Pacific it winds in and out like a snake, from south-west to north-east, a distance of more than two thousand miles.

This Snake is made up of more than thirty-eight hundred mountainous islands, and it drags its length through almost every climate known to man. Its tail, which is now the island of Formosa, lies in the warm waters of the semi-tropics, flapping, as it were, upon the Tropic of Cancer. Further north, the Snake sinks the lower part of its trunk beneath the waters of the Japanese ocean-current, a green island speck showing out here and there, and then rears it up for eleven hundred miles in the islands of Kiushu (kyoo-shoo), Shikoku (she-ko-koo), and Hondo, through every gradation of the temperate zone.

Its gigantic head is the island of Yezo, which lies in the cold waters of the northern Pacific, shrouded in snow during the long winter months, and at times bedded in ice. The main part of the trunk is warmed by the ocean winds to such an extent that these thousands of islands breathe an air full of moisture, and, even in winter, much of the land is emerald green. Now and then, the snow falls on the northern part of the island of Hondo, but the green grass shows out through the white snow, and, in many parts of Japan, the plum-trees are in blossom in the midst of winter.

Japan is the land of forests and flowers. The camellia and magnolia grow wild upon its green hills, and its people call their country the land of the chrysanthemum. They cultivate the cherry-tree for its blossoms, and, during the season of its bloom, they have picnics, where young men and maidens, old men and old women, wander about through the trees, and, inspired by the sight, write verses of poetry, which they tie to the branches.

There is no land in the world which has a greater variety of beautiful scenery. It is a country of mountains and valleys, which are clothed with verdure to such an extent that you can hardly believe that the whole of Japan was once covered with volcanoes.

As we float towards the coast of Hondo, on our big ocean steamer, the sight that first meets our eyes is a great white mountain cone, hanging almost like a silver cloud in the western horizon. As we come nearer, this cone increases in size. A long, hazy, blue line of coast shows out below it through a thin veil of fleecy clouds, and we learn that we are looking at Fusi-yama (foc-zi-a(h)-na(h)), the extinct volcano and the famed sacred mountain of Japan. It is the highest mountain of the empire, and its snowy cap kisses the sky more than two miles above us.

As we come nearer still, we see vapour rising from another volcano on an island further off to the south; and we shall travel in and out among volcanic islands, no matter to what part of the empire we sail. Japan has to-day more than fifty steaming volcanoes; and there are hundreds of others which may, at any time, burst into eruption, though they now lie entirely quiet like other mountains.

The most of these volcanic islands of Japan are small. Taken together, though, they form enough territory for a mighty nation. The total area of Japan is greater than Great Britain and Ireland. In Hondo live the great majority of the forty-five millions who make up Japan's population, and upon it have been located all the great scenes of Japanese history.

It is on this island we land. We float through the picturesque Bay of Yeddo (or Tokyo), and on into the beautiful harbour of Yokohama, where we cast our anchor amid boats from all parts of the world. There are steamers from China, and great ships that have made the voyage from London to Japan, by way of the Suez Canal. There are Russian and French men-of-war, and queer-looking sailing vessels, called

junks, from different parts of Japan. There are curious small boats, called sampans, darting out and in among the ships, each sculled by means of a paddle at the stern, by a half-naked, brown-skinned, slant-eyed man, who jabbars and yells as he motions to us to jump in and ride to the shore.

Yokohama is a city of 150,000 people, and is the chief seaport of Japan; but it was only a fishing village when Commodore M. C. Perry landed there in 1854, and made a treaty between Japan and the United States that opened this empire to the world. Before that time, the Japanese would not have anything to do with foreigners. There are now telegraph wires running through its main streets, and electric and steam railways connecting it with other parts of the country.

Tokyo (toe-ko-sh), the capital, is 14 miles up the bay.

(From the Victorian State School Paper.)

A PROUDER MAN THAN YOU.

If you fancy that your people come of better stock than mine,
If you hint of higher breeding by a word or by a sign,
If you're proud because of fortune or the clever things you do—
Then I'll play no second fiddle: I'm a prouder man than you!

If you think that your profession has the more gentility,
And that you are condescending to be seen along with me;
If you notice that I'm shabby while your clothes are spruce and new—
You have only got to hint it: I'm a prouder man than you!

If you have a swell companion when you see me on the street,
And you think that I'm too common for your toney friend to meet,
So that I, in passing closely, fail to come within your view—
Then be blind to me for ever: I'm a prouder man than you!

If your character be blameless, if your outward past be clean,
While 'tis known my antecedents are not what they should have been,
Do not risk contamination, save your name whatever you do—
'Birds o' feather fly together:' I'm a prouder bird than you!

Keep your patronage for others! Gold and station cannot hide
Friendship that can laugh at fortune, friendship that can conquer pride:
Offer this as to an equal—let me see that you are true,
And my wall of pride is shattered: I am not so proud as you.

(By permission.)

HENRY LAWSON.

Printed and published at the MODEL PUBLIC SCHOOL, Fort Street, Sydney, in the State of New South Wales.



Vol. IV. No. 5. SYDNEY, MONDAY, JUNE 22nd, 1902.

Price 1d

THE FORTIAN.

THE CORONATION.

THE people of Australia quite recently had the privilege of witnessing in Sydney the ceremonies in connection with the inauguration of the Commonwealth and in Melbourne those which marked the opening of the first Commonwealth Parliament by the Duke of York, who has since assumed the title of Prince of Wales. But those Australians who will visit England during the present year will be privileged to witness a function which will be more memorable in its significance and will far surpass them in magnificence and pomp. This great spectacle will be new to most, if not to all who witness it. It is sixty five years since Queen Victoria took her place as the central figure in the picturesque old pageant in Westminster Abbey. Only

three such ceremonies took place throughout the whole of last century, so that the rarity of such an occurrence as the Coronation of an English Sovereign would alone suffice to make it remarkable. The associations which the name Westminster Abbey calls to mind, the records in its monuments and memorials of its illustrious dead and their great deeds will add greatly to the historic interest which such an event must provoke. There within its walls the dust of twenty eight Kings and Queens lies mouldering, and there too, the remains of that great company of patriots, statesmen, soldiers, sailors, literary men, whose names are household words wherever the English language is spoken, are laid to rest.

The Abbey, as it stands at present, was not long from the builders' hands when William the Conqueror's Norman bowmen lined the approaches to overawe the Saxon multitude as their leader rode up

to its doors in the midst of his knights. One of the features of the Coronation, absent from the ceremonies which inaugurated the late reign, was the challenge of the King's Champion. The office and function were established by the Conqueror as feudal service for the tenure of lands. According to the old usage, while the King was at the Coronation dinner in Westminster Hall the great doors were opened and a knight armed from head to foot, with plumed helmet and mounted on "a great courser trapped in tissue and embroidered with the arms of England and France" rode with his Herald of Arms up the Hall. Then the herald read a challenge from a scroll acquainting any person of what degree or estate so ever he might be, who might be minded to say that the King was not the rightful inheritor and King of his Realm that he the champion offered his glove to fight in his quarrel with any such person to the utterance. There is a curious tale that at the Coronation of William and Mary an old woman took up the gauntlet, leaving her own glove in exchange, with a challenge to meet her in Hyde Park next day. The story goes that the Champion of England politely declined any contest with one of the fair sex.

The details of the present Coronation will probably follow upon the lines of the majestic ceremony which eventuated at the Coronation of Victoria, and a brief account of this will give us some idea of the magnificence of that which will take place on the 26th of June. A salute of twenty one guns announced the commencement of the royal progress from Buckingham Palace to Westminster Abbey. Royal Trumpeters and Life Guards leading the way were followed by the Foreign Ministers and Ambassadors of the Powers, and of every State in friendly relation with Great Britain. The Royal carriage came next with the Royal suite and members of the household. Then following a brilliant company of officers and guards should come the King and Queen in person. The significance of the present Coronation will be enhanced by the presence of representatives from those extensive dependencies and that great Colonial Empire which practically came into existence during the last reign.

Within the Abbey itself will be accommodated the Peers and Peereses of the Realm, Members of the House of Commons, the Ambassadors, the Judges, Knights of the Bath, the Lord Mayor and Corporation of London, and the people of personal or official distinction. Or a raised platform will stand two thrones, the richest gilt Chair of Homage, and the Chair of St. Edward the Confessor. Under the seat will be the Stone of Scone, a plain rough-edged slab, upon which from time immemorial the Old Scottish Kings were crowned. The religious ceremony and the anointing came first, and the Archbishop will perform that act, the placing of the crown upon the King's head, which is the consum-

mation of the function. The King will take the oath to rule according to constitutional usage, and representatives of the Estates of the Realm will swear allegiance to their sovereign. This will end this pageant with which no historical event can compare for interest, at least among all branches of the world wide race to which we belong. The son of Queen Victoria will come to the throne of the greatest empire the world has yet known, surrounded by the great men of the British nation, in that place of all most revered by English speaking people.

TO CONTRIBUTORS.

We desire to acknowledge the receipt of contributions, some of which appear in the present issue. Of the rest, some were considered too long or not quite serviceable, and others have been held over for future use. We would ask that contributions should be as short and interesting as possible, and that the names of the newspapers from which cuttings are taken and of the books from which extracts are made should be given.

IMPRESSIONS OF THE VARSITY.

"Could you give me" said the Editor much in the manner of Shylock demanding his pound of flesh "an article on (say) your first impressions of the University." The Impressionist hesitated. The shadow which hangs over every undergrad., of that awful body the Senate, beside whose conclaves the Venetian Council of Ten and the Vehmgericht fade into insignificance, lay across his young life; again should he unfold his cherished impressions, the rose petals of his remembrance to the cold eyes of criticism? But the Editor spoke again this time in that suave and engaging manner which is the especial property of editors (in certain moods) and of the gentler sex (alas! in certain moods also) and the Impressionist who is unfortunately too susceptible to various charms yielded.

Outwardly the University is familiar to all who have struggled, in its classic shade, with exams; little eddies reach one occasionally of the vast stream which flows on there daily: one hears battles, wind blown, from afar.

But how different it is when one is plunged suddenly into this same current, into the heat of this same battle, into the stream of its inward life!

Between school and university is a great gulf fixed, and it is one's duty to try and realise how important is this fact. At School authority is predominant, its strictness varying of course in different cases. At the University one receives a marked change. Authority is there, it is true, but never obstructive, always silent, persistent and subdued yet most effective.

It is a postulate, something accepted, yet something too intangible to revolt against. Within certain limits the student is free to act as he pleases yet a restraint is always with him. This is a strange paradox, nevertheless a true one. The secret lies in the fact that an appeal is made to the better side of one's nature; taste and manliness are the levers instead of fear; the deference shown to professors and lecturers is the deference which courtesy prompts us to give; treated as men we attempt to act up to the ideal. Here is the secret, a most valuable one. Moreover one is invited to show one's self reliable, to assert one's individuality, to proclaim one's views and argue with one's fellows. That the University, in Sydney at any rate, is taking its true place as a centre of liberal thought and tolerance of opinion, was well illustrated by the last meeting of the University Union, a debating club, a sister of that great institution, the Oxford University Union which trained men like Gladstone. Professor Wood who has had the courage to take the unpopular side as to the South African War, has been bitterly attacked by a section of the press and public, his resignation being even demanded in some quarters. Recognising that this was a serious menace to liberty of speech, the Union at a large and enthusiastic meeting, declared so with no uncertain voice and emphatically gave it as its opinion that a professor of History is perfectly entitled to express his views, though these may be in opposition to the views of the majority. This incident is an important one and so I have detailed at some length.

It is the boast of the University that it combines the two phases of its training, athletics and study without detriment to either. This it does in many cases though sport is hardly followed in the University to the extent it might be. Still the University has no reason to be ashamed either of its footballers, cricketers, or oarsmen.

Not the least point about the University is the esprit de corps which exists among the Students, that spirit which alone can give such an institution its proud place as leader of thought in a community, the sap and vigour of "Alma Mater."

G. C. WHITNEY

OLD BOYS' COLUMN.

Frank Lord, one of the School's Representatives at the war, returned the other day and favoured the Old School with a visit. Frank served under General Hamilton in the Eastern Transvaal; he saw little actual fighting but had plenty of rough brisk patrol work to do, and was in constant danger of being sniped. Disembarking at Durban Frank had the opportunity of seeing the famous Tugela Heights where General Buller operated at the beginning of the war. He says we can form no conception of the difficulties the Heights present to an invading army, forming as they do one continuous line of natural fortifications.

Frank looks much improved after his fifteen months service. He goes for his degree at the University this year, having matriculated in Jubilee Year.

[Douglas Mawson, another of the School's Jubilee Matriculants, has already achieved distinction in his profession, having been appointed Junior Assistant in Chemistry at the University. This is a great honour and we heartily congratulate Douglas on his proud achievement.

C. C. Freeman, Junior of 1897, has been appointed Assistant Demonstrator in Assaying at the University. We offer Freeman our heartiest congratulations.

Another of our representatives at the University has also been distinguishing himself: this time in the Athletic world. In the match between the first Newtowns and University we noticed Ben Powell doing battle in the front rank of the latter's pack.

We fancy Ben is the School's first contribution to the famous University fifteen and we feel proud and pleased accordingly.

We hope he will win his way, ere long, into Inter-State Representative football.

FOOTBALL.

Mr. Chandler's class met Mr. Drew's in a friendly match on Friday May 23rd. in connection with the 4th. and 5th. Inter-Class Competition and won their second match by 12 to 8. Colbran 2, Deakin 1, and Pountney 1, scored tries for the winners, White 2 for the losers. Evans, Bosward and Snodgrass also played well for the winners and Holcombe and Czerwonka for the losers.

On the same day Mr. Lovell's Class (Matric. 4) team defeated Mr. Middleton's (5A) by 6 to nil. Powell and H. Webster played well for the winners, scoring a try each. Although the losers did not score a point, Fogarty, T. Landers, Law and Howard played up in fine style.

On Friday 30th May teams representing 4B and 4E played a match at Birchgrove. 4B kicked off and during the first half secured three tries. On changing ends Ogilvy obtained a try for 4E and Owen kicked a goal from a mark, while 4B added 3 more tries to their list. For the winners A. Mouro who played the best game secured 2 tries as also did L. Ward, while C. Hunt and J. Williams secured one each. None of these being converted, 4B won by 18 to 7.

4C v 4D.

This match was played at Birchgrove on May 30th and resulted in an easy win for Mr. Callaghan's Class team by 23 to 3. Tries were secured by Snell (1), Gordon (1), Cromack (4) for the winners and Morrow (1) for Mr. Easton's team.

Cromack played a sound game for the winners and was ably helped by Nash and Lloyd.

Fort Street v Training College.

The annual match between the School and the College was played on Friday June 6th at Birchgrove and after an even game resulted in a victory for the College the scores standing at 9-5 when the whistle sounded full time. The school won the toss and the College kicked off against a light breeze and play was at once taken to School's territory where from some loose work Noble scored a try.

Slow close work filled up the greater part of the first half during which two more tries were secured by the College and one for the School. Penman ran in for the School after some passing among the backs and Mr. Roberts converted. Half time came shortly after. The second half was much faster, the School team made repeated attacks at their opponent's line and goal but to no purpose. The College line though attacked for fully 3 quarters of the second half remained uncrossed and the match ended with the score at 9-5. The School forwards pushed

well in the scrums and got the ball often, but in the open they do not use their feet sufficiently. They should play harder too in other departments of the game.

PRESENTATIONS.

On Friday afternoon the 6th inst. the boys of Matriculation 1 (Junior 1902) presented their teachers Messrs. Green and Brown with very suitable gifts as tokens of their appreciation of the work done by them during the past six months. Both teachers thanked the boys in appropriate words and wished them the best luck at the Junior examination.

PRESIDENT SCHWAB'S ADVICE TO BOYS.

Chas. M. Schwab, president of the United States Steel Corporation, in a twenty minutes' talk to 300 boys, students in St. George's Evening Trades School, on the occasion of the commencement exercises of that school, among other things, said:—

"From my long experience I am led to believe that many boys made the mistake of depending upon influence to obtain for them positions of profit. This is a serious drawback to any boy, for even if he have the talents necessary to advance, other boys, his competitors, will say that his success or partial success was due, not to merit, but to influence. Go yourselves to seek work in life, and depend upon your own exertions and work. Merit must count, and merit must win. The boy who depends upon influence is handicapped sadly from the start. No matter what business you enter, the essential feature to success is that you perform your tasks better than anybody else. This alone will command attention. Everybody is expected to do his duty, but the man or boy who does a little more is certain of promotion. Success is not money-making alone. And I want to state that of the truly great men I know in industrial and manufacturing lines, none is the college-bred man, but they are the men who received an industrial or mechanical education, and who worked up by perseverance and application. Let me advise you all to make an early start in life. The boy with a manual training and the common school education, who can start life at sixteen or seventeen can leave the boy who goes to college until he is twenty or more so far behind in the race that he can never catch up. This, however, does not apply to the professional life. The other day I was at a gathering of forty successful business men—men in

industrial and manufacturing business—and the question arose as to how many were college bred men. Of the forty only two had been graduated from colleges, and the rest of the party, thirty-eight in number, had received only common school educations, and had started in life as poor boys. So I say, as parting advice, start early.”—(Selected.)

A Lady's Description of a Steam Engine.

In giving some examples of technical subjects as written upon by the ordinary reporter, Power says: “The best thing of the kind we have ever seen, however, is the following extract from a young lady's description of how a steam engine is made, according to her study of the subject during a visit to the Payne Engine Works at Elmira (N.Y.): ‘You pour a lot of sand into a box, and throw a lot of old stoves and things into a fire, and empty the molten stream into a hole in the sand, and the men all yell and it's awfully dirty and smoky. And then you pour it out and let it cool and pound it; and then you put it into a thing that goes round and try to break it: then you screw it to a thing that goes back and forth, that you ride on, and that scrapes; and it squeaks; then you put it in a thing that turns it round, and you take a chisel and cut it; then you put it into a thing that bores holes into it. Then you screw it together and paint it, and put steam into it and it goes awfully; and they take it up to the drafting room and draw a picture of it, and make one of wood just like it. And oh, I forgot—they have to make a boiler. One man gets inside and one gets outside, and pound just terribly; and then they tie it together—and oh, you just ought to see it go.’”

A HUGE MAMMOTH PRESERVED IN ICE.

Near the river Ebroswka, eastern Siberia, Dr. Herz states that he discovered a huge mammoth preserved in the ice. The animal had assumed a reclining position with its feet peculiarly bent beneath its body. Dr. Herz inferred that it had fallen down a declivity and had been instantly killed. Grass was found in the mouth of the animal, and food in its stomach. Two thousand years elapsed since that last mouthful of grass was plucked from the sod. The animal was covered with a coat of rather thick, red-brown hair.—Extract from “Scientific American.”

Sent in by C. E. Stead.

SCHOOL BADGES.

(To the Editor of the Fortian.)

Dear Sir, Some four years ago our esteemed Head Master, Mr. Turner, instituted a school badge. Now Fort Street was one of the first schools in which a “badge movement” was instituted but unfortunately our School was perhaps the first to cease wearing the badge. Contrary to other schools (in which wearing the badge is compulsory) there is no restriction placed, or disadvantage attendant on any boy who does not wear the badge and so the matter simply resolves itself into a question of loyalty to school. I do not say for one moment that a boy who does not wear a badge is disloyal but I think that a boy evinces greater love for his school by wearing its badge. I am sure that if a few prominent boys took this matter in hand we could re-establish that good custom started by Mr. Turner. Hoping for space for my letter in your valuable paper,

I remain yours truly,
Henry H. Wheeler.

TWO SERIES OF REMARKABLE NUMBERS.

- 1 x 9 and 2 is equal to 11
- 12 x 9 and 3 is equal to 111
- 123 x 9 and 4 is equal to 1111
- 1234 x 9 and 5 is equal to 11111
- 12345 x 9 and 6 is equal to 111111
- 123456 x 9 and 7 is equal to 1111111
- 1234567 x 9 and 8 is equal to 11111111
- 12345678 x 9 and 9 is equal to 111111111

- 1 x 8 and 1 is equal to 9
- 12 x 8 and 2 is equal to 98
- 123 x 8 and 3 is equal to 987
- 1234 x 8 and 4 is equal to 9876
- 12345 x 8 and 5 is equal to 98765
- 123456 x 8 and 6 is equal to 987654
- 1234567 x 8 and 7 is equal to 9876543
- 12345678 x 8 and 8 is equal to 98765432
- 123456789 x 8 and 9 is equal to 987654321

IN GRATEFUL REMEMBRANCE.

(By an old Junior.)

The unhappy time comes on apace,
When we must leave the Grand Old School,
And all the world's rude joltings face—
Let us however hold to one rule.

Wherever we may chance to land,
Let no malicious person say,
That Fort Street does not take a stand,
And that she has fallen to decay.

Strive your best to give the place,
That did so much for you—
(And always give it with good grace)
The Grand Old School its due.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Sydney,
29th May, 1902.

Sir, As the Midwinter holidays are approaching I think it a suitable time to let the boys know how interesting it is to visit the Sydney branch of the Royal Mint.

During last Christmas holidays a party in which were myself and three other boys obtained a pass to witness the process through which the rough gold has to be put before the coins are ready for circulation. We attended at the appointed time and were first shown the molten gold in pots which is then moulded into bars about four feet in length. These bars are then rolled out to the thickness required, each bar being about twice the diameter of a sovereign. By machinery circular pieces are cut out of this bar the fragments of which are returned to the furnace. A heap of these circular pieces on a table was pointed out to our party as containing what would be when finished, three thousand sovereigns. Three machines were at work each stamping coins at the rate of forty seven a minute. The coins are then weighed and those not of the required weight are re-melted.

The pass may be obtained by application on a form provided at the office of the Mint and I am sure that those boys who avail themselves of the opportunity will be as pleased as I was. Leo J. Fitzpatrick (Class 4C.)

A QUESTION IN MENTAL ARITHMETIC. THE BOY AND THE DUCKS.

A boy, driving home some ducks, was asked how many he had. He replied, "When in line there are two ducks ahead of a duck, two ducks behind a duck, and one duck in the middle." How many had he.

Naughty Large Ship.

Little John saw a small tug engaged in towing a large ship, and heard the tug whistle loudly.

"Oh, papa!" he exclaimed, "the big ship's got the little one by the tail, and it's squealing."

MR. TURNER'S ARRIVAL IN ENGLAND.

News has been received of the safe arrival of Mr. Turner in England. He had a most pleasant voyage throughout, and proved himself an excellent sailor. We shall await with interest his impressions of some of the schools he visits.

GIRLS' COLUMN.

A tennis match which resulted in a draw was played on our court 16th May between Erskineville Girls and Fort Street. The visitors were afterwards entertained at afternoon tea. A return match has been arranged for Friday June 7th.

CLASS ITEMS.

5F—Matriculation—Mary Butler secured first place in a recent Euclid examination and Margaret Cobb was first in the Latin examination (lower division.)

5A—Examination results: May Gordon 1, Winnie Harle 2. Estelle Murray has been working splendidly and has been promoted to 5C.

4A—Monthly examination: Dux, E. Warren 91 percent. K. Bear, and C. Keppier deserve special mention. M. Coulson L. Longworth, C. Hodgie, D. Perry, M. Mansfield, A. Parkes for special effort.

4B—Results of monthly examination: Dux, Minnie Boyce Allen. Marjorie Boyce Allen was second, Winnie Chapman 3 and Lucy Smith 4.

