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The Fortian.

EDITORIAL

1903 ANNUAL REPORT.

Extracts taken from the Head Master's Report.

The average attendance of the school in all departments for the last quarter was 1731.3 being made up of 237.7 in the Kindergarten, 582.5 in the Girls' Department and 911.1 in the Boys' Department. Kindergarten. At the annual inspection of the school conducted in October Mr. Dawson reported very favourably upon the work done in the Kindergarten School.

The Superintendents of Drawing and Music expressed their satisfaction with the excellence of the work shown in these subjects.

Girls' Department. The enrolment in the

Fifth Classes was 267 and the attendance throughout the School was exceptionally good.

Candidates have been presented at a number of examinations throughout the year.

Matriculation. Five pupils obtained passes at the March matriculation examination: Adelaide Hampden, Hannah O'Reilly, Lily Dick, Margaret Cobb, Ida Porter. The number of girls from the School in attendance at lectures at the University has grown very large and many of them are doing well.

At the Junior University Examination 39 passed, being a greater number than in any previous year, of these 94 per cent passed in Physiology, 93 per cent in Geography, 93 per cent in History, 90 per cent in Geology, 84 per cent in English and 83 per cent in Music.

Music. In addition Lucy Cobham came prox. acc. to the Medallist in Physiology. The Average pass was 6.2 subjects out of a possible 7 and in various subjects 37 A passes 86 B's and 91 C's were obtained.

A number of candidates passed the examination for Pupil Teachers' held in October last, Edith Sinfield being 1st and Joyce Lane 3rd. At the annual inspection the Department came through the ordeal both of written and oral tests in a very successful manner. The marks for organisation and discipline were placed at 100 per cent. The needlework throughout the school was reported upon as excellent.

In the competition in Drawing for the whole State which is promoted by Messrs. Angus & Robertson, Eva Montgomery and Florrie Smith obtained prizes.

At the annual examination held by the Alliance Francaise. Eva Burke obtained a certificate.

Shorthand and Elocution classes are held regularly at the School.

Classes in Cookery have been held regularly throughout the year. At a Scholarship examination L. Christie, Florrie Korff and Violet Chidzey passed successfully in Theory. Ettie Kavanagh won a prize for the best work during the term.

The enrolment of members in the swimming club is 180 for the season just entered upon. Very great credit must be given to Misses Kilminster, Hetherington and Stanner for the success attending the club.

A great amount of enthusiasm and interest has been shown in the Debating Club by the Fifth class Girls.

The Tennis Club has 28 members but no matches were played during the season. In order that the teaching in Geology may be made realistic a number of outings were taken by various classes to Bronte, Bondi, Pennant Hills and other suitable places.

Boys' Department.

At the matriculation Examination in March only one candidate A. P. Penman presented himself. He obtained a bursary presented by the Education Department as the result of his pass. W. Ellard passed the examination for entrance to the science schools at the University at the same time. It was with great pleasure we saw that the Peter Nicol Scholarship for Mechanical and Electrical Engineering was gained by J. L. Norman an old pupil of the School. In the Clerical Division of the 1902 Public Service Examination 6 out of the 42 places open for competition were won by School Candidates. At the examination for Cadet Draftsman 5 out of 8 vacancies fell to the School our candidates filling the first 4 places. For the Position of Engineering Cadets A. P. Davis was first. Of the 71 candidates who sat for the Junior Public examination 65 passed 36 obtained matriculation passes 44 passed in 7 subjects each and 10 more in 6 subjects each so that the average pass is very high 6.4 out of a possible 7. Medals were gained by Foxall in Algebra and French, Harrison in History; and

Turner, prox. acc. to Medallist in Greek, Dale in History and Austin in Latin. Dale who obtains the Headmaster's Prize for the best pass at this examination obtained the rare distinction of passing in 7 A's. There were altogether 160 A passes at this examination, 166 B passes and 138 C's.

The annual inspection of the school was carried out both in oral and written work by Mr. Senior Inspector Dawson, M.A. assisted by Mr. Board M.A. The mark obtained for organisation and discipline was 100 per. cent. Complimentary remarks were made with respect to our methods of teaching French and Commercial geography which have been introduced during the year.

The results of the Senior Examination were most gratifying. Three Candidates presented themselves and all passed with very great credit. They took up between them 28 subjects and passed in all of them obtaining 18 A passes 8 B's 20 C's. Medals were gained by Dennis in Algebra and Trigonometry, by Hill in European History and English, and Willis came Prox. Acc. to the Medallist in European History. In addition, Dennis obtained first place in Applied Mechanics for which no medal was awarded and Willis was second to Hill in the English pass list.

The results of the examination for Matriculation honours which is held concurrently with the Senior Examination are even more gratifying. Dennis has the high distinction of obtaining the Barker Scholarship and Horner Exhibition in Mathematics, an honour which is awarded to the Candidate showing furthest proficiency in Algebra, Geometry and Trigonometry. This is the second occasion upon which this honour has fallen to the School, the last one being in the year of the School's Jubilee. In addition to the scholarship and first class honours in Mathematics, Dennis obtained second class honours in French and third class honours in Mathematics. Hill also obtained first class honours in Mathematics with first class honours in French and second honours in Latin. Willis obtained second class honours in Latin first class honours in French and second class honours in Mathematics. All three besides matriculating are also qualified for entrance to the science and Engineering Schools of the University. Excellent work was done with the Senior Class by Messrs. Roberts and Cole.

At an Examination held recently for a Junior Clerkship under the Sydney Municipal Council Austin one of this year's Juniors was the successful candidate.

A Junior Clerkship in the Mutual Life Assurance Association was won by S. Henry. At the examination held under the auspices of the French Society Dale obtained First Prize for French conversation and Willis and Smith were honourably mentioned in connection with the same examination. For French Recitation the Third Prize was won by Foxall and Turner and Donald obtained certificates.

The Manual Training and Shorthand classes have been

in full operation during the year.

During the year 117 new books have been added to the Library which has now on its shelves 1500 books.

The school newspaper has been published regularly during the year, the number of subscribers being about 900.

The Swimming Club is again in full operation the number of members being about 500. Messrs. Pike and Green again have the conduct of the Club in hand.

A great amount of interest was taken in football during the winter season and a number of matches were played.

The Cricket Club under the direction of Mr. Ferguson has begun operations in a manner which augurs well for its success. The number of members is 310.

Our Boys at the University

We all heartily congratulate Harry Foxall on winning the Deas-Thompson scholarship and Professor David's prize.

The Deas-Thompson Scholarship for Geology is awarded on the Second Year's Examination in the Faculty of Science and Engineering to the student who attains highest proficiency in Geology and Mineralogy, Practical and Theoretical, if of sufficient merit. The holder is obliged to attend the Geology lectures and practical classes in the third year of Science and also to do some original research in the subjects of Mineralogy or Palaeontology. Its value is £50 for one year. The winner must also pass in Chemistry or Biology (2nd year).

Professor David's prize of £4 is awarded to the student who attains the highest standard in geological work during the year, if of sufficient merit, with no restrictions.

CRICKET CLUB.

This year's Cricket Club is a record as far as membership is concerned. There are at present 310 boys in the Club. Some very interesting class matches have been played, and we have boys in the school who should in the future become good cricketers. The usual facilities have been afforded by the Headmaster for playing cricket matches, and all boys who wish to avail themselves of these concessions should do their best in both work, conduct and attendance. A really good sportsman should be good in all he undertakes, and while he loves his sport, he must remember that it is not the only end in life.

Among the bigger boys some good work has been done in batting by Morgan, Abbott and Smith.

Portus in Matriculation 4 has the makings of a graceful batsman. Armstrong, Carrol and Wickham have performed well with the ball, while Maxwell and Morgan deserves mention for their fielding.

On December 10th a match was played on the Sports' Ground between the First Eleven and a team from Windsor. The Windsor boys were first entertained at the Cookery School at lunch, and shown over the school, under the direction of Mr. Turner. In the match, Abbot with 21 made top score in the first innings; Morgan 63 not out and Smith 20, played well in the second innings. The school however was beaten by five wickets.

In connection with matches played by the First Eleven, the Secretary notifies that he will publish all batting and bowling averages at the end of the season.

Class Matches.

29th January, 4B beat 4C, 4B scored 60 and 6 for 83, Guinney 56 not out, Watson 20, Smith 14, 4C 44 and 65, Ferguson 14 and 15, Stables 19 and 14; 4A defeated 3G, 4A 22 and 0 wickets for 57, Jones 37 not out, Mayo 19 not out; 3G, 16 and 47, Borton 12 and 19. M4 with 38 won against C4 36; 5th February, 4A defeated 3F by 7 wickets; 3E 94 beat 3D 24; M3 made 110 against C3 35, for M3 Kenwood made 38, Lotheringham 20 not out, Fitzpatrick 15. 12th Feb. 3C beat 3B by 24 runs, 3C 40, 3B 16. 4C 52 beat 4D 49. For 4C Stables made 26, for 4D Metcalf 15 Lorking 11.

Old Boys v School.

The Annual Cricket match between the School and the Old Boys was played on the Sports' Ground on Friday 12th of February, when the Old Boys won by 92 runs. The School batted first and made 102, the chief contributors being Abbott 17, Morgan 16, Lloyd 15 not out, and Mr Harvey 11. For the Old Boys Penman bowled best, taking 7 wickets. The Old Boys replied with 193, Makin 52 not out, Bubb 35, Landers 26, and Penman 19 being the principal scorers.

For the School Mr. Harvey took 3 wickets, Maxwell 2 wickets and Wickham and Croll one each. The School team showed decided improvement in their fielding which was cleaner and quicker than in the previous match.

There is a toil
That with all others level stands;
Large charity doth never soil,
But only whiten, soft white hands.
J. R. Lowell
Teach me to feel another's woe,
To hide the fault I see;
That mercy I to others show
That mercy show to me. Pope.

HOWLERS

The "University Correspondent" recently offered a prize for the best collection of 'Howlers.' From the response to this invitation we make the following selection with due acknowledgment to our contemporary:—

HISTORY, GEOGRAPHY, GRAMMAR, AND LITERATURE.

John Wesley was a great sea-captain. He beat the Dutch at Waterloo and by degrees rose to be Duke of Wellington. He was buried near Nelson in the Poet's Corner at Westminster Abbey.

The Jacobite rebellion was headed by Charles the young Pretender, who was Prime Minister when he was eighteen years old.

Cecil Rhodes was a great inventor. He invented gold in Africa.

The provisions of Magna Carta were a sheet of paper which the King had to sign, pen, ink, and blotting paper.

The leading cause of the English Reformation was that the Pope insisted upon Henry VIII. employing massage for the dead.

How do you know the world is round? Because they say in church world without end, and round things haven't got no end.

The Gunpowder Plot was an awful thing. It was done to kill the King and Parliament. It is still done on the fifth of November.

The tropic of cancer is where the cancer disease is. Why is the North sea salt? On account of the Yarmouth blazers.

The Sublime Porte is a very fine old wine.

Conway is noted for its turbulent bridge.

Calcutta is noted for coal because of the Black Hole.

In the sentence "I saw the goat butt the man," "butt" is a conjunction because it shows the connection between the goat and the man.

The Possessive Case is the case when somebody has got yours and won't give it to you.

Define an adjective and give two examples. An adjective is something which describes something, so a teacher who teaches Euclid is one, because he describes an equilateral triangle, and the doctor is one because he describes medicine.

Julius Caesar was slain by the multitude because he would not listen to Antony's oration over his dead body.

The chief bays on the South of England are Torbay, Poole Bay, and Bombay.

The plural of penny is twopence.

Gender is the destruction of sex.

Nem. Con.: Nemo conpriz is equal to No one understands.

Equinox is the Latin for nightmare.

Mushrooms always grow in damp places and so they look like umbrellas.

MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE.

The difference between water and air is that air can be made wetter but water cannot.

If the air contains more than 100 per cent. of carbolic acid it is very injurious to health.

Tadpoles eat one another and become frogs.

Inertia is that which tends to have a uniform motion in a state of rest.

A circle is contained by two straight lines bent round to meet each other.

FROM AN ENGLISH PAPER.

Nation Builders.

The first of a series of articles by a well known Australian journalist, dealing with our great public men of the past, will appear in our next issue. The object in publishing this information is to make our boys and girls familiar with the lives and work of their countrymen who did so much for this State.

REUNION

A well represented gathering of the School's 1900-2 Public Service Class boys met at a Reunion Dinner held at Schneider's Queen Victoria Markets on the 8th February. Mr. Turner, Head Master, and Messrs. Bourke and Drew were present.

It was pleasing to note the loyalty and general good feeling the boys have for their old School and Masters as well as the progress and success of the boys. Reunions of this kind must necessarily be fraught with success, and we hope that this will not be the last.

A short programme of music was gone through, items being contributed by the teachers and boys. "Poor old Joe" was without doubt the popular song of the evening the boys joining in with much enthusiasm.

Mr. Turner addressed the boys during the evening. His complimentary remarks to each of them and incidents connected with their school days at Fort Street were much appreciated.

Archie Roberts, on behalf of the boys, thanked Mr. Turner for his kind words.

A vote of thanks was given to Jack Rowell and Archie Roberts for bringing the function to such a successful issue.

Cheers for the School and Mr. Turner, followed by "Auld Lang Syne" terminated a very enjoyable evening.

H. W. Horsfield, Public Service class, writes that his situation suits him admirably, and he takes the opportunity of expressing his thanks for the many benefits he has received from the "Grand Old School."

A Plucky Youngster.

At the conclusion of an inquiry relating to the death of Noble John Thomas Storey, a boy of 13, who was drowned in the waters of Long Cove, Leichhardt, the Acting City Coroner complimented a youth named James Hackett upon the bravery he had displayed in trying to save life.

The deceased, whose father is at present in South Africa, resided with his mother at 5 Fred Street, Leichhardt. Though he met his death on Tuesday, it was not until Wednesday that Senior-constable McMaster, of the Water Police, recovered the corpse. The boy could not swim.

The evidence of the lad Hackett, who is 13 years of age, and resides at 27 Grove-street, Leichhardt, was that while walking on the beach at Long Cove, he saw Storey undress on some planks.

He next saw a young fellow running, and heard someone say, "He is drowning. Witness ran to the spot, and took off his coat and vest. He could see Storey struggling in the water, and ran in. Then he saw a boy named George Templeton, who was also struggling in the water, and saved him.

After bringing Templeton ashore, witness took off his pants, and went in again after Storey, who was then about thirty yards from the shore, in deep water. There were three men in the water. One of them got hold of the lad, and passed him to another, who handed him to the third, who somehow let him go, and the boy sank.

Frank Lancaster, painter, of Church-street, Leichhardt, gave evidence as to his attempt to save the boy. He reached him, and brought him a few yards towards shore, when, as he was "done," he gave him to another man.

A finding of accidental death was recorded. St. John's Ambulance "Gazette" JANUARY 1904.

PHILLIP'S LANDING PLACE.

The following interesting historical sketch appeared in the Sydney Morning Herald of 26th January 1904.

The story of January 26, 1788, had been so often told that until a few years ago one would have said with every feeling of confidence that Governor Phillip landed somewhere on Dawes Point, took possession of the east coast of Australia there, and hoisted the English flag.

But, much to everyone's surprise, it was fully proved by a paper read at a meeting of the Historical Society (November 1900) that the honour of the official landing must be taken from the west side of Sydney Cove and given to the east.

On consulting the journals of the period (Collins, Hunter Tench, etc.), as well as the first plan of Sydney and the first sketch of the infant settlement, with the Union Jack proudly flying from the first flagstaff close to the Governor's canvas house adjoining the land laid out for the Governor's garden, in which was built the first Government House, there was no longer any doubt as to where the interesting ceremony of our Natal Day took place, when—"In the evening of this day (January 26, 1788) the whole party that came round in the Supply was assembled at the point where they had landed in the morning, and on which a flagstaff had been purposely erected and an Union Jack displayed, when the marines fired several volleys, between which the Governor and officers who accompanied him drank the health of his Majesty (George III.) and the Royal Family, and success to the colony."

Following the history of this first flagstaff, it was found that in November, 1781, it was moved to a battery on Dawes Point, by Governor Phillip's orders, no reason being given for such removal. The mound on which the flagstaff had been raised was also removed, and the soil thrown into the Governor's garden closely. Then a Government store was built on the site the mound had occupied, a store which was, as Collins wrote, "by far the best store in the country" (December 1791), having two stories. Many old views of Sydney have this building clearly shown.

The moving of the flagstaff to Dawes Point so early in our history no doubt accounts for the mistake arising as to which side of the Cove the official landing and hoisting of the colours took place. The alterations of time have made it a little difficult to place the exact position of that storehouse, but the author of the abovementioned paper on this subject expressed the opinion that it should be just about where Macquarie's obelisk now stands.