Full marks were gained by M. Barnes A. McIntyre O. Clarke E. Elliot, C. Tallot, in Dictation: L. Smith, Marjorie Boyce Allen in Australian History: Marjorie Boyce Allen in Geography: M. Barnes, W. Chapman, in French.

3D—At the recent examination Katie Ballantyne and Eva Fletcher gained promotion, and E. Woodgate and E. Fuller distinguished themselves in Composition each gained 100 per cent. The work of the class was satisfactory all through.

3C—The following percentages were obtained during the last two months in Arithmetic by Jeanne and Lena Partridge 93, Nellie Arnold 92, Marjorie Likely 89, Violet Colenutt and Nellie Gillies 87. Isa Barnes still holds her place as first in Dictation. Marjorie Likely, Violet Colenutt and Lena Partridge gained 100 per cent. in Geography. Nellie Gillies, Lena Partridge and Zola Traynor 100 per cent. in History.

3B—On the 22nd of May this class had a keenly contested spelling B the winner being Gladys Oliver.

2B—Millie Wright, Sylvia Robinson and Dorothy Butz came top this month in marks.

An Interesting Holiday Trip.

The following account of a trip through New Zealand by an old Fort-street boy will be found interesting.

A trip to New Zealand during holiday time would be looked forward to by most of our pupils for during our geography and geology lessons we had heard much of the fine group of islands which under the guidance of "King Seddon" refused to join Federated Australia and has thus almost stagnated outward trade between New Zealand and Australia.

Add to the above charm the expectation of meeting your best friend (Mother) whom you had not seen for some years and my fellow-scholars will be able to imagine with what delight we passed the Heads on Saturday night the 14th December bound for Wellington.

Omitting minor details of the voyage which was very pleasant the Monowai passed Cape Farewell and Cook Strait on Wednesday evening and anchored in Wellington Harbour for the night. An early call roused all hands and after receiving "pratique" the boat landed us in "Windy Wellington."

Wellington is the largest city in the south of North Island and enjoys by far the largest trade of any New Zealand Port. It is pleasantly situated round the almost circular harbour, which lies too much open to the wind and weather. The houses are well-built, mostly of wood, neat and clean and most with roofs painted red; situated on the hills in steep-like terraces with their pretty little gardens, these give the appearance of a Swiss village, seen in pictures.

The wind and the consequent dust are the drawbacks and when we landed it blew very strongly.

I should mention too the absence of the yelping cur and yelping paper boy of Sydney, but such could not be expected in a City which, while barely 60 years old has only some 40,000 inhabitants.

The principal buildings are Government House, various Banks and Hotels, but none compare with those of Sydneyside.

A panoramic view was obtained from Mount Victoria, a small hill lying to the East, and thoroughly repaid the exertion of the climb.

Business was brisk, factories for the usual local necessities being plentiful. The great drawback is the old system of horse-trams.

Leaving Wellington by the express we made our way to Wanganui, situated on the Wanganui, one of the finest rivers of New Zealand. The river is here some 200 yards wide and retains that width for over 50 miles, it is also deep and navigable for small craft for quite that distance. Above Pipiriki the scenery of the upper reaches is very wild and not quite so fine as that of our Hawkesbury. The country between Wellington and Wanganui is undulating and wherever the line leaves the coast well suited for sheep rearing although the grasses are all imported and rather sour. The land carries but few sheep to the acre, these too are mostly "Lincolns" or "Leicesters" not as ours "Merinos" or "Crossbreds."

Wanganui is also neat and clean and the centre of some coast trade, pastoral pursuits and flax growing, which is mostly carried on up the river and in the vicinity of Marton.

The journey of 150 miles takes by express 8 hours, so you can safely say that rail travelling is lebird the times, 14 tunnels have to be passed and the only saving features is, that each express is furnished with a "dining car," in which passengers can obtain both breakfast and dinner at regulation prices; this is not the custom in the north of the island.

From Wanganui to New Plymouth is a run of 103 miles and is through country more thickly timbered and

better suited for wool-growing, though owing to low prices this industry is decaying.

At Stratford, that beautifully isolated perfectly cone-shaped Mt. Egmont, is most nearly approached. It stands majestically forth in grand contrast to the surrounding level country and with its heavy dazzling white snowcap is an object of great beauty and exceedingly great interest to all strangers. From New Plymouth the foot is reached by road 9 miles, while at this time of the year it is impossible to reach the top on account of the snow. The mountain is 8,200 feet high and snow-capped all the year at present some 1,000 feet are covered. From this cap the snow rivers flow down the deeply cut gorges and give rise to all the beautifully clear streams which scour the surrounding region. One of these runs through New Plymouth and greatly enhances its beauty.

The whole district is volcanic and doubtless Mount Egmont was the great vent from which all the surrounding lava flowed.

New Plymouth is one of the oldest of New Zealand towns and is decidedly the most charming town I have seen or ever wish to see. Its park is partly natural, partly artificial and with its raised knolls (from which many a fierce Maori onrush was beaten back) and its beautiful stream and natural lagoons, forms the finest of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere.

The industries of the district are pastoral and agricultural, mostly the latter, cheese, butter and bacon, for this is the centre of the famous Taranaki district.

New Plymouth is the terminus of the railway and to reach Auckland the boat or a tedious coach must be taken.

The boat is preferable; a daily service is maintained; the boats leaving the long and expensive breakwater or spit and running across North Taranaki Bight, direct to Auckland a distance of 135 miles. If this were a comical sketch I would describe that 12 hour boat-trip.

The boat does not run into Auckland Harbour—that is on the other side of the island—but into Manukau Harbour, which has a very dangerous bar and is itself very shallow and muddy so that a course for even these small boats has to be piled or buoyed for the whole of the 20 miles run.

The township is Onehunga and situated in the sand is indeed worthy of the name. Ey rail 6 miles across the narrow strip of lava land brings the traveller joyfully to Auckland "the Queen of the North."

It is the largest city (50,000 inhabitants) and has the greatest wealth, not trade; it is more like an Australian town than any of the others, is dirtier, has larger buildings, more unemployed and more frequent race meetings.

The town has rather narrow streets, miserable horse-trams (an electric system is tendered for), many churches, fine insurance buildings, Banks and Council Chambers to which is attached an Art Gallery and Library, worthy of Sydney. The Domain and Botanical gardens, though small worthy of great praise—some of the pansy, stock, and phlox beds being perfect—flowers grow better there than here on account of the climate.

The surrounding country is most peculiar, there are a few isolated hills, all of which seem to have been active volcanoes by the craters and structure; one of these, Mount Eden, has a perfect crater capable of holding at least 1,000 persons, another lying out in the harbour, Mount Rangitoto, is yet slightly active and pours lava over the lips of the crater occasionally giving it a very peculiar appearance. Immediately in the neighbourhood the land is all vesicular lava and on it nothing can be grown, the fences are made of piled up fragments and the foundations of many buildings are also made of pieces slightly squared and cemented; they look very pretty indeed.

D. C.

TO BE CONTINUED

GERMAN SCHOOLS.

Mr. Turner's visit to Europe and America to see School systems in operation makes any information on the subject of education of interest to us. Especially is this so when the information is supplied by one of our present pupils. He writes thus:—

"I spent about seven months in a public school at Cothen. Anhalt a dukedom which boasts of the best schools in the fatherland. At first my backwardness in German rendered it rather difficult to understand and follow the lessons but after some time the language became more familiar to me and I made more rapid progress. My 'Censur' on leaving school showed fair proficiency in all subjects except German which the teacher found quite natural. I had a good opportunity of becoming acquainted with the school system, as Cothen boasts of possessing all the different schools.

The highest school is the Gymnasium. Here are taught the ancient languages Latin, Greek and Hebrew (the latter is optional) besides French and English. The passing of all the classes entitles the scholar to enter the University.

Next comes the Real-Schule where more stress is laid on the teaching of modern languages. Scholars passing this school are entitled to enter at the technical universities to study practical science.

There are also commercial schools or academies to prepare for a commercial career.

I attended a middle school where subjects are similar to those taught in a Superior Public School in New South Wales. There are also ordinary public schools called "Volkschulen" which give a rudimentary education. It is compulsory for every child to attend school from the age of 6 to 14. I found the attendance most regular; permission to stay away is only given in case of sickness. My school hours were in summer from 7 to 11 and from 2 till 4, in winter from 8 to 12 and 2 till 4. The Wednesday and Saturday afternoons are free.—The vacations last longer than here. Easter Holidays 2 weeks, Whitsuntide 10 days, Midsummer 1 month, Michaelmas 2 weeks and Christmas and New Year 2 weeks.

Much attention is given to physical education as gymnastics are practised in every school.

The scholars in a class are arranged according to their deserts; the best occupy the highest seats. The transfer to a higher one only takes place at Easter without examination, a certain number occupying the lowest seats remain behind.

The classes count the reverse of ours, thus the first is the highest and say the sixth the lowest."

E. Espenhahn, Class 3F.

A SCHOOL BOY OF 2000 YEARS AGO.

EXAMPLES FROM HIS EXERCISE.

Something quite new, in the form of an exercise book for budding Greek scholars, has made its appearance in Germany. Into this "Greek Reader" have been packed all sorts of delightful and almost unknown specimens of the literature of ancient Greece, such as fables, fairy tales, stories, etc., adapted for young people. There are also examples of the work done by the pupils of the Græco-Roman schools some, 20 centuries ago. The following, for instance, is the account of his daily routine work by a Roman schoolboy.

He writes: "I wake up before sunrise leave my bed, sit down with my straps and shoes and put on my shoes. Then water for washing is brought to me. I wash first my hands then my face, take off my night-cap, put on my undergarment anoint and comb my hair, arrange my neck-cloth, put on a white upper garment and wrapper. Then I leave my bedroom together with my tutor and my maid, salute my mother and father, and leave the house."

The mixture of Spartan abstinence in leaving home without a breakfast and of the altogether un-Spartan luxury of an attendant tutor and maid is suggestive.

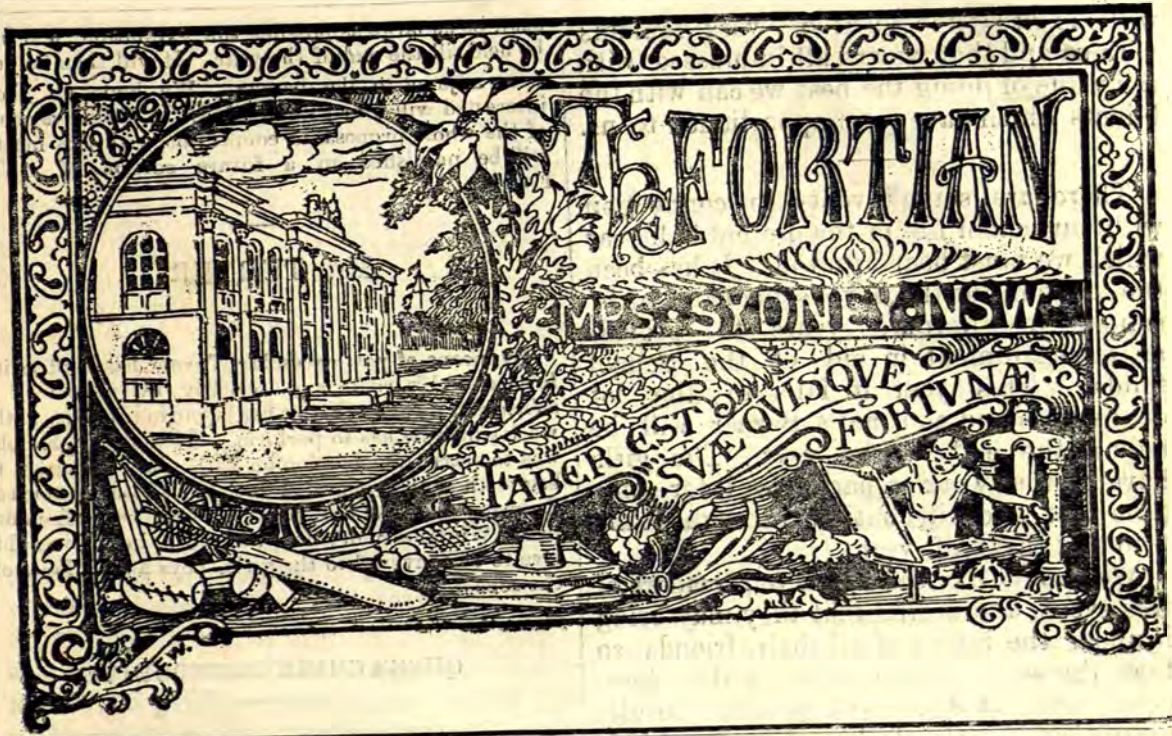
The youth goes on to explain, with a deliciously pedantic air, "I reach the school, enter, and say 'Good morning, my teacher.' He returns the salutation. My slave hands slates, pen-box, and pencil to me. I sit down in my place and write, and then I cross out what I have written. I write from a copy and show it to the teacher. He corrects and crosses out what is bad. Then he makes me read aloud.

"Meanwhile the small boys have to learn their letters and spell out syllables. One of the bigger boys reads to them. Others write verses, and I go in for a spelling competition. Then I decline and analyse some verses.

"When I have done all this I go home to breakfast. I change my clothes, and then I eat white bread and olives, cheese, figs, and nuts, and drink some cold water. After breakfast I go back to school. I find the reader reading aloud, and he says: 'Now we will begin at the beginning.' This schoolboy performance goes a long way to show once more that there is nothing new under the sun, not even the trivial round of the modern schoolboy.—The "World's News."

WORTH KNOWING.

A river of ink is formed in Algeria by the union of two streams, the water of one being impregnated with iron, and the other, which drains a great swamp, with gallic acid. This combination of iron and acid forms a true ink. Most large rivers of Africa have several remarkable peculiarities. They seek the ocean that is farthest away from their source, their course is always broken by falls, and their mouths are stopped by numerous sand banks.



Vol. IV. No. 6. SYDNEY, MONDAY, JULY 27th, 1902.

Price 1d.

THE FORTIAN.

EDITORIAL.

WORK.

The second half of the year should impress us all strongly with the fact that time is passing on and there is much work to be done. A number of those who occupied seats in the highest classes of the School no longer take their accustomed places. They have ended their school career and have passed out into the world to begin the battle of life in earnest. With these go our sincerest sympathy and best wishes. Their places have been filled by those who, for the most part, intend to consummate their school career by twelve months' training in order to qualify themselves for that test (Junior University Examination)

which may be considered a sufficient one at the close of an elementary school career.

To these we would say there is no other means of qualifying for that test but hard work:—not desultory and half-hearted but continuous and persistent. This promotion of those who have proved themselves by hard work to be worthy of it has obtained throughout the whole of the School, and almost every one in the School is faced with the fact that though some part of his school duty has been performed, yet more and more difficult tasks lie ahead. To all of these would say that those who have striven and have overcome in the past enter upon their new task with a sure foundation and the strength that comes from work well and faithfully done. Before the end of the year for the whole of the school will come the usual inspection test of the work that has been done during the past twelve months and we hope that the School

will show that the spirit of work remains with us and that we are all impressed with the value of doing the best we can with the talents which have been apportioned to us.

There are some events in connection with our school life in the present half year which we must bear in mind. It has been the custom for the boys' school and girls' school in alternate years to provide an entertainment in aid of the School funds. This year it falls to the lot of the girls and as usual a Bazaar will be held at the end of the year. The girls have been at work preparing for it for some time past, and will continue throughout the whole of the half year.

We should like to remind our readers of this event, and desire that they may bring it under the notice of all their friends so that the work which the girls have done and will do will produce results gratifying to them in that the funds of the school have been considerably increased. Boys as well as others may conduce to this good result by contributions in money for the purchase of material and fancy articles. We hope that every boy in the school will do his best to help the girls and through them the school, which does its best for them by making this year's bazaar a most pronounced success.

PHOTOGRAPHY.

During the past quarter a number of pupils attended a demonstration which was given in photography to those who were interested in the matter. The lecture we believe, was extremely interesting and practical. The thanks of the School are due to Messrs. Harrington & Co. for giving those of us who take an interest in photography the opportunity of witnessing the demonstration. As so many pupils have taken up this hobby, which is so delightful and in our opinion so educative, it has been thought wise to endeavour to give them a spur in their work. It is proposed to hold an exhibition of photographs which are to be the sole work of pupils of the school. In order that the number of exhibitors

shall be as large as possible the exhibition will not be held till the end of the year. It will then be held as an adjunct to the bazaar. We hope all those interested will bear this in mind. A fuller account of the whole proposal in connection with this matter will be published in a future edition of "The Fortian."

Mr. TURNER.

By means of post cards Mr. Turner has kept us informed of his route and recently by means of a cablegram we learn that he has begun in real earnest the work which he has to perform. He with Mr. Knibbs was to start from London on 15th. July in order to begin their investigation into the school systems of Germany and France. In a post card from London, to Mr. Williams under date June 6th, he desires his love to be conveyed to the girls, boys and infants of the school.

QUEER CHINESE ETIQUETTE.

When a Chinaman takes his little boy to school, to introduce him to his teacher, it is done as follows:

The Chinaman arrives at the school and is escorted to the reception room. Both he and the teacher shake their own hands, and bow profoundly; then the latter asks, "What is your honourable name?"

"My mean, insignificant name is Werg," is the answer.

Tea and a pipe are sent for, and the teacher says "Please use tea." The father sips and puffs for a quarter of an hour before he says to the teacher, "What is your honourable name?"

"My mean insignificant name is Pott."

"How many little stems have you sprouted?" (This means, "How old are you?")

"I have vainly spent thirty years."

"Is the honourable and great man of the household living?" (He is asking after the teacher's father.)

"The old man is well."

"How many precious little ones have you?"

"I have two little dogs." (These are the teacher's own children.)

"How many children have you in your illustrious institution?"

"I have a hundred little brothers."

Then the Chinaman comes to business.

"Venerable master," he says, "I have brought my little dog here, and worshipfully intrust him to your charge."

The little fellow, who has been standing in the corner of the room, comes forward at this, kneels

before the teacher, and knocks his head on the floor. The teacher raises him up, and sends him off to school, while arrangements are being made for his sleeping-room and so forth.

At last the father rises to take his leave, saying, "I have tormented you exceedingly to-day," to which the teacher responds, "Oh, no, I have dishonoured you."

As he goes towards the door he keeps saying, "I am gone: I am gone." And etiquette requires the teacher to repeat, as long as he is in hearing, "Go slowly, go slowly."

1903 JUNIOR.

Too little attention has been paid in the past by candidates preparing for the Junior University Examination to making themselves acquainted with literature which will not only serve to make the work done at school interesting but which will tend to create impressions which will make it of permanent educative value. It is the object of this article to suggest some of the reading matter which will be of service during the coming year in the subjects of History, English, and Geography. It is not intended to make this a complete list in any one subject, but it is hoped that the suggestions made will induce pupils to read books other than those here mentioned and that in future issues of "The Fortian" brief contributions of interesting books bearing upon the subject to be read will appear. For the special period in History no more interesting book could be found than Richard Carvel. A very vivid description is given not only of the events which led up to the rupture with England but also there are character sketches of the English and American actors in them and descriptions of the manners and customs of the times and of those things which formed the people's occupation. In Thackeray's "Virginia" and in Conan Doyle's "Refugees" an account can be read of the lives of the early settlers in the United States and Canada. The number of good

books which might be read to illustrate the general period of history is legion and in a brief account such as this a description of only a few of them can be attempted. In Ainsworth's "Tower of London," an account is given of an attempt to put Lady Jane Grey upon the throne, and the better side of Mary's character is depicted in the part she played during the attack upon the Tower by Lady Jane's adherents. The account of Elizabeth's glorious epoch, and of the battle for freedom against the Spanish Armada is told by the brilliant pen of Charles Kingsley in "Westward Ho." There is an exquisite story of Charles I in Scott's "Fortunes of Nigel," which so characteristically depicts that monarch from the humorous side that it is difficult to believe the story does not represent an actual occurrence. Scott also supplies the romance for Charles I in the "Legend of Montrose," and in "Woodstock" tells a story of Cromwell, a half legendary story, which comes out real enough as a character sketch of the Great Protector. For a more complete idea of the Puritan ideals of life and the strangeness of their ways and speech we must look to Conan Doyle's "Micah Clarke." In it is also contained an account of Monmouth's rebellion. In Thackeray's "Esmond" we reach Queen Anne's reign. The instability of Marlborough's character is shown with historical exactness, and we here get some idea how nearly England was to getting back again to the rule of the Stuarts. Some exciting scenes of the period of the Guelphs are told in the story of "Preston Fight" by Ainsworth and by Scott's masterly description (in the Red Gauntlet) of a landing of the Young Pretender and the quiet dispersal of the Jacobites by diplomacy rather than arms—an episode which perhaps has no warrant in history but which truly represents the position of the Hanoverian line of Kings in relation to the Stuarts in their last

days. For the reign of George the Third an account of the Gordon Riots is given by Dickens in *Barnaby Rudge*. The battle of Waterloo, told by Thackeray in *Vanity Fair* is perhaps one of the most masterly sketches of a great event in a short space they could possibly be conceived.

In order that the study of the *Lay of the Last Minstrel*, may be turned to profitable account, a careful reading of the historical ballads contained in *Scott's Border Minstrelsy* is necessary. The Introduction to this collection of ballads will give some most useful information concerning the social customs of the people of the borders during the 16th and 17th centuries, and will also serve to impress the curious position the border lords occupy in British history. Take for example such an example as the following:—

"On the middle and western marches the inhabitants were unrestrained moss-troopers and cattle drivers, knowing no law but the length of their swords. Sterility of the mountainous country which they inhabited, offered little encouragement to industry and.....the hands of rapine were not there folded in inactivity, nor the sword of violence turned to the scabbard. Their morality was of a singular kind. The rapine, by which they subsisted, they accounted lawful and honourable.

Other portions of the introduction give interesting information concerning many of the characters who figure in the *Lay*. e.g.

Buccleuch and his family, the Douglasses, Fairniehirst etc. And here also can be read much that concerns the strong holds of the border lords and the methods employed to defend them.

Of the ballads themselves, those which should be read are the historical ones.

Scott's notes and appendices to these ballads must first be attentively read, else the ballads will not be correctly appreciated.

The ballad of 'Jamie Telfer' is much quoted in the notes to the 'Lay of the Last Minstrel' and as it concerns the family of Scott is particularly interesting. The 'Raid of the Reidswire' gives us some idea of the wardens. In Scott's introduction to 'Lord Maxwell's good-night' we are told the story of one of the characteristic border feuds. The 'Battle of Loudon Hill,' and 'Bonnie Dundee' give us scenes in the life of Graham of Claverhouse. The ballad of 'Auld Maitland' presents us with a picture of border warfare.

In connection with *Scott's Border Minstrelsy* pupils should read the following tales in 'Wilson's Tales of the Border.'

Harden's Revenge,
The Lyke wake.

The Rival Sheriffs of Teviotdale.
The Royal raid.
Archy Armstrong.
The Battle of Dryffe Sands.
The Moss-trooper.

The 'Battle of the Dryffe Sands' is the same story as that told in 'Lord Maxwell's Good-night.' 'The Rival Sheriffs of Teviotdale' is referred to in Canto II. X. 'And thine, dark Knight of Liddesdale.'