Quite accidentally we found among our books a few weeks ago some evidence in support of this opinion, as the following extracts from an old "Sydney Guide," 1861, will show. Failing any authentic data to support them, they can hardly, perhaps, be called proofs, but will show at any rate that as late as 1861 Macquarie's obelisk was looked upon as an historical landmark.

I. "Tradition has usually assigned the obelisk in Macquarie place as the spot where the inauguration took place, and we see no reason to doubt its truth. The pretty meandering stream of fresh water now known as the Tank Stream was the principal reason for the selection of this locality.

II. "The Obelisk.—This is supposed to be the spot where Governor Phillip first hoisted the British flag on his taking possession of the country."

Perhaps it is as well to remind the present generation that Bridge-street takes its name from the bridge that once connected the eastern and western side by spanning the Tank Stream; also that the head waters of Sydney Cove (now Circular Quay) were reclaimed. The "pretty meandering stream" was diverted, so it has disappeared from public view, though its presence still has an uncomfortable way of reminding property owners in parts of Pitt-street that its ghost still lurks among the foundations of their buildings.

Nowadays, when passing Macquarie-place, few give even a thought to the obelisk, shown as it is of all attempts to keep it a finger-post in our history. Perhaps when the Macquarie volume of the "Government History from the Records" makes its appearance some light will be shed on this subject.

M. L.

[It has to be borne in mind that there were in 1788 two celebrations in Sydney Cove—first on January 26, of which our correspondent writes, another for the formal proclamation of the colony on February 7, which according to Burton's "History of New South Wales," vol. 1, page 262, took place at Dawes Point.—Ed. S.M.H.]

General Information.

It is a curious fact that, speaking generally, the land which was arable at the time of Domesday is now under grass, while that which was under grass is now arable. This is because in ancient times the best land was under tillage, while at present it is most profitable as pasture. In fact, most of our grass land was once under tillage, and of this we have still under our eyes curious evidence.

In many of our midland and northern countries most of the meadows lie in parallel undulations or 'rigs.' These are generally about a furlong (220 yards) in length, and either one or two poles ($5\frac{1}{2}$ or 11 yards) in breadth. They seldom run straight, but tend to curve towards the left. At each end of the field a bank, locally called a balk, sometimes 3 or 4 feet high, runs at right angles to the 'rigs.' These fields were originally common, and for fairness of division were arranged in strips or rigs, no man being allowed two contiguous rigs.

The team generally consisted of eight oxen. Few peasants, however, possessed a whole team, several generally joining together, and dividing the produce. Hence we often find eight "rigs," one for each ox. Sometimes, however, there are ten instead of eight; one being for the parson's tithe, the other tenth going to the ploughman.

When eight oxen were employed, the goad would not, of course, reach the leaders, which were guided by a man who walked on the near side. On arriving at the end of each furrow he turned them round, and as it was easier to pull than to push them, this gradually gave the furrow a turn towards the left, thus accounting for the slight curvature. Lastly, while the oxen rested on arriving at the end of the furrow, the ploughman scraped off the earth which had accumulated on the coulter and ploughshare, and the accumulation of these scrapings gradually formed the balk.

These considerations also explain our curious system of land measurement. The acre is the amount which a team of oxen was supposed to plough in a day. It corresponds to the German 'morgen,' and the French 'journée.' It was fixed by the ordinance of Edward I. as a furlong in length and four poles in breadth. The furlong or 'furrow-long,' is the distance which a team of oxen can plough conveniently without stopping to rest. Oxen, as we know, were driven not with a whip, but with a goad or pole, the most convenient length for which was $16\frac{1}{2}$ feet; and the ancient ploughman also used his 'pole, or 'perch' as a measure, by placing it at right angles to his first furrow, thus marking off the amount he had to plough.

Hence our 'pole' or 'perch' of $16\frac{1}{2}$ feet, which at first sight seems a very singular unit to have been selected. This width is also convenient, both for turning the plough and for sowing. Hence the most convenient unit of land for arable purposes was a furlong in length and a perch or pole in width.

From "Scenery of England."

By Lord Avebury.

Swimming.

The 14th Annual Carnival in connection with the School Club is to be held at Farmer's Domain Baths on Saturday afternoon 5th March commencing at 2.30 P.M.

The programme will be an interesting and instructive one and contains items in all branches of swimming. Besides the usual class races, the 100 yds Championship of the school is down for discussion, and patrons will have the opportunity of seeing the school's best competing, including L. Murray who for a school boy recently startled the Swimming world.

The star item on the programme is the 100 yds Championship of the State, and as Dick Cavill and Alick Wickham are in record breaking form a right royal battle is anticipated. An exhibition of fancy and acrobatic diving will be given by Ken Chambers and members of the Seagull Club who have made this part of Swimming quite an art. W. H. Wylie and his family will give an exhibition of fancy Swimming and the bulk of Swimming will be catered for by a 270 yds Teams' relay race. A match in connection with the Water Polo Championship Competition and an Old Boys' Race, Students' Handicap, Sobraon Boys' Handicap and the usual novelty races are to be decided. The School Life Saving Club will give an exhibition of Drill on land and in the water, and altogether one of the best programmes the School has yet drawn up is to be presented. The price of admission is one shilling—gentlemen to reserve, one shilling extra. Arrangements are well in hand and it remains for the School's patrons and supporters to make the Carnival a great success.

Murray's performance in the 100 yds, First Class Handicap at the Randwick and Coogee Carnival on 6th Feb. was a splendid one, covering the distance in 1min. 4.4sec. Len was evidently in record-breaking form.

Public Service.

Junior Clerks and Cadet Draftsmen Examination.

The result of the Public Service examination held in December are to hand. Two hundred and eighty eight candidates competed for clerkships and 47 for cadetships.

The first place for junior clerks fell to the School, —Henry Hawkins gaining 2109 marks.

The fifth, seventh, and twenty second places fell to G. Dale, S. Redshaw, and A. S. Taylor respectively.

For Cadet draftsmen F. R. Grant and F. L. Wilson came third and fourth; but as there are only two vacancies they are unsuccessful in the competition. The results are very gratifying and we heartily congratulate the boys.

SCHOOL NEWS.

SCHOOL CAPTAIN.

Clive Smith, senior fifth, has been elected captain of the school. He is giving a strong support to both swimming and cricket. We congratulate him on the position which has been conferred on him by vote of his classmates.

LIFE SAVING CLUB.

The swimming club, under the able guidance of Mr. Pike and Mr. Green, is again in strong condition. The Annual Carnival will be held early in March, and everything points to a good year. A special feature in this year's meeting will be a demonstration by members of the Life Saving Club. It is pleasing to note that the senior boys are, under Mr. Johnson's directions, entering into training for this work with great enthusiasm.

REMOVALS

Changes in the staff have been numerous this quarter. Mr. Kenny has been appointed to Mill Town Bathurst. Mr. Coombes has gone to Broken Hill. Mr. Roberts has left for Bourke. Mr. Murphy has gone to Wyalong. Mr. Youman has gone to Mc Phail near Dubbo.

MUSIC

The Bavarian Band played three selections in the playground between 9 and 9.30 on Tuesday morning 28th ult. The music was much appreciated by pupils and teachers. The second item was from 'Lohengrin,' (Wagner). The Band will give a similar performance on the last Thursday in each month.

HARVEST HOME

About five hundred boys from Upper Third, Fourth and Fifth Classes, attended the "Harvest Home" held in the Royal Exchange during the third week in January. City boys by means of this instructive exhibition had a splendid opportunity of gathering information concerning various kinds of wheat and compressed fodder. Note-books especially among the Commercial Classes were much in evidence. A description of the "Harvest Home" appears in another part of this issue.

COMMERCIAL SUCCESSSES.

We note with pleasure that Cockett and Watkins of the Public Examinations Class have passed the recent examination held by the Sydney Chamber of Commerce, Watkins passed with distinction in Arithmetic.

Old Boys and Former Teachers.

Several of our old boys and former teachers have paid a visit to the old School during the past month.

Mr. W. Robertson now of Girilambone Public School in Western plains looks in the best of health. He was very interested in the new method of teaching Commercial Geography.

Mr. C. P. Schrader who is employed in the High School, Maitland called in for a few minutes. He is still an active vice-president of our Swimming Club.

Mr. T. H. Pincombe a one time manager of "The Fortian" but now at Broken Hill was also a visitor.

E. Wellisch, John West medallist Jubilee year 1899 made a short call. He has just returned from New Zealand where he had been attending the Congress of Science held in Dunedin. He is mathematical master in a Collegiate School Goulburn.

W. Maxwell a former captain of the School was among the visitors.

E. Heden who is pursuing his profession as civil and mining engineer at Broken Hill, spent his Christmas holidays in Sydney.

Wilkinson was present at the Annual distribution of prizes.

Houison reported himself and promised to call again.

Harry Foxall called to see his former master and classmates. He has done a splendid year's work at the University.

W. Ellard also called and had many inquiries for his old teachers. He is attending the Medical School.

George F. Sharpe, 1899 Senior, has accepted a mastership in the Coerwull Academy, Bowenfels.

THE WATCH AS A COMPASS

Granting that a watch is a correct time keeper, it is a very correct indicator of direction if used as follows: Point the hour hand directly towards the sun and the south is exactly half-way between that hand and the figure XII. Thus at six a.m. or six p.m. a line from the centre of the dial through the hour mark of IX. or III. respectively points due south, if the hour hand be pointing directly towards the sun.

Similarly at any other time, the minute marks around the circumference of the dial make it quite easy to calculate the required direction accurately, and the south being known, any other direction can readily be deduced.

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NOBLESSE OBLIGE.

If I am weak and you are strong,
 Why then, why then;
 To you the b.aver deeds belong;
 And so, again,
 If you have gifts and I have none,
 If I have shade and you have sun,
 'Tis yours with freer hand to give,
 'Tis yours with truer grace to live
 Than I, who, giftless, sunless, stand,
 With barren life and hand.

We do not ask the little brook
 To turn the wheel:
 Unto the large stream we look:
 The strength of steel
 We do not ask from silken bands,
 Nor heart of oak in willow wands;
 We do not ask the wren to go
 Up to the heights the eagles know;
 Nor yet expect the lark's clear note
 From out the dove's dumb throat.

'Tis wisdom's law, the perfect code,
 By love inspired;
 Of him on whom much is bestowed
 Is much required
 The tuneful throat is bid to sing,
 The oak must reign the forest king,
 The rushing stream the wheel must move,
 The beaten steel its strength must prove,
 'Tis given unto the eagle's eyes
 To face the midday skies.
 (YOUTH'S COMPANION, Boston.)

SWEETHEART MOTHER

She sat in the porch in the sunshine
 As I went down the street—
 A woman whose hair was silver,
 But whose face was blossom-sweet—
 Making me think of a garden
 Where, in spite of frost and snow,
 Of bleak November weather,
 Late fragrant lilies grow.

I heard a footstep behind me
 And a sound of a merry laugh,
 And I knew the heart it came from
 Would be like a comforting staff
 In the time and the hour of trouble,
 Hopeful, and brave, and strong—
 One of the hearts to lean on
 When we think that things go wrong.

He went up the pathway singing
 I saw the woman's eyes

Grow bright with a wordless welcome,
 As sunshine warms the skies.
 "Back again, sweetheart-mother,"
 He cried, and bent to kiss
 The loving face that was lifted
 For what some mothers miss.

That boy will do to depend on;
 I hold that this is true:
 From lads in love with their mothers
 Our bravest heroes grew.
 Earth's grandest hearts have been loving hearts
 Since time and earth began,
 And the boy who kissed his mother
 Is every inch a man!

PUBLIC SERVICE CLASS PICNIC.

We left Redfern Station by the 8.30 a.m. train for Loftus. Mr. Bourke and Mr. Drew accompanied the party.

The day was perfect and we were all in the best of spirits the overflow of which was exchanged among the party in the shape of sundry harmless missiles as the train sped through the picturesque surroundings of the Illawarra Line.

Arriving at Loftus at 9.15, we walked to the picnicking ground at National Park. The clearness of the day enhanced the beauty of the scenery and gave the bright green of the picnic-ground, the sombre hue of the wooded hills around and the deep blue of the sky a pleasing effect. As soon as the whole party had arrived at the rendezvous sides were picked and a game of cricket commenced. After a highly enjoyable game the athletes of the party ran several foot races in which Snodgrass and McPhee distinguished themselves. Lunch was then attacked. The meal was unanimously appreciated despite the fact that part of the class had to drink their tea from empty condensed milk tins as drinking vessels were scarce.

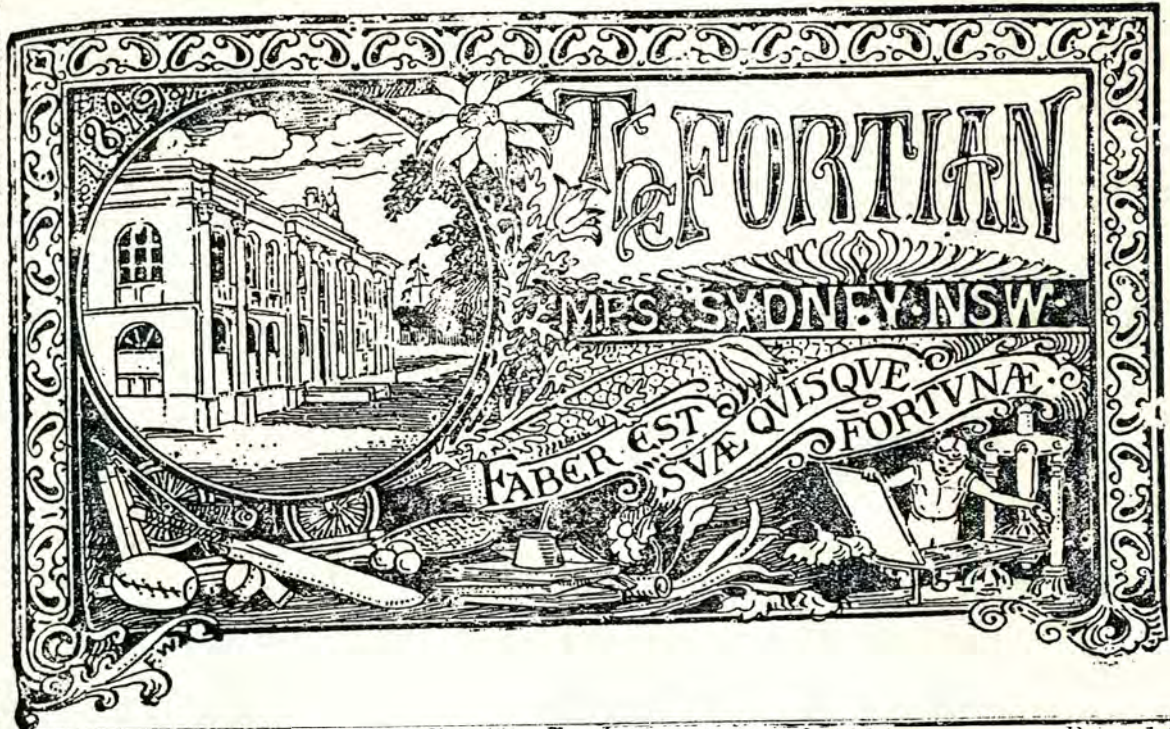
After having left most of the eatables which had survived the onslaught at lunch, in a fit position to become dry and therefore almost unpalatable in the shortest possible time, we all embarked for an afternoon's boating on the river.

Many of the incidents of the afternoon were very amusing notably the "boat fights" in which the teachers participated with relish (?). The river offered many opportunities for swimming which were taken full advantage of. We returned to the picnic ground in time to have tea at 6 p.m. with the consciousness that the afternoon had been one of the most pleasant on record. At 6.30 we were obliged to start for Sutherland to catch the 7.42 train for Sydney.

During the return journey various patriotic and other songs were sung "Auld Lang Syne" being the final.

We arrived at Sydney more or less tired but all with the firm conviction that it would be a long time before we spent such another enjoyable day.

[By one of the boys.]



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Price 1d.

The Fortian.

WILLIAM CHARLES WENTWORTH.
EXPLORER, POET AND JOURNALIST.

William Charles Wentworth was born at Norfolk Island on the 26th of October, 1793, and died at Wimbourne, Dorset, England, on the 30th of March, 1872.

He always, however, regarded himself as belonging to New South Wales, and was styled by his fellow colonists, in a spirit of emulative admiration, the "Australian Patriot." Without making any exaggerated estimate of the indebtedness of his countrymen to this truly great man, one is perfectly justified in declaring that no Australian has done such varied, such valuable and valued work for his native land, as William Charles Wentworth has done: and few, indeed, have been actuated by sentiments and aspirations more truly and purely patriotic. For him has been claimed a descent from that grand old Wentworth who was Lord Stafford; William Charles of that surname claimed it for himself, never. In truth, he was descended from a certain D'Arcy Wentworth of Athlone, County Roscommon, Ireland, who was born in 1649, and who was a scion of the Great Yorkshire family of Wentworth.