'Archy Armstrong' gives us a splendid and pathetic picture of border life and affords us a correct idea of the dreaded Tarras Moss. It is relieved by many humorous touches especially in the advice given by Old Sandy Armstrong to his son when he says:—

"Archy this world is turning upside down an' honest men hae nae chance in it. We hear o' naething noo but law! law! law!—but the fiest a grain o' justice is to be met wi' on the borders. A man canna tak a'bit beast or twa in an honest way, or mak a bonfire o' an enemy's hay-stack but there's naething for it but Carlisle and a hempen cravat. But mind callant, ye hae the bluid o' the Armstrongs in your veins, and their hands never earned dread by ony instrument but the sword, and it winna be the son o' Sandy o' Cleughfoot that will disgrace his kith and kin by trudging at a plough tail or learning some beggarly handicraft. dinna disgrace your faither by makin' bickers like the Coopers o' Nicholwood or pinglin' wi' an elshin like the Souters o' Selkirk."

The Moss-trooper and Harden's Revenge bear directly on characters mentioned in the *Lay*.

In order that the Geography may be made as valuable and interesting as possible, books of travel should be read in conjunction with the study of the text book. These are very numerous and in all probability numbers of good books of this character have been read already. We hope that an account of some of them will be written by pupils themselves. We shall content ourselves by mentioning only one small book—*Pacific Routes and Round the World*. This is full of photographs of various parts of the world with descriptions of the various routes by which travellers may go from one end of the world to the other. The whole of the books mentioned in the above list can be obtained from the School Library. If it is found that the number of copies is not sufficient to supply the demands of those who desire to make use of them, other copies will be obtained as soon as possible.

LIBRARY NOTICE.

The Reading Room and Library are not so well patronised as we would like. No charge is made for the use of the Reading Room and any boy or girl can use this room on the proper day. Fifth class boys use the room on Monday, Fourth Classes on Wednesday, Third Classes on Friday and the girls use it on Tuesday and Thursday. The Library has the latest magazines and pictorials and a good series of Historical and Geographical Reading well suited for the

lower classes. The Lending Library is full of books valuable for boys and girls and the small charge of 1d per week is made for the loan of a book. Several new books were added to the Library during the vacation and if the boys and girls patronise their School Library, as we believe they will, we hope to add a number of new books each month and so keep the Library thoroughly up to date. The Librarian will be glad to receive the name of any book suggested for purchase from any boy or girl.

AN INCH OF RAIN.

Calculated it amounts to this;—An acre is equal to 6,272,640 sq. inches; an inch deep of water on this acre will be as many cubic inches of water, which, at 227.274 inches to the gallon, is 22623.5 gallons. This quantity weighs 226,225 lbs. Thus, an "inch of rain" is over 100 tons of water to the acre.

JAPANESE PEOPLE.

(By LANCE FEARON Class 4B)

Though so many books have been written dealing with Japan and its people, it is remarkable how little people really know about them and their inner life and customs. It is becoming customary to admire the Japs and their institutions, but those who do know them, have generally but a poor opinion of them and the servile way in which they copy "Foreigners" as Europeans are called; but it is different with those who have not been affected by European manners and in some ways they are marvellously clever, as for instance in cabinet-making and such work: they are also very clever in wood and ivory carvings, embroideries, bronzes, and the like.

The average Japanese is about five feet two inches in height, and is very broad in proportion. Their clothing is very scant, the men only wearing a kind of shirt and a long loose tunic reaching down to the ankles, with the neck left bare. The tunic is wrapped round the body and kept in that position by a kind of sash, in the folds of which they put their money and other valuables. The women wear a similar kind of tunic or "kimmon" as it is called and a sash which is somewhat longer and wider than that worn by the men. They wear their hair in a very fantastic fashion having a number of hairpins with coral beads and a curved comb which is put on top of the head. They put a quantity of oil on their hair which is put on to keep the wind from blowing about: the process of dressing the hair generally takes an hour or more. The men used to wear their hair in a knot on top of the head but now wear it cut short. Neither sex wear any kind of hat nor do they wear boots or stockings, but instead of the latter they have a kind of sock—the women wear white ones and the men dark blue—which only reaches to the ankles and a wooden clog with straps across the soles through which the foot is passed.

(To be continued.)

TO STAMP COLLECTORS.

The following letter was sent to Mr. Williams and we publish it for those interested in stamp collecting.

Warrion,
via Beac,
Victoria.
July. 26th. 1902

Dear Sir,

Being desirous of obtaining a large number of "used" stamps of your State, I would esteem it a favour if you would let any stamp collectors in your school know that I will be glad to exchange "used Victorians with them. (My stock of Victorians is very large and varied, numbering several thousands.)

Please ask those who send "stamps" to forward as varied an assortment as possible and I will see that the exchange packet is satisfactory.

Further would you kindly state that if any children care to send me stamps (and do not want others in lieu thereof) that for every thousand stamps of any kind or country of recent issues I will forward a present for a child sending the stamps. The value of the present will depend upon the variety and value of the collection of stamps.

Impress upon the children the necessity of giving the following particulars with each communication:—

Name in full: correct address: exchange desired: i.e. stamps or present

Thanking you in anticipation,

I am,
Yours sincerely,
Hy. Atkins.

A PETRIFIED INCA

The petrified remains of an Inca, believed to be the only genuine human petrification in existence was exhibited in the Pan-American Exposition. Experts examined it, and pronounced the specimen the most valuable ethnological and achæological find yet made on the American continent. The body was found in an old copper mine near Colama at an altitude of 11,000 feet.

"To thine own self be true!
And it must follow, as the night the day
Thou canst not then be false to any man."
—SHAKESPEARE.

GIRLS' COLUMN.

Comments on the 1902 Junior Examination and the Juniors' picnic.

On the 9th. June 1902 as late as 9.15 a.m. girls and boys could have been seen in trains, trams, omnibuses and boats all hurrying on their way to one place, the Sydney University. Arrived there our (Fort-street girls) chief care was to obtain our distinguishing numbers. After that care was removed we disposed of hats, cloaks, and books, and returned to the front of the old Institution to wait for girls, who had not already arrived.

Fort-street girls predominated everywhere, some taking a last look at some History "we are sure to get," others asking questions.

At about 9.20 we took our places at the door; that is, of course "First."

The doors were opened exactly at 9.30 and then there was a rush for seats.

Ten minutes after the doors were opened, everyone was busy, and it seemed as if a very short time had passed when the gong rang, and we were informed that we "had ten minutes more for the paper."

It was pleasing to note that Fort-street girls were at their places first and left them last.

After sitting for one subject, most of their nervousness left them.

After each subject, questions innumerable were asked and comparisons made.

And so the week passed in almost the same way partly in excitement to know what the papers would be like, and afterwards, generally in pleasure because "they could have been harder."

Our last day was Monday 16th June, and the feelings of the majority of our girls, were mingled with regret and pleasure; regret because our happy time at the University, and for the preceding six months was over for we had grown to love our books and study; pleasure because now we could have a good rest and some enjoyment. And a good rest we had and enjoyment also, for on Friday 20th June all girls interested in Geology in 5C, D, and E classes were taken to Bondi by the Misses Brewster, Cass, and Free. We had a very happy time, climbing down gorges to view different rock formations etc.

On Saturday 21st. June was the happiest time of all, for on that day we had our picnic to Balmoral. In the morning we had a few games and about ten o'clock we had luncheon. Every one seemed to be in a very jolly mood, quite a contrast to the girls at the University on the first morning of the examination. After luncheon we went in groups for long walks round the rocks, while some sat on the sands and listened to stories told by one of the girls. Then at about 4.30 we had tea as some of the teachers and girls had to return to Sydney early. The majority of the girls stayed until the 6 o'clock boat from Mosman's Bay, and at Circular Quay our farewells were taken and we separated to go to our respective homes tired, but happy after the day's outing.

Man's knowledge is but as a grain of dust that glimmers in a gulf of ignorance wide as the universe itself.

LENANE.

REMOVALS.

Our old teachers—old friends—are constantly being taken from us. Last quarter saw the removal of Mr. Steinbeck to Broken Hill. At a little gathering of the staff on the eve of his departure Mr. Steinbeck was presented with a handsome gold mounted umbrella, as a mark of esteem and respect in which he is held by all. The various speakers referred to Mr. Steinbeck's good work at the school, his high sense of duty, his interest in and devotion to the pupils in his charge, his unsparing efforts for their advancement, and his hearty, generous, jovial manner to all.

We wish Mr. Steinbeck the success he so thoroughly deserves, and we congratulate him on his promotion, and Broken Hill upon securing an efficient teacher and an intelligent, zealous citizen.

Mr. Steinbeck was also the recipient of a very suitable present from his class.

We have to record with regret the departure of Mr. Bourke from the School. The School has lost one who cannot easily be replaced. The work which he did with last year's Junior and with the Public Service Class since that time stamped him as a teacher of no ordinary ability. A large number of boys have to thank his energy and ability for the positions which they to-day hold in the Public Service. Mr. Bourke has been transferred to a position in the Government Statistician's Department. Though the matter was so sudden, his fellow teachers could not allow him to leave without showing in a slight degree their appreciation of him as a teacher and as a man. On Friday afternoon 26th instant, they met together for the purpose of bidding him farewell. Mr Lovell, Mr Lasker, Mr Massey and Mr Williams spoke in highest terms of his personal character and attainment, and expressed their sense of the great loss the school was suffering in his removal. They all wished him success in his new sphere. Mr Williams also on behalf of the teachers of the Boys' Department presented Mr Bourke with an umbrella as a slight token of their esteem.

CUBE ROOT.

Father—"You are very backward in your arithmetic. When I was your age I was doing cube roots."

Boy—"What's them?"

Father—"What! You don't know what they are? My! My! that's terrible! There, give me your pencil. Now, we take, say, 982,783, and find the cube root. First, you divide—no, you point off—no—let me see? —um—yes—no—don't stand there grinning like a Cheshire cat: go upstairs and stay in your bedroom for an hour.

The Rovers.

HENRY LAWSON.

(By kind permission of Angus and Robertson.)

Some born of homely parents
For ages settled down—
The steady generations
Of village, farm, and town;
And some of dusky fathers
Who wandered since the food—
The fairest skin or darkest
Might hold the roving blood—

Some born of brutish peasants,
And some of dainty peers,
In poverty or plenty
They pass their early years;
But, born in pride of purple,
Or straw and squalid sin,
In all the far world corners
The wanderers are kin.

A rover or a rebel,
Conceived and born to roam,
As babies they will toddle
With faces turned from home;
They've fought beyond the vanguard
Wherever storm has raged,
And home is but a prison
They pace like lions caged.

They smile and are not happy;
They sing and are not gay;
They weary, yet they wander;
They love and cannot stay;
They marry and are single
Who watch the roving star,
For by the family fireside,
Oh, lonely men "they" are!

They die of peace and quiet—
The deadly ease of life;
They die of home and comfort;
They "live" in storm and strife;
No poverty can tie them,
Nor wealth nor place restrain—
Girl, wife, or child may draw them,
But they'll be gone again!

Across the glowing desert;
Through naked trees and snow;
Across the rolling prairies
The skies have seen them go;
They fought to where the ocean
Receives the setting sun;—
But where shall fight the rovers
When all the lands are won?

They thirst on Greenland snowfields,
On Never—Never sands;
Where man is not to conquer
They conquer barren lands;
They feel that most are cowards,
That all depend on "nerve,"
They lead who cannot follow,
They rule who cannot serve.

Across the plains and ranges,
Away across the seas,
On blue and green horizons
They camp by twos and threes;
They hold on stormy borders
Or states that trouble earth
The honour of the country
That only gave them birth.

Unlisted, uncommissioned,
Untaught of any school,
In far-away world corners
Unconquered tribes they rule;
The lone hand and revolver—
Sad eyes that never quail—
The lone hand and the rifle
That win where armies fail.

* * *

Through drought and desolation
They won their way Out Back;
The commonplace and selfish
Have followed on their track;
They conquer lands for others,
For others find the gold,—
But where shall go the rovers
When all the lands are old?

A rover and a rebel
And so the worlds commence!
Their hearts shall beat as wildly
Then generations hence;
And when the world is crowded—
'Tis signed and sealed by Fate—
The roving blood will rise to make
The countries desolate.

Use and Waste.

Fie on that human being's life, I cried,
That's bare of service to his fellows done!
Hurrah for cattle! for at least their hide
Will serve for leather when their life is run.

Opinions and Pinions.

Oh,—show—no vain triumph o'er thy neighbours!
They—may—lay snares for thy shameful fall:
Ill—will—skill repay thy anxious labours
When—men—pen or form dislike of all.

Keep—deep—sleep when Self and Pride are preach-
ing:

More—soar—o'er the planets than are wise;
Far—are—star and sun beyond thy reaching;
Why—fly high since clouds must wrap the skies?

—Dublin University Magazine.

Some Australian Trees : Wattles.

The word wattle is one which we in Australia have peculiarly adopted as our own, and this is how its adoption came about. It dates from Anglo-Saxon times, and signifies twigs and saplings, or flexible rods plaited or interwoven together. The word has survived (chiefly in provincial dialects) to modern days; and, when the early settlers in Australia found it convenient to construct the framework of the walls of their dwellings and other buildings of twigs and split saplings, the operation was called "wattling," and the material used, "wattle." Near Sydney Cove, there grew in abundance, overhanging the watercourses, a small tree with thin, flexible stems, which was frequently used for the purposes and hence was first called "Wattle" or "Black Wattle." It is known to botanists as "Callicoma," and has cream-coloured flowers, in globular heads. Subsequently other which we now call "Acacias," were used for the purpose, and these are recognised as "Wattles" in most parts of this continent, whether their stems and twigs are used for wattling or not, while the name, as applied to "Callicoma," has almost fallen into disuse, except amongst a few old-fashioned people.

The term wattle is, however, by no means universally applied to plants of the genus *Acacia*, particularly in the far western parts of the colony. Myall, horse, mulga, brigalow, cooba, dead-finish, gidgee, hickory, miljee, umbrella-bush, wait-a-while, and yarran, amongst others, are all members of the great wattle family.

Acacias are found in the warmer regions of the earth, particularly in Australia and Africa. They aggregate nearly 500 species for the whole world, of which considerably over 300 are found in Australia alone. It will, therefore, be seen that the *Acacia* is mainly Australian. The number of species can only be stated approximately, as botanists continue to discover additional ones.

Having spoken thus generally, let us consider details. First, let us examine the blossoms. It will be found that wattles fall into two great groups; those which have their flowers in small round heads or fluffy balls, and those in which the shape of the flowers may be described as short, blunt rods, or, technically speaking, "spikes." Now, if we look at the blossom with a pocket-lens, we shall observe that it consists of a very large number of tiny flowers, forming in fact, a colony of little flowerets, the structure of which though minute, is as perfect as that of the large, showy hibiscus so common in gardens. These minute flowers will be found each to contain perfect sepals (and therefore calyx), petals (and therefore the corolla), a large number of stamens, together with a pistil. The tiny sepals and petals differ amongst themselves in shape, texture, markings, in the presence or absence of hairs; and, as these characters often determine the species, it follows that it may be necessary for the botanist to examine minutely a plant submitted for his opinion.

The colour of wattle-blossoms varies from a pure white to a deep yellow, different species showing flowers of varying shades of cream-colour and pale yellow. As a rule, they do not show to advantage as cut flowers, their exquisite fluffiness departing as soon as they are removed from the plant.

Most of us are aware that the fruit of the wattle is a pod or legume, which, although varying a good deal in shape in different species, bears a strong family likeness to the homely pea or bean. Hence it is that the wattle belongs to the natural order Leguminosæ. In some seasons, the conditions for forming pods are unfavourable over large areas, and hence we may look for them in vain; but those of the ornamental wattles are well worthy of collection, as these plants are best propagated from seed. And here it may be mentioned that the outer coat of the wattle-seed is very tough, and impervious to moisture, so that it does not germinate

readily. Accordingly, before sowing, it is well to soak the seeds in hot, nearly boiling water, or partly bake them, an operation which Nature herself often performs by means of bush fires. Wattle-seed may, in dry land, remain in the ground without germinating for many years; but, if a fire passes over the country, a crop of young wattles is frequently a result.

If I were to say that most wattles have no leaves, my readers would think I was not speaking seriously. The feathery foliage of the black and silver wattle, finely divided so as to be almost fern-like, consists of true leaves; but most of our wattles have "leaves," which structurally are only leaf-stalks or petioles flattened out, forming what are known as "phylodia."

Many of these phylodia look like the leaves of other trees, gum-trees for instance, others are long and narrow like a tape, while others again are thin and pungent-pointed like needles. Most are quite green, but several look as if they have been dusted over with flour. In a word, it may be said that the shape, texture, markings, and other characteristics of these phylodia present almost endless diversity of appearances.

Wattles vary much in size when fully grown. Some tiny species hardly exceed 3 or 4 inches in height, and may be crushed like the grass of the field. Most of them are shrubs, or trees of moderate size, while at least two species attain the stature of large forest trees, both of them being found to measure up to nearly 4 feet in diameter, while the one has been found to attain a height of over 100 feet, and the other the extraordinary height of 150 feet.

As has been already hinted, the wattle may reasonably be looked upon as a national Australian plant, and hence it would behove boys and girls to set about the very pleasant task of studying it. The structure of the flowers, pods, and phylodia should be made out from actual examination of a twig; this will impress the subject on the memory better than endless reading of descriptions.

The wattle is essentially a flower of winter or early spring, and its cultivation is easy. It brightens up our gardens and roadsides at a season when there are few other flowers, and no flowers are more effective than the yellow ones. When these facts are realized, we shall see more wattles adorning the homes of this bright, sunny land than we do at present, for they are themselves an emblem of sunshine.

—J. H. MAIDEN.

(Educational Gazette of N. S. Wales.)

SCHOOLBOY NOTIONS.

Here are a few extract from compositions written by boys in a high school of Vienna:—

"Many a man lies down in good health and gets up dead."

"In Rome the bones of the martyrs were collected and torn by wild beasts."

"Human beings ceased to walk on all four, and walked on the hindmost."

"Hannibal stood with one foot in Spain, while with the other he beckoned to the troops."

"God's punishment followed immediately after ten years."

Printed and published at the MODEL PUBLIC SCHOOL, Fort Street, Sydney, in the State of New South Wales.



Vol. IV. No. 7. SYDNEY, FRIDAY, AUGUST 29th, 1902.

Price 1d

THE FORTIAN.

1902 JUNIOR.

Last year after the publication of the Junior result, we endeavoured, by making a comparison of our results with those in the tabulated list, to gauge the work which we do in the school in the upper classes with that done on the average in the upper classes of the boys' schools of New South Wales and Queensland. Thinking that such a comparison will be interesting to all those who wish the school well, we again their year endeavour to find how our work stands.

We take as a basis the results in Latin, French, Geometry and Algebra, so that as far as possible we may eliminate the error likely to arise by inclusion of candidates from girls' schools.

In Latin the total average pass of can-

didates who entered was 77 per cent, and 11 per cent obtained an A pass. In the same subject 100 per cent of those who entered from the school passed, and 31 per cent obtained an A pass.

In French the total average pass was 61 per cent and 8 per cent of the entrants obtained an A pass. Of the School candidates 100 per cent passed in the subject and 38 per cent secured a first class pass. These results in Latin and French may be considered highly satisfactory, and if we were to continue the comparison of second and third class passes in these subjects, the work done in the school would appear in an even more favourable light.

In Algebra only 55 per cent of the total entrants obtained passes and 8 per cent obtained an A pass. Of the school candidates in this subject 96 obtained passes and 19 per cent secured an A pass.

In Geometry 72 per cent of the total number passed, and 8 per cent obtained

first class. For the School the average pass was 98 per cent and 10 per cent secured first class. These results also must be considered very satisfactory and would be found much better if we were to compare the passes in the other two classes.

In conclusion, we have to express our great gratification at the result obtained in Latin and French. It is the best result which the school has obtained so far in these subjects. Though the results in Mathematics this year are not so good as last year, when we take into consideration the quality of the papers which were set, we feel sure that the school has reason to be proud of its candidates.

Ballads.

[POPULAR OR COMMUNAL.]

Ballads are strictly speaking narratives in lyric form which have principally been preserved by oral tradition. The true ballad, which belongs to an early period in the history of a civilised race, does not owe its origin to any individual author, but was the spontaneous production of a community of people met together probably at some festival. Hence the title 'Communal.' On such occasions dancing and singing, in which all took part, was indulged in, and old folk songs were sung. The subject matter of these were naturally something of general interest: the favourite themes were war, love or the chase. Under the influence of some recent emotion, elation at some victory, sorrow at defeat, or perhaps simply out of a sympathetic interest in the fortunes of some member of the community, new subjects for song were constantly arising. An individual might easily have suggested such a subject, but the rhythmic beat of the foot, the swing of the body and the melody (all of which doubtless preceded) caused the words to be spontaneously developed, improvised, as it were out of the occasion itself.

The ballad in its first draft would be imperfect, but at each repetition improvements would suggest themselves until, the crude artistic sense of the multitude, being satisfied, it settled down into a stereotyped form and was passed on from generation to generation. It is thus that much of the history of a nation has been preserved. "Such ballads served as newspapers to their own times and as a chronicle to posterity." At an early period in the history of the

ballad, the desire for more artistic form brought about an important change. Those individuals possessed of artistic ability were called upon to contribute new verses whilst the rest would chant the chorus or refrain. Then the dancing and even the singing were found to interfere with the general interest aroused by the individual's production, and we enter upon a new stage in the history of the ballads. The old communal ballad disappears, and we have now the composed and recited ballad, the precursor of our modern ballad or narrative poem.

Even as such it still remained the only medium for the expression of the national sentiment and the artist was after all little more than a mouth-piece for the people of his race.

In an article on the ballad, popular and Communal, F. B. Gummere says:—

"The making of a ballad by a community can be illustrated from a case recorded by Pastor Lyngby in his invaluable account of life on the Farø Islands a century ago. Not only had the islanders used from most ancient times their traditional and narrative songs as music for the dance, but they had also maintained the old fashion of making a ballad. In the winter, dancing is their chief amusement and is an affair of the entire community. At such a dance, one or more persons begin to sing: then all who are present join in the ballad, or at least in the refrain. As they dance, they show by their gestures and expression that they follow with eagerness the course of the story which they are singing. More than this, the ballad is often a spontaneous production of the occasion. A fisherman who has had some recent mishap with his boat, is pushed by stalwart comrades into the middle of the throng while the dancers sing verses about him and his lack of skill,—verses improvised on the spot and with a catching and clamorous refrain. If these verses win favour they are repeated from year to year, with slight alterations or corrections, and become a permanent ballad."

One characteristic of a ballad should be specially noted:—the words of the ballad betray no sign of the maker nor of his sentiments. "Sentiment and individualism are the essence of modern poetry and the direct result of individualism in verse..... the ballad, an epic in little forces one's attention on the object, the scene, the story and away from the maker." (F. B. Gummere)

Other characteristics are, that the narrative bounds along, often by leaps, is simple in style, faulty in rhymes and wanting in poetic adornment. Metaphor and simile are seldom employed and we are forced to remark an entire absence of those passages of reflection or moralizing which contribute so much to make the charm of modern poetry.

1902 JUNIOR RESULTS.

The results of the recent Junior Examination which appeared too late for insertion in the last issue are given below.