At the early age of seven the subject of this monograph was sent to England to be educated, and was for some time under the tuitionary care of Dr. Alexander Crombie of Greenwich, well-known as the author of a standard work on etymology and syntax. After a few years "at home" he returned to his family in Sydney; and while still a youth just out of his teens engaged in an exploratory journey over the Blue Mountains, the apparently impassable escarpment which shut in and circumscribed the early colony.

The settled portion of the known Australian continent was then represented by a part of the County of Cumberland on its Eastern coast; and for a period of about a quarter of a century after the arrival of the "First Fleet," enterprise sat down dismayed before the blue-looming barrier which cut the colonist off from the smiling plains and rich pasturage that stretched for fertile leagues into the luxuriant country beyond the bold bastion of the Great Divide. Again and again some brave spirit essayed its conquest: but for twenty-five years it was possible to proceed only some forty miles or so from Sydney in any given direction. Settlement spread slowly from the coast to the feet of the mighty hills—but spread no farther. Rewards were offered for the discovery of even a sheep-walk; but every effort to storm the citadel of the mountains ended in a repulse. Foveaux despairingly wrote that the colony could never become of very great importance: Nature had too rigidly defined its boundaries;

once the limit was reached of production in Cumberland's fertile coastal country progress was barred forever, and the settlement must stand still for all eternity. Within 4 months of the arrival of the "First Fleet" in Port Jackson Governor Phillip and a little party struggled vainly among the gorges and gullies of the mountains to find a passage out. In 1793, the year of Wentworth's birth, Lieutenant Dawes, with Captains Tench and Paterson, successfully assayed the baffling task, as did also Quarter-master H. Hacking of the "Sirius." In 1795, George Bass, the famous navigator, strove, with a party, to penetrate the mountains by way of the valley of the Grise River, and returned, way-worn and discouraged. Three years afterwards, according to more or less authentic report, a prisoner named Wilson did actually win through to the plains of promise. After this Lieutenant Burrellier tried, and failed, as did others before and after him. A botanist named Cayley struggled as far as Nunantia, where he erected a cairn of stones to mark the limit of westward exploration. In elder days this was known as "Cayley's Repulse" — a designation mockingly bestowed by Governor Macquarie at a later date.

A continuous drought succeeded the terribly disastrous Hawkesbury floods, and the live stock of the settlement was on the very verge of perishing from starvation. An area of only eighty miles by forty was forced to pasture over 65,000 sheep, over 21,000 head of cattle, and nearly 2,000 horses; and much of this area, limited as it was, also was hopelessly sterile. The stock must, therefore, be killed, or by all hazards the passage of the mountains must be triumphantly achieved.

It was in the year 1813, when Wentworth was just on the eve of manhood, that this citadel of Nature was captured, and a glimpse flashed on the mental vision of the men of that time of boundless possibilities for the future, of development and expansion immeasurable. From now henceforth march through the pages of Australian history, achieving conquest upon conquest, those pioneers of settlement, the explorers. Fast on their wake followed the flocks and herds, drought-driven, of the early squatters. The boundaries spread out before the ever-swelling stream of enterprise, the horizon widened, the massy wall of forest-growth fell to the music of the settler's axe, the shy natives fled back yet farther into the dim recesses of the bush, and the silent and leafy wilderness disappeared to make place for the clearings, the smiling farms, the fruitful gardens and orchards, the mills of miller and sawyer, the villages, the towns, the complex civilization and organized society of a later date.

Gregory Blaxland was the leader, a man of some thirty-four years of age. Ex-Lieutenant William Lawson might have been a little younger. Young Wentworth, the third of the party, was under twenty. With them were four attendants, a few pack-horses, and several hunting dogs. The party

left Blaxland's farm on May the 11th, in the year 1813, and crossed the river Nepean at Enu Ford the same afternoon, and the first camp near the escarpment which for so many years had marked the boundaries of settlement.

The secret of the success of these explorers is to be found in their plan of attack. They resolved to follow the watershed—a dividing ridge between the two streams of the Warragamba and the Grose, cautiously heading all the tributaries to the right or the left. Striking camp on the morning of the 12th of May, Enu Plains were left arrar, and the ascent of the mountains was begun to the north of what is now known as the Zig-Zag, and near the point of departure of the old Bathurst Road. The last stage of this exploratory journey ended at the summit of Mount Blaxland, where the leader of the expedition surveyed a magnificent expanse of pastoral country sufficient to serve the wants of the colony's stock for thirty years or more without going farther afield. The distance travelled along and down the mountain ridge was about sixty miles, and the forcing of the passage took up twenty days; but the key was turned which unlocked the pastoral treasure-house long shut in the heart of Australia by the mountain massive barrier. The three explorers each received one thousand acres of the newly-discovered country as a reward for their pluck, endurance and enterprise which had resulted so advantageously for the whole community.

It has been said that Wentworth accompanied the party in a mere spirit of boyish love of adventure. This is hardly probable. He was no common youth for when only eighteen years of age, Governor Macquarie thought so highly of his character and abilities that he made him deputy provost marshal. Indeed, Wentworth was a born explorer. In the year 1816 he went to England, and matriculating from Peterhouse, Cambridge, entered himself at the Middle Temple to study law; but only a year after his arrival his restless mind impelled him to indite an appeal to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, Earl Bathurst, begging to be sent back to Australia to explore "this fifth continent from its eastern extremity to its western." He tried to stimulate the Colonial Minister by a reminder that "a French squadron either has sailed or is on the point of sailing, for the purpose of surveying the western coast of New Holland," darkly hinting that its true aim was to establish a rival settlement to Port Jackson. It is needless to say that this proposal was not entertained by the Minister; but that it was made can be proved by a visit to the Record Office, where the document is preserved.

In 1819, while in England, studying for a barristerial career at the Middle Temple and attending lectures at Peterhouse, Wentworth, who describes himself on the title-page of his book as "a native of the colony," published "A Statistical, Historical,

Political Description of New South Wales, and dependent Settlements in Van Diemen's Land." A year after its appearance a second edition was published for; and in 1824 a third edition was published in two volumes. The book was "respectfully inscribed" to Sir James Mackintosh. "The pages," wrote a favourable critic, "are full of well-arranged facts and striking passages of narrative, while not seldom Wentworth's true Imperial patriotism moved him to genuine eloquence."

At the annual commemoration at Cambridge in 1823, Wentworth competed for the Chancellor's medal for the prize poem on "Australasia." The medal went to Winthrop Mackworth Praed, the young Norfolk Islander being the second out of twenty-five competitors. Wentworth's is, however, considered by good literary judges to be much the better effort, and, says one of his critics, "many of its fine lines are to this day the stock phrases of colonisers and journalists." Nearly thirty years after it was written, its author, repelling the charge of having renounced his early, popular principles, declared in the Legislative Council, at Sydney, on the 10th of September, 1853, "amidst a storm of abuse which spread from floor to gallery," the following lines of his early poem.

Wentworth was called to the English Bar in the year 1822, and returned to Sydney with Dr. Wardell, an English barrister. They brought out with them a complete newspaper plant and necessary printing machinery. On the 4th of October 1824, the first number of "The Australian" appeared, with Wentworth and Wardell as co-proprietors and joint editors. The paper, from its very beginning, proved itself the vehement scourge and caustic critic of all socialdom.

At that time society in Sydney consisted of two camps. The first comprised two subdivisions, the "Exclusivists," composed of civil and military officers, and the "Pure Merinos," composed of gentlemen squatters and settlers. The other camp was dubbed "Emancipists," composed of prisoners who had served a term of sentence, their wives and their children. They also received in the time of Macquarie, a Governor very partial to the "Emancipists," the additional name of "Currency"—in allusion to the dollar coinage of the time, out of which a square piece had been struck, thus rendering it current only in the colony. Governor Macquarie was indeed, so partial to the "Emancipists" that he treated free settlers as interlopers, and discouraged their coming into the country. The next viceroy, Sir Ralph Darling, reversed this policy, and instead regarding New South Wales as a country peculiarly the paradise of the "Emancipists," he treated these unfortunate as serfs. His example was followed by succeeding governors, and it must be remembered that governors in those far-off days were absolutely despotic. The results of this one-sided and biased policy of Sir Ralph Darling's was social confusion

and communal anarchy, and brought its own punishment in its train.

Wentworth, with characteristic vehemence, threw himself into the fray, and headed the "Emancipists" in their warfare against the Governor, whom he sought to drive out of the colony. From 1825 to 1831, in the columns of his paper, "The Australian," from the public platform, in the club, and in the drawing-room, Wentworth fought for the freedom of the press, trial by jury, and representative institutions. With him and Dr. Wardell, joined Dr. William Bland, a young surgeon of about thirty six years of age. These three formed a "Patriotic Association," and enlisted in the British House of Commons the active aid of Henry Lytton Bulwer and Charles Buller. The struggle culminated in the notorious case of Sudds and Thompson, two soldiers who were punished for theft so callously and brutally by Governor Darling that Sudds died from the effects of his cruel treatment. Wentworth thereupon sent against His Excellency to the Secretary of State for the Colonies a letter of impeachment consisting of thirty-five folio pages, while the evidence taken by Sir Ralph Darling and by Wentworth filled another eighteen pages. The "Australian Patriot" then set on foot in England a virulent agitation; and although the Governor was acquitted by a Select Committee of the House of Commons, he was recalled in October, 1831. The vehemence which characterized Wentworth's part in this affair may be gauged from a phrase in his famous pamphlet, "The Impeachment," in which he declared that he would follow General Darling to the gallows. After the death of his friend Wardell, Wentworth gradually withdrew from literary and journalistic pursuits, and devoted himself largely to pastoral life.

In this short article of Wentworth, the explorer, the poet, and the journalist only has been spoken. Wentworth, the patriot, the statesman, and the father of federation is a subject for a future essay.

Cricket.

The following matches were played on the 19th February.

M4 beat M5. M5 got 28; Ivers 10, Mr. Ferguson 10, M4 lost 5 wickets for 209 runs, Barnes 51 retired, Will's 26 not out, Ferris 44, Bolus 27 not out, Pattison 13. This score of M4 is a record for a class match.

3F beat 2G. 3F got 65 and 4 wickets for 71, 3G got 57 and 76. The chief scorers for 3G were McDowell 20, Borton 18 and 23, Bestock 16.

A match took place between two teams of 4B, captained by Guinnery and Smith. The former got 34 and 61, Guinnery 15, Jaken an 16, Hardwick 10, Smith's Team got 25 and 69, Banson 15, Watson 18.

On 4th March, Matriculation I defeated the Seniors by 21 runs on the first innings. M 1 52, Lloyd 21, Board 15, Seniors 31 and G7, Fraser 16 and 7, Turner 20 and 9, Smith 13, Mr. Bourke 12.
M2 beat C1 and C2 combined by 2 runs. Scores M2. 43, Poggioli 13, C3 and C2 41.
March 11th. 3C beat 3B. 3E beat 3D.

The Students of Fort-Street Cookery School at Hawkesbury Agricultural College.

On the 24th. Feb., 1904, we, the students at the Training School of Cookery, Fort-Street, under the guidance of Miss Rankin, met on the Redfern Station and boarded the 9.25 train for Richmond. After passing Granville and Parramatta the scenery becomes most interesting. First appear large orchards and then immense paddocks, clothed with grass. Passing through the real country is then seen, dotted here and there with small homesteads. At Blacktown the line branches from the great Western Line to Windsor and after 1 1/2 hr. has elapsed, during which time the train has been speeding onward, Richmond is reached. Alighting from the train, we were driven to the college in two conveyances kindly sent to meet us by Mr. Potts the Principal of the College, and after a short and very interesting drive we reached our destination. We were cordially welcomed by the Principal and taken to the visitors' room which is in the main building. After a short rest we were rejoined by Mr. Potts who took us to the Lecture Room where he explained the usual routine of a day's work. There are 110 students in attendance, ranging from 16 to 38 years. Work commences at 4.30 a.m. for two sections of the boys. One section attends to the horses. These have to be brought in from the paddocks, groomed and fed. This duty occupies the first section until 6.30 a.m. or breakfast time. The other section has the cows to milk, separating and churning to do. The remaining students rise a little later, the roll is called and if any one fails to put in appearance he is visited by the house keeper, accompanied by a bottle of medicine, to ascertain whether he is ill or not. After breakfast the boys not on outdoor duties as farming, return to the Lecture Room for a few hours before resuming their other duties. These are so arranged that every two months the student goes through the whole routine. At 11.30 a.m. a bell is rung when all students prepare for lunch. This is usually a light meal consisting of soup, cold meat and salad, bread, butter, home-made jam and fruit. This meal over, they again resume duties till 4 p.m. when they attend lectures till 5 p.m. Everybody dresses for dinner, and after this meal has been partaken of there is a lecture on various subjects of the course, illustrated with lantern slides, which lasts till 8 p.m. and then the boys are free to enjoy games, library or gymnasiums, or they may go to their bedrooms and read or study till 10.30 when all lights are extinguished. The lecture room is a large apartment round the walls of which are various diagrams and specimens of cereals etc. It also contains the lantern for the lecture and a large sheet on to which pictures are thrown. Passing from the lecture room we were conducted to the library. This contains several large bookcases packed with all kinds of reading and a table on which different magazines are laid. All the furniture of this room including stools, tables and book-cases were made by the students. Leaving this the

'stable square' was visited. At its entrance is the smithy with its forge where each boy shoes his own horse. On the western and southern sides of the stable square implements for ploughing and a few horses are kept, and on the eastern side there is one immense stable divided into various stalls above which is the name of each horse. The next place visited was the "steam laundry," at the entrance of which is a large boiler where the power for washing, cooking and lighting is generated. The clothes to be cleaned are shaken out, put into a perforated cylinder enclosed in a large boiler through which a current of steam is passing, which drives the dirt out of the clothes. The refuse carried away passes down a drain and is forced along until it reaches the garden, where it waters the ground. The clothes after cleansing are then dried and pressed by means of steam. After leaving the laundry the electricity room was visited, where Mr. Potts explained how to switch on and off the electric light and showed us the glass tank used for storing the power. We then returned for lunch which was kindly provided for us by the Principal and much enjoyed by all. After luncheon we visited the orchard. Before entering the main orchard there is a small nursery where the trees are grown until ready for transplanting. The main garden is planted in groups, citrus fruits, as lemons, mandarins etc.; soft fruits, as peaches, plums etc. In the orchard we were instructed in the art of budding and much interesting information was given us about the importation and successful cultivation of the Californian Fig. Before leaving the orchard we passed through the fern-house which in itself is a sight worth seeing. We next visited the vegetable garden where the Principal explained the use of the septic tank and the method of irrigation. Passing through the vineyard which is beautifully laid out we went on to the packing, preserving and drying room and there were initiated into the mysteries of fruit-preserving, jam-making, crystallising etc. Here also our kind host allowed us to taste both the dried and fresh fruit. After leaving the orchard, the poultry was inspected, fowls of all kinds presented themselves whilst the geese were notable for their size. Here and there were to be seen ostriches strutting about their long legs and longer necks causing no end of amusement.

Visits were then made to the apiary, piggery, and cow-shed where we could not but admire the methodical arrangement and scrupulous cleanliness of everything. At the cow-shed we saw the cows being milked both by hand and machine. The principle of the milking machine was explained to us and we were much impressed by the amount of time and labour that was saved through its use, two cows being milked at once by it and the man in charge at the same time milking a third with his hands. In the dairy all the different processes of butter and cheese making were explained to us, and we were each treated to a glass of delicious milk. The kitchen and scullery were then visited and Mr. Potts explained to us the use of the different steam apparatus used in cooking and also the many little contrivances which meant saving time and labour and at the same time insuring the best results and adding to the comfort of all. Last but not least we visited the "laboratories" where the students spend much of their time in the study of chemistry which enables them to intelligently take up their work as farmers. Here surely they learnt the secret which enabled them to obtain from soil 95% of which is sand, the magnificent results we observed in the orchard. Altogether it was a day to be long remembered by us all and in addition to much information gained, re properties of soil, possibilities of cultivation, manner of growth of different fruits and methods of preserving etc., many valuable lessons were taught us, noting the perfect arrangement of tasks for students, and the methodical performance of duties allotted to all.

OLD BEN'S POTATOES.

"Here comes old hump-back Ben!" cried a group of merry boys, just out of morning school. "Isn't he a funny figure, with his nose almost touching the ground? I say, let's have a lark with old Ben! Let's tie a piece of string from post to post across the ground; he'll tumble, and all his potatoes will roll down the side of the hill!"

"What fun!" was the general response; and the boys began to search for string while on came old Ben, dragging with difficulty the potatoes a kind farmer had given him. Ben was deformed, and, owing to spinal weakness, he looked strangely bent and twisted; he felt his infirmity greatly, and dreaded passing the boys, some of whom were cruel enough to make fun of him.