In the table which follows, A signifies first-class, B second-class, and C third-class. An asterisk denotes that the candidate has previously passed the junior examination. Those who have qualified for matriculation are shown by letter 'm.' In order to qualify for matriculation by passing the junior examination, candidates are required to pass in Latin and in one of the three languages—Greek, French, German—and in arithmetic, algebra, and geometry; and they must, in addition, be placed in the first or second class in the two languages, or in the three mathematical subjects.

The subjects of examination are arranged in 17 sections here enumerated, and the numbers in the list of successful candidates refer to these sections:—(1) English history, (2) Geography, (3) English, (4) French, (5) German, (6) Latin, (7) Greek, (8) arithmetic, (9) algebra, (10) geometry, (11) inorganic chemistry, (12) physics, (13) geology, (14) botany, (15) physiology, (16) drawing, (17) music.

Forty three candidates presented themselves from the Boy's Department and of these 42 passed. In addition one boy who went to work about a month before the examination entered himself from the school, so we are credited with 43 passes. Sixteen candidates presented themselves in matriculation subjects and of these 13 secured passes. The average pass was 6 subjects per pupil.

Binns, James Stanley, 2B 3C 8C 9C 10C
 m. Blake, Robert Lyndon, 3C 4A 6B 8B 9B 10B
 Brown, Allison James, 2C 3C 8C 9B 13C
 Brownhill, Charles Clyde, 1C 2B 3C 8C 9C 10C 13B
 Chessell, Lancelot George, 2C 8C 9A 10B 13C
 Collier, Bertram Frank, 4C 6B 8C 9B 10C
 m. Cornwell, Sidney Gordon, 3C 4A 6A 8C 9C 10B
 Cotton, James Arthur Leshe, 2C 3C 8C 9B 10C 13B
 m. Dale, Harold, 1C 3C 4B 6B 8A 9B 10B
 Devitt, James Leo, 2C 8A 9B 10B 13C
 m. Dircks, Hugh Douglas, 1C 3C 4B 6B 8A 9A 10C
 Doherty, James, 1C 3C 8B 9C 10B 13C
 Ellard, William Christian, 1B 4C 6B 8C 9B 10C
 Falconer, Claud Sheridan Karl, 1C 2B 3C 9B 10C
 m. Frazer, Arthur Harold Churchill, 1C 3C 4B 6B 8B 9B 10B
 Grant, Frank Reginald, 2B 8C 9A 10B 13B
 m*. Grosse, Edward Henry, 1C 3C 4A 6A 8B 9B 10A
 Hamilton, John Christopher, 1C 2B 3C 8A 9C 10B 13C
 Hanks, Arthur Ernest, 1C 3C 4B 6B 8B 10C
 Hunt, Reginald de Vere, 1C 2B 9C 10C 13C
 m. Hutchison, James Alexander Verham, 1C 3B 4A 6A 8B 9C 10B

Laicester, Edward, 1 2B 8C 9C 10B 13B
 Long, Robert Adair, 2C 3C 8C 9B 10C
 Marshall, Alexander, 1C 2C 8A 9C 10B 13C
 m* McLean, Archibald Lang, 1A 3C 4A 6A 8C 9A 10A
 m. Middleton, Lindsay James, 4B 6A 8A 9A 10A
 Milgate, Leslie Clarence, 1C 2A 8C 9B 10C 13C
 *Moore, George Stanley, 1A 2A 3C 8B 9B 10B
 m. Moss, Herbert, 1B 3C 4A 6B 8A 9B 10B
 M'Kechnie, Robert Charles, 1C 2C 3C 8C 9A 10B 13B
 m* M'Manus, Arthur Hugh, 2C 9B 10C 13C
 Macqneen, Walter Henry, 1C 2C 8B 9C 10C 13C
 Pryde, Harry Ewart Gladstone, 1B 2B 3B 8C 9B 10C 13B
 Rivett, Arthur Hugh, 1C 2C 3C 9C 10C 13C
 m. Sewell, Leonard Greville, 1C 3C 4B 6B 8B 9C 10C
 Smith, Eric Kingsford, 1C 2A 3C 8B 9B 10B 13C
 Stoddart, William Norman, 1C 2B 8C 9C 10C 13B
 Taylor, Augustus Selwyn, 1A 2A 3C 10B 13B
 Thomas, William Shaw, 2C 8C 9C 10C 13C 16C
 m. Wall, William Thomas, 1C 3B 4B 6B 8B 9B 10C
 Watkins, Vernon Ellerslie, 2C 8A 9A 10A 13C
 m. Wheeler, Henry Howard, 1C 3C 4B 6B 8A 9A 10B
 Williams, Llewellyn Edwin, 2B 3C 9B 10C 13B

There were 37 passes from the Girls' Department. Of these 100 per cent passed in Geology and Physiology 97 per cent in English and English History 90 per cent in Geography and 84 per cent in Music. The best passes were obtained in Geology, Music, Geography, Physiology, English and History. The total number of A passes was 27, B 79, and C 102 and the average pass per each pupil was 5.4 subjects. Marian Blackwell obtained the medal for Music.

Gertie Butler 1A 2A 3A 4B 13A 15A
 Ella Stening 1C 2B 3A 4A 8C 13B 17A
 Josie Smith 1C 2A 3B 4B 8A 17A 9C
 M. Blackwell 1C 2A 3B 4B 13B 17A
 M. Waring 1C 2A 3B 4C 8C 13A 15B
 Elsie Smith 1B 2A 3B 4B 8C 13A
 May Smith 1B 2B 3B 4B 8B 17A
 Mary Smith 1B 2B 3B 4C 8C 13A 15B
 M. Edwards 1C 2B 3C 4B 8C 13B 17A
 H. Ebsworth 1B 2B 3B 13A 17B
 E. Gormley 1B 2B 3B 4C 8C 13A
 B. Searle 1C 2A 3B 4B 13B 17C
 M. Fryer 2B 3B 4C 8C 13B 17B
 A. Elliott 1C 2B 3C 4C 8C 13B 17B
 F. Levinge 1C 2C 3C 4B 8C 17A
 A. Anderson 1C 2B 3C 4C 8B 13C 15C
 G. Fogelin 1C 2B 3C 4C 13B 17B
 Dora Goff 1C 2B 3B 4C 8C 15B
 F. Goodyear 1C 2A 3C 4B 8C

N. Murray 1B 2C 3C 8C 17A
 E. Sherwood, 2C 3C 8C 13B 17A
 C. Bregenzer, 1C 2B 3C 8B 13B
 E. Hallett, 1C 2B 3C 4C 8C 13B 15B
 Eva Jay, 1B 2B 3C 4C 15B
 May Rowe, 1B 2C 3B 4C 13C 15C
 R. Waddell, 1C 2B 3C 13B 17B
 E. Young, 1B 2C 3B 4C 13B
 A. Coyle, 1C 2C 3C 4C 13C 17B
 L. Lowick, 1B 2B 13B 15C
 A. Macneath, 1C 2B 3C 13B
 F. Vaughan, 1C 2C 3C 4C 8C 17C
 Bessie Wass, 1C 2C 3C 8C 13B
 B. Russell, 1C 2C 3C 8C 13C
 C. Smith, 1C 2C 3C 8C 13C
 Cloe Smith, 2B 3C 8C 17C
 F. McLachlan, 1C 2C 3C 13B
 M. Wood, 1C 2C 3C 13C

THE GIRLS' COLUMN.

O. C. from 4B class sends in the following item to the Editor
 DICTIONARY GIRLS.

A disagreeable girl	Annie Mosity
A sweet girl	Carrie Mel
A pleasant girl	Jennie Rosity
A smooth girl	Amelia Ration
A clear case of girl	E Lucy Date
A geometrical girl	Polly Gon
The best girl	Ella Gant
A flower girl	Rhodar Dendron
A musical girl	Sarah Nade
A star girl	Meta Oric
A clinging girl	Jessie Mina
A nervous girl	Hester Ical
A lively girl	Anna Mation
A sad girl	Ella Gee
A big girl	Ellie Phant
A warlike girl	Millie Tary

CLASS ITEMS.

5 A

Elfreda Dawson has been doing splendid work, having taken top place in the monthly examination with an average of 85 per cent. Marjorie Boyce-Allen has been making good progress also taking second place. Winnie Harle, Minnie Boyce-Allan, I. Mc Murtrie, F. Lambert, L. Druce, R. Smith, F. Whitford, R. Conochie, and I. Everitt are making very rapid progress.

Class 4B. The undermentioned girls gained full marks in the various subjects at last monthly Examination.
 Composition: E. Mc Lachlan, I. Gardner, B. Mc Burney,
 Dictation: M. Barnes, E. Hattersley, W. Chapman, E. Cuneo,
 G. Baker, G. Annan, M. Thompson, E. Elliot.

Australian History: I. Gardner, O. Clark, W. Chapman, L. Smith, E. Cuneo, V. Young.
 French: G. Henderson, O. Clarke, E. Pickup, B. McBurney.

Class 3C. In the monthly average for Dictation Isa Barnes heads the list—1 mistake in 18 lessons, and Agnes Allen 4 mistakes, Violet Colenutt and Florrie Smith 6. In Arithmetic (38 sums) Jeanne Partridge 1, Alice Wilson 2, Nellie Arnold 3.

Class 3E. Katie Ballantyne came first in the monthly Examination, Mabel Kavanough, and Sidney Callaway second, and Eva Fletcher third.

Class 5B. Monthly Examination results:—

General Proficiency—A. Benwell 88 per cent., M. King, 87 per cent., I. Firman and Z. Bocking, 85 per cent.
 History—I. Anderson, Music—I. Pulte, Geology—Z. Bocking, each 100 per cent. History Author—Z. Bocking, M. Orr, E. Peddle, E. Burke, N. Adams 100 per cent. each.

Class 2B. Dorothy Butz won the prize for effort during last quarter.

OLD BOYS' COLUMN.

Albert Thomlinson has been distinguishing himself in the Military School of Ambulance Instruction, Middlesex, England. At an examination in ambulance drill held some time back he secured 133 marks out of a possible 144, being first man in his team of four.

It is pleasing to notify that at the distribution of Medals and Certificates by the Royal Shipwreck Relief Humane Society on August 25th, two Old Fort-Street Boys were amongst the recipients. S. J. Coggins who was always conspicuous for his strong swimming while in the School Swimming Club carried off a bronze Medal and Certificate of Merit and T. Terry received a Certificate of Merit. Both boys were brought before the notice of the Society for their gallant deeds in saving the lives of others from drowning. Such instances of bravery bring before us the advantage of being able to swim and as both boys belonged to the School Swimming Club we feel proud of them and congratulate them.

Catgut from silkworms.

Probably but a small percentage of the fishermen who use flies strung with fine transparent "catgut" are aware that the almost unbreakable substance that holds the hooks against the fiercest struggles of the struck fish comes from silkworms. The

principal centre of the manufacture of this kind of catgut is the island of Procida, in the Bay of Naples, but most of the silk-worms employed are raised near Torre Ananuziata, at the foot of Vesuvius. The caterpillars are killed just before they are about to begin the spinning of cocoons, the silk glands are removed and subjected to a process of pickling, which is a secret of the trade, and afterwards the threads are carefully drawn out by skilled workers, mostly women. The length of the thread varies from a foot to nearly 20in.

JOTTINGS.

[From the Editor's Box.]

Made two.

A teacher in a country school was one day trying to beat into a dull boy's head rudiments of arithmetic.

"One and one?" he shouted, in tones of thunder.

"Four," said the boy.

"You blockhead!" thundered the schoolmaster. "You are one and I am one. How many does that make?"

"Two blockheads, sir," meekly answered the boy.

LITERAL.

An Irishman out of work applied to the "boss" of a large repair shop for a "job." After quizzing him for some time, the superintendent put him this question:

"Do you know anything about carpentry?"

"Sure, I'd like to see the man that can bate me at it."

"Do you know how to make a Venetian blind?"

"I do that."

"Tell me, then, how you'd make a Venetian blind."

"Sure, I'd poke my finger in his eye."

Of course.

"I've been readin' 'most every day in the papers about them hossless kerridges," said the old Texas farmer, "but I've got one that suits me to a T, and works just like a charm."

"How is it built?"

"Just like any other waggon."

"How do you make it go? Electricity?"

"No."

"Kerosene?"

"No."

"Steam?"

"No."

"Well, what furnishes the motive power?"

"Uh?"

"What makes it go?"

"Oh, why, oxen! Haw, there, Bill!"

How doth the little busy bee
Discover with dismay
That honey which he stored with glee
By man is snatched away.

(From the Worlds' News.)

MR. TURNER.

Writing from Lausanne, Switzerland, under date 26th June Mr Turner mentioned that he had that day received a copy of the "Fortian", which he welcomed as an old friend. On some of the post cards, which came addressed from this lovely place, was a picture of the Castle of Chillon which Byron has immortalised in his poem "The Prisoner of Chillon". The portion of the lake close by is referred to in Andersen's fairy tale—"The Ice Maiden."

Mr. Turner desired his love to be conveyed to all the boys and girls of the Grand Old School.

THE BAZAAR

The dates on which the bazaar is to be held have not finally been decided upon but we hope that everyone will keep the matter in mind. The girls are hard at work preparing articles for sale, and it is hoped that every boy and girl will make an endeavour to contribute something, either money or goods, in order that its success may be assured. The money which is obtained will as usual be devoted to the School and Prize Funds.

MOUNT KEMBLA FUND.

In response to a circular issued by Mr F. Bridges, Chief Inspector, a collection was started at the School for the purpose of raising funds to help those who were sufferers by the Mount Kembla disaster. At the time of writing about £30 has been raised. It is hoped to augment this in various ways, so that the total amount contributed by the School will be something substantial.

SPORTS.

During the month of September the Annual Meetings of the Swimming and Football Clubs will be held. The dates will be announced on the Notice Board. A start will be made early in October in both.

On Friday, August 30th the Football Season of the school was brought to a close by a match between 4D and 5A which resulted in a win for the latter by 14 to 3.

JAPANESE PEOPLE.

[Continued from last month's FORTIAN.]

The Japanese people play a great many different kinds of games, one of which is "hasami goban", which resembles our game of draughts, some of the draught-boards cost from £600 to £700 each, but of course these are not the kind you see every day. They do not go in so much for athletic sports but have other games too numerous to mention. The Japs do not have beds like Europeans, but have three or four very thick padded blankets, piled on the floor between which they lie. Their pillows consist of a piece of wood about 7 inches long and 3 inches by 6 inches high, on the top of which there is a pad making about 8 inches high in all, which I am afraid if we used for the same purpose would find very uncomfortable.

While taking their meals they do not sit on chairs, but squat on the floor with their legs doubled underneath them, round a little table about six inches high.

Their food consists chiefly of different kinds of vegetables and they eat a great deal of rice and dried fish, but scarcely any meat. They drink a quantity of very weak tea, which they take scalding hot without milk or sugar.

The houses they live in are made with wooden frames which is filled in with a trellis of bamboo filled up with mud. They do not have windows of glass like we do, but have very thin, transparent paper which answers the same purpose. Their doors do not have hinges but slide back like panels. Instead of carpets they have very thick mats. The rooms are heated by a cauldron with a flat bottom which is filled with charcoal. This utensil is called a "hibatch" and is generally made of copper or brass. It will be seen by this that the customs of the Japanese have been but little influenced by Europeans.

LANCE FEARON, Class 4B

FOOTBALL.

OLD BOYS v PRESENT BOYS.

On Wednesday the 30th. July the Present School met the Old Boys in the return match with the result that the School gained a victory of 20 to 14. Penman the school captain won the toss and the Past kicked off. In the first half the game alternated between close play in which the School forwards did not show up to advantage and fast open play in which the School was superior to their opponents. At half time the score was 11-6 against the School. But when play resumed the game became fast and open and Powell, Mr. Drew, Penman and Mr. Pike began to show up to advantage, with the result that in the second half the School scored 14 points to the Past's 3. In the Present's forwards Morell, Holcombe, Portus and Dennis did excellent work. Ben Powell the doughty "Uni" forward did not play to give an opportunity of showing how our boys shape against first grade.

4E Class v 5A Class.

The match between old 4E and 5A was contested on Friday August 1st. at Birchgrove resulting in a win for the former by 16 points to nil. 4E won the toss. The game was evidently evenly matched until half-time the only score being one try obtained by Huxley which was converted into a goal by Snell. When play was resumed Swinbourne kicked off Cromack secured and scored, no goal resulting. Presently Cromack secured once more, the ball being passed out by Glassop, and scored. Snell failed to add the extra points. 11-0 Towards the end of the game the play was exceedingly fast. Glassop scored and Owen cleverly converted. 16-0

For the losers Howard played very well, while Coughlan, Glassop, Owen, Cromack and Huxley played a good game for the winners.

4C v 4D

This match was played at Wentworth Park on the 6th August and resulted in a win for 4C by 19 to 9. For the winners Cashman, Chounding and Ward scored. Cashman converted two tries and Clements one. Hunt, at full back played a good steady game. Mouro, Hunt, Chounding, Ward, Cashman and Martin showed best form.

A SCHOOLBOY'S DREAM.

Schoolmaster (in despair): "Late again! Come here, sir!"

Boy (trembling): "I slept on, sir. I was dreaming awfu' dreams, sir."

Schoolmaster [interested]: "What has that to do with it? What were you dreaming about?"

Boy (doubtfully): "I dreamt I was in the bad place—I thought I was in hell."

Schoolmaster (Still interested): "And what did you see there?"

Boy [hesitatingly]: "I saw an awfu' lot o' schoolmasters."

Schoolmaster [threateningly]: "Did you see me there?"

Boy [cheerfully]: "No, sir; but I saw a bag wif your name on't!"

A RECORD IN KINGS.

The pupils in a school were asked to write original compositions on "kings." The prize was carried off by a bright youth, who perpetrated the following:—

- | | |
|---|------------|
| The most powerful king on earth is | Wor-king. |
| The laziest | Shir-king. |
| The wittiest | Jo-king. |
| The leanest | Thin-king. |
| The thirstiest | Drin-king. |
| The slyest | Win-king. |
| The most garrulous | Tal-king. |

A HERO'S GRAVE.

I thank you, stranger, for raisin' yer hat
 In reverence over this mound,
 But I'm sartin' that you ar' inj'ign'rance who
 Is a-restin' down thar, in the ground.
 The one as is sleepin' beneath this tree
 War' a friend that knew naught but his love
 fur me.

He had no 'complishments sich as we
 Of a higher grade possess—
 He never war' heard to speak a word,
 He couldn't tell a from s;
 But fur high-grade sense he could hold
 a hand

With half the folks in this western land.

He wa'nt no common everyday dog.
 But a king, an' a proud one, too,
 With sinews of might, an' a coat as
 white

As the snow that meets yer view
 On the San Mates peaks up thar',
 An' his soul war, just as white as his
 ha'r.

Out thar' in that muddy, rushin' stream,
 The treacherous Rio Grande,
 When a whirlin' pot in the current
 thought

It was holdin' the winnin hand,
 An' war' draggin' me down from the light o'
 day,

This dog chipped in with a startlin' play.
 Come plugin' through the mad, roarin'
 waves,

With a sort of encouragin' bark,
 Tuk hold o' my ha'r, drag me out on a bar.
 W'en my life war' drowned out to a spark,
 My cold face warmed with his loyal breath,
 T'ill he drew me out o' the clutch o' death.

My noble hero war' but a dog,
 But I'm sartin' as sartin' kin be,
 When Gabriel's call resurrects us all,
 He'll go nosin' around fur me;
 An' right at my side he'll loyally stay,
 Though all the perceedin's of that great day.

You may laugh at the idea I advance,
 Of a dog in the Promised Land,
 But I tell you straight, if up at the gate,
 They play an opposin' hand,
 An' admission to hero is thar' denied,
 You'll see me campin' with him outside.

—CAPTAIN JACK CRAWFORD
 ("The Poet Scout")

WEST OF THE WORLD.

[WILL H. OGHVIE.]

[By kind permission of the Bulletin.]

West of the World all red suns sleep
 On a fleecy carpet of crimson cloud,
 And the weary winds from the eastward creep
 To their shining goal on the westward steep
 In the golden arms of the starry crowd—
 West of the World!

West of the World all true hearts ride
 To a further bourn than the best have trod.
 Till they cross the last creek gleaming wide
 And wave their hands from the last divide
 Ere they drop their load at the feet of God—
 West of the World!

West of the World all dead hopes drift
 On the heaving heart of the hiding Day
 To the clinging shadows that show no rift,
 With a lingering step that is all too swift
 For the eyes that follow their trackless way—
 West of the World!

NEW BOOKS.

The following new books have been added to the Library since the June Vacation.

Gardiner's 'Cromwell's place in History', Dawson's 'Makers of Modern English', Lytton's 'Harold' and 'Last of the Barons', Ballantyne's 'Cannibal Island' and 'Dog Crusoe', Kingston's 'Washed Ashore' and 'Adrift in a Boat'; Collingwood's 'Under the Meteor Flag', Finley's 'Elsie Densmere', 'Elsie's Girlhood' and 'Elsie at the World's Fair', Louise Mack's 'Teens' and 'Girls Together', Annie Swan's 'Gates of Eden', Henty's 'Beric the Briton', Conan Doyle's 'Refugees' and 'White Company', Lawson's 'Commonwealth Poems', 'Pacific Tours and Round the World', 'Border Minstrelsy' (2 copies), Henty's 'Through Russian Snows'.

To those pupils who are preparing for the Junior Examination we would recommend a careful reading of 'Cromwell's place in History' as giving the best account of the course of events which led up to the establishment of the Protectorate, and of the motives which actuated Cromwell. 'Makers of Modern English' contains among many others a brief account of the life and Works of Sir Walter Scott.

LIFE OF GEORGE WASHINGTON.

(By R. H. LL.)

George Washington, the most heroic figure in the American war of Independence, was born in Virginia in 1732. His father died when George was 12 years old and the latter spent his early years chiefly with his brother Lawrence at Mount Vernon. He soon came under the notice of Lord Fairfax, who owned extensive estates in Virginia and by whose influence he was appointed adjutant of the provincial troops. He learned art of surveying and in 1748 he was engaged to survey the wild territories of Lord Fairfax. In 1751 George's brother Lawrence died and thus George became heir to the Mount Vernon estates.

Washington made his first appearance under fire in the French and Indian War a desultory warfare which preceded and finally merged into the Seven Years' War. Governor Dinwiddie of Virginia sent him to ask the reason for the establishment of two French forts in what was regarded as British territory.

The French made no secret of their purpose of putting the whole of the Ohio valley under French control. During the campaign which followed Washington was appointed aide-de-camp to the English commander-in-chief, General Braddock.

During the disastrous expedition under that general in 1775 Washington acquitted himself well by retreating in a masterly manner when Braddock and all his aides but Washington were wounded. In 1759 Washington resigned all his military appointments, married Mrs Curtis, a wealthy widow, and devoted himself to the improvement of his estates. He was for many years a member of the Virginian House of Burgesses and was a leading light of that assembly. In 1774 he again came into prominence by figuring as one of the most important of the protesting colonists. The colonists aroused to arms by the news of the skirmish of Lexington, unanimously elected George Washington Commander-in-chief of the Continental forces.

Washington was then a member of the Continental Congress but he hastened to the camp. He was several times forced to retreat and gave up valuable situations by superior numbers and was reduced to the utmost despair by disaffection among his men, lack of troops and supplies, and even by revolts against his authority. However by his mildness, prudence, firmness, courage and perseverance he brought the war, with the aid of powerful allies, to a successful end and when the independence of the colonies was formally recognised he once more withdrew to Mount Vernon. He accepted no pay but kept a minute account of his expenses which were returned to him by Congress.

After the failure of the early federation of the states Washington proposed a convention, which was called the Convention of 1787 of which he was a member, and which formed the present Federal Constitution. Under this constitution he was elected President in 1789. He held office till 1792 when he

desired to retire but yielded to the entreaties of the people and was re-elected. In 1796 he absolutely refused to stand for election again and retired to his estates. In 1798 when war with France was threatening he again came forth as Commander-in-Chief but his services were not needed and he returned to his home at Mount Vernon. In December 1799 he was attacked with acute laryngitis and died two days after. His last words characteristic of him were "I die hard but am not afraid to go." He was mourned by the whole nation and well deserved the record.

"First in peace, first in war, and first in the hearts of his countrymen." He was buried on Mount Vernon.

"PRINCESS SUNSHINE."

HOW QUEEN ALEXANDRA THE GOOD IS LOVED IN DENMARK.

We do not talk of Queen Alexandra here in Denmark. To us she is and always will be Princess Sunshine; and the reason is a pretty one.

Years ago a little cripple, the daughter of a poor road mender, lay in public hospital in Copenhagen, consumptive, and slowly dying.

One afternoon the poor little thing was so wracked with the cough which stained her pocket handkerchief with blood that the nurse saw she had not long to live, and asked whether the child would not like to see her mother.

The mother had been sent for, but the nurse wanted the child herself to ask for her so that she should not wonder why the woman had been sent for specially, for little Thora was a clever mite, and sharp beyond her years.

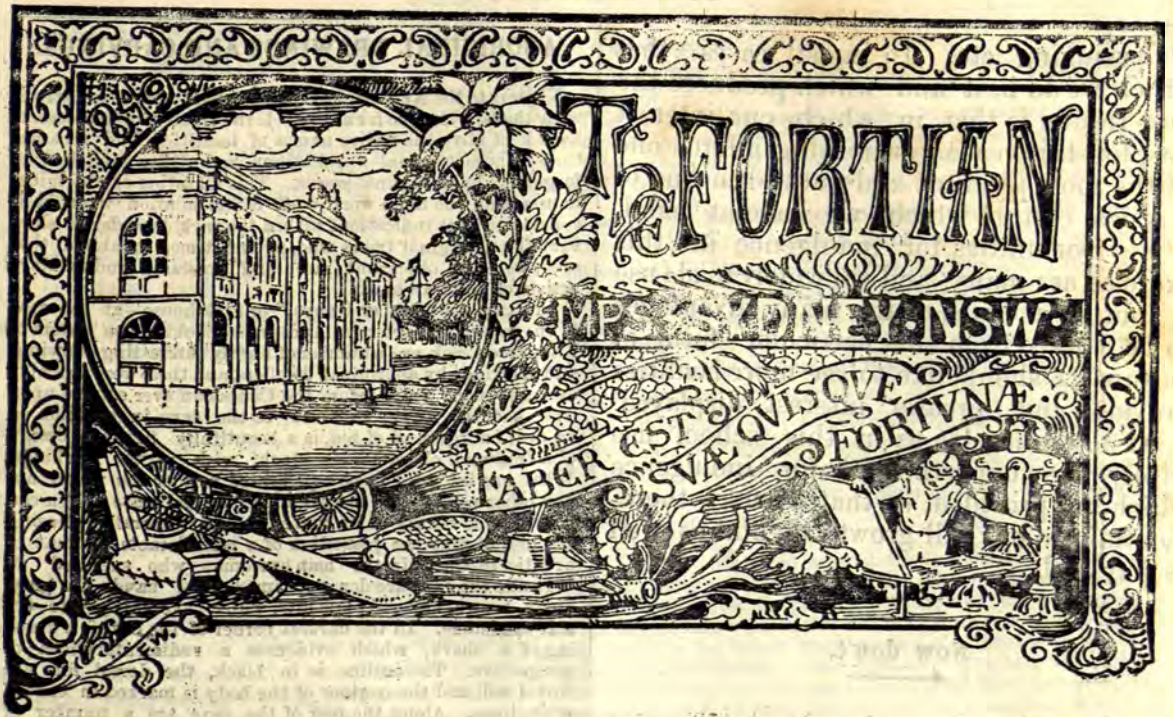
"Yes, I shall be glad to see mother though it isn't Sunday," said the baby, "but Fröken, am I dying?" The question came so suddenly that the nurse's face betrayed the truth. "Then please," said Thora, "send for Princess Sunshine."

"Princess Sunshine?" "Yes. The doctor said last week, when little Erik died, that he must have whatever he should ask for. I am dying now, and I want Princess Sunshine."

Gradually it became clear that the baby wanted Princess Alexandra, whose name she had heard in w. One of the bigger children had when the Princess had visited the wards, told Thora that the lady was the daughter of the King, and Thora, who had remembered and cherished in her baby heart the lady's sunny smile, had called her "Princess Sunshine" ever since, and wished to kiss her once before she died.

Need I say that "Princess Sunshine" came? And need I say that every heart in Denmark has been in full sympathy with your Queen in her great tribulation and suspense, and that every child in Denmark has sent up the prayer that Princess Sunshine's husband might be saved to her?

THE FORTIAN



Vol. IV. No. 7. SYDNEY, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26th, 1902.

Price 1/1

THE FORTIAN.

ADVANTAGES OF SPORT.

It has often been said, and perhaps with some amount of truth, that the English speaking races are too much devoted to sports. If, by this is meant, that these races devote too much of their attention to physical culture, it is probable that the matter has been overstated. We, in New South Wales, as the various seasons come round talk of little else in our spare time than the doings in the field of some individual or eleven or the skill of one particular fifteen, but we fear that with the majority talk is about as far as we get. Some few of us play a casual game of cricket or football but there all our care for our own physical development ends. Now it cannot too frequently be insisted that the proper development of the bodily powers

is necessary to the complete development of the mental capacities; and this development can only be obtained by constant and careful exercise. Games, such as cricket and football, if constantly practised answer this purpose very well and also tend to develop quickness, clearness of judgment, readiness of resource, and coolness of temper. But where the opportunities for the indulgence in these pastimes is limited as in a school like ours where want of space forbids, some other means of bringing about the necessary result should be considered. Games, which could be played in a circumscribed space, and which would tend to quickness of eye, accuracy of judgment and the proper control of the muscles of various parts of the body, might be indulged in. But, above all, every boy and girl should for a short time daily indulge in some physical exercises, such as free exercises, dumbbells,

clubswinging etc. In most cases that which we do best and which produces the best results is that in which our interest lies; for this reason swimming affords one of the most pleasant and natural means of physical culture which we have at hand. The opportunities for indulgence in this exercise are many, and are widely made use of, but on account of the many advantages to be derived from this particular form of culture we should like to see more facilities provided and greater interest displayed.

At all events, let us in this school use wisely the opportunities for indulgence which are provided, so that we may thereby attain to our full growth mental as well as physical.

Now don't.

Don't snub a boy because he wears shabby clothes. When Edison, the inventor of the telephone, first entered Boston, he wore a pair of yellow linen breeches in the depth of winter.

Don't snub a boy because his home is plain and unpretending. Abraham Lincoln's early home was a log cabin.

Don't snub a boy because of the ignorance of his parents. Shakespeare, the world's poet, was the son of a man who was unable to write his own name.

Don't snub a boy because he chose a humble trade. The author of "Pilgrim's Progress" was a stupid boy at his books.

Don't snub a boy because of physical disability. Milton was blind.

Don't snub a boy because of his dullness in lessons. Hogarth, the celebrated painter and engraver, was a stupid boy at his books.

Don't snub anyone; not alone because some day they may outstrip you in the race of life, but because it is neither kind, nor right, nor Christian.—

GREAT THOUGHTS.

A distinction without a difference.

An instance of a distinction without a difference was offered by the Irishman who having feet of different sizes ordered his boots to be made accordingly. His directions were carried out but as he tried the smallest boot on his largest foot he cried in a rage:—

What a stupid fellow. I ordered him to make one larger than the other; and instead of that he has made one smaller than the other.

ABORIGINAL DRAWINGS AND CARVINGS.

Visitors to the National Park cannot fail to have been struck with the fact that, so far as possible the trustees of that reserve have kept alive the native names of localities, and renamed those whose original appellations had either been lost or forgotten, by aboriginal words. This retention of aboriginal names is all the more worthy of commendation when it is considered that indications within the park boundaries show that the aboriginal tribes who, at one time, inhabited that area, were an observant race, and possessed rudimentary artists of no mean skill.

In a cave—a "Gibber Gunya," or rock-house—at the rear of the caterer's quarters at Audley, overlooking the waters of Kangaroo Creek, are a number of highly interesting drawings and markings by aboriginal dwellers, and these were probably executed many years before the Caucasian ever set foot upon these shores. At the entrance to the cave, in question on an oval background of red, is a beautifully finished design of a freehand character in black, with white markings. What was intended to be represented neither the writer nor any other person who has examined the elaborate design can say, but the beauty of its curves and its generally pleasing outlines display the possession of a considerable amount of artistic instinct in the man or woman who executed it.

Inside the cave are dozens of imprints of hands in grey, black, brown, and red pigments, which have eaten into the soft sandstone. In the darkest corner of the cave is a drawing of a shark, which evidences a rudimentary idea of perspective. The outline is in black, the dorsal fins are tinted red, and the contour of the body is marked in curved white lines. Along the rear of the cave are a number of outline drawings, in black, of fishes, while at the extreme left-hand corner is a remarkable imprint of a hand with seven fingers.

It is unfortunate that in the early days of settlement no serious and connected attempt was made to obtain a record of the folk-lore of the black, and the result has been that the meaning of these and similar drawings has been lost. It may, however, be surmised that they had a certain significance, and that, perhaps, they formed a rude historical code, for the markings (of which only a few have been mentioned) were obviously made at distances of time one from another.

Recently a number of aboriginal carvings were discovered at Jibbon, just inside the southern head of Port Hacking, and overlooking the ocean. The carvings are all on a large flat rock, which most probably was a lookout station for the blacks. When the fact is taken into consideration that the natives devoted so little labour to their dwellings or to matters relating to their personal comfort, it is a cause of surprise that they maintained efforts sufficient to outline figures of gigantic size by grooving them in the solid rock. The fact, however, remains that they did so. At Jibbon are the outlines of three whales, one 12ft 6in long, another 39ft long, and a third 32ft in length, by 11ft in width. The last-mentioned is marked across the centre of the figure, from one outline to the other, by two parallel straight lines. A shark (15ft long), a turtle (10ft), a schnapper (4ft), a human hand (2ft), a stingray (9ft), and a wallaby (6ft), are also carved upon the rock. The head of the wallaby is extremely lifelike, as is also the representation of a seagull's head. A number of other carvings are also upon the rock, but owing to the denudation of the soft sandstone, they are not identifiable. The sides of the rock were used for sharpening the stone tomahawks of the natives, and numerous grooves, caused by this work being carried on, are in evidence.

Visitors to the National Park will find these traces of a practically dead race of much interest. Doubtless, as years go by, additional interesting discoveries of a similar character will be made within this huge area.—[EVENING NEWS.]

ENGLISH.

To pupils studying Scott's "Lay of the Last Minstrel" some account of the superstitions of the time and particularly of the beliefs of the people of Southern Scotland during the 16th and 17th centuries would prove to be an amusing and at the same time a profitable exercise.

A belief in magic, sorcery, witchcraft and necromancy, is a phenomenon which has afflicted mankind from the earliest ages onward to the present day, and it is pretty certain that this belief in ghosts, spirits and demons has descended from the early forms of worship of primitive races. The cause of the continuance of such beliefs is doubtless to be found in the natural credulity of rude uncultured minds, and in the equally natural craving for the marvellous so characteristic of all ages.

Among all the forms of belief in evil spirits, that which credits the reality of the co-operation of evil spirits with human beings for the purpose of inflicting injury upon other people, has been most productive of the most mischief in society. When men believed that the devil could transfer his own enormous power to his human associates, the witches, for the purpose of working evil, we need not be surprised at finding Kings and clergy striving to extirpate these witches. James I of England as is well known, firmly believed in witchcraft. He even went the length of writing a book on Demonology in which he gave directions for the trial of suspected persons. By his writings and actions he greatly encouraged the prosecution of the wretched creatures.

One of the most extraordinary stories told is contained in an indictment of certain witches where an account is set forth of a meeting of these witches with the devil in the Church of Berwick. The company who met his Satanic majesty, on this occasion numbered one hundred, six of whom were warlocks and the rest witches. Satan boldly ascended the pulpit and addressed his servants. He made inquiries concerning the evil they had done since their last meeting, and after giving them some fresh direction, dismissed them with an exhortation to work all the mischief they could. On this occasion he was dressed in a fine black gown and wore a hat. The usual method for trying suspected witches was as follows:— The unhappy wretch, after first being stripped, had the thumb of her right hand tied to the big toe of her left foot and the thumb of her left hand tied to the big toe of her right foot. She was then cast into the water of some lake or stream. If she sank she was adjudged innocent; but if she floated her guilt was considered as established, and

she was dragged ashore and burnt.

King James explains the reason of this procedure as follows:—

"This test hath God appointed for a supernatural sign of the monstrous impiety of witches that the water shall refuse to receive them in her bosom that hath shaken off the sacred water of baptism and wilfully refused the benefits thereof."

A universal belief existed on the Borders in the efficacy of spells. A certain learned bishop Nicholson relates that in his time a gentleman had given him a book of spells and magical receipts which he had taken from the pocket of a moss-trooper.

A strong belief also existed in the power of certain consecrated wells to heal all manner of diseases.

The idea that the spirits of the dead return to haunt the place where on earth they have suffered or rejoiced, is, of course, common to all nations. The following story related by Sir Walter Scott in the Introduction to his *Border Minstrelsy* is a characteristic Border ghost story:—

"One of the most noted apparitions is supposed to haunt Speldins Castle near Lochmahon, the ancient Baronial residence of the Jardines of Applegirth. It is said that in exercise of his territorial jurisdictions, one of the ancient lairds had imprisoned in the Massy More or dungeon of the castle, a person named Porteous. Being suddenly called to Edinburgh, the laird discovered as he entered the West Port that he had brought along with him the key of the dungeon. Struck with the utmost horror he sent back his servant to relieve the prisoner; but it was too late.

The wretched being was found lying upon the steps descending from the door of the vault, starved to death. In the agonies of hunger, he had gnawed the flesh from one of his arms. That his spectre should haunt the castle was then a natural consequence of such a tragedy. Indeed its visits became so frequent that a clergyman of eminence was employed to exorcise it. After a contest of twenty-four hours the man of art prevailed so far as to confine the goblin to the Massy More of the castle where its shrieks and cries are still heard. A part at least of the spell, depends upon the preservation of the ancient black-lettered bible, employed by the exorcist. It was some years ago thought necessary to have this bible rebound, but as soon as it was removed from the castle, the spectre recommenced his nocturnal orgies, with ten fold noise, and it is verily believed that he would have burst from his confinement had not the sacred volume been speedily replaced.

Besides these grand articles of superstitious belief as Sir Walter Scott puts it, the creed of the borderers admitted the existence of sundry classes of subordinate spirits to whom were assigned peculiar employments. These were the Fairies, Brownies, Boggles (of which the Shellycoat was a type) and Kelpies or water spirits. These spirits did not haunt persons nor show any personal attachment. They were supposed to belong to the locality and thus identified themselves with the rock, the stream, the ruined castle without regard to the persons who owned them.

The fairies of Scotland are represented as a diminutive race of beings with a mixed and rather dubious character. They were extremely capricious in their disposition and mischievous in their resentment. They inhabited the interior of green hills and danced by moonlight on the tops of the im-

pressing upon the surface the marks of circles. They usually dressed themselves in green, but occasionally they wore heath-brown. They were great riders, and sometimes their presence was discovered by the shrill ringing of the bridles of their invisible horses, while they occasionally indulged in the pleasures of the chase.

One form of their resentment was to carry off the children of those who offended them. Another and most formidable attribute of the fairies was their power to steal a human soul from its body. Sometimes when children happened to be sick and remained weak and emaciated for a considerable length of time, it was said that the fairies had taken away the substance of the body and left only the shadow. One way of procuring the restoration of a child thus stolen was to roast the suppositious child on the live embers when it would vanish and the true child appear. Persons carried away by fairies could under certain conditions be recovered but to be held legal in the Fairy Courts it had to be done within a year and a day.

The Brownie was a friendly spirit "meagre, shaggy and wild in his appearance" who by day lay concealed in some remote corner of an old house and by night occupied himself in the execution of tasks which he thought would be acceptable to the people of the place. On no account however did one dare to offer him either food or reward because this caused his disappearance for ever. He loved to stretch himself out by the fire at night and only returned to his hiding at cock-crow. If the servants stayed up late around the kitchen fire, Brownie, tired of waiting would appear and admonish them as follow:—"Gang a' to your bed sirs and dinna put out the wee grieshochs" (embers).

Bogles were mischievous spirits which look pleasure rather in frightening and perplexing people than in seriously injuring them.

SIMPLE EXPERIMENT.

FLOATING NEEDLES.

This pretty experiment is by no means a difficult one to perform. Place an ordinary sewing needle on a fork, and slowly lower the fork into a tumbler of water. The needle will then float like a piece of straw. The experiment is easier of performance if a pair of forceps is used to place the needle on the water.

The needle can also be placed on the water with the thumb and forefinger. The operation requires, however, a steady hand.

Another way is first to place a piece of tissue paper on the water, and then gently lay the needle upon the

paper. The paper will soon become soaked and sink to the bottom, leaving the needle floating on the surface of the water. In both methods, the needle must be quite dry.

In the experiment, a pin may be used instead of a needle.

TO REVOLVE A COIN BETWEEN TWO PINS:

Place a shilling flat on the table, then seize it between two pins held at the extremities of the same diameter. You may easily raise it. Blow against the upper surface, and the coin will revolve with considerable speed between the pins.

Snapshot Story.

Just after the fall of Bloemfontein soldiers were called upon owing to the scarcity of civilians, to work the railway. The weary men were laying in camp one night after a hard day's work when a sergeant called out: "Any of you men want to put your names down as railway porters, drivers, stokers, or for any other appointment connected with the railway?" The silence was broken only by snores. Then one Tommy slowly raised his head, and drowsily muttered: "Put me down as a sleeper."

School News.

We have very much pleasure in recording the success of the pupils of the Boys' School in various ways. A. Marshall came out at the top in an examination recently held for a junior clerkship in the Actuarial branch of the Mutual Life Assurance Company. He aggregated 403 marks out of a possible 430. He has been appointed on probation.

G. Stimson has been appointed as an articled pupil to the city Surveyor at the Town Hall as the result of a successful pass in an examination recently held. We understand he showed very good work in mathematics. George Adam was second at the same examination, but there was only one vacancy.

Harold Broadbent also has passed an examination held by the Bank of New South Wales and has received an appointment.

E. Ambrose who passed the 1902 junior very creditably has passed an examination in connection with the Railway Department.

SPORTS.

At the Public School Sports held on the 17th September, the School was well represented in the entry list, and secured a fair number of places. The following is the list.

- Throwing at wicket: N. McIntosh, [1].
- Bowling at wicket: W. White, [2], A. Penman, [3].
- Wicket Keeping: H. Webster, [1].
- Age Championship 16 years and over: F. Powell, [2].
- Three Legged Race: (Juniors) A. Nelson and B. Costello [2]; (Seniors) E. McPhee and N. Czerwonka [3].
- Hurdle Race: F. Powell [1], R. Alanson [2].
- Obstacle Race, (Seniors) N. Czerwonka, [4].
- Age Championship Walk, (Senior) C. Smith [2], B. Corrie [3], (Juniors) C. Cockett [1].
- Drop Kicking Football, C. Smith [3].
- Bicycle Championship, (Seniors) H. Evans (3), (Juniors) H. Evans (3).
- 100 yards Championship of New South Wales, F. Powell (1).

MOUNT KEMBLA RELIEF FUND.

The total amount collected at the School on behalf of the Mount Kembla Relief Fund was £35 15s 4d. This represents a contribution from a great majority of the pupils attending the school, by far the larger number of the contributions being in the form of half-pence, pence and three-penny pieces.

SWIMMING MEETING.

The Annual meeting of the School Club was held in the Main room on the 22nd inst. There was as usual a large attendance of pupils present. Mr. Williams presided. The principal business was the election of officers for the ensuing season, which resulted as follows:— Patron: Hon. J. Perry, M. L. A, Minister of Public Instruction; President: Mr. J. W. Turner; Vice President: Staff of School; Committee: Masters, Davis, Murray, Turner, Smith and Snell; Hon. Treasurer: Mr. J. Green; Hon. Secretary: Mr. D. A. Pike. The usual workings of the Club

during the Season were detailed to those present. The executive trusts that all pupils will become members of the Club, and participate in this most useful and health giving pastime.

REVIEW.

“CORONATION GALOP,” by F. WHAITE.

Messrs. Nicholson & Sons forward an original composition—“Coronation Galop”—by Fred Whaite of Commercial Junior. 2 Class.

We compliment the youthful composer upon his production. The school is justly proud of the work and its composer. We look forward with pleasure to the higher and more ambitious efforts which Fred's undoubted genius certainly predicts.

OLD BOYS' NEWS.

E. C. B. Heden B. A., B. Sc., '95 Junior Matriculant after a successful career at the University which was completed last year is now undergoing three years practical mining in Broken Hill.

Metallurgy and Mining were his particular subjects at the University and the creditable work he did in these two subjects was seen at the completion of his term when he carried off Professor Liversidge's prize for Metallurgy and obtained second class honours in Mining and Metallurgy.

We congratulate him on his successful work at the University, and wish him further success while his work keeps him at Broken Hill. He was always an unassuming, hardworking, and earnest boy at school.

STRANGE FISH.

In one of the wells of the Crude Oil Co. now being drilled at Whittier, a flow of water was recently encountered, and the bailer brought to the surface a hundred or more blind fish. These fish are pure white, and range in length from five to six inches. These fish were found at a depth of 1740ft.

—Evening News.

GIRL'S COLUMN.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Some of the present girls will remember Zoma Heiliger and Alwina Schulze who left school last year to visit Germany. The former writing to Miss Partridge gives a vivid description of the Rhine. She writes "After reaching Bonn I had a full view of the Rhine, dotted here and there with pretty green islets the mountains and hills in the distance and the sloping banks covered with trees and vines of different colours making a most beautiful picture. There are many castles on the banks here and there which are credited with having been in olden times, the habitation of robber knights who used to attack any vessel which passed on its way up or down." The latter in a letter to Miss Hetherington gives a description of her travels. Landing at Genoa, she journeyed to Milan the scenery on the way being described as very beautiful. The Cathedral at Milan was visited and after a day or two the journey continued. From Italy she went to Switzerland, passing through the Mount Gotha tunnel en route. Germany was next entered, and after passing through Weimar and Frankfurt she arrived at Dresden. Here she is to remain at school for some time.

Both girls desire remembrance to present teachers and girls.

SPORTS.

At the recent Public Schools' Sports Meeting, several girls obtained places in the various Competitions. M. Stewart was first and J. Dunross second in the Plain Skipping Contest. M. Williams was third in the Hoop race for girls of 12 years of age. R. Stewart was first in the Skipping race for girls of 9 years of age.

"IN A MINUTE"

If you asked Dora to do anything, she would reply, "In a minute." It was a bad habit she had.