A new boy—Charley Franks—had lately come to the village; he was rather shy, but he had been brought up to pity the feeble, and to reverence the old. He felt indignant at the idea of tripping up poor old Ben, and his anxiety to prevent such cruelty overcame his fear of being laughed at by the rest.

"I know something that would be better fun," he cried eagerly. "It's cowardly to tease poor, helpless old Ben; it would be better fun to run and meet him and carry home his potatoes for him. See, the sack is too much for him to carry."

"What a maff you are, Charley!" cried some of the boys; "who wants to carry a weight like that this hot morning?"

"I do," cried Charley. "I'm better able to carry a weight than old Ben is. Who'll lend a hand with old Ben's potatoes?"

Three or four volunteered to help, and the rest went off to cricket, a good deal happier than if they had caused a helpless fellow-creature suffering and loss. But the happiest of all were the boys who lifted the sack from Ben's back, and bore it right home to his cottage.

At first he thought they were trying to steal his potatoes and he wished he had taken the farmer's offer to send them home for him. But, when he understood that the lads were trying to help him, his eyes grew dim with grateful tears as he spoke a blessing upon them, saying over and over again, "The Lord bless you, my laddies, for the help you've been to me this day!"

Professor Huxley's Wit.

After one of his demonstrations, Huxley said to a student: "Did you follow me?" "Yes, sir," the student answered, "except at one point, when you were between me and the blackboard." "Well," rejoined Huxley, "I always try to be clear, but I can't make myself transparent."

THE HARVEST HOME.

Mr. Hayes, Secretary of the Royal Exchange, Bridge Street, Sydney, recently decided to gather from statistics and other official records information concerning the products of New South Wales. As this year is blessed with a great harvest Mr. Hayes also picked upon a suitable time to exhibit some of the best features of the pastoral and agricultural wealth of the state. The large dayroom at the "Exchange" was transformed into a show room and the exhibition was in every respect creditable to all parties concerned.

Exhibits of wheat sheaves, oats, wheat, barley, butter, fruit, vegetables, wool, timber, flour, compressed fodder, egg pulp, cotton and other products were received from all parts of the State. These were arranged in perfect order so that the visitors could judge for themselves what the State was capable of producing.

At one end of the room there were two quotations appropriate to the occasion hung in prominent positions. One was from Milton, viz:—"Accuse not nature, she hath done her part, do thou but thine." This means that nature has given us the land with its rich meadows and running streams, therefore we must cultivate and irrigate the soil for the products it is capable of bearing. Then we may also sink shafts and bring forth the minerals which it contains. The other quotation was from the "Bible" taken from "St. Matthew's Gospel," viz:—"The harvest truly is plenteous but the laborers are few."

Such is the state of things in the country at the present day. There is a lot to be done but few to carry it out. We have the large debt of £70,000,000 to pay and unless we greatly increase in population it may still remain a burden to the State when we boys have passed through the "seven ages of man."

There is a slight increase in population since 1891 in Sydney and Melbourne viz.—

Sydney.....	1891.....	383,283	Melbourne.....	490,896
.....	1902...	508,510	502,610
	Increase	125,227	11,714

Wheat sheaves obtained from all parts of N. S. Wales were posted at various points, each exhibit being marked, signifying what part of the country it came from and its distance from Sydney, as from: Inverell 569 miles, Cukairu 256 miles, Guyra 285 miles, Wagga Wagga 309 miles and other towns which were highly represented.

Then on a small platform formed with butter boxes the wheat itself was exhibited showing from what locality it came.

(To be continued in our next issue.)

Swimming News.

The Carnival

Fort Street Model Public School Swimming Club, which has a roll of 700 members, held its fourteenth annual carnival at Farmer's Domain Baths on Saturday afternoon, 5th instant, and attractive as this event has been during the preceding 13 years, it never reached the degree of excellence attained on the latest occasion. There was not a fault to be found with the arrangements, even to smallest detail; and so well were the competitors marshalled and so hard and effectively did the officials on the starting platform work, that the long programme was got rid of without even the briefest of waits at any stage, thus sustaining interest from beginning to end. For much of the success achieved the hon. secretary, Mr. D. A. Pike, was responsible, as, aided by the club's hon. treasurer, Mr. J. Green, he brought a deal of experience to bear, and put a lot of energy and enthusiasm into his labors, beginning weeks ahead and ending only when the last item of the bill had been contested. Never before had such a crowd been seen at a swimming carnival—the enclosure had as many as could be forced into it—upwards of 1300—while adjacent fences and hills literally swarmed with people. Large numbers were turned away at the gate owing to the fact of the accommodation available being already heavily taxed. We have had many good and entertaining swimming carnivals during the season now fast waning, but that of Saturday last must be voted the best of them all.

The Water Polo match, Mort's Dock versus Bondi, was won by Bondi by one goal to nil. The game lasted 14 min. The 100yds. championship of the school resulted in victory for that fine young swimmer, L. Murray, who gave the public a taste of his quality when he gathered up Randwick and College Club's recently decided first-class handicap in 1 min. 4 1-5 sec. On Saturday last Murray showed considerable improvement by traversing the distance 2-5 sec. faster. Another coming school champion (Hardwick) occupied second position, the watch making him do 1 min. 6 2-5 sec. Murray, like all our present-day top-notches, is a double over-arm man, and swims that method well. Mr. Williams, hon. secretary of the Life Saving Society, put a squad of the Fort Street School-boys through the Life-saving drill; the display was more than creditable. Hurry Wylie and his family gave one of their clever exhibitions of trick swimming, and deserved all the applause their show evoked. An all-clothes race had a place in the programme after having been dropped by swimming clubs generally for several seasons—and it was a genuine all-clothes race, too—every competitor was fully attired and carried an open umbrella in one hand.

Absolutely the most interesting item of the afternoon was the exhibition of fancy, acrobatic, and high diving by members of the Sagull Club, led by Mr. Ken. Chambers; the others taking part were A. Rosenthal and Snowy Baker (clowns), Fred Lane and Alick Wickham. Such high-class diving has never been witnessed in Sydney before. Wickham's skilful leap from an altitude of between 30ft. and 40ft., cleverly executed, was quite a sensational thing.

Officials were:—Judges, Messrs. H. Haly, J. Chambers, and R. Kears; starter, Mr. A. W. Griffiths; check-starter and standard timekeeper, Mr. W. Hill; timekeeper, Mr. W. T. Kerr.

Subjoined are the results:—

45yds. Handicap (Second and third class).—First heat: E. Rowbotham 1, H. Congdon 2. Second heat: P. Duff 1, D. Gazzard (2). Third heat: L. Crealy 1, A. Atkinson 2. Final: Crealy 1, Rowbotham 2, Duff 3.

45yds. Handicap (Fourth Class).—First heat: W. Wylie 1, E. Ferguson 2. Second heat: H. Watson 1, S. Peatfold 2. Third heat: E. Tanner 1, R. Daley 2. Final: Daley 1, Tanner 2, Wylie 3.

45yds. Handicap (Fifth Class).—First heat: W. Duff 1. Second heat: E. McPhee 1. Third heat: A. Linsley 1. Fourth heat: H. Evans 1. Fifth heat: D. Drake 1. Sixth heat: L. Armstrong 1. Seventh heat: G. Radcliffe 1. Final: Evans 1, Drake 2, McPhee 3.

45yds. Sobraon Boys' Handicap.—Connors 1, Watkinson 2, Grovenelli 3.

90yds. Old Boys' Handicap.—First heat: S. Low 1, R. Butler 2. Second heat: W. Congdon 1, C. Harrod 2. Final: W. Congdon 1, C. Harrod 2. Time, 1 min. 8 1-5 sec.

45yds. Championship of School (under 12 years).—Robertson 1, E. Swinson 2. Time, 37 sec.

45yds. Championship of School (under 14 years).—First heat: N. Lotz 1, W. Wylie 2. Second heat: S. Part 1, A. Bratt 2. Final: Part 1, Lotz 2. Time, 30 4-5 sec.

270yds. Relay Race.—Enterprise No. 1 S. Rohn, H. Dickie, S. Smith. 1; Mort's Dock No. 2. 2; Enterprise No. 3. 3.

100yds. Championship of School.—L. Murray 1, H. Hardwick 2, C. Smith 3. Time, 1 min. 3 4-5 sec.

45yds. Training College Handicap.—First heat: E. Byrne 1, A. Lewis, 2. Second heat: G. Blair 1, J. Towns 2. Final: G. Blair 1, J. Towns 2.

100yds. Championship of N.S.W.—R. Cavill 1, C. Lealey 2, A. Wickham 3. Time, 58 1-5 sec.

Finding one North Pole.—P. Duff.

45yds. Department Officials Handicap.—S. H. Davis 1, F. A. Meham 2.

Clothes Race.—A. Homersham 1.

Fancy Costume Race.—H. Hardwick 1. Costume, E. Scott.

From *The Daily Telegraph*

CLASS ITEMS.

MATRICULATION IV.

On Thursday, 10th March, the time set down for History was occupied by a debate, the subject being:—“Was the Parliament justified in taking up arms against Charles I?” Barnes opened in the affirmative and was followed by Earle, Croll and Bolus. Eldershaw led the opposition and was ably supported by Reid, Hindmarsh and Giraud. After Barnes had replied, the vote was taken with the following result:—ayes 28, noes 8.

FOURTH C.

Mr. G. Titbrook took his class, 4C, to view the “Harvest Home” held under the auspices of the Royal Exchange, on 29th January, 1904. The Secretary, C. H. Hayes Esq., was so much impressed with the attention and interest displayed by 4C that he offered a guinea prize to the boy in that class who would write the best essay on the exhibition. This prize was won by Harry Watson, a former pupil of Mr. Nelligan, Superior Public School, Balmain. The essay, which contains a good description of the “Harvest Home” pleased Mr. Hayes very much. It is published elsewhere.

English for 1904 Juniors.

BOLINGBROKE.

IV

The matter-of-fact Bolingbroke contrasts sharply with the dreamer Richard. The Earl is as practical as the King is theoretical; as full of action as he is of thought. Bolingbroke is insatiably ambitious, but not wildly so; every move is carefully planned; and hazard not shirked but reduced to a minimum. With such a man the passions rarely run away with the intellect.

Rarely is Bolingbroke carried out of himself in fury; when it does happen it is no accident; he has deliberately lashed himself into rage, as over the death of Gloucester. Certainly Mowbray and Annerle, pronounced to be responsible for it, incur no permanent displeasure, for Bolingbroke afterwards actually recalls Mowbray. Nor with such a man do we expect to find an acute tormenting conscience like Richard's.

He has a conscience; partly it makes him declare (in Henry IV)

"Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown", but it sticks not at all at trifles.

Certainly we are intended to understand that his virtues against Norfolk is false; and his declaration that the sole object of his return was to claim his hereditary estates is the thinnest of pretexts for disarming resistance. Richard could never feign and disguise after this fashion—he is the fire, but water quenches fire, and Bolingbroke is as supple and persistent as water itself—

Be he the fire, I'll be the yielding water:
The rage be his, whilst on the earth I rain
My waters: on the earth, and not on him."

But if the waters fall on Richard too, Bolingbroke cares not.

We must then call Bolingbroke an able but unscrupulous politician; but he is not, as such a man might be, deliberately cruel. He pardons Annerle's plot because he does not fear Annerle. He has, too, the saving virtue in a King, of patriotism; and perhaps is truly pained by Richard's murder. The deposed monarch himself estimates his rival with great accuracy when he admits in III-iii-200.

"Well you deserve: they well deserve to have,
That know the strongest and surest way to get."
—P. E. C.

PLEASURES ARE FLEETING.

But pleasures are like poppies spread,
You seize the flower, the bloom is shed,
Or like the snow-falls in the river,
A moment white—then melts for ever.

—BURNS.

THE FLAG OF THE FREE.

'Tis the streamer of England—it floats o'er the bay,
'Tis the fairest unfurled o'er the land or the wave;
But, though brightest in story and matchless in sight,
'Tis the herald of Mercy as well as of Might.
In the cause of the wronged may it ever be first
When tyrants are humbled, and fetters are burst.
Be "Justice," the war-shout, and dastard is he
Who would scruple to dishonour the Flag of the Free!

It may trail o'er the halcyons, a bullet-torn rag,
Or flutter in shreds from the battlement-crag;
Let the shot whistle through it as fast as it may,
Till it sweep the last glorious fragment away.
What matter! we'd hoist the blue jacket on high,
Or the soldier's red surcoat from the spear-head should fly,
Though it were but a rife and, the forman should see:
The proud signal, and own it—the Flag of the Free!

Have we ever looked out from a far foreign shore,
To mark the gay pennon east passing ship-bore;
And watched every speck that arose on the foam,
In hope of glad tidings from country and home?
Has our straining eyes caught the loved colours at last
And seen the dear bark bounding on to us fast?
Then, then have our hearts learned how precious can be
The fair streamer of England—the Flag of the Free.

—ELIZA COOK.

Girls' News.

Olive Sadler of 5F has been appointed Senior Monitor of the School.

Since the Christmas Vacation some of our girls have received appointments in the Public Instruction Department as pupil teachers. The following we heartily congratulate and wish them every success:—

Edie Sinfield, Joyce Lane, Mary Smith, Florrie Lewis, Clara Holmes, and Elsie Teale.

Monthly Examination Results.

3C. For General proficiency: Dorothy Butz 1, Mina Boyd 2, Nellie Rowbotham 3. For Spelling "Bee": Julia Barrett 1, Dorrie Swinbourne 2, Gladys Milverton and Gladys Hoare (equal) 3.

3D. General proficiency: Dorothy Holdsworth 1, Vera Kennedy 2. Eight girls obtained 100 per cent. in Arithmetic. Rita Young won the Spelling "Bee" prize.

4B. The monthly examination of this class results in Lena Partridge with 916 marks being first, Jeanne Partridge 908, second, and Vera Mostyn 900, third, total 1000 marks. M. Wilson, B. Drake, N. Copp, R. Drake, E. Griffith, F. Smith, O. Huxley, M. Lively E. Silvester, C. Wolther, C. Wulf, Q. Murray, and B. McIntosh deserve special mention in the order named for having obtained over 75 per cent. and under 90 per cent.

THE PRIMARY OBJECT OF A SCHOOL.

"The first and primary object of every school is to turn out men. There is one platitude which people are apt to forget, though it is a platitude—that every boy, if he lives, must inevitably become a man. It is often forgotten, and yet the fact is absolutely certain, that it is on our men that we depend for the future of our country. Now, some of the nations owe almost everything to their schools. Scotland, Switzerland and Prussia do, I believe, owe to their schools that place they hold in the races of the world. In England I hope we are not ungrateful if we say that, as regards the old schools, despite our adherence to the studies of classics and mathematics, I do not feel sure that we have been so successful in turning out men with an exact education fitted to enable them to meet the difficulties and competition of life. But, at any rate, we are sure of this—that in England our schools have turned out men. They have been the best schools of manhood that the world has ever seen, and, if they have succeeded in that, I, for one, put all the studies of the sciences and classics and mathematics in a secondary position. You know we, in this country, have always paid special worship to the virtue of manhood. We worship it not merely in our own, but in other nations. When we get to know of a man anywhere, who stands out for the qualities of manhood beyond his fellows, we admire and we honour that man, and we don't care what country he belongs to."

—Speech by Lord Roseberry.

Why Boys should not use Tobacco.

Perhaps some boy will say: "Grown people are always telling us, "This will do for men, but it is not good for boys."

Now, wise doctors have stated that the boy who uses tobacco, while he is growing, makes every part of his body less strong than it otherwise would be. Even his bones will not grow so well.

If you were going to build a house, would it be wise of you to put into the stone-work of the cellar something that would make it less strong; something into the brick-work, or the mortar, the wood-work, the walls, or the chimney, that would make it weak and tottering, instead of strong and steady?

It would be bad enough if you should repair your house with poor materials; but surely, it must be built in the first place with the best you can get.

Children are building their bodies, day after day, until at last they reach full size. Afterwards, they must be repaired as fast as they wear out. It would be foolish to build any part in a way to make it weaker than need be.

Boys who smoke cannot become such big, fine-look-

ing men as they would if they did not smoke.

Cigarettes are small, but they are very poisonous. Tobacco in any form is a great enemy to youth. It stunts the growth, hurts the mind, and cripples in every way the boy who uses it.

Not that it does all this to every youth who smokes, but it is always true that no boy can make a practice of smoking, and have so fine a body and mind when he is twenty-one years old, as he would have had if he had never used tobacco. If you want to be strong and able men, do not use tobacco in any form.