"Dora, go upstairs, and bring me down my comb."
 "Yes mother, in a minute."
 "Dora, come to your dinner."
 "In a minute, mother."

One day, Dora's bird was hopping about on the floor. Somebody went out, leaving the door open, just as "somebody" often does. Dora's mother said, "Dora, shut the door, or the cat will be after your bird."

"Yes, mother, in a minute," said Dora. "I just want to finish this line in my drawing."

But the cat did not wait. In he came, and, with one dart, had the bird in his mouth.

Down went the slate on the floor, and away went cat, bird and Dora. There was a wild chase on the lawn. "In a minute," Dora came back weeping, with the dead bird in her hand.

Mamma was sad, but said, "A great many things may happen in a minute."

Dora has not forgotten the lesson.

GIRLS' DEBATE.

On Thursday 11th inst. the girls of 5C and D classes spent a pleasant afternoon in debating, "Was England justified in taxing the American Colonists?" The Government was in the minority having only about 19 debaters while 50 were on the side of the Opposition. Miss Nora Dickson was the Premier of the Government and showed great ability in the way she headed her followers. The debate opened by a short speech by Miss Doris Seed (on the Government side) who afterwards showed great powers as a speaker. The question was taken up in full force by the Opposition. The following girls distinguished themselves on the Government side:—Misses Nora Dickson, Ruth Walker, Elsie Bently, Doris Seed and Coral Cundy; while the Opposition, headed by Miss Valerie Kingsbury, valiantly defended themselves from all attacks. The leading speakers on this side were:—Misses Valerie Kingsbury, Dora Folster, Olive Malcolm, Alice Geeson, Rene Henderson, Elsie Trail and Zoe Montagu. The teachers of the classes, Miss Cass and Miss Brewster, expressed great satisfaction on the afternoon's proceedings. It was suggested that, if in later years woman is called upon to form part of the government of the country "the ability of the Fort Street girls will not be lacking."

A TROUBLESOME SOLDIER.

The Duke of Wellington used to tell a story of a soldier in a certain regiment during the Peninsular War who was continually bothering him by asking favours. Wellington one day said to him, "Look here, I believe you are the most troublesome soldier in Europe." The man quickly replied, "why, that is funny, sir." "Funny? How funny?" "Because it is just what Bonaparte says about you."

Wise words.

A new life begins when a man once sees with his own eyes all that before he had but partially read or heard of.—GOETHE.

There is no Death.

BY LORD LYTTON.

There is no death! The stars go down
To rise upon some fairer shore;
And bright in heaven's jewelled crown
They shine for evermore.

There is no death! The dust we tread
Shall change beneath the summer showers
To golden grain or mellow fruit,
Or rainbow-tinted flowers.

The granite rocks disorganise
To feed the hungry moss they bear;
The forest leaves drink daily life
From out the viewless air.

There is no death! The leaves may fall,
The flowers may fade and pass away:
They only wait through wintry hours
The coming of the May.

There is no death! An angel form
Walks o'er the earth with silent tread;
He bears our best-loved things away,
And then we call them "dead."

He leaves our hearts all desolate;
He plucks our fairest, sweetest flowers;
Transplanted into bliss they now
Adorn immortal bowers.

The bird-like voice, whose joyous tones
Made glad these scenes of sin and strife,
Sings now an everlasting song
Amid the tree of life.

And where he sees a smile too bright,
Or heart too pure for taint and vice,
He bears it to that world of light,
To dwell in Paradise.

Born unto that undying life,
They leave us but to come again;
With joy we welcome them—the same
Except in sin and pain.

And even near us, though unseen,
The dear immortal spirits tread;
For all the boundless universe
Is life—there are no dead.

Our Duty to Man.

We live in a world which is full of misery and ignorance, and the plain duty of each and all of us is to try and make the little corner we can influence less miserable than before we entered it.—HUXLEY.

A Spring Song.

Now the wildflower lifts her chalice
To the shining, azure sky;
Spring's fleet foot is in her palace,
And the rose's reign is nigh.

Life is in the wind that rushes
Through the green corn's swaying sheaves
Hope is in the light that flushes
The poppy's crimson leaves.

Like children's voices calling
With the joy that youth instils,
Is the sound of waters falling
From the distant, purple hills.

Every cottage has its bower,
And the peach bloom, as I pass,
In a fragrant, fleecy shower,
Strews its pink stars on the grass.

Birds are in the branches singing,
And the sunlight's on the dew;
And the heart's love words are ringing
Spirit music sweet and true.

Not a note of woe or sadness
Breathes upon the balmy air:
The Creator's gift of gladness
Sheds its glory everywhere.

MARION MILLER.

Ready for the Waiter.

He pulled himself up at the hotel table, tucked his napkin under his chin, picked up the bill of fare, and began to study it intently. Everything was in restaurant French, and he didn't like it.

"Here, waiter," he said, sternly, "there's nothing on this I want."

"Ain't there nothin' you would like for dinner, sir?" inquired the waiter, politely.

"Have you got any sine qua non?"

The waiter gasped.

"No, sir," he replied.

"Got any bona-fid?"

"N-no, sir."

"Got any sump er endum?"

"No, sir, we haven't."

"Got any jeu d'esprits?"

"No, sir, not on."

"Got any tempus fugit?"

"I reckon not, sir."

"Got any scirées dansants?"

"No, sir."

The waiter was edging off.

"Got any sine die?"

"We ain't, sir."

"Got any pluribus unum?"

The waiter showed some signs of intelligence.

"Seems ter me I heerd of that, sir"; and he rushed out to the kitchen, only to return empty-handed.

"Maybe you've got some beef and cabbage and a goose-berry tart?"

"Sure we have sir," exclaimed the waiter, in a tone of the utmost relief; and he fairly flew out to the kitchen.

HISTORY.

William Pitt, Earl of Chatham, sometimes styled Pitt the Elder, one of the greatest of English orators and statesmen of the eighteenth century was the son of a country gentleman Robert Pitt of B. conne in Cornwall; and was born November 15th 1708. After an education at Eton and Oxford he travelled on the continent, and on his return obtained a cornetcy in the Blues. In 1735 he entered Parliament for Old Sarum, a borough then belonging to his family. He espoused the side of Frederick Prince of Wales, then at deadly feud with the king, and afforded a determined opposition to Walpole who was at the head of affairs. He was deprived of his commission in consequence—an insult and injury which only increased the vehemence of his denunciations of the court and government. His influence both in and out of the House of Commons increased rapidly; and Walpole being driven from power, the king, notwithstanding his hatred of Pitt, found it necessary to allow of his admission to a subordinate place in the "Broad Bottomed" administration; subsequently he was appointed to the lucrative office of paymaster-general. The Duchess of Marlborough pleased with his patriotism and powers of oratory left him £10,000; and later Sir William Pynsent struck with similar admiration left him his property. In 1755 when Henry Fox was made Secretary of State, finding himself opposed to the foreign policy of the new minister, Pitt resigned his office as paymaster. In the following year when the king unwillingly acceding to popular demands had to dismiss Fox, Pitt became nominally Secretary of State, but was virtually Premier. He immediately began to put into execution his own plan of carrying on the war with France. He raised the militia, and strengthened the naval power; but the King's old enmity and German predilections led him to oppose Pitt's policy who thereupon resigned office in April 1757, but was recalled in June, in obedience to the loud demands of the people. Now firmly established in power, Pitt's war policy was characterised by unusual vigor and sagacity. Success returned to the British arms. French armies were beaten everywhere by Britain and her allies and British fleets drove the few French ships they did not capture or destroy from almost every sea. But the prime mover of all these brilliant victories found himself compelled to resign on the accession of George III and owing to the influence of Lord Bute it was attempted to introduce a vacillating policy into the government; his immediate cause of resignation being the refusal of the majority of the Cabinet to declare war with Spain, which Pitt foreseeing as imminent, wished to commence before the Spaniards were thoroughly prepared. As some recompense for his important services, Pitt received a pension of £3,000 a year; and

his wife sister of George Grenville was created Baroness Chatham. Until 1766 Pitt remained out of office not offering a factious opposition to government, but employing all his eloquence to defeat some of its most obnoxious measures. In that year he received the Royal command to form a ministry. He undertook the task choosing for himself the almost sinecure office of Privy Seal with a seat in the House of Lords as Viscount Pitt and Earl of Chatham. Ill health prevented Chatham from taking any important part in this ministry, of which he was nominally the head, and which was weak and embarrassed throughout, and he resigned in 1768 to hold office no more. He did not however cease to take an interest in public affairs. He spoke strongly against the arbitrary and harsh policy of the government towards the American colonies and warmly urged an amicable settlement of the differences. But America having entered into treaty with France, it was proposed by the Duke of Richmond to remove the ministers and make peace on any terms. Chatham though much debilitated came down to the House of Lords and in a powerful address protested against the implied prostration of Britain before the throne of the Bourbons and declared war with whatever issue preferable to the proposed terms of peace. This address secured a majority against the motion and the war was continued. But it was the orator's last effort; for exhausted by speaking on rising again to reply to a query addressed to him his physical powers suddenly failed, he fell back into the arms of his friends, and was carried from the House. He died May 11 1778. Chatham's personal appearance was dignified and imposing and added greatly to the attractions of his oratory, which was of the most powerful kind. His upright and irreproachable character demanded the admiration of his enemies; but his affectedness and haughtiness, not unfrequently disgusted his friends and pride rather than principle seems to have actuated his course at some important conjunctures of his life. He had an intense love of country; the grand object of his ambition being to make his native land safe against all contingencies, and powerful among nations.

THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE.

A Frenchman was boasting that he had thoroughly mastered the English language, when he was asked to write from dictation the following choice specimen:—

"As Hugh Hughes was hewing a Yule log from a yew tree, a man, dressed in garments of a dark hue, came up to Hugh and said: 'Have you seen my ewes?' To which he replied, 'If you wait until I hew this yew, I will go with you to look for your ewes.'"

Of course the Frenchman had to give it up.



Vol. IV. No. 9. SYDNEY. FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31st, 1902.

Price 1d

THE FORTIAN.

EDITORIAL.

Events have happened within our memory which lead us to the conclusion that Australia as a civilized nation is growing older. It is not long since that our state celebrated its hundredth anniversary, and among other memorials of its celebrations which remain are the Centennial Park and our beautiful Town Hall. Since that time the Jubilee of our own school was celebrated and the festivities which marked the fiftieth year of the existence of the school are probably within the memory of some of the present scholars. A lasting memorial of it remains with us in the present library, which owes its present size and comfort to the funds which were provided in connection with that celebration. With-

in the last month, too, visitors from all parts of the world have assembled in the city, and representatives have been present from most of the great Universities of the world, in order to take part in the ceremonies which marked the Jubilee Anniversary of the foundation of the University of Sydney.

These things remind us that there are institutions which have begun to take upon themselves the reverence we attach to old age that there are men whose names, on account of the great work they accomplished, live in the memories of us who are their descendants; that, in short, our history has begun.

But we also remember that the number of these institutions and the names of these men are few and that what is best in our traditions and our history must be in the future. We have a great and glorious opportunity. As members of a young and vigorous nation it may be our lot if we

rise to the height of our opportunity, to be makers of history. Australia, so we are told, is likely in the future to rank numerically among the first nations of the earth.

It behoves us all to see that we so devote our energy that in mental and moral force also it shall rank among the greatest of all the nations.

THE SCHOOL RHYMESTER.

My hero was once a schoolboy who was fond of poetry! No thrilling tales of sanguinary smugglers or bold bandits had any charm for him—he would have nothing that was not written in rhyme. As for blank verse he would have none of it. He was not at all particular as to the quality. If he could not get Tennyson and Browning he was quite content to read the poetical advertisements in the local newspapers and learn them by heart. Often on a half-holiday he might be heard declaiming some such lines as the following:—

"I've wandered heart-sick and alone,
I've sought in vain for rest,
But always felt constrained to own
Smith's foods are much the best.

"Of all the tailors 'neath the sun,
Say, who so skilled as he,
To build a coat for £1 1s.,
A suit for £2 3s.

"And when your clothes you find with grief,
Have lost their grace so grand,
Smith gladly comes to you relief,
And brings them second-hand."

But there was another fact about the youth even more surprising than his fondness for verse. Not only would he never read anything but rhyme, but he never spoke anything but rhyme, and never had from his earliest years. His relations at home grew accustomed to hearing him say at breakfast "Pass me an egg I humbly beg," or "A piece of toast would please me most." But when he was sent to the Hardenfast Grammar School at the age of twelve this peculiarity naturally attracted great attention. Dr. Stokes, the head master, was an eminent mathematician, solemn and severe, like most mathematicians. Men who have much to do with cubes, and cosines, calculus (or calculi?), and other such monstrosities, may, no doubt, be very happy inwardly, but the frightful nature of their studies prevents them as a rule from wearing a smiling face. Dr. Stokes looked at the boy as if he were a little live "it" that he meant to work out, and inquired—

"What is your name?"

"My name, good sir, is Horace Spencer,
My age twelve years, height, four feet ten, sir," replied the youth.

"I don't want to know your age, nor yet your height," said the doctor, severely. "Don't volunteer information that isn't asked for. Have you learned any Euclid?"

"Last year in that charming book,
Lessons for six weeks I took."

Dr. Stokes was puzzled. It was not customary for his pupils to address him in rhyme, but he supposed it must have been an undesigned coincidence, and proceeded: "repeat

the first three definitions."

The answer came thus:

"A point is that which, bare and nude,
Has neither parts nor magnitude.
A line has length, or great or small,
But breadth it never has at all.
The extremities of a line are such,
They're on y points—which isn't much."

"Strange!" thought Dr. Stokes; "he must have been a pupil of one of those eccentric teachers who put all their rules into rhyme." (Then aloud): "Define a circle."

The popular definition of a circle at Hardenfast ran somewhat as follows:—"A circle is a figure contained by one straight line, which is called the circumference, and is such that all lines drawn without any point are together equal to the centre." I believe this definition is not technically correct. At all events, Spencer's version was very different—

"A circle is a figure plane
Which a circumference doth contain;
Straight lines to the circumference drawn,
From one fixed point within the figure,
Are equals all and equal born
None less than other and none bigger,
And this one point, and this alone,
Is by the name of centre known."

"Repeat the first proposition. Take the chalk and draw your own figure."

Spencer proceeded thus:

"Let A B be the given straight line,
To draw thereon is our design
A figure such as people call
Triangle equilateral."

Then, when he came to the construction, the metre naturally became more lively:

"From the centre A, at the distance A B,
Describe me a circle, by name B C D.
From centre P, at the distance B A,
The circle A C E we next will essay.
From C, that's a point where the orbs intersect,
The straight lines C A and C B must project
To the points A and B
Then you'll find A B C

A triangle with all its sides equal—all three.
Because A at the centre of B C D lies,
A C and A B must be both the same size.
Because B is a centre—our friends A C E's
B C and B A are as like as two peas.
Therefore, A C and B C, it's easy to show,
Will both equal A B, and it's worth while to know
Things which are equal the same thing must equal each other.

Therefore, A C and B C are brother and brother.
So I've shown this triangle A B C of mine
Is indeed of equilateral design.

And it's drawn on A B, that's the given straight line.
My remarks are complete, and no more I'll extend 'em,
But briefly observe—Quod erat faciendum."

"You will go into the Fourth Form," said Dr. Stokes, after a few more questions. Most boys over a certain age were put in that form, and some of them never came out any more.

—Boys' Own Paper.

Extract from a small boy's first essay:—

"Man has two hans. One is the rite hand and one is the left han. The rite han is fur ritin and the left is fur leftin.

A VISIT TO THE ART SOCIETY'S EXHIBITION

Early last week the boys of the 5th classes were invited to view the exhibition of the amalgamated Art Societies. Accordingly one batch of boys left the school at a quarter to ten to avail themselves of the opportunity. These annual exhibitions must do much to foster the growth of Art in our midst, and stimulate the ambitions of our artists in their endeavours to excel in their particular study. There was a large collection, numbering some hundreds, and as in all branches of Art, "many are called but few are chosen," the rejected numbers were proportionately greater. Not having a catalogue, and knowing very little about painting, except on a fence, my judgment must therefore not be very reliable, but amongst those which pleased my fancy were Sid Long's "Flamingoes," which represented a number of these beautiful birds standing in shallow water, seemingly unaware of the admiration of two girls, who stood close by. The reflection of the figures in the water, the rich crimson plumage of the birds, also the rays of the setting sun, being exquisitely portrayed; and also Mr Catt's "Lost, but Found" an incident of the Boer War, showing a sweet-faced nurse tending a fallen khaki-set warrior, whose dead horse told its own tale. The stern, set face of the soldier and the sympathetic expression on the features of the nurse are effectively shown. This same artist also contributed another popular work "The Story of the Banyip." In this production an old man is seen telling some wonderful tale to a group of children sitting at his feet, and who seem spellbound by his story. The only disinterested person is the baby, who seems neglected and indignantly turns his head away. Two pictures which called forth much admiration from the boys, were Mr. Lister-Lister's "Waning day" and "Halcyon Days; both landscape paintings of delicate tints, in that well-known artist's masterly style.

"Ragamuffins" by Mr Dattilo-Rubbo is an excellent painting. It shows a number of newsboys sitting together, enjoying a quiet smoke. One picture entitled "Dread Drought" depicted by an old man with a scythe in his hand, with which he desolates all he touches. Those dreaded birds of ill-omen, the vultures are his companions. The whole is very weird and uncanny. The time at our disposal being limited we were unable to make a minute inspection. There are many others which I would like to say a few words did space permit; of these "Centennial Park," "Autumn on the Hawkesbury," "Drought Stricken," "At the "Florists" and Harvesting specially attracted our attention. We returned to school, feeling that we had spent an enjoyable and instructive half-hour.

D. CAREOL.

Advice to Young Writers.

If a man has something to say he will manage to say it; if he has nothing to communicate, there is no reason why he should have a good style, any more than why he should have a good purse without any money. Every true man with any thing to say has a style of his own which, for its development, requires only common sense. In the first place, he must see that he has said what he means; in the next, that he has not said it so that it may be mistaken for what he does not mean. —G. MACDONALD, LL.D.

GIRLS' COLUMN.

—O—O—

ESSAY COMPETITION

At the recent essay competition during September in connection with the "Society for the prevention of cruelty to animals" Ada Reynolds secured two first prizes— one for "The influence of cruelty to animals th; human character," and the other "Is the present wholesale destruction of birds for fashionable trimming consistent with humanity"; Kathleen Clarke also secured second prize on the former subject. These were the only entries from Fort Street School.

A plan has been suggested by the Senior Girls of this department to bring floral tributes on the first Wednesday in every month. They propose sending them to the Sydney Hospital. All flowers will be thankfully received by girls of 5E class.

EXAMINATION RESULTS.

2B:— L. Ling Sing won the prize for highest marks during the quarter and G. Hoare won a prize for best work during examination.

3A:— After the recent examination in the class M. Stuart R. M' Can, M. Dunker, A. Paysons, A. Asplett, V. Ball, did good work.

3C:— Lily Stuth, Jeanne Partridge and Bella Drake were specially mentioned for writing, V. Colenutt, M. Hassall, E. Hunter, S. Ball, L. Stuth for Reading, and E. Auerbach, E. Barker, V. Colenutt, G. Clarke, E. Griffith, R. M' Ewan, I. Nielsen, D. Malcolm, C. Wulf and D. Lundin gained top marks in Arithmetic, 21 girls gained 100 per. cent in Dictation.

3D:— G. M' Cully distinguished herself in History, and L. Purser in Arithmetic.

3E:— K. Ballantyne, E. Bostock, M. Moore, and C. Barter were the best workers for their class.

GIRLS' DEBATE.

The girls of 5E class, in connection with their work in History, debated on the subject of the characters Elizabeth and Mary.

The debate was opened by E. Butler, who attributed to Mary all the marks of a good woman. She also argued that up to a certain point Mary was tolerant of the religious views of others. E. Gormley followed on the same side. The argument that Mary showed toleration was opposed by G. Butler who pointed out that Mary persecuted both Protestants and Roman Catholics who opposed her policy. Other speakers on the same side were C. Lowick and F. Levinger. The question of the putting to death of Mary, Queen of Scots, by Elizabeth was introduced but it was argued by H. Ebsworth that it was necessary for the good of the country. The other speakers were E. Mc Martrie, G. Fogelin, F. Vaughan, Mary Smith. The majority of those present inclined to the view that Elizabeth showed a more queenly character than Mary.

EXAMINATION RESULTS.

BOYS' DEPARTMENT

For General Work in 2A:—Willie Philip, Harold Lockart, George Fletcher, Emanuel and Valentine Cook deserve special mention.

2B—P. Burns stands out prominently in Reading and Arithmetic; A. Parker and G. Kum Sing for Dictation. In Scripture A. Stewart pleased the Inspector with his good answers as also did H. Barron for Object Lesson.

2C:—W. Boshell did best all round work in 2C.

3A:—In Reading, Arithmetic, Dictation and Writing the following boys were among the best:—H. Massey, W. Patrick, B. Abrahams, E. Miller, S. Greenwald and C. Digby. C. Allen and E. Symonds gave sensible answers in the Oral Lessons.

In 3B the best workers were L. Backet for Reading, E. Fraser for Writing, J. Mahony for Arithmetic and E. Chambers for Object Lesson.

In 3C:—H. Beale and S. Fotheringham gave best work in Dictation and Reading; John Harle, James Judd, Gordon Eldershaw were conspicuous for their answers in Grammar; C. Bowman, J. Judd, F. Warton, G. Page did best work in; Geography; H. Day, E. Lee, G. Page answered well in History and J. Judd and H. Anderson were quickest in Mental Arithmetic.

3D:—For Geography, Ellard, Benfield, Johnson, did well while for History Philip, Flockart, Triglow, answered best.

3E:—The boys in 3E pleased the Inspector by their good bright answers. The written and oral work was well done by every boy. The Reading, Dictation and Arithmetic averaged high marks. It would be difficult to single out the best workers.

3F:—Good work was done in Grammar by F. Lees. Docker shone out best in Object Lesson and Scripture, while Allen gave best answering in History. Smith and Fienberg answered well in Geography. Evers did creditable work in Arithmetic and J. Drummond in Dictation. In Composition A. Bulteau had the best original essay and G. Edwards was commended for his Grammar.

4A:—The best all round work in this class was done by S. M' Cullock, W. Keeshaw, R. M' Dougal, E. Espenhahn, H. Whitford.

4B:—Eldershaw pleased the Inspector with his good smart work. He stands out prominently in each subject. Thoughtful answers were also given by Reid. In oral work conspicuous among the workers were:—Reid, Rossiter, Titchen Lloyd, M' Namara, Johnson, Grange, Dircks, Olsen, Norton Brian, L. Fearon, A. Fearon, Burston and Matthews. In Arithmetic Haviland gained highest marks. Matthews did a good map.

4C:—Good work was done in 4C by every boy. M. Ward and A. Marchant were complimented on their writing, securing the highest possible marks. For good lively answering in Oral work C. Davis, R. Chounding, C. Campbell, W. Percival W. Denshire R. Noake and W. Martin stand out prominently. The highest marks for Arithmetic were obtained by W. Hindmarsh, G. Clifford, W. Martin, J. Smith and N. M' Namara.

4D:—The good work done by 4D in all subjects was gratifying to both inspector and teacher. High marks were obtained for Reading, Dictation, Writing and Arithmetic. In Oral work the answering was sensible and bright. There were two or three boys in this class who might have done better.

4E:—During the recent examination the boys in this class worked very well together and now can look forward to early promotion. In Arithmetic Nash, Turner, Carver, O' Driscoll, and Clifford worked perhaps the best. In the oral subjects, Pring, Fitzmaurice, Holihan and Lyford did well, and Vincent distinguished himself in Geometry, Nash and Barker showed out prominently.

5A:—Burrows, Coughlan, Lewis, Rule, Smith, Warner shone out in Arithmetic, while Monro, Rule, Rossell, Stewart distinguished themselves in Algebra. In Oral Subjects Butt, Glassop, Allars, Christie, and Fletcher, gave sensible answers.

SCHOOL BAZAAR.

It has been decided to hold the Bazaar on the 4th., 5th. and 6th. of December. The object is to provide funds for buying prizes and for other school purposes and as a large amount is necessary, the hearty co-operation of all is invited. Contributions in money or kind will be thankfully received, and suggestions are invited with regard to any matters which may tend to the success

of the bazaar. In connection with it, as was noticed some time ago, a photographic competition will be held and the programme in connection with it will be found posted up in the corridor.

SWIMMING.

The first afternoon's swim of the season took place at Hellings' Baths on Tuesday the 14th inst. As the annual inspection was in course of operation the attendance was not large, the boys being drawn from the 5th classes only. However those who were present seemed to enjoy their health-giving pastime. On the 21st there was a much larger muster. Two baths were attended, the good swimmers attending Hellings' the weaker and non swimmers utilizing Cavill's floating baths. Several boys were given their initial instruction. It is one of the most important aims of the executive, that all non-swimmers will have mastered the earlier stages before the season closes. Boys who have not yet joined the club, swimmers and non-swimmers should do so without delay.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Readers of the "Fortian" will remember that a few issues ago a letter was published from the Head Master of the London Fields Board School, suggesting that a correspondence should be opened up between the pupils of his school and those of ours. He also pointed out that his school was already in correspondence with one of the Canadian Schools and suggested that these letters should be forward to us by him as well as those from his own school. Davis, the Captain of the School, undertook to write on behalf of the School, and last week received a budget of letters in reply. A few extracts from these are published, and the letters will be left in the Library to be read by any who might be desirous of doing so. The Head Master would very much like to receive letters from boys of various classes to be forwarded to London in answer to these. He would also draw the attention of the girls to the suggestion in one of the letters with regard to a correspondence being established among girls' schools. He will be very happy to

forward any letters which are sent to him in response to that suggestion.

"We received your Principal Mr. Turner on Monday, July 12th. We all praise the Australian Troopers for their gallant service in South Africa. I had two brothers who fought too and we had seventeen old schoolboys who served the Empire at the Front. How many have you?"

"We received your most welcome letter and shall be very pleased to correspond with you.

"Our school has an area of about nine hundred boys and girls. There are seventeen rooms in it, also a large basement, three store rooms and a principal's office. It has a frontage of two hundred and fifty feet, a play ground on each side with a basket-ball apparatus in each. In summer we have two months' vacation, and at Easter and Christmas we have two weeks, besides all public holidays. Lake Ontario is at the foot of the street. We have more than fifty public schools in Toronto.

"The summer sports of Canada are Lacrosse baseball, cricket, football, swimming, and lawn tennis. In winter we have hockey, ice-boating, sleighing, skating, hunting and trapping."—MURRAY CLEMES, (TORONTO.)

"As you have sent us a copy of your magazine, Mr. Cook has asked me to tell you something about ours, as our editor has left. Our magazine is written out by ourselves, and we have illustrations in almost every page, and our tales are all original. We have sometimes as many as seven or eight in one number, illustrated by little pen and ink sketches, made up out of our own heads. We have special numbers at Christmas and we are getting ready a Coronation number as we had not time enough to do it before. Our old boys also send us contributions of every kind from all parts of the world. We have several budding artists who contribute to it and our late editor had quite a gift for painting. Our finest novelist writes some splendid tales, and we have several others who can write almost as well. We have very few boys who can write poetry and our best boy we call our Poet Laureate. Our present volume is the fortieth and contains about 200 pages. We also put in the best composition papers, drawings that we do in school and sometimes we have a dialogue. The pictures and many of the tales are done at home on separate pieces of the same sized paper and brought to Mr. Cook who binds them into one volume, which we take home and show our parents in turn. We like your "Fortian" especially the poetry by Henry Lawson. How old is he? Please send us a few old copies.

"You have sent over a splendid cricket team this year, it has beaten us in nearly every match, but we mean to have another try next year.

"Though you have beaten us in cricket, our man has beaten your champion swimmer by thirty yards this year. Now I think I must close, with best regards to my friends across the sea." (H. CUDMORE, age 13.)

"If there is a girl's department connected with your school please tell the Head Mistress that some of our girls would like to correspond with her. Ours is a mixed school, as are all the Toronto Public Schools.

—(R. W. Hicks)

We had a week's holiday for the Coronation which did not come off, but the real Coronation came during our summer holidays. It passed off very well and everybody seemed jolly. The decorations were lovely and thousands witnessed the sight.

—(C. Harris, 12 years.)

NEWS FROM Mr. TURNER.

Lausanne,
Switzerland.
23rd 8th '02

Dear Mr. Williams,

Your letter reached me at Rome at a time when news of Australia was very scarce. I read with pleasure of the good work that is going on in the Old School among the Staff, and of the fine attendance that is being maintained in all Departments. From another source I learn of some individual successes and good indications of a prosperous 1903 Junior. I am waiting anxiously for the results of the 1902 Junior which should reach me within a fortnight from this date. I am not sure whether my appeals to the fifth class girls to take up the Junior work have resulted in so large a number of entries from their Department, but you can assure Miss Partridge that I am very proud of such a representative body as her fifty candidates. She has my heartiest congratulations in outnumbering the candidates from the Boys' Department and my best wishes for a good percentage of passes. To-day marks the completion of my official work in Switzerland and Italy. Nature has been lavish with her gifts to these countries, particularly to the former. The mountain scenery of Switzerland is well known but I never imagined that there was so much land under cultivation. To-day I travelled from Lausanne to Berne and back and saw nearly all the way beautiful, green, and undulatory country. Every available piece of arable land is under cultivation and the atmosphere is fragrant with the smell of new mown hay. Poppies and corn-flowers abound in the fields. The Swiss people living in the country—men, women, boys and girls—have plenty of exercise in the open air, not cricket, football, or tennis, but cutting and making hay. The women and girls take their share of hard work in the hay-fields. Most of the school children of the country are now enjoying their summer vacation. When the schools are open pupils have to be in attendance at 7 o'clock in the morning. The lessons last till 12. In the afternoon work commences at 2 and closes at 6. I have in my mind's eye at the present moment a little white-headed boy who lives in Cumberland-Street—no names mentioned—who would not be very happy attending a school in this lovely land. At 6.30 a few mornings back, on my return journey from Italy, I saw a dozen little children battling through a heavy thunder-storm on their way to the village school. I forgot to mention above that boys and girls here attend school on Saturday morning till 11 o'clock but Wednesday afternoon is always a half-holiday. The Swiss Schools have their breaking-up and presentation of prizes &c. at Easter. In all, the pupils get eleven weeks holidays in the year, but

then they deserve them when the daily hours are so long. I have had little opportunity for sight-seeing but I travelled to Zermatt to view the Matterhorn—generally acknowledged to be the grandest of all the Swiss mountain sights. While on this trip I just went a little off my track to see the Swiss side of the Simplon Tunnel, which, when finished, will be the longest in the world—over 12 miles. Mt. St. Gothard is over 9 miles, Mt. Cenis over 7. For calm soft scenery Lake Geneva at Mantreux, close to the junction of the Rhone, cannot be surpassed, while Lake Lucerne, near Bruzzen, would satisfy the heart of the greatest admirer of the bold and rugged in Nature. I saw very little cricket while in England but what I did see was good. Victor Trumper is the best bat in the world. It is a treat to watch him attack the flower of the English bowling. It looks very simple while Victor is at the wickets. Reg. Duff, in a match I saw him bat, made light work of Hearne's best deliveries and Albert Trott's marvellous breaks. Darling has done some hard-hitting particularly when Rhodes was facing him. Noble has proved himself a great all-round cricketer more than once during the tour. Fry is a great out-field. W. G. Grace still plays a fine game and bowls an ugly slow leg-break which few of our boys can negotiate. Hirst is the best of English bowlers and Jackson is the best bat.

Give my kindest regards to all the members of the Staff, I often think of them and the old School and of the boys and girls of whom we are so proud. Best wishes for a good Senior, good luck to our representatives this year, kindest regards to yourself.

Sincerely yours,
J. W. Turner.

Mr. Turner writing from Brussels to Mr. Massey sends his warmest regard to Teachers and pupils.

On arrival at London he was warmly welcomed by Earls Beauchamp and Carrington. Both these ex-governors made very kind inquiries about the Old School and referred with pleasure to their official visits to the school during their stay in New South Wales. Mr. Turner's trip so far has been a happy success. He says he has much to tell the boys on his return.

"If all the year were playing holidays,
To sport would be as tedious as to work,
But when they seldom come, they wish'd-
for come."

"Play at small games rather than stand
out."
—Shakespeare.

Impressions of the University Jubilee.

Castor's mind having been at last relieved of the incubus of final examinations which had been brooding (we think incubi brood) over him for the whole of the vacation, and Pollux having become weary of the monotony of domestic life, and pining for the companionship of other sining undergrads, the Jubilee week opened to both of your correspondents a prospect full of unalloyed and enchanting pleasure. Accordingly on the afternoon of the Monday of the great week they might have been seen threading their way amidst policemen and howls of derision from newsboys etc; to the Temple of Thesp's otherwise known as the Palace Theatre. Here we may remark that the reporters of the daily papers seemed to be under the delusion that the afternoon's amusement was to be provided by a dramatic entertainment. They were quickly undeceived. For details of the performance we may refer readers to the columns of a certain daily paper and we shall content ourselves with the remark that here, as usual, Fort Street was well to the fore.

On the Tuesday, at the reception of guests, the undergrads were unavoidably absent, through an oversight on the part of the Senate who neglected to send them invitation, as they did also on the occasions of the harbour excursion and the Garden Party at the Observatory.

At the *Conversazione* on Wednesday the Grand Old School was represented by a distinguished Senior matriculant of 1900, but from his lack of information on the subject we gathered that his attention was chiefly bestowed on some other than the Senate and distinguished guests.

On the next day, amid the gay bunting and gayer dresses that bedecked the sombre and classical paths and lawns of "that grand old building up on the hill" we noticed the faces of many old Fort-Street boys and teachers with mothers, sisters, aunts, cousins, and others in their wake, pointing out the special features of interest about their Alma Mater with every appearance of conscious pride, and it was not until Jupiter Pluvius had lowered his gloomy face above the gay crowd that the last one took his regretful leave.

But the one great occasion on which the undergrad, relieved of feminine and academic restraint, was able to indulge to his heart's content in those mystic and ancient rites, hallowed by the traditions of ages and so dear to the soul of every rightminded university student, and which, copied as they are from the classical Bacchanalian revels, have the authority of antiquity for their existence, was on the Friday night at the Smoke Concert of the undergraduates' Association, a function whose yearly increasing popularity is the best argument for its continuation, and here also amid the shouts, cheers

songs, speeches, and toasts the Fort Street element was apparent.

The proceedings in connection with the Jubilee terminated in a fitting manner on the Saturday afternoon with a most enjoyable regatta held on the Lane Cove River, the ground of St. Ignatius' College having been kindly offered to the visitors and thus we finished the most pleasant week that we have yet spent during our connection with Alma Mater.

—Castor and Pollux

The Most Remarkable Feats of Human Labour.

The following are said to be ten of the most remarkable works of human labour:—

1. The Pyramids of Egypt, the largest of which, near Cairo, known as the Great Pyramid, built by Cheops, King of Egypt, took 200,000 men 20 years to build.
2. The artificial reservoir—Lake Moeris—built by Amenemba, of the twelfth dynasty, which served to store up the waters of the Nile during the seasons of floods, and distribute them by canals over the land during the dry season. Its circumference was 300 furlongs, and on its being allowed to fall into ruin the fertility of the region became, to a serious extent, a thing of the past.
3. The Taj Mahal, a tomb erected at Agra, in Hindostan, by Shah Jehan over his Queen, Noor Jehan. It is built of the purest white marble, and yet seems so airy that when seen from a distance it is so like a fabric of mist and sunbeams, with its great dome soaring up a silvery bubble about to burst in the sun, that even after you have touched it and climbed to its summit you almost doubt its reality. It cost over £3,000,000.
4. The temple of Baalbec, in the erection of which stones 62 feet long, 20 feet broad, and 15 feet thick have been used—more prodigious masses than have ever elsewhere been moved by human power, and exceeding in size any stones used in the Pyramids.
5. The Temple of Karnak, described by Fergusson as the noblest effort of architectural magnificence ever produced by the hand of man. It covers twice the area of St Peter's at Rome, and undoubtedly is one of the finest buildings in the world.
6. The Great Wall of China, 1280 miles in length. It is 20 feet in height, and in thickness 25 feet at the base and 15 feet at the top.
7. The Eiffel Tower, erected in the grounds of the Paris Exhibition, and 984 feet high.
8. The Suez Canal, with 88 miles of waterway, connecting the Mediterranean and Red Seas, and forming the principal route to India. It cost more than £17,000,000, and 1,292 out of the 390,677 shares were purchased by, and belong to, the British Government.
9. The railway bridge [the largest cantilever bridge in the world] over the Forth, with two spans, each of 1700 feet, erected at a cost of nearly £4,000,000.
10. The Leaning Tower of Pisa, which deviates 13 feet from the perpendicular.

BE THOROUGH, BOYS.

Whatso'er you find to do,
Do it, boys, with all your might!
Never be a little true,
Or a little in the right.
Trifles make the life of man;
So in all things,
Great or small things,
Be as thorough as you can!

Let no speck their surface dim—
Spotless truth, and honour bright!
I'd not give a fig for him
Who says any lie is white!
He who falters,
Twists, or alters
Little atoms, when we speak,
May deceive me:
But, believe me,
To himself he is a sneak.

Help the weak, if you are strong;
Love the old, if you are young;
Own a fault, if you are wrong;
If you're angry, hold your tongue!
In each duty
Lies a beauty,
If your eyes you do not shut,
Just as surely,
And securely,
As a kernel in a nut.

If you think a word will please,
Say it, if it is but true;
Words may give delight with ease,
When no act is asked from you.
Words may often
Soothe and soften,
Gild a joy, or heal a pain;
They are treasures
Yielding pleasures
It is wicked to retain.

Whatso'er you find to do,
Do it, then, with all your might;
Let your prayers be strong and true—
Prayer, my lads, will keep you right.
Pray in all things,
Great and small things,
Act, the Christian gentleman;
And for ever,
Now or never,
Be as thorough as you can!
—YOUNG ENGLAND.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

SUNSET.

Tis evening and the sun's last parting beams,
Come rolling o'er the calm and peaceful bay;
How fair the scene! 'Tis like a land of dreams
Enhanced, as 'tis by the hour of parting day.

The sun sinks down to rest, enwrap'd in cloud.
Stained fiery red by his expiring glow:
Across the waters still, now soft now lead
In cadence sweet the bush-bird's note doth
flow.

With tinkling tune the water laps the strand,
The last wildbird unto his rest doth go;
The tall gum-trees by gentle zephyrs fanned
Seem loth to break the stillness deep and low.

And now the sun from keenest sight is gone,
A darkness rushes o'er the melting scene;
The sky, the sea, the shore are merged in one,
And from that shore there breaks the night
wind keen.

J. R.

HUMOUR

Father. "Well Geoff, what would you like for your birthday present."

Geoff. "Oh father, buy me a telephone so that I can answer the master's questions without going to school."
—World's News.

A porter in London was engaged in clearing a luggage van, when the door swung back, striking him violently on the head.

"Oh Pat!" he exclaimed to an Irishman standing on the platform, "I believe I have opened my head."
"Bedad, and now's the time to put something in it" was Pat's witty reply.
(Household.)

QUOTATIONS TO BE REMEMBERED

Make yourself necessary to somebody.
—Emerson.

He who learns and makes no use of his learning is a beast of burden with a load of books.
—Saadi.

Though high you hold your head with pride of purse,
'Tis not the fortune makes the gentleman.
—Horace



Vol. IV. No. 10. SYDNEY, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12th, 1902.

Price 1d

THE FORTIAN.

CHRISTMAS.

"I am sure I have always thought of Christmas time as a good time; a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time; the only time I know of in the long calendar of the year when men and women seem by one consent to open their shut-up hearts freely and to think of people below them as if they really were fellow-passengers to the grave, and not another race of creatures bound on other journeys." Such was the reply of Scrooge's nephew to his uncle's pessimistic view of Christmas as a "time to you for paying bills without money; a time for finding yourself a year older and not an hour richer; a time for balancing your books and having every item in 'em thorough a round dozen of months presented dead against you."

Probably we shall all agree with the nephew that Christmas is a pleasant time. For the young it is a time of cessation from school work, of holiday trips, of parties, and such like matters which are especially delightful to them. For the old it is a time of re-union with relatives and friends some of whom probably they have not seen the whole long year. But in a sense too we should look upon it as the uncle regarded it, as a time for retrospection. It should be a time for us to ask ourselves whether we have made the most of our opportunities during the year that is past, and according to the answer we are able to give the question we must mould our conduct in the future.

For all as well as being a time of retrospection, it should be a time of anticipation. Some will have finished their school career and will be looking forward hopefully to their encounter with the difficul-

ties and troubles which abound in the world beyond it. Others will return to school with renewed vigour and determination that the next year will find them in a better position than the present. With those go our heartiest good wishes, with these the hope that their resolve may find its fullest consummation on their return. Let all remember that whether with us or apart, when at this time of the year their thoughts turn toward the Old School that now and always the School wishes them "A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year."

RHODES' SCHOLARSHIPS.

The attention of the boys of the fourth and fifth classes was drawn some time ago to the provisions of the will of the late Mr. Cecil Rhodes. The matter is one deserving much more than a passing notice, so the opportunity is taken here of once more directing attention to this matter, so that parents as well as boys may keep it in mind.

In the introductory paragraph Mr. Rhodes states his object in establishing these scholarships, and the amount and tenure of such scholarships.

I "Whereas, I consider that the education of young Colonists at one of the Universities in the United Kingdom is of great advantage to them for giving breadth to their views, for their instruction in life and manners and for instilling into their minds the advantage to the Colonies as well as to the United Kingdom of the retention of the unity of the Empire. And whereas, in the case of young Colonists studying at a university in the United Kingdom I attach very great importance to the University having a residential system, such as is in force at the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge for without it those students are at the most critical period of their lives left without any supervision."

II "Now, therefore, I direct my Trustees as soon as may be after my death, and either simultaneously or gradually, as they shall find convenient, and if gradually, then in such order as they shall think fit to establish for male students the Scholarships hereinafter directed to be established, each of which shall be of the yearly value of £300 and be tenable at any College in the University of Oxford for three consecutive academical years."

One scholarship is to be filled each year by candidates from New South Wales. The qualifications necessary for obtaining one of these scholarships are stated in the will as follow:

III "My desire being that the students who shall be elected to the Scholarships shall not be merely bookworms. I direct that in the election of a student to a Scholarship regard shall be had to (i) his literary and scholastic attainments, (ii) his

fondness of and success in manly outdoor sports such as cricket, football and the like, (iii) his qualities of manhood, truth, courage, devotion to duty, sympathy for the protection of the weak, kindness, unselfishness and fellowship and (iv) his exhibition during school days of moral force of character and of instincts to lead and to take an interest in his schoolmates, for those latter attributes will be likely in after-life to guide him to esteem the performance of public duties as his highest aim. As mere suggestions for the guidance of those who will have the choice of students for the Scholarships I record that (i) my ideal qualified student would combine these four qualifications in the proportions of 3/10ths for the first, 2/10ths for the second, 3/10ths for the third and 2/10ths for the fourth qualification, so that according to my ideas if the maximum number of marks for an Scholarship were 200, they would be apportioned as follows—60 to each of the first and third qualifications and 40 to each of the second and fourth qualifications, (ii) the marks for the several qualifications would be awarded independently as follows (that is to say), the marks for the first qualifications by examination for the second and third qualifications respectively by ballot by the fellow-students of the candidates and for the fourth qualification by the head master of the candidate's school and (iii) the result of the awards (that is to say the marks obtained by each candidate for each qualification) would be sent as soon as possible for consideration to the Trustees or to some person or persons appointed to receive the same and the person or persons so appointed would ascertain by averaging the marks in blocks of 20 marks each of all candidates the best ideal qualified students."

The full text of the provisions will be found posted up in the corridor.

OUR LIBRARY.

The Library attached to our school contains a varied collection of suitable works for the young; and our boys and girls who patronize it cannot complain of a scarcity of good books from which to choose. It comprises about 2,600 volumes selected from authors whose writing are best adapted for a school library. There are upwards of 60 works of G. A. Henty which are in great demand among the boys, and are of much value in the study of History and Geography, as through them the names of persons and connecting events become familiar. Much pleasure and profit may also be derived from Bullantyne's books and those of other popular authors with which the shelves are well stocked.

There is no charge for the use of the Reading-room which can be availed of during midday recess by the boys on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, and the girls on the other days. The latest magazines and pictorials and other reading well suited for all the class are to be found there. A visit to the room cannot but impress a person with the excellent conduct of the readers; and it is seldom that our librarian has to check any breach of good order.

The loan of a book can be procured for the small charge of a penny per week, and all money so obtained helps in the purchase of new books.

It is pleasing to note that the books are well preserved, and that it is a rare thing to find leaves turned

down or ugly creases on them. It is almost a certainty that anything approaching the example said to be set by some celebrated literary man of using the butter knife to cut the leaves is not practised by those who take the loan of books from the Fort Street library; and it is hoped that we shall always have the good sense not to pencil the leaves in any way.

It might not be out of place to point out that the binding of books is often thoughtlessly damaged through want of a little care in handling them, and in other ways; and to ask our boys to bear in mind that these books are to serve others when we have passed from the school and are engaged in the harder battle of life.

—L. J. Fitzpatrick.

OLD BOYS' NEWS

We hear good news of the doings of our 1901 Senior Boys at the University. W. Mason has carried off the Smith Physics' prize. Science is clearly his forte; we have no doubt he will be heard from again, in the future.

Foxall, Vickery, and Whitney too were well up in the science lists, the latter particularly distinguished himself in Inorganic Chemistry. George must be failing in his allegiance to the Muses, surely! In this subject he was only beaten by one mark for first place, and that an old Fort St boy of 1899 Matriculation, Douglas Mawson, now demonstrator in Physics at the University.

DISAPPOINTED.

The days were long, and far from cold,
The toiler now was growing old;
His flabby cheek, and loafing way,
Increased and grew from day to day;
His books, his one embittered joy,
He sold unto some other boy.
The worst of all his type was he,
Who failed exams consistently:
For, welladay! his wits had fled,
And he, at times, wished he were dead;
"For then," he wistfully confessed,
"One might enjoy eternal rest."
"O! would that I had ne'er been born!"
He inly murmured every morn.
No longer by ambition pressed,
He hugged the "wall," a certain guest,
And ruminated on the way
To scheme some sham-sick holiday.
Old ways were changed, old help mates gone,
And strangely he was left alone;
For those with whom he'd spent old times
Were expiating now their crimes.
A sleeping partner, bored and sour,
He mooned his way from hour to hour,
And turned a dull ungrateful ear
To bells, except when meals were near.