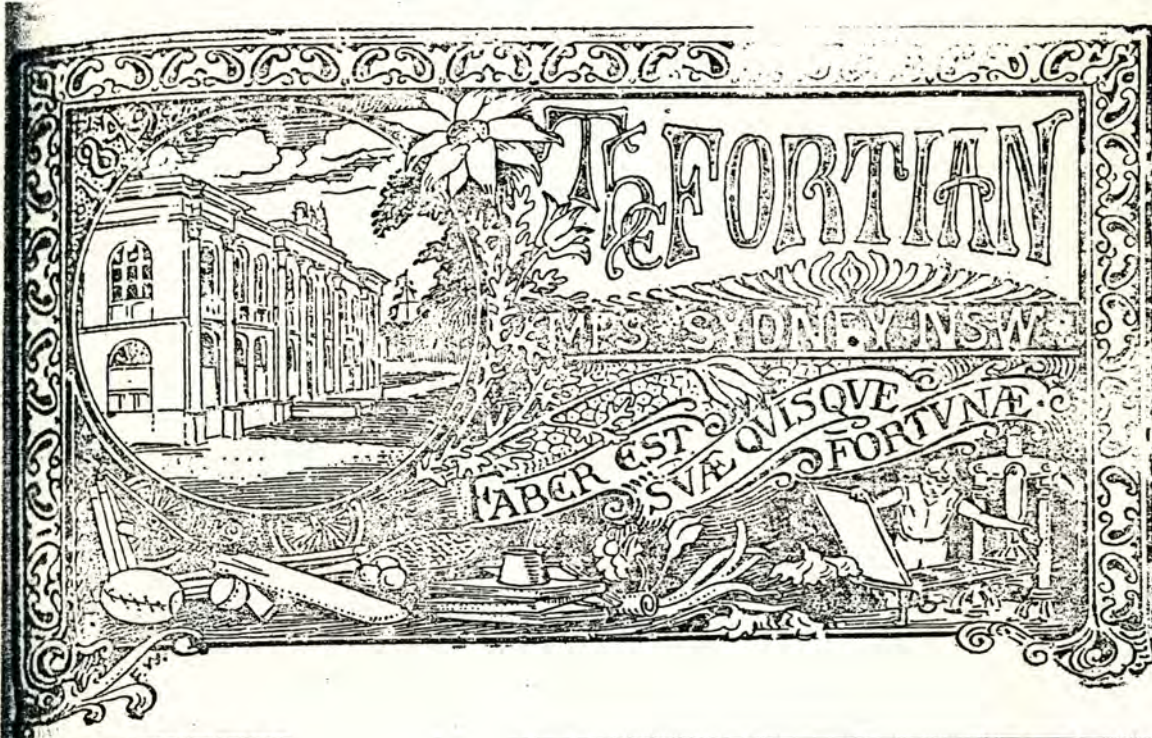
—Adapted from the CHILD'S HEALTH PRIMER ("Pallfinder Physiology," No. 1).

Ingredients of Man.

In the National Museum, Washington, there are two sets of substances, showing the ingredients which go to make up the average man, weighing 154 lbs. The proximate principles or compounds are shown in a large glass jar, which contains 96 lbs. of water, in other receptacles which contain 3 lbs. of white of egg, a little less than 10 lbs. of pure glue, 34½ lbs. of fat, 8½ lbs. of phosphate of lime, 1 lb. carbonate of lime, 3 ozs. sugar and starch, 7 ozs. fluoride of calcium, 1 oz. phosphate of magnesia, and a little ordinary table salt. The elementary composition of the average man is separately shown, graphically and by actual specimens, to be 97 lbs. of oxygen, 15 lbs. of hydrogen, 3 lbs. 13 ozs. of nitrogen, the carbon in him being represented by a foot cube of coal. In a row of bottles are 4 ozs. of chlorine, 3½ ozs. fluorine, 8 ozs. phosphorus, 3½ ozs. sulphur, 2½ ozs. sodium, 2½ ozs. potassium, 1 oz. iron, 2 ozs. magnesium, and 3½ lbs. calcium.

A Plucky Rescue.

An incident of considerable interest to the School occurred at Manly ocean beach on Saturday 23rd Feb. While bathing in the surf several swimmers found themselves less than taken out by the current. Several attempts were made to rescue them but it was not till the Life-Saving ropes were brought into requisition that all but one were brought to shore. This one being farther out than the rest was unable to reach the rope. Clive N. Smith, the School Captain, saw the man's danger and at considerable risk to himself went to his assistance. It was a fierce battle with the current, but Clive's Life-Saving experiences proved of good avail, and successfully brought the man to shore amidst the cheers of the on-lookers.



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The Fortian.

WILLIAM CHARLES WENTWORTH.

PATRIOT, STATESMAN, FEDERALIST.

The death of Dr. Wardell was peculiarly sad and tragic. He was shot by bushrangers while strolling in his own grounds. Wentworth felt the blow keenly, albeit his interest in matters political increased rather than abated. The Patriotic Association, of which he was the head and front, fought continuously for the same civil and political rights and privileges as were enjoyed by Britons the wide world over save in Australia—or, as it was the fashion of the time to dub it, "Botany Bay." Trial by jury was one of the first things fought for, and it was also one of the first achieved. On the 1st of November, 1824, the first civil jury was empanelled in the Court of Quarter Sessions at Liverpool; a result due to the broad-mindedness and enlightenment of the first Chief Justice of New South Wales, Sir Francis Forbes; but it was only a partial and limited adoption of this grand basic principle of British justice. Wentworth was unremitting in his efforts for the extension of the highly-prized right of a man to be tried by his peers. At a public meeting held

in Sydney for the adoption of a petition to the Imperial Parliament, the "Australian Patriot" is reported to have said:—"The first topic contained in the petition is a request for trial by jury. We have already had in the Court of Quarter Sessions a two years' experience of that mode of trial, and notwithstanding a great part of the population is held not eligible to sit as jurors, it has gone on well and successfully; therefore, we urge that if it were more extended in the colony its beneficial effects would be more generally known."

The petition was adopted, and entrusted to the care of Sir James Mackintosh, to whom it will be remembered Wentworth some nine years before had, while in England, dedicated "A Statistical, Historical and Political Description of the Colony of New South Wales." Sir James, when presenting the petition to the House of Commons, cited the testimony of Governors Macquarie and Brisbane, Judge-Advocate Wyld and Chief Justice Forbes, in support of the assertion that New South Wales was "fully as ripe for such a change as any other dependency of the British Crown." But, says Samuel Bennett, "the Imperial Parliament was not willing to agree to these representations; and an Act which came into force here on March 1, 1829, again threw the power over the liberty and property of the colonists into the hands of military jurors in the Quarter Sessions as in the Supreme Court."

PUBLIC

Wentworth, however, continued strenuously to battle for right and justice. He did not for a brief instant ever give sign of retreat or surrender. In the year 1831, William the Fourth ascended the throne of England, and His Majesty's loyal subjects oversea everywhere adopted resolutions congratulatory to their new monarch. In the parent settlement of New South Wales, as elsewhere, a loyal address had been prepared and a public meeting convened. The mover and seconder of the effusion were Mr. Sydney Stephen and Sir Edward Parry. Wentworth was also there, with a definite purpose in his mind. The feeling of the meeting was decidedly effervescent in quality. It needed only a leader, and with the hour came the man. Wentworth moved an amendment to the loyal address, in which he prayed His Majesty to "extend to the only colony of Britain heretofore of the right of Britons, a full participation of the benefits and privileges of the British constitution." It is right that the name of the seconder of this historic paragraph be recorded; it was Robert Laethbridge, one of the members first appointed to the Legislative Council under Wentworth's New Constitution in 1836. The amendment to the loyal address was enthusiastically endorsed by His Majesty's subjects in Sydney assembled for the purpose of congratulating him upon his accession to the throne of Great Britain and Ireland and of Greater Britain oversea. Moreover the paragraph in question was duly and neatly incorporated in the ultra-complimentary text of that effusively loyal period.

It has been said, with very little justification, that a little learning is a dangerous thing, and the poet Pope advises us to drink deep, or taste not the Pierian spring. The extent of individual knowledge is, after all, purely relative, and every man living is bound to know either more or less than every other man. One thing is certain, and that is the acquirement of any branch of knowledge is safe investment against some possible or probable rainy day of intellectual need. Wentworth was a barrister, and barristers are called upon not often to navigate a ship. Wentworth, however, was always a keen student of mathematics, and his knowledge of this branch of mental science stood him in good stead when, during a voyage to Tahiti and other South Sea Islands, the vessel lost its commander. The chief officer proved ignorant or incompetent, for in those remote days it was quite the usual thing to appoint mere boat-swain's mates to positions of first responsibility. Men absolutely ignorant of the art and science of navigation, possessing, indeed, only a rough and ready, rule-by-thumb experience of the rudest sea-craft, were made first officers; and if anything befell the "skipper" they were mentally rudderless to run their craft into even the nearest port, let alone to navigate the uncharted wilderness of waters of which, at that time, only the most rudimentary of maps

were in existence, and those seldom included in the captain's library. But Wentworth proved a tower of strength in the emergency. The passengers implored him to take command of the ship, and the crew promised ready and loyal obedience. The vessel was safely and successfully navigated back to Port Jackson by a man who, in his maturity, showed to full development all those qualities of resource and command of which he had evinced complete possession when, as a stripling, he accompanied Lawson and Blaxland on their memorable trip over the Blue Mountains in 1813, or when, in 1817, he indited his "respectful appeal" to Earl Bathurst, begging to be sent back to Australia in order to explore "this fifth continent from its eastern extremity to its western."

That Wentworth was thoroughly loved and trusted there is little doubt. Samuel Bennett warmly says of him:—"In private business, and in his own home, he was remarkable for his generous consideration towards all who were connect-d with him. All his servants, overseers, and superintendents retained a warm attachment to him. To many of them their employment under him was the stepping-stone to success and independence. In public life he came into hostile collision with men of different political views and associations; and when thus provoked he was not sparing in his denunciations. But to judge fairly of his mind and heart, one must hear the terms in which all who served under him speak of the generous treatment they uniformly received at his hands." This is high praise, indeed, from a man to whom Wentworth's last years of public service were years of vehement reproach and hostile criticism.

For a little over a month after the departure of Sir Ralph Darling, the Government was administered by Colonel Lindsay. In the month of December 1831, arrived grand and good Sir Richard Bourke, who for six years laboured to transform a pandemonium into a paradise. Australia is learning very slowly all it owes to one of the finest officers and truest gentlemen who ever wore the spurs of Knighthood. Wentworth, the "Australian Patriot," gave the new viceroyalty the warmest and sincerest adherence. The esteem and respect of these two fine souls was mutual. In frank defiance of "Exclusivists" and "Pure Merinos" alike, the Governor made of Wentworth a magistrate of the territory, personally visited him at his private estate, and was at all times in a puzzling career largely guided by his sound and patriotic advice. Nevertheless, Wentworth was no easily-purchased voice, no friendly excusant of Government folly or gubernatorial extravagance. In 1833 he made an opportune and powerful speech denunciatory of the practice of spending the money of the people for purposes the reverse of conducive to the people's weal. He caustically criticized that expenditure, and urged the adoption of a petition thereon to his Excellency. This was deemed presumptuous

the "Patriot's" part, and resented as such. Nevertheless the remonstrance bore fruit after its kind—and the fruit was good.

Governor Bourke resigned the reins of office in 1817, and after a brief inter-regnum under Lieutenant-Governor Snodgrass, Sir George Gipps, able, energetic and astute pro-consul, took control of the colony early in 1838. The new Governor was entrusted with large discretionary powers concerning the gradual introduction of a very Russiatized form of responsible government. That is to say, it was left practically to his own judgment to nominate irresponsible advisers to a council which would irresponsibly endorse his own responsible acts. Governor Gipps was one of the ablest men on the British Army List. Distinctively a diplomatist of the Bismarckian type, his cynical intellect was backed and re-inforced with all the prestige of a brilliant military career, in which it was impossible to measure dauntless courage against adroitest strategy and tactical cunning. A man of commanding intellect, of encyclopaedic information, of an integrity unquestioned as that of chilled steel, he was proud to excess and overbearing to exasperation. Albeit, he was, with some limitations, the greatest governor Australia's sun has ever shone upon.

It was a case of war to the knife from the very start. Gipps had intended a nomination for Wentworth to his irresponsible Legislative Council. Wentworth, by his barristerial capacity, was in daily treaty with even Maori Chiefs. They were in Sydney, being slowly persuaded to hand over an empire of soil to the Queen at a bonus of £10 a piece. Wentworth at this juncture lost his usually sagacious head. He tried to outbid the Governor. He did so with emphatic success. He offered his negociants £200 a year a piece for life. In return he was to receive sovereign landlordship of 100,000 acres in the North Island of the New Zealand group, some and 20,000,000 acres in the South Island. The idea was like John Bull's in reference to Victoria, princely. Monsieur Jacques Letaudy's conquest of the Sahara is insignificant in comparison. Gipps absolutely refused confirmation of this splendid deal. He had been outreached; but in justice to the Governor, one must record that his speech was sublimely denunciatory, and stands as a model of vehemently logical pulchricism. Wentworth, in disgust, threw up his commission as magistrate of the territory of New South Wales, which had been conferred upon him by Sir Richard Bourke. Henceforth Wentworth and Gipps were foes of the direst—magnificently worthy of each other's steel. The "Australian Patriot" withdrew, moreover, from the Council, and retired to his tents of turmoil, sharpening new weapons wherewith to make his adversary envied of men who wear for enmity.

At the beginning of the year 1843 a Constitution was introduced under the aegis of Governor Gipps, in

which was a spice of a representative element. From this time henceforward Wentworth was a thorn in the side of constituted authority. In June took place the general election. Together with that splendid patriot, Dr William Bland, the leader of antipodal radicalism was elected to represent the City of Sydney; and that representation, by two such men, is to the parent city an honour which age cannot dim and which no aftermath of political incompetence can ever diminish. From this time forward Wentworth belongs to history. But one loves to think that we owe Wentworth as an active political British factor to the passing side-thought of an Englishman, who cared so little for Britain's Colonial empire that he came wall-nigh losing the whole of the Britains oversea. But so it was. On the 5th of September, 1842, Lord Stanley (afterwards Earl of Derby) conferred on Australasia, Parliamentary Institutions by his Constitution Act (5 & 6 Vict. cap. 76) under which the partially elective Legislative Council of New South Wales was created. As that interminable historian, Rusden, had the grace to record— "A new pulse beat in the veins of the people. That which Wentworth had worked for, after a quarter of a century, had come upon the land. His name was on every tongue."

Wentworth's lordliest, noblest service to his country was the campaign which won for it the Sydney University. Wentworth is public property. His patriotism to the land which he was proud to call his own is embalmed in Imperial Enactments which he wrought and won. His statesmanship is a marvel of successful leadership in the face of absolute political disruption. He framed the Constitution under which we live. He engineered it with clat and emphatic glory through the Imperial Parliament, and he modified and steered it to harbour with that brilliancy of navigation which won a vessel from Tahiti to Port-Jackson. A federalist always, his fine poem on Australasia contains lines symbolic of the aspirations of a Washington. He lies in peace at our water-gate, and Vaucluse is honoured, inasmuch as therein repose the honoured ashes of Australia's greatest—William Charles Wentworth.

OLD STUDENTS' NEWS.

The recently published lists of the honours and scholarships awarded in various faculties of the University show that old Fort Street students are taking prominent place in the academic life of the University. The number of those who obtained honours and variety of subjects in which these honours were obtained is a cause of

great gratification to us, showing that the School must have built for them a good general foundation of knowledge, upon which they were able to erect a solid super-structure. The following is the list of those who obtained Honours at the recent Examinations :

Faculty of Arts.

First year: G. C. Whitney, first class honours in French.
 S. C. Noake, third class honours in French and Mathematics.
 L. A. Cotton, first class honours in Mathematics.
 C. M. Collins second class honours in Mathematics.
 Third year: P. R. Watts, University Medal and first class honours in Logic and Mental Philosophy, Professor Anderson's prize for Philosophy; first class honours in English.
 J. W. G. Powell, third class honours in Philosophy.
 W. Maxwell, second class honours in History.

Faculty of Science.

Second year: W. H. Mason, Deas-Thomson Scholarship and first class honours in Physics.
 H. G. Foxall, Deas-Thomson Scholarship for Geology.

Department of Engineering.

First year: J. W. Bridge, first class honours in Applied Mechanics and first class honours in Descriptive Geometry and Drawing.

J. L. Norman first class honours in Descriptive Geometry and Drawing.

In addition to this list of honours, we note with much pleasure that P. R. Watts, W. Maxwell, J. G. Powell and R. R. Noake have obtained the B. A. degree and R. N. Dart the B. E. degree. W. Viekers also passed the first year's Course in Medicine.

We are also pleased to note in the list of passes at the yearly examination the names of the following students who are ex-pupils of the Girls' Department Edith Sherwood, Adeline Hampton, Lily Dick. Each has succeeded in passing the First Year Arts Examination.

SCHOOL NEWS

Removals

Since last we went to press, the School has lost three of its teachers, Mr Green who for seven years had been associated with the School, has been removed to Girilambone. That Mr Green's work has been thoroughly appreciated was fully testified to, by Messrs Turner Williams and Lasker, at a send off given by the teachers prior to his departure. The Junior boys will remember Mr Green by the good work he did with them before leaving.

Mr. Bellhouse has resigned from the Teaching Profession, and has gone to Coolanban, where he commences new work as a Minister in the Methodist Church.

The boys of Matric. 4 showed their gratitude for Mr Bellhouse's good work and kindly manner by donating him with a suitable present.

Mr. H. Brown who recently had charge of Commercial 3 has been removed to Narrandera. During his long stay of four years at the School he did good work with his class and was a general favourite with his boys. With Mr. Brown's removal the School loses a good teacher and he will be particularly missed for the valuable assistance he had always given in musical matters pertaining to the School.

We wish our old teachers good luck in their new places.

Girls' Swimming Carnival and Club Report.

The Girls' Swimming Carnival proved a great success this year; over 100 girls taking part in the different events which numbered 29.

Events:—Evelyn Yates still holds the Championship of the School with E. Moppett a close second.

Championship under 14: D. Schulze 1, Maggie Voge 2.

Championship under 12: F. Puckeridge 1, E. McMurtree 2.

Championship under 11: Marie Voge 1, G. Cowen 2.

Beginners' races: The following girls were successful:—E. Johnson, N. Rossothem, E. Auerbach, D. Butz, R. Bear, A. Usher, D. Lundin, C. Cowen, M. Pillans, M. Suttan.

Wading races: D. Martin, H. Throusen, E. Llewellyn and H. Simmonds.

20 yds. Flying handicap: (C) M. Storey 1, F. Puckeridge 2; (B) A. Baldick 1, E. Montgomery 2; (A), A. Peters 1, E. Nelson 2.

33 yds. Handicap: (B) Evelyn Yates 1, Lily Yates 2, D. Schulze 3; (A) M. Hassall 1, M. Harding 2, L. Johnson 3.

40 yds. Handicap: Evelyn Yates won in splendid style with Lily Yates second and Hilda Ebsworth third.

25 yds. Handicap: (A) E. McLean 1, L. Johnson 2; (B) M. Harding 1, M. Storey 2; (C) Maggie Voge 1, D. Schulze 2.

Swimming on back: Edie Rea.

Diving Competition: Lily Puckeridge.

Five teams entered for the Relay Handicap, the captains being:—(A) E. Moppett, (B) L. Yates, (C) E. Yates, (D) D. Schulze and (E) L. Puckeridge. (C) team won (E. Yates, C. Cowen, A. Cochrane and M. Hassall); (E) team (L. Puckeridge, O. Clarke, J. Fitzgerald and S. Ball), second.

During the afternoon Mrs. Loftus kindly gave an exhibit of fancy diving which was much appreciated.

The enrolment is now 200 and great progress has been made during the past season. Six members of the club—Edie Rea, Elsie Rea, Alice Cochrane, L. Puckeridge, F. Puckeridge, and E. Moppett, with Miss Kilminster, and Estelle Murray, an ex-member—were successful in gaining certificates from the Life Saving Society. This is very creditable as they had only 2 weeks preparation and there were no failures. Next season this club expects to gain a large number of certificates for Life Saving.

IN THE SUEZ CANAL.

Bird's-eye view of Suez Canal.

Seen from the train, the ships appear to be moving in a slow, unceasing way across the land. In that endless level, the masts and funnels assume magnificent proportions, and stand out sharp and weird against the hot sky. They come up from the desert at one end and zig-zag a course to the other end, following one another continuously, passing one another continuously, and always in silence, as if the great desert threw a dread upon them, powerful enough to still the clattering engines and throbbing screws. They move in cautious silence, as if in a land of sickness and death.

Through the narrow passage pass perpetually the ships of every nation, converging from every point at one end, diverging to every point at the other. They come in from bad weather maybe, the funnels white with salt, but, in the canal, there are no storms, save dust storms; and the only tide the water knows is the lap, lap; on the banks, as passing ships displace it. The sharp light shows the white sails of dhows away on a strip of water to the south. They look like a flock of giant birds resting through the heat. The Arabian coast offers nothing but desert. A dust whirl gathers itself together, and goes



Drawn from copy by W. DONALD (Matric 1.)

scurrying and blundering along, suggesting somehow the efforts of a competitor in a sack race. It stumbles, falls flat, picks itself up disconsolately, and hurries on again, gathering in volume, and then whirls itself into gradual nothingness, or breaks before some miserably stunted bush.

Farther away, mirages dance on the horizon—mirages that resemble broad, cool lakes, with small rocky islands upon them. A heat haze shimmers perpetually over the broad sands; and, by-and-by, out of nowhere, and going nowhere, appears a string of camels.

"Lying up for a Dutchman," grumbles a stalwart quartermaster as the mail-boat draws to one side, and the ropes are carried over to the tie-up post. It is the fifth tie-up since leaving Port Said, and the quartermaster's annoyance is shared by every one else. That His Majesty's mails should be delayed, and one of his boats brought to a stand-still, is bad

enough, but that it should be for a Dutch tramp is rather too much, and derisive cries greet its crew as the boat waddles slowly past. Directly she has passed, there is a wild rush to let go, and the mail-boat moves on, hoping to be the first to sight the next signal-post, and thus have the right of way.

The signal-posts are the most wonderful oases. The red-roofed house, with its white walls and shelter of palms and trees, stands out with such vividness against the background of desert that each comes as a kind of surprise, and passengers crowd to the side eagerly, and discuss the possibility of enduring life under such circumstances.

"Living a hermit's life with the world at one's gate," observed a passenger.

"Scarcely a hermit's life. They call on one another, and have visitors from all parts of the world."

Public opinion, however, is against the desert as a

desirable residence. Then some one cried, "We've stopped again." The motion through the canal is so slight, and the rate of progress so slow, that it is necessary to look at the banks to know if one is moving or not. This time, the tie-up lasted an hour, and the men whose duty it was to look after the ropes on shore fell asleep on the hot, salt sand.

A splendid German liner comes majestically round the bend at last, her huge deck covered with awnings and crowded with people.

"There's Brown on board," exclaimed some one. "I had no idea he was leaving Melbourne. Hey Brown! Hello!"

Brown returns the greeting, and shouts some information concerning one, Smith.

Scarcely has the German boat passed, when the men on shore are wakened by angry shouts and the banging of a well directed bottle.

Slowly night approaches; the hot shimmering desert assumes a faintly pink tinge, the sun floods the ship with a blaze of red light, a string of camels is sharply silhouetted against the clear sky, which varies in tone, through all shades of blue and purple, fading to cold-pale green, and flecked in the west with tiny gold-lined crimson clouds. There is absolute silence on the land, and the lights and the clatter on board-ship life seem garish and cheap in that wide, infinite quiet. The thread of newest and most marvellous civilization, of which the canal itself, the electric lights, the mammoth dredgers, and the perpetual passing ships are part, seems suddenly a very small and ephemeral thing. In the intense contrast between East and West, the East in that dim light with its unchangeableness, its mysterious deserts, its people who are still what they were thousands of years ago, who suggest, in features and bearing, the people of Pharaoh's court and the many tribes of Israel, gains a strange impregnable dignity, which makes the West seem little and mean.

"Ever been on a camel?" asks some one.

"I should say I had; lived on them for years in Western Australia. They're strange brutes."

"A dog's life those wretched Arabs must lead," to another remark; and pennies are thrown across into the sand, where sturdy, half-naked brown children are running and demanding "backsheesh." You saw, in the distance, the kind of place they call a town, a few mud huts, a few date palms, a few ruins, a few camels, and swarms of children, and the only event is a dust storm.

(Abridged from a sketch, by LINO, in *The Melbourne Argus*) taken from VICTORIAN SCHOOL PAPER.

The Suez Canal, opened in 1869, has become the main channel of communication between Europe and the East. It is situated on the Mediterranean Sea, to Suez, on the east coast of Egypt, it has a length of 87 miles, with a surface breadth of 120 yards, and a depth of 25 feet. Of the 87 miles, 21 pass for 21 through the Great Bitter Lake and Lake Timsah. On the average, ten vessels pass through the canal every day, and seven out of every ten are under the British flag.]

POETRY FOR THIRD CLASSES
and on page 10

The Three Wishes.

In every true and noble sense,
Regardless of the consequence,
Dare to do right,
Walk in the light,
In every word, and deed, and thought,
Do always what you know you ought,
Be simply your best self.

Try ne'er to wound by hasty word;
Mercy with Justice should be heard;
Think—then decide.
But never chide.

If you can find a softer tone,
For that may soothe, and that alone,
A heart that's nearly broken.

To every creature, great or small,
And every being that may fall,
Be truly kind
In word and mind,
Whatever lives must need your care;
So give of love unstinting share—
Self coming always last.

J. PENDLEBURY.

THE HARVEST HOME.

Another point dealing with wheat which goes to show the abundant increase this year in bulk is extracted from a letter to Mr. Hayes dated 18th January. For a week ended 16th instant there was received at Darling Harbour and Darling Island a total of 150,713 bags of wheat compared with 25 bags for the same week of the previous year—an increase of 150,688 bags; since the beginning of the season. On the 1st December there have been received 577,401 as against 742 bags for the previous year—an increase of 576,659 bags.

Wool: Dealing with the wool I will attempt to show by figures the increase in this line:—

Arrivals by rail to date	819,559 bales.
... .. Sea	66,931 ...

... .. 1st July	386,540
Same period last year	377,855

Increase 8,685

Offered in Sydney to date	265,942 ...
Same period 1902-3	233,331 ...

Increase 32,611 ...

Sold in Sydney to date	256,837 ...
Same period 1902-3	230,251 ...

Date 18th Jan. 1904. Increase 26,586 ...

Batter has also risen in bulk this year. The following figures will show that in 1902—23,629 boxes were exported as against 152,022 boxes in 1903—an increase of 128,393 boxes. The next exhibit brought under notice was flour. This product was well represented by three firms, that of Brunton & Co. with their Royal Patent Steel Roller Flour, Gillespie's and McCorquodales.

Following on we came to Evans & Co.'s exhibit of egg pulp. This pulp is without shell and is mixed with lime and water. It is stored in bottles and thus kept airtight till the pulp is ready for use.

Then we came to the Compressed Fodder Co.'s exhibit of Meadow Sweet. This company is in course of formation. Two brokers for promoting the company are A. B. Pursell and Co 105 Pitt St. and A. Hall & Co. 137 Sussex St. This is a new mode of saving freight. It would be particularly useful in time of war. Being a mixture of chaff, lucerne, bran, oats, pollard and corn, it is a nutritious and luxurious meal for cattle. The compressed fodder is a good idea and deserves the attention of merchants and those interested therein. In the centre of the Dayroom was a first class exhibit from the Hawkesbury Agricultural College. It comprised preserved fruits such as prunes, Japanese plums, pears, apricots, and peaches. A small quantity of mixed fruits was also preserved.

Underneath the table upon which the fruits were, large vegetables were exhibited, such as pumpkins.

Cotton was also exhibited on the same platform and it came from Cockle Creek, Newcastle.

Another exhibit of use to carpenters was that of Australasian timber by E. D. Pike & Co. Australian teak, red mahogany, black butt, spotted gum, black, brown, and white box, forest oak, red honeysuckle, tallow wood, black bean, blue and grey gum, red cedar, grey ironbark, ti tree, flooded gum and silky oak.

This programme of exhibits and increases was also backed up by the gold yield which has, like the other products, or the little coral insect, increased its work day by day and hour by hour. Figures will show, the gold has increased a little over half that of the previous year.

Now that we come to a leap year I wish that these exhibitions and increases may make a bigger leap than ever, but in praise of the "Harvest Home" I conclude that it was a capital idea, well carried into effect, and we must thank God for the bountiful blessing he has bestowed so richly upon "Our Land."

Class News.

The various institutions in connection with the Matric. 3 class are now in full swing.

The News Cutting Book is now well worth reading. Great numbers of cuttings have been brought in since the vacation. The monitors in charge wish to thank

the various subscribers, and trust they will continue to keep this matter in mind.

The book is at the disposal of the school. Although Geography is not one of our subjects, our supply of maps, shipping guides etc., is very complete, while our collection of pictures of geographical interest of which we will shortly finish the classifying and arrangement, numbers about a thousand. These also may be consulted by any of our school mates.

Our New Geometry note book contains many interesting exercises on paper folding etc. with full instructions as to same. This is principally the work of R. Nichols. The Magazine Library of useful information now includes a hundred volumes. We have marked, classified and indexed the various articles of interest so that our school fellows can easily consult same if they so desire. Upwards of 50 valuable specimens comprise our Geological Collection (which has only been in existence three weeks.) We have made all the trays for the specimens ourselves and have had many interesting chats about the various rocks.

In connection with our work in History, each boy has had allotted to him a subject for a historical essay, together with the names of certain works of reference. These essays are read to and discussed by the class, and afterwards type-written and filed on our Pilot File for future reference.

Our various subject-monitors are doing excellent work. Our Beresford notes are very complete, our stock of sentences for Latin Composition grows apace, while the individual assistance given by these lads in mathematical work is invaluable.

Our timber specimens are not yet arranged, but we have in hand every variety of commercial timber as well as many fancy ones, in all about 60.

Every boy has now completed his graph of the temperature and humidity from the beginning of the quarter to date, while we also have in hand a graph of current prices of Colonial products. W. Lenegar has this in charge.

While placing our institutions at the disposal of the school we would be thankful for assistance from members of other classes.

Signed: J. Jacobson, L. Fitzpatrick, A. Fitzmaurice, "Fortian" Reporters.

[Reports of this kind from other classes are invited for publication in the "Fortian" E.I.]

Football.

The New South Wales Rugby Union has arranged a match between Fort Street School and the famous Te Anau College team from New Zealand. The match is to be played on Sydney the Cricket Ground on June 25th, immediately before the great match between England and New South Wales. All boys who wish to have the honour of playing for the school in this important match must train regularly, and learn as much as possible from the gentlemen who will coach the team.

1904

SPORTING COLUMN

CRICKET CLUB
ANNUAL REPORT

The Annual Meeting of the Cricket Club for the season 1903-4 was held on 9th October 1903, Mr. Lasker in being the Chair. Mr. Roberts read the secretary and treasurer's reports for the preceding half-year. These were adopted. Mr. Ferguson was elected Secretary, Mr. Roberts Assistant Secretary, and Mr. Mackness Treasurer for the ensuing season. The Club sustained a distinct loss by the removal of Mr. Roberts after the Christmas Vacation. The past season has been the most successful in the history of the club. The membership was 317. Every class in the school, with the exception of the lower second classes, was represented in the club. Thirty-seven class matches have been played, every match being supervised by a teacher. Among the fifth classes, the most successful were Matriculation 1 and Matriculation 2, both of whom remained unbeaten. 4C showed best cricket among the fourth classes, while 3F proved themselves the champions of the third classes. Three matches have been played by the First Eleven, against Chalmer's Church, Windsor, and the Old Boys. The best batting performances in these matches were those of Morgan, who secured an average of 41. His highest score was 69 not out. Maxwell secured the bowling average with 4.7 runs per wicket.

The conduct of boys on the cricket field has been very satisfactory, and it is hoped that this record will be maintained in the future.

In conclusion the Cricket Club wish to thank Mr. Turner and Mr. Williams for the facilities afforded the boys for getting away to play cricket, and also the various teachers who have from time to time undertaken to supervise matches and act as umpires.

Treasurer's Balance Sheet
1903-'04

Carried Forward from Last Year	£3 : 5 : 3
317 Subscriptions at 6d	£7 : 18 : 6
	Total
	£11 : 3 : 9
	Expenditure
	8 : 11 : 7
	Balance in hand
	2 : 12 : 2

FOOTBALL CLUB.
ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting of the Football Club was held in the Main Room on Thursday March 24th. Mr. Turner was in the chair. There was a large attendance, over three hundred boys being present. Mr. Turner addressed the Meeting. He said he was a great lover of Rugby himself and he hoped to see a successful year for the School Club. He urged the boys to make themselves proficient in the science of

football, to study and practise all the points of the game and to rely on skill rather than strength to win their matches. In the election of officers Mr. Ferguson was re-elected secretary for the Football Season and Mr. McKean was elected Treasurer. Turner and Maxwell of the Senior Class and Homersham of Matriculation 3, were elected as a boys' committee to assist the officers of the Club. The subscription to the Football Club is 6d. a member. Every boy should endeavour to join. All classes this year have been divided into four competitions. In the First Competition the competing classes will be Seniors, Public Service, Matric. 1 Matric. 2 Com. 1 and Com. 2. The Second Competition will be between Matrics. 3, 4 and 5, Com 3, 4 and 4D. In the Third Competition 4C, 4B, 4A and Matric. 5 (second team) will play. The Fourth Competition will be for Upper Third Classes in which 3G, 3F, 3E, and 3D, will play. Trophies will be awarded to the winning team in each competition. Arrangements have been made with an experienced first-class footballer to give coaching lessons at the school. Only classes which have full teams will be allowed this privilege.

Competition Rules.

1. No boy will be allowed to play until he has paid his subscription.
2. Two Rounds will be played in each competition except competition 2.
3. A win will count two points, a draw one point and defeat nothing.

Competition I.

FIRST ROUND.

- Matric. 1 v Seniors and Public Service.
 Matric. 2 v Com. and Com.1 & 2
 Matric. 1 v Matric. 2
 C. 1 and C. 2 v Seniors and Public Service.
 Matric 1 v C 1. and C. 2.
 Matric 2 v Seniors and Public Service

Comps. II

III

IV

M. 5 v C. 4	4C v 4A	3F v 3G
4 D v M. 3	M5 (ii) v 4B	3D v 3E
C. 3 v M. 4	4C v 4B	
M. 5 v M. 3	M5 (ii) v 4A	3F v 3D
4 D v M. 4	4C v M5 (ii)	3G v 3E
C 4 v C. 3	4A v 4B	3F v 3E
M. 5 v M. 4		3D v 3G
4 D v C. 3		
M. 3 v C. 4		
M. 5 v C. 3		
C4 v 4D		
M3 v M4		
M5 v 4D		
C4 v M4		
M3 v C3		

AT THE SYDNEY SHOW.

An exhibit from Fort-street Cookery Dept. was entered at the Agricultural Society's Show which opened on 29th. March. The exhibit which comprised bottles of jams and jellies and bottles of preserves was the work of the students in training at the Fort-street Cookery School, and the Cake which tops the stand was made and iced by Misses Hart and Smith, the two senior students. The stand on which the jams etc. were arranged was draped with red and white—School colours—and the cake bore the school shield and motto. Mr. Lockley kindly planned and supervised the making of the stand which answered the purpose admirably. The thanks of the Cookery Dept. are due to Mr. Webster, Sec. of the Agricultural Society, for the splendid position he granted them for the exhibit free of cost, also to Henry Berry and Co of York Street who donated the shield for the cake and to Mr Lockley and his boys for making the stand.

The Life Saving Society.

The Life Saving Society is one that is worthy of our sympathy and assistance. It was established in 1891 to promote the knowledge of life saving and of restoring those apparently drowned and to create greater interest in swimming, diving etc. as a means to saving life. The King, Prince of Wales, Admiral Beresford and other leading Englishmen are actively connected with this Society.

The course of instruction consists in practising in the water the various methods of rescuing those in danger of drowning from cramps or inability to swim; the methods of releasing oneself from the clutch of a drowning person and the method of restoring those who are apparently dead from drowning, suffocation etc.; a knowledge of respiration and circulation is also imparted.

The various methods are taught as land-drill and are then practised in the water. Fast swimming is not indispensable. For this work, we need rather strong swimming, especially on the breast and back, (with and without using the arms whilst on the back.)

Early in February a class was formed in connection with the School's Swimming Club. It was divided into a senior division for those about 16 years of age and a junior for the younger members. After a few drills on land, the class went to the various baths for practical work.

As far as is known this is the largest class put through

and Fort Street has the honour of gaining the first junior certificate issued in the Southern Hemisphere. The class was so large that the examination necessarily took a long time and it is gratifying to the School that our boys succeeded so well at the examination. The Examiner D. A. Ekland Esq., spoke in very high terms of the splendid work of the class especially in land drill and he said that it was the best squad that he had ever examined.

Out of 24 candidates for the senior certificate all passed and 22 out of 23 juniors passed; that is 46 out of 50, the remaining 4 passed in land drill.

The following have passed—for senior certificate:—C. Smith, C. Ross, L. Bonifoot, S. Martin, J. Hunter, N. Griffiths, F. Rogers, C. Dennis, P. Hallett, A. Gamm, W. Donald, R. Lewis, F. Hardwick, H. Evans, A. Linsley, C. Duff, E. Brown, W. Given, A. Homersham, R. Turnhill, A. Murray, H. Hardwick, L. Armstrong, E. Espenhahn. For junior certificates:—R. Stewart, S. Rowley, T. Morrison, E. Allars, E. Telfer, R. Abrams, L. Fearon, A. Sutton, B. Carver, G. Halloran, W. Percival, A. Nelson, N. Macnamara, R. Marks, C. Todd, S. Paterson, E. Smith, W. Wylie, H. Rawlinson, E. Scott, L. Stafford, E. Rosenblom.

The certificates gained by the senior boys have been presented, but the junior boys will have to wait for a month or two.

A Squad consisting of C. Smith, C. Ross, F. Hardwick, and A. Linsley, competed for the Roth Shield and after five days' practice got fourth place. This is creditable.

Three squads from the juniors gave a display at our Carnival and the Senior boys supplied three for the Public Schools' Carnival. The utility of the instruction has been practically demonstrated by at least two of the class, C. Smith and W. Wylie, who rescued persons from drowning. The usefulness is recognised by Mr. Turner, who gave every facility for carrying out the work.

Mr. Johnston who has charge of the Life Saving Club announces that three classes will be formed in January 1905, one for those who have the senior certificate and wish to win the medallion; the second for those going for the senior certificate and the other for juniors. Those who intend to join should practise swimming on the breast and back. The fee for joining any class will be a shilling. Before examination those who wish to be examined for a certificate will pay sixpence more and those for the medallion, 1/6. The work is recommended to all those who do not know it as it may be the means of rescuing a human being from drowning.

Weather Map.

The boys of Commercial III Class have been busy lately drawing up a weather map to show the maximum and minimum temperatures of the principal towns situated on the coast, the tablelands and in the interior. In addition the rainfall and reading of the barometer are shown as well as the directions of winds. It is the intention of the boys to keep the map up to date, each day's recordings corresponding to the results obtained by the Government Meteorologist the previous day.

We would urge boys to make a record of these daily observations and check the Meteorologists' averages of temperature and rainfall by their own. Special praise is due to Taylor, Grimsley, Thomas and Olding for the neat way in which the map is drawn up.

SELECTED POETRY FOR SECOND
CLASSES.

The Sunbeams and The Raindrops.

See the little, pearly drops,
Drops of falling rain!
How they hide the sunbeam's face!
But he'll come again.

Come to bring us heat and light
From his home above,
Come to fill the world with joy,
Beauty, life, and love.

Oh! the little pearly drops,
Drops of falling rain!
How they swell the tender buds
And the golden grain.

When the Raindrops swell the buds
Sunbeams come to peep,
Throw their glittering, golden shafts,
Wake the buds from sleep.

Soon the Raindrops come again,
Chase the beams away,
Chase them till they hide their heads
Behind the shadows gray.

Not for long do Sunbeams hide,
Soon they peep again,
Burst in beauty on the world,
Chase away the rain.

Oh! we love the pearly drops
And the Sunbeams too!
And I know that Sun and Shower,
Both of them, love you.

By Si'a.

Cradle Song.

Sleep, my baby, while as yet,
Moon may rise and sun may set;
Blest thou naught of beam or ray,
Blossom bright, or woodland way.
Sleep, my darling, sleep and grow,

All these fair things shalt thou know.
Thou shalt see the clear blue sky,
And the sun that rises high
Over meadows fresh and green.
Where the golden cups are seen:
There, heart's treasure, shalt thou play,
Glad in brasses of early day.

Notes of joy above thee sound
Song of praise be all around.
Softly murmur stream and tree,
While thy mother kisseth thee.

Darling, sleep, and grow apace,
From my arms, as resting place,
Glad and calm on shalt thou know
When the sun is sinking low,
And at rest lie field and dale,
Lulled by song of nightingale.

Shines the moon, so clear and pale,
Sweetly sings the nightingale,
Sweetly sings to thee and me,
And the flowers asleep we see.
Then I fold thy small hands, dear,
Saying, sweet one, God is here.

God is where the bright stars glow,
And where lowly violets grow,
Where the bird soars high and free,
And where soft I cradle thee.
All things whisper, far and near,
See, sweet maiden, God is here.

E. I. J. PALIN.

FOR THIRD CLASSES.

Mother And Son.

It is not yours, O mother, to complain,
Not, mother, yours to weep,
Though nevermore your son again
Shall to your bosom creep,
Though nevermore again you watch your baby sleep.

Though in the greenest paths of earth
Mother and child, no more
We wander; and no more the birth
Of me, whom once you bore,
Seems still the brave reward that once it seemed of
yours;

Though as all passes, day and night,
The seasons and the years,
From you, O mother, this delight,
This also disappears —
Some profit yet survives of all your pangs and tears

The child, the seed, the grain of corn,
The acorn on the hill,
Each for some separate end is born
In season fit, and still
Each must in strength arise to work the Almighty
will.

So from the hearth the children flee,
By that almighty hand
Austerely led; so one by sea
Goes forth, and one by land;
Nor naught of all men's sons escapes from that
command.

So from the sally each obeys
The unseen almighty nod;
So till the ending all their ways
Blind-folded loth have trod:
Nor knew their task at all, but were the tools of God.

And as the fervent smith of yore
Beat out the glowing blade,
Nor wielded in the front of war
The weapons that he made,
But in the tower at home still plied his ringing trade;

So like a sword the son shall roam
On nobler missions sent;
And as the smith remained at home
In peaceful turret pent,
So sits the while at home the mother well content.

R. L. STEVENSON.

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SYDNEY, TUESDAY JUNE, 21st. 1904.

Price 1d.

The Fortian.

Dr. William Bland.
PATRIOT and PHILANTHROPIST.

Bland is a county in the southern division of the eastern slope of New South Wales, and its chief town Temora. Bland is the name also of a great Federal Electorate in this State. Few people nowadays regret, however, that these designations enshrine the memory of one whom Australia once delighted to honour; of one to whom all honour was due; of one of whom highest recognition was only hard-won and from a nation's sense of gratitude. The faint sparks of Australian racehood were kindled and fanned into flame by the courage, the devotion and the genius of three men of sterling culture and the best intellectual gifts—Wentworth, Bland, Wardell.

Dr. William Bland was not the least conspicuous of the trio, either in character or ability; but he was overshadowed by the tremendous personality of William Charles Wentworth, as was also his other coadjutor, Dr. Wardell. It is a remarkable fact that Bland, Wentworth's senior by four years, passed away four years ere the Australian leader's span of life was completed; each of these great members of

the "Patriot's Association" dying in his seventy-ninth year, in the consciousness that the full measure of civil and political privileges, such as were enjoyed by their fellow subjects in other parts of the British Empire, had been extended, with the precious right of self government, to the people of Australia. It has been said that in his declining years Wentworth was more Tory than Liberal; but this may have been but the inevitable effort of the passage of time—which has ever a conservative influence upon men of great intellectual powers whose youth has been one of aggressive and purposeful action. It must be remembered also that Bland and Wardell were Englishmen. They had not Wentworth's national passion for his country. The great Australian hailed the discovery of gold as an event of profoundest import, precipitating Australia into a nation, as he himself rather flamboyantly phrased it. Now this very discovery brought to Australia the brawn and the brain of the Old World and the New; and it is conceivable that the old warrior for the achievement of the civil and political freedom of his friends, the "Emancipists," looked with no kindly eye on the invading hordes who came to reap a harvest they had not sown, to husk from the soil the men who had borne the heat and the burden of the day; who had won to sovereignty through the throes of servitude;

whom the new world despised, in a sweeping generalisation of contempt, as the "native-born." This, in all probability, had a vast deal to do with Wentworth's gradual disillusioning, in his successive surrender of the dreams and ideals of his rapturous and impulsive youth. Dr. Wardell lived only long enough to view, like Moses, the borders of the promised land from the heights of a prophetic Pisgah. He died by violence in the year 1814, half a lifetime's work arrears of his conferees.

It has been said that genius or marked talent is the flower of a lineage, which, like the aloe, blooms only once in an enormous lapse of time. Nature is, however, sometimes lavish, and pours out a perfect cornucopia of intellectual gifts on the different members of some one peculiarly favoured family. Of such were the Bachs, the Darwins, the Stephensons, the Napiers, the Rossettis, the Dumas and the Lyttons, among others. From such a family, as ancient as honorable, sprang William Bland. Many of his name and race had achieved distinction. Carlyle has included the subject of this article in an exhaustive "History of the Family of Bland," published in 1825. His father, Robert Bland the elder, who was born in 1739 and died in 1816, was the son of an attorney at King's Lynn, and a Doctor of Medicine at St. Andrew's University. This Bland won a high reputation in certain branches of medical practice, and was engaged to write all the articles connected with his special subject for Rees's "Cyclopedia." To the "Philosophical Transactions" he contributed statistical tables and calculations on the chances of the duration of human life, and other questions affecting longevity. He published also two volumes of proverbs taken from the "Adagia" (or *adages*) of Erasmus, with explanations, and illustrated by examples from the Spanish, the Italian, the French and the English languages. Such was William Bland's father. His brother Robert, some ten years his senior, was a famous classical scholar who, leaving Cambridge, was appointed an assistant master at Harrow's great public school. In his day he was highly esteemed for his pedagogic and classical attainments. Even now his "Elements in Latin Hexameters and Pentameters" are respectfully referred to by scholars. He was an extensive translator of the Greek poets; and, in conjunction with Miss Plumptre, translated the "Memoirs of Baron de Grimm." He also gave England a translation in two volumes of "Diderot." As an original author, Robert Bland the younger has to his credit a volume of poems bearing the title of "Edwy and Elgiva," and a poetical romance, "The Four Slaves of Cythera." Byron thought so highly of Robert Bland that he complimented him in the well-known satire, "English Bards and Scottish Reviewers," as one of the authors of the "Greek Anthology."

William Bland, the distinguished son of a distinguished family, was born in London, on November 5th

1739. He was educated at the Merchant Tailors' School, although his name does not appear in the Rev. C. J. Robinson's register of that institution. Destined as he was from an early age to follow the medical profession, his gifted father was his instructor in medicine and surgery, and no better could he have had. Young Bland, however, also attended the lectures of the most distinguished professors of the day in anatomy, physiology, and general pathology, and, when scarcely nineteen years of age, was admitted, at an examination held by the Royal College of Surgeons, for the naval medical service. On the 9th January, 1809, he was classed as a surgeon of the fifth-rate grade, and soon afterwards received an appointment in the Royal Navy.

The vessel to which he was assigned was under order to sail to Bombay. Bland was an impetuous fiery youth; and, like most young men of the period, held exalted ideas of his personal honour. Of an energetic physique and a sudden temper, and generously courageous, he was quick to resent whatsoever appeared to him to smack of insult or a front. During the voyage some misunderstanding arose between the young surgeon and the ship's purser. As the vessel neared the Persian Gulf the ill-feeling swiftly culminated in a regrettable quarrel. According to the custom of the time and the social status of the aggrieved, there was but one way in which wounded honour could be restored to health. A duel was arranged, and took place as soon as the ship made land. In the combat the purser was fatally wounded, and a certain Lieutenant William Randall insinuated a charge of unfairness as to Bland's conduct in the affair. This led to a second duel. Neither of the combatants was hurt; but both were afterwards arrested, and upon being tried at Calcutta were sentenced to seven years' transportation. The young surgeon was exiled to Sydney, where he arrived in 1814, being then only twenty-five years of age. Macquarie was Governor of the Colony at the time, and methods of merciful administration were the order of the day. Seven or eight months after landing under the ban of sentence, William Bland began to practise his profession as a doctor, a free pardon having in the meantime been granted to him—at the instance no doubt of his influential friends and relatives in England.

Governor Lachlan Macquarie was Colonel of the 73rd Regiment of Foot; and, as befitted a soldier and an officer, he was very punctilious; as befitted a governor of a penal settlement of the time, he was very pragmatical. A good man, an earnest man, and anxious to do his best for the people under his charge, he could never overlook or ignore a slight to his dignity or an offence against his sense of personal honour. As a mere man he might acknowledge a fault; as a governor, never. He read the sacredness of the Ten Commandments into his Excellency's

Orders in Council, and regarded himself as the exclusive and peculiar Providence of the settlement, the head-quarters of which was his own private office. He was thoroughly well-disposed to his subjects, treated them candidly towards good, and punished them like a stern parent for the commission of evil. "My principle is," he wrote, "that when once a man is free, his former state should no longer be remembered, or allowed to act against him; let him then feel himself eligible for any situation which he has, by a long term of upright conduct, proved himself worthy of filling." He made, therefore, magistrates of the freed men, insisted upon their practising as lawyers, invited them to his table, and invited the haughty "Exclusivists" to meet them. Humane, kindly, vain and autocratic, the Governor was in continual hot-water.

SCHOOL CONCERT.

The special attention of our boys and girls and of our large clientele, represented by fathers and mothers of pupils and friends, is directed to the announcement in this issue of our School Concert to be held in the Sydney Town Hall on Thursday Evening, June 23rd. Hitherto we have been content to make an appeal in aid of school funds once in the year. In asking our supporters for their patronage on two occasions this year we desire to point out that additional expense will be incurred by the school in inaugurating the new scheme of instruction.

Our main object in giving this concert is to provide funds for equipping a laboratory for the teaching of elementary science. We have long wished to include so valuable a branch of learning in our curriculum, and if we are successful in this appeal to our friends we intend to place a complete course on our teaching programmes for the next half year. Should the concert prove successful beyond expectation some of the funds will be reserved for the purchase of honour boards, works for the library, a printing press, a piano for the boys' school.

The programme it will be noticed consists of two parts—music and displays.

In Part I a school choir of about 200 boys and girls will render part-songs. The choir has been practising most assiduously for some weeks, and from those capable of judging we hear that the singing will be well up to its usual standard. The school songs will be accompanied by a professional orchestra. On this occasion the pupils will be assisted by the well known artists Miss Violet Mount (soprano) Mr. Sid Shipway (comic) and the gentlemen Sydney Choristers. Part II consists of eight displays. We can promise our patrons that these items will excel anything before attempted by our gifted pupils.

We have now stated our reasons for this appeal, and we look forward hopefully to a hearty response.

A Trip Up The Parramatta River.

On Saturday the 21st May, 3B Class accompanied by their teacher left the foot of Margaret St. in a launch specially provided, on a most interesting trip up the Parramatta River. We passed most of the wharves and bays, which were pointed out to us by a boy who knew the way well. Soon after passing Darling St. wharf, we noticed Fern Bay and Goat Island on which the Harbour Master's residence is situated. Near Fern Bay the Colonial Oil Company's Bond is situated. Then we passed the beautiful and thriving suburb of Drummoyne. Hunter's Hill is another very pretty place and is thickly planted with trees. After passing under Parramatta Bridge we came to Abbotsford where thousands of people go to see the boat races which end at Searle's Monument. The next place of any importance we passed was Cabarita, a favourite picnic resort. Near Mortlake are large coke works. We landed at Ryde, and after a few healthy games enjoyed a pleasant repast that the parents provided. We then went on board and on our way home landed two of the party at Hunter's Hill, the rest were landed at Circular Quay after a pleasant homeward journey.

Thomas Cranich and A. Cullaghan.

Absent Friends.

Chazel, late of 4C, who is on his way to America sends us a cheery little letter which we publish. His classmates will be glad to read his diary of the voyage.

S. S. Sonoma.
At Sea, May 9. b 1904.

Dear Sir,

I was very sorry when I left the old school where I had received part of my education. I always had a good teacher and a good master and I hope I shall find another one in America. As soon as I arrive in "Prisco" Mr. Tillbrook will receive a copy of my diary and I will tell you how I get on in the school over there. Thanking you for your past kindness.

I remain,

your late pupil
A. Chazel.
AUSTRALASIA.

Land of my birth! tho' now alas! no more
Musing I wander on thy sea-girt shore,
Or climb with eager haste thy barrier cliff,
To catch a glimmer of the distant skiff,
That ever and anon breaks into light,
And then again eludes the aching sight,
Till, nearer seen, she bends her foaming way
Majestic onward to yon placid bay,
Where Sydney's infant turrets proudly rise,
The new-born glory of the southern skies:—
Dear Australasia, can I ever forget
Thee, Mother Earth? Ah no, my heart e'en yet
With filial fondness loves to call to view
Scenes which, though oft remember'd, still are new:
Scenes where my playful childhood's thoughtless years
Flaw'd swift away, despite of childhood's tears:
Where later, too, in manhood's opening bloom,
The tangled brake, th' eternal forest's gloom,
The wonted brook, where with some truant mate
I love, to plunge, or ply the treacherous bait;
The spacious harbour with its hundred coves,
And fairy islets—seats of savage loves,
Again I behold—raptur'd with deeper dye
The fading image of my infancy:
And shall I now, by Cam's old classic stream,
Dare bear to sing, and thou propos'd the theme?
Thy native bard, though on a foreign strand,
Shall I be mute, and see a stranger's hand
Attune the lyre, and, prescient of thy fame,
Foretell the glories that shall grace thy name?
Perbid it, all ye Nine! 'twere shame to thee,
My Austral parent: greater shame to me.

Proud Queen of isles! Thou sittest vast, alone,
A host of vassals bending round thy throne:
Like some fair swan that skims the silver tide,
Her silken cygnets straw'd on every side,
So floatest thou, thy Polynesian brood
Dispers'd around thee on thy Ocean flood,
While ev'ry surge that doth thy bosom lave,
Salutes thee "Empress of the Southern Wave."

Say, Muse, when first of Europe's roving train
Burst on De Quiros' sight this island main,
What golden visions rose to fancy's view,
The towns he plunder'd, and the hosts he slew;
How on all sides the argent tripods shone,
And temples richer than Peruvia's sun;
Till ay-rice glow'd, while busy thoughts unfurl'd
The imag'd treasures of the new-found world:
'Twas then triumphant Hope, thy power confess'd,
Hush'd the rude tongue and calm'd the mourning
Lament:

Then still'd sedition's luzz, each contrite soul
With awe and gladness hail'd a chief's control,
And ev'ry peril, ev'ry hardship past,
Seem'd to have found full recompense at last.
Say, too, what terror fix'd the natives' eye,
When first they saw, emerging from the sky,
That stranger lark in sullen silence sweep,
A wrathful spirit o'er the troubled deep,
Tracing with giant stride the subject wave,
The wind his herald, and the tide his slave,—
While onward stalking in terrific state
He loom'd portentful of impending fate,
Yet vain the dream of those, the dread of, these:—
For lo! at length arriv'd with favouring breeze,
De Quiros' self directs the straining oar,
And leaps the foremost on the untrod shore—
Follows his land: but dark on ev'ry side
Repulsive forests frown with path untried;
While from the hidden foe the frequent spear
Sweeps through their ranks, and wakes unwonted
fear;

'Till struck with awe, they cease the hopeless chase,
And to the ship their sullen course retrace.
Ye primal tribes, lords of this old domain,
Swift-footed hunters of the pathless plain,
Unshackled wanderers, enthusiasts free,
Pure native sons of savage liberty,
Who hold all things in common,—earth, sea, air,—
Or only occupy the nightly lair
Wherewith each sleeps: who own no chieftain's power
Save his, that's mightiest at the passing hour:
Say—whence your ancient lineage, what your name,
And from what shores your rough forefathers came?
Untutor'd children, fresh from Nature's mould,
No songs have ye to trace the times of old:—
No hidden themes like these employ your care,
For you enough the knowledge that ye are:—
Let Learning's sons, who would this secret scan,
Unlock its mystic caskets if they can,—
To your unletter'd tastes are sweeter far
The dance of battle, and the song of war,
'Mid hostile ranks the deadly spear to throw,
Or see the foeman stagg'ring 'neath your blow:—
To you, ye sable hunters, sweeter, too,
To spy the track of bounding kangaroo,
Or long-neck'd emu:—quick with eager gaze
His path you follow thro' the tangled maze.
O'er boundless wilds your panting game pursue,
And come, like trusty hounds, at last in view:
Then creeping round her, soon the forest's pride
Is hemm'd with bristly spears that pierce her side;
And now, the labours of the chase being o'er,
And Nature's keen suggestions heard no more,
In uncouth numbers, seated in a ring,
Your ancient fathers' warlike feats ye sing,
Or striking each his shield, with clatt'ring lance,
The early night exhaust in Pyrrhic dance.

Such, mountain sons of freedom, your delight,
Such your rude sport by day, your mirth by night;
Nor would you these few savage joys forego,
For all the comforts all the arts bestow.
What, if at times the barren chase deny
The scanty fare your niggard wilds supply?
What, if to-day ye miss your sylvan feast?
To-morrow's meal shall then derive a zest,
Unknown to those who live in slothful ease,—
Child of the beach, the mountain, and the breeze.
What, if the wintry blast and pelting rain
Howl through the woods and inundate the plain?
To some near cave ye fly, which, jutting o'er,

Wards from your naked limbs the droning show'r:
 While kindled faggots soon with crackling sound
 Dispel the gloom and scatter warmth around,
 And, nestling close each to his sister's love,
 Yestern guardless of the storm above,
 Hadst thou, old cynic, seen this unclad crew,
 Hadst thou their bare bodies in the nightly dew,
 Struck their bare bodies in the nightly dew,
 Like hairy Satyr, 'midst their sylvan seats,
 Eodur, both winter's frosts and summer's heats:
 Thy cloak and tub' away thou would'st have cast,
 And tried, like them, to brave the piercing blast.

W. C. Wentworth

GIRLS' NEWS.

C. At the last Class Examination Gladys Silverton beat Dot Butz by 5 marks—This is the first time in 3 years that Dot has not come top in her exam. Julia Barrett gained a prize for the best out of three spelling "Bees."

B. At the monthly Examination Vera Fitzgerald came top, 88 per cent. Lottie Teap, Winifred Irvine and Millie Hewlett got 86 per cent and Winnie Mostyn 85 per cent.

B. At the recent monthly Examination, Bella Drake, Renee Drake, C. Walther, M. Copp, V. Mostyn, and B. Spencer came at the head of the class named. The girls of this class spent a most enjoyable afternoon at the Zoo, on Tuesday 7th inst. They arrived at the Zoo about 1.15 and after a pleasant picnic lunch, the inspection of the animals filled in an hour so very profitably, and proved instructive and amusing. The map under each animal showing clearly in what parts of the world the animal in question was to be found, is a great addition and improvement. Fine weather prevailed, and games, and "rides on the Elephant" formed a pleasant break. After watching the feeding of the animals at 4 o'clock we returned to the Quay soon after 5 o'clock, tired, but with many pleasing recollections.

We are pleased to be able to note the promotion of Miss Cole B. A. who has left this school to take up her position as assistant at Wagga. The Matriculation Class, with whom Miss Cole has been associated for many years, subscribed and presented her with a gold chain as a memento, at the same time expressing their sorrow at her departure. Miss Cole also received a jewel box and a cut glass silver mounted pin tray from her fellow teachers. We wish Miss Cole every success in her new place.

1904 JUNIOR.

At the 1904 University Junior Examination, held on June 7th and following days, the Model Public School, Fort Street, was represented by 131 candidates—76 boys and 55 girls—by far the largest number sent up in any one year. On Friday afternoon, June 3rd the main room was literally packed with girls and boys of the Fifth Classes, who had met to express hearty good wishes for the success of their

classmates in the following week. A nice little programme of music and recitation was rendered to the great satisfaction of the large audience. A small choir sang the Fort Street Song of Praise, one of the items in the School Concert which takes place on Thursday Evening, 2nd June: Miss Reulston contributed a song; the Misses Kingsbury, Johestone, Dilling, and Powe gave recitations; the French Glee Club was heard in two of their favourite pieces; Rhodes played a pianoforte solo and Morgan a violin solo. Many were the expressions of good will from present members of the Staff, from past members, and from old boys. Class prizes were presented to Hunter, Turner, Godson, Hallett, and Lloyd. Mr. Lasker, who has started on an educational tour received a most enthusiastic send-off from the boys and girls. The singing of Auld Lang Syne and the National Anthem brought to a close a very pleasing function.

The Football Club.

The keen interest anticipated in this season's football is being fully realized in all classes. The competitions under the efficient supervision of Mr. Ferguson have been started with great satisfaction. The various teachers have unselfishly refereed in the competition matches, open and pleasant games being provided. Every week sees contingents leave for the Sports' Ground and Birchgrove. The recognition by the Rugby Union of the football in the school is fully appreciated. Our competitions are recognized as belonging to one district under the Union rules. A grant of ten guineas has been set aside to provide trophies for the winners of each competition. The school will also be provided for the rest of the season with the necessary footballs.

The season of the representative team opened with the annual Old Boys' match at Birchgrove, Thursday May 2nd. A keen contest is always guaranteed in this fixture, and this year's match was no exception ending in a well-earned victory for the Old Boys by 15 to 3. Abbot obtained the only try for the school. The play all round showed promise, especially in view of the following match against the Training College. Determined to alter the scores of last year's match the school contested every inch of the game. The weight of the students was well withstood, the first half ending with the score 7 to nil in the school's favour. In the second half the game was well contested. The game ended in favour of the school by 13-12 Abbot's goal kicking was splendid. Hardwick also played well.

At present the first fifteen is being shown great attention. The officials of the Union were approached as to arranging a match against the visiting New Zealand team from Te Aute College. Members selected for the match on the 15th June should get all the practice possible.

OBEDIENCE.

Peter was a French labourer. He was sober and frugal, and, by careful management, had been able to buy the cottage in which he lived in one of the suburbs of a large town. It was a small cottage built of stone, with a red-tiled roof, and with climbing plants. In the little space around the house, Peter and his wife made a good garden.

They had occupied their little home for several years before the war between France and Germany broke out in 1870. Then Peter was called out to serve in the army; for he had been a soldier before, and now every man who had been trained to fight was needed. As a gunner, he had won fame in the shooting contests.

The town where Peter lived had fallen into the hands of the Germans, and the people had fled; but the French guns were pounding away at it, from a fort on the higher ground across the river, trying to drive out those of the enemy who had taken possession of it.

Peter was a gunner at that fort, and, one wintry day he was standing by his gun, when General Noël (*No-el*), the commander, came up, and began looking carefully at the village through his field-glass.

"Gunner," he said sharply, without looking at Peter.

Peter came to attention, and saluted.

"Do you see the bridge over there?"

"Yes, sir."

"And that cottage there, at the left, among the shrubs?"

Peter turned pale.

"I see it sir."

"It's a nest of Prussians. See if you can drop a shell on it, my man."

Peter grew paler still, and, in spite of the wind that made the officers shiver in their greatcoats, one might have seen big drops of sweat standing out on his forehead; but nobody took any notice of him. He pointed his gun carefully, and fired. The officers, with their field glasses, watched to see the effect of the shot. "Well hit my man! well hit!" exclaimed the general, turning to Peter with a smile. "The cottage is completely smashed." He was surprised to see big tears running down the gunner's cheeks. "What's the matter, man?" the general asked rather roughly. "Pardon me, general," said Peter in a low tone. "It was my own cottage—everything I had in the world."

SWIMMING.

FORT-STREET CLUB.

The 14th annual distribution of prizes in connection with the Fort-street Model School Swimming

Club took place at the school on Wednesday afternoon. The main room was crowded. Mr. J. W. Turner, president of the club, occupied the chair.

The hon. secretary, Mr. D. A. Pike, presented his annual report, which showed the club had maintained its eminent position during the past season. The enrolment had approached 700. The main features of the year had been the teaching of the boys to swim, the success of the lads in open events, the re-establishment of the life-saving class, and the success of the public functions. Three boys from the school had occupied positions in the all schools' championship, which was won by L. Murray in the fast and record time for schoolboys of 63 2-5s. Proficiency in swimming had been encouraged by the introduction of distance and all-clothes races and life-saving exhibitions. It was a rare thing to find a boy in the school who could not swim. Forty-six boys from the school had gained certificates from the Life-saving Association, as also did their instructor, Mr. Johnson. The girls' club had advanced rapidly, and was under the able supervision of Misses Kilminster, Hetherington, and Stunner. Six girls—Eddie Rea, Elsie Rea, Lily Puckeridge, Florrie Puckeridge, Alice Cochran, Elsie Moppet—and Miss K. B. Kilminster had gained life-saving certificates, which is quite a new departure in our girls' schools. Interest in this department was mainly due to Mrs. Lofns, who gave an exhibition of diving at the girls' carnival. The girls' champion was Miss Evelyn Yates. The financial report showed a satisfactory balance.

Mr. Turner, in proposing the adoption of the reports, congratulated the club on the successful season, eulogised the lads who had brought distinction to their school, and was extremely gratified with the life-saving movement. He stated that the club was a living institution in the school, and one worthy of the greatest encouragement. He dwelt upon the able assistance given by the N. S. W. A. S. A.

Mr. Williams seconded the adoption of the report.

During the afternoon prizes won by the girls at the recent horticultural fête were presented, the squads being under the direction of Misses Nora Dickson and Haidée Ebsworth.

Notes of thanks to the treasurer, Mr. Green, the Misses Kilminster, Hetherington, and the hon. secretary, Mr. D. A. Pike, terminated the proceedings.

Extract From "The Sydney Morning Herald"

PROVERBS OF OTHER NATIONS.

—x—

A young man idle becomes an old man needy.—Italian.

Where one will not two cannot quarrel.—Spanish.

Never tell all you know, for he who tells