SKELTER WHOTT.

ENGLISH.

The Battle of Flodden Field and Accession of James V.

Boys and girls studying the Lay of the Last Minstrel will find the following notes on the reign of James V. of Scotland interesting and profitable.

I've heard them liltin', † at the ewe milkin',
Lassies a' liltin', before dawn of day;
But now they are moaning on ilka green loanin'; ‡
The flowers of the forest are a' wede awae. ‡

* Pool and wae for the order, sent * our kais to the
Border;

The English for ance, ly guile wan the day;
The flowers of the forest, that fought ay the fore-
most,

The prime of our land, are cauld in the clay.

† liltin'—singing cheerfully. loanin'—a broad way.
wede awe—weded out.

It was upon the inhabitants of Ettrick Forest that the main portion of the calamities which accompanied the Battle of Flodden Field fell. The ballad from which we quote, presents us with a picture of this locality robbed in one fell stroke of all its young men and the lassies condemned in consequence to mourn their dead lovers; and the pathos of the line "The flowers of the forest are a' wede awae" brings home to us in a most forcible and touching manner one of the horrible consequences of war.

And when we remember that the Battle was mainly undertaken out of a false spirit of chivalry, to please the Queen of France, we cannot help feeling that the action of James IV., opposed as it was to the advice of his wisest counsellors, and nearly resulting as it did in the ruin of his kingdom, was almost criminal in character.

Ettrick Forest however, was not the only sufferer. The towns of Selkirk, Jedburgh, and many others were almost depopulated of men. Indeed the whole Southern Border suffered so severely in this respect that the bitter memories left by Flodden linger to this day in the songs and traditions of its people. But perhaps the most calamitous result of the battle was the death of the Scottish king and the flower of his nobility.

Deprived as Scotland at this moment was of most of her leading men, it was a time of great danger and difficulty. The successor to the throne was a child two years old. At any time it seemed probable the country would be called upon to repel an invasion of the English. But the citizens of Edinburgh were equal to the emergency and although their fears afterwards proved groundless, immediately took steps to preserve order and defend the capital.

The infant King was crowned at Scone, and his mother Margaret, a sister of Henry VIII, was appointed Regent. Her conduct however soon gave

grave cause for discontent, and when, in the following year, she contracted a foolish and imprudent marriage with Douglas, Earl of Angus, she was deprived of the Regency and compelled to flee to England.

John, Duke of Albany, the nearest male relative of the king, who had been born and brought up in France, was now invited by the nobles to become Regent. But his French manners and ways of thought, combined with his ignorance of Scottish feelings and customs so entirely unfitted him for the position, that, after an intermittent sway of eight years, during which his administration proved a disastrous failure, he was glad to return to France (1524).

Margaret and her husband now returned, but soon quarrelled bitterly. The conduct of Angus was such that Margaret at length procured a divorce from him. Although this diminished his power, he still remained one of the most formidable nobles of Scotland. In fact, the only nobleman who was able to oppose him was the Earl of Arran, the head of the great family of Hamilton. The Eastern nobles mostly sided with Angus, whilst those of the West were strong partisans of Arran. Perhaps his strongest supporter, however, was James Beaton, Archbishop of Glasgow and Chancellor of Scotland.

In 1520, the rival faction of Hamilton and Douglas were summoned to Edinburgh to attend a parliament. The Hamiltons, being the more numerous party, were deliberating upon the feasibility of attacking the Douglas faction and apprehending Angus. But Angus, having heard something of their intention, was enabled to make preparations in time against an attack, and when the Hamiltons, in accordance with their plan rushed upon them the Douglas faction repelled them with terrible slaughter, and eventually swept them from the streets of Edinburgh. The result of this battle, which, as Scott says "Exhibits a wild picture of the times when such a conflict could be fought in the midst of a populous city" was, that the tradition of Angus gained a considerable ascendancy over that of Arran.

In spite of all Margaret's attempts to destroy his power Angus retained supreme control of Scottish affairs. He forcibly obtained possession of the young king (now about 12 years old) and transacted all business in the king's name, thus concentrating in his own hands all the power of the crown.

[To be continued.]

Mr. Turner.

Since our last notice of Mr. Turner, we learn by post-cards at regular intervals, that he has travelled through Sweden and Norway, Finland, Russia and at latest was back in Germany. In a letter to Mr. Perry, Minister for Public Instruction, he corrects an impression abroad that Russia is educationally in a backward condition, as he found there some of the

most modern ideas in education, which he had met with on his journey.

THE SCHOOL BAZAAR.

It has been the custom for a very long time for the School to hold in alternate years a Bazaar and a Concert. By this means the management is made to fall in alternate years upon the Girls' and Boys' Departments. This year it was the time for a bazaar to be held and the management consequently was in the hands of Misses Partridge and Coyle and the great bulk of the work fell upon the teachers and pupils of the Girls' Department. As soon as the Annual Inspection was out of the way, preparations began and were continued with the utmost energy and assiduity up to the night of 4th December, upon which night the Bazaar was opened. Considering the very short time at the disposal of the managers, they must be congratulated on the very successful issue. The teachers and pupils of the other departments were called upon for assistance in carrying out details and for contributions to the funds, and both were given freely and cheerfully.

On the opening night the school presented quite an unwonted appearance. The girls' main room and the Library were converted for the nonce into glimpses of fairyland. Numerous stalls were distributed about them, upon which were displayed for sale all kinds of goods, fancy goods, toys, pot plants, perfumery, scents, groceries and produce. There were also a snow ball, and fish pond and a Christmas tree. The corridor of the main building was converted into a refreshment stall, where all kinds of tempting articles to eat and drink were dispensed. The boys' main room was converted into a concert hall, a platform being erected in the recess. All these parts of the building were very tastefully decorated with bunting and greenery.

Mrs. Perry, who had kindly consented to open the sale of work, was met at the entrance by Misses Partridge and Coyle and Mr. Williams. She was accompanied by Mr. Perry, the Minister for Public Instruction, and in formally declaring the Bazaar open she complimented the teachers and pupils upon the fine display of goods and hoped that the result would be a considerable increase to the school and prize funds.

The stalls with their attendants were as follows: Dolls: Misses Smith and Sherlock, Toys: Misses Sherring and Trotter, Fancy: Misses Dillon, Hetherington and Munro, Perfumery: Misses Tresillian and Free, Provisions: Miss Kilminster, Snowball: Misses Berry Macnamara and Howard, Fish Pond: Misses Korff and Phillips, Christmas Tree: Misses Roberts and Watson, Refreshments: Misses Rankin, Burke and Drummond, Cordials: Misses Gormley, Carugati, and Ebsworth, Sweets:

Miss McCrae, Flowers: Misses Cass and Brewster, Cards: Miss Given.

In addition to the above every stall had a large band of willing assistants who did all they could to induce those who patronised the bazaar to assist the objects for which the bazaar was held by purchasing goods from their particular stall.

A number of side shows, to induce patrons to part with an additional threepenny or penny piece were placed in various parts of the building and these contributed to the success of the whole. A series of concerts organised by Mr. Kenny took place in the boys' main room each evening. At these concerts the pupils of the school were assisted by a number of well known artists: Mrs. Geoffrey Harper, Misses Murray, Messrs. Herford and Walker. We must acknowledge the debt of gratitude we owe to these ladies and gentlemen for so generously placing their time and services at our disposal. We only regret that their efforts were not rewarded by much larger audiences. Ping Pong under the direction of Mr. Schrader was played very vigorously during the whole course of the bazaar. A Shooting Gallery under the supervision of Messrs. Humphries and Learmonth was erected in the Infants' playground and was well patronised particularly on the morning of Friday the 5th instant, when pupils were allowed entrance to the bazaar free of charge. A Magic Lantern occupied a portion of the Kindergarten. This was suggested and carried out successfully by Bartle, who provided the lantern and acted as showman. An Art Gallery under the direction of Horsfield, Cookson, Snodgrass and Boyce, in which were on view some of the best of both modern and ancient pictures took in a lot of patrons. In addition to these a phonograph managed by Jerdan and an Electric Battery, where people were shocked by Chute, helped to swell the funds.

On each afternoon displays were given by squads of girls in club-swinging, wands, flag march, dumb bells; by the infants of may-pole dancing; and by the boys of free exercises and dumb bells.

The Bazaar remained open on Friday and Saturday and was well patronised during the whole time. The attendance on Saturday evening was in some degree spoiled by a heavy thunder storm which occurred during the afternoon.

At the time of writing the whole of the accounts are not to hand, but we are in a position to state that it is a financial success.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION.

For some months past a number of pupils from the boys' department have attended a series of demonstrations in photography which were held at the rooms of Messrs. Harrington & Co. in King St. The demonstrations were practical illustrations of various branches of the art, and included lectures in the various parts of a camera and their uses, developing,

toning and a number of technical matters. These lectures were greatly enjoyed and appreciated by those who attended them. As a result of this interest and keeping in mind the educational value which a correct knowledge of this art tends to produce, it suggested itself that a competition would stimulate those who already had a knowledge of the art and would tend to arouse the interest of those who had not yet come under the fascination which we are given to understand a camera possesses for those who take it up as a hobby. The competition was held in conjunction with the Bazaar and we are quite sure that we must thank the demonstration at Messrs. Harrington & Co's. warehouse for the very satisfactory results obtained.

The conditions attached to the competition were that the work should be almost entirely the work of the exhibitor, that the pictures should be suitably mounted and that the name of the subject should be attached. Almost 100 photographs were sent in, and this must be considered a very satisfactory number, when we remember that it is the first competition of this kind held at the school. Mr. Hill Griffiths of Messrs. Harrington & Co. kindly consented to judge the pictures and the comments which he makes upon the whole is no less satisfactory than the number of exhibits. His impressions are summed up in these remarks.—“There is a very intelligent idea conveyed in every photograph with the view to make it a picture; all the subjects were interesting in a greater or less degree; the mountings were clean and tasteful; and technically speaking the work is fair or in consideration that the work done was that of boys, it might be considered good.” Such remarks coming from one so competent to judge must be considered high praise. Though the competition was not restricted to the Boys' Department, that was the only side of the school which was represented. We are sorry that none of the girls were able to make up their minds to take part in the competition.

The photographs caused a great deal of interest from patrons of the Bazaar, and on the whole may be considered an unqualified success.

The following is a list of the prize winners: W. Ellard, winner of Messrs Harrington & Co. prize for best all round Picture: A. Fitzmaurice, winner of Messrs Harrington & Co. prize for most Interesting Subject: T. Coughlan, winner of prize for best Home Subject: J. Wright, winner of prize for most Amusing Subject.

In addition to the above the following were commended for their work: D. Briggs, T. Coughlan, C. Maclurcan, J. Wright (3subjects) H. Green.

We cannot draw this article to a close without thanking Messrs Harrington & Co. for their generous donation of prizes, and the invitation extended to take advantage of the demonstration which they provided free of charge, and Mr. Hill Griffiths for his service, in drawing up the conditions of the competitions and for giving up a portion of his valuable time to judge the pictures which were sent in.

GIRLS COLUMN. Teaching in South Africa.

Miss Hay, late Assistant, in the girl's department, writing from Kroonstad S. Africa gives us some interesting news. She is on the teaching staff in the refugee camp there, and up to the week of writing they had a Boer headmaster. Miss Hay says he was a typical lazy Boer and did not take a class even when the four other teachers had 150 children each. The intelligence of the Boer children is praised in the letter, there is one class corresponding to a lower third class in our (Fort Street) Girls' school, doing compound rules in Arithmetic parsing and geography they can also read books like Brooks' second reader, well. Miss Hay and Bonney have the beginners, who are very anxious to excel in writing on slates and are continually asking "Is it goot Auntie?" All the teachers are called "Auntie". The children occasionally get confused in the order "touch knees," as their word for "nose" is pronounced "knee," and half of them put their hands to their noses.

One day the children were being taught a song "As Tommy was walking," when a certain Thomas Botha objected violently. He was very averse to personal remark and Miss Hay had to change the name to Hendrick. This works very well, and they now sing "As Hendrick was walking". The refugee camp at Kroonstad will soon be broken up and Miss Hay will be going to a new school where she will live under canvas. The tents are 20 by 30 feet, and much more comfortable than the tin houses they have been living in lately. The English lady teachers' time expires shortly and they are reluctantly going home some have a great collection of curios. One young lady has a gong made from a forty-pounder. This is hung on a brass arch, which was once part of a "pompon" and this arch is set in a stand of local wood. At present this is worth at least £10.

Class 3C held their annual picnic on Saturday 15th. at Rose Bay and spent a most enjoyable day. Boating and "paddling," racing and games of various sorts filled up the day pleasantly. Georgie Clarke won the prize for marking the pig's eye while blindfolded, and Emily Barker won in the racing. After a picnic luncheon, recitations for half an hour and later after tea the girls returned to their homes, well pleased with their day's outing.

It was pleasant to see the girls and teachers of 3E, 4B and 5A spending an enjoyable time at Balmoral on 15th Nov. During the morning the baths were well patronised and those who could not swim were not debarred from having a paddle. In the afternoon many of the girls played games and some went out boating. When the time came for going home the mutual desire was that another picnic would not be far off.

Violet Colemitt and Georgie Clarke having specially distinguished themselves have received special promotion from 3C to 3E.

TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT.

The first tournament in connection with the Junior Girls' T. T. Club was brought to a close during the month. The play after the conclusion of the first round was generally even and exciting and though the weather was often highly unfavourable, the girls entered into the matter with great heartiness. The best game of the qualifying round was that between Misses N. Murray and M. Cassidy, the former winning a hard struggle 60-50. Miss Cassidy is a dashing player. The semifinals were contested between Misses Murray, Simpkins, Fitzgerald, Stening and Elliot. The final saw Misses Simpkins, Fitzgerald and Stening unbeaten; but here Miss M. Simpkins by coolness and sureness proved above the capabilities of her more dashing and excitable opponents, beating them respectively 63-53, 39-29 Misses Fitzgerald and Stening divided the prize and Misses Murray and Elliot the third. The prizes were presented by Miss Partridge, who spoke very highly of the good spirit of sport evidenced among the competitors during the tournament.

CRICKET

The membership of our club has now reached nearly 300, and it is very satisfactory to note that every member has taken part in a match. Great interest is being taken in the class matches the first round of which is now completed.

It would occupy more space than that at our disposal to give details of matches played, but the following synopsis shows the results to date. All matches were keenly contested and many were interesting finishes.

Senior Room	defeated	Public Service	by	40	runs.
Commercial Room	"	Matriculation 2	"	31	"
Matriculation 4	"	"	3	5	wkts.
4A	"	4E	"	22	runs.
4A	"	4D	"	9	"
4C	"	4E	"	11	"
4D	"	4C	"	15	"
5A 1	"	5A 2	"	41	"
4B	"	3E	"	14	"

The following boys have been prominent so far in the various departments of the game.

Batting:—T. Hall, Ross, Falconer, Collier, Maxwell, Redshaw, Locke, Lindsly, Flower, Evans, Cashman, Trotman, Miller, Moses, Clement, Smith, Grainger, Owen, Ogilvy, Davis, Harris, Ferguson, Snell, Duff, Treacy, Kneeshaw, Nicholson, Martin, Tindall.

Bowling:—Rhodes, Falconer, Devitt, Treacy, Loughlan, Nash, Nicholson, Evans, M'Phee, Clements, Glassop, Hungerford, Davis, Lorking, Tindall, Croll, Todd, Brown, Forrester, Mittell.

Fielding:—Lowell, Beaumont, S. Ward, A. Nelson, Coffill, Brown, Hunt.

The Secretary would very much like to see in the next "Fortian" a larger list of boys who distinguished themselves in the field.

GEOLOGICAL EXCURSION.

In this article it is my object to point out the real and lasting benefit conferred on us students by the recent geological excursion to National Park. We left Redfern early and were very observant of the cutting through the recent iron-stone clays and Hawkesbury sand-stone as we sped swiftly on. We were told that Wianamatta shale is used at the kilns at St. Peters but could not investigate.

The usual joints (dip and strike) stratification, false and current bedding and weathering were plentifully exemplified at some of the stoppages on the way. In the recent clay we noticed small and regular (symmetrical) folds caused I believe by the expansion of the rock owing to dessication and exposure during conversion into soil and subsoil. At Como a sand bank analogous to a bar is formed. From Loftus to the Park, few features of interest presented themselves, we had a hazy view of the action of wind in carrying dust particles but then that can be seen in George Street.

The rocks standing on the sides of the road to form which much cutting out has been done, were splendid specimens for the study of weathering. The fantastic forms of some of the underweathered surfaces, and small caves were indeed remarkable. Some of the sandstone too peeled off quite easily, other pieces could not be broken with a hammer. Some scree and taluses were noticed but they were not very recent and composed of very large blocks.

We then investigated the river on the marine side. The tide was low and so we could very nicely examine the littoral deposits mostly fine-sand, silt, slime, a few oyster shells and a crab or two. The high water-mark and plain of maximum erosion were very marked on the further side; some boys swam over to get a better view. In this part of the river I was most interested in some acre or so of land that is now used for picnicking, which has been built up by the deposition of sediment on the convex-bank while the stream at the same time was eating the concave bank out to a corresponding size. The line of the old bank is very plainly seen about 100 yards inland. This was perhaps the most practical example we saw.

On the fresh water side, the river was well examined. The course is very sinuous and a fine illustration is afforded in the manner in which the sediment is deposited on the convex and concave banks. One steersman not as well versed in this matter evidently a new arrival in our class found this out when he got his party fast. The left arm of the river the (Woniara) can be examined nearly to the source where the water comes bubbling over the rocks of various sizes which it has been wearing smaller and smaller and rounder and rounder year by year. One part of this is a small cataract.

The flood marks and the former level marks can be seen too. The junction of the two arms gives a good

example of the forming of sediment where the two streams meet and throw back the junction water forming a wedge shaped bank, which varies with the pace and volume of the river. Some over hanging banks, swill caves, a few mussels (valvata) and cockles (paludina) were noticed. The adjacent sandstone hills, bare of much vegetation and well rounded by the weather were eagerly scanned. Specimens were not varied there being much sameness about the country of this district, as a practically supplement to the study of W. W. Watt's text book.

HUMOUR.

From the Editor's Box.

Mrs H.—called up her grocer by telephone the other day and, after she had sufficiently scolded the man who responded, she said:

"And what's more, the next order you get from me will be the last I'll ever give you."

"It probably will, madam" said the voice at the other end of the wire; "you are talking to an undertaker."

Visitor (kindly explaining): "An heirloom, Johnny, is something that's handed down from father to son."
Johnny: "Hah! that's a funny name for trousers."

An Irishman turned his stockings inside out because there was a hole on the other side.

SUNRISE.

'Tis silent darkness all! and night's thick veil
Hangs o'er us like some mystic phantom pale,
Awaiting patiently bright beams of day
To flit the early morning pall away.

Nature awakes, and from each tiny throat
We hear the chirping birdie's twittering note.
Then, low and murmuring, the gentle breeze
Is wafted to us through the dewy trees.

Gay shafts of light now dance in eastern sky,
Like fiery ladders let down from on high;
At last the grey Dawn, wearied by the sun
Soars slowly to the west, where night hath run.

— F. T.

Virtue, though clothed in beggar's garb, commands respect.

— Schiller.

To use studies too much for ornament is affectation.

— Bp. J. J.

ORIGINAL VERSE.

A FANCY.

—o—

Whilst yet 'twas early day
 All on a hill I lay;
 The wild waves lashed the rocks far down below;
 And, pulsing with their roar,
 My thoughts on high did soar
 To realms where none but airy Fancies go;
 But there Imagination built no castle fine,
 It launched a beauteous bark, and made it mine.

She floated light and free,
 And swept the rolling sea
 As swift as swallow through a summer morn;
 Nor e'er in calm or gale
 Spread she a single sail,
 Of hidden energies her speed was born;
 Ambition, fed by Hope, supplied the force
 That urged my bark forever on her course.

And Conscience formed the helm,
 That o'er life's reef-strewn realm
 Her unknown path from peril should guide clear;
 And resolute and brave,
 She cleft each threatening wave,
 And proudly rose she over every Fear,
 As Truth, her stem amid fierce seething wrath,
 At length, and brighter still, stood gleaming forth.

And stored within her hold
 More rich than purest gold
 Sweet wisdom, and ripe knowledge lay secure;
 For her crew of flashing wit
 Knew no merchandise more fit
 To be borne upon those seas all men endure;
 And often would they steer toward the shore
 To add some treasure to their precious store.

Ah! happy grew the day
 As she readied for her way;
 The breezes blew soft promises to all;
 And wavelets in their glee,
 Leaped round her merrily,
 And gracefully I saw her rise and fall
 As forth she swept upon her path alone,
 To brave the dangers of the great unknown.

But lo! soft shadows creep
 All o'er the distant deep,
 And fill with nameless gloom a hazy air,
 And, noiseless as a dream
 Where all doth faded seem,
 The world stole dimly from me everywhere;
 And still I lay, and from then knew no more
 Till roused by fierce waves jangling on the shore.

(ARIEL.)

A Visit to the University Museum.

Having with two companions been favoured with a permit to visit the museums connected with the University we wended our way to that venerable institution on Friday 7th. ult. Arrived there we were a little disappointed to find that the caretaker was going to lunch and still more so that he did not ask us to join him. He however directed us to the Mc Leay museum (that lofty building on the right of the great hall) and there left us to fast (mentally of course) upon its numerous and wonderful exhibits. On entering the building its great size, the prevailing silence,—broken only by one's echoing footfall,—and the number and bewildering variety of the specimens, fill the mind with awe and wonder. On one hand are birds of every species, of every colour and combination of colours, and of every size from the great eagle to the minute honeysucker; on the other are specimens of each variety of Australian animals. Magnificent exhibits of all metals and metalliferous ores fill one set of cases while others are devoted to collections of shells and island curios. Just as we had completed our tour of this Museum the obliging caretaker appeared and escorted us to the Nicholson museum in the main building with which his frequent visits have made him so familiar that he makes a very interesting and instructive guide. I was particularly struck with the specimen of Egyptian embalming. One mummy the first I had ever seen is said to be 2,000 years old. A hand embalmed in pitch and a skull to which the hair still adheres after the lapse of centuries were also of great interest. Space will not permit me to give a more detailed account of these museums but I hope I have said enough to arouse the interest of all intelligent boys and to induce them to visit these places for themselves.

W. Cox.

FAREWELL TO THE SENIORS.

The fifth classes met in the Main Room on Friday afternoon, 15th November, to wish the Senior boys farewell and success at the University Examination which commenced on the 17th November. The Head Master Mr. Williams addressed the Senior in very encouraging term, and spoke of the high esteem in which the six Candidates were held by both teachers and school mates. He said he was sure that the representatives this year were boys who would make citizens worthy of any country. After wishing them success he called for three cheers for the Seniors which was given with enthusiasm. Mr. Lasker also addressed the boys and spoke in high terms of each. The good work done by them he was sure would bring success to themselves and the school. The afternoon was brought to a close with cheers for the Seniors. The representatives this year are J. Bridge, C. Collins, S. Noake, P. Portus, P. Penman and A. Davis.

Printed and published at the MODEL PUBLIC SCHOOL,
 Fort Street, Sydney, in the State of New South Wales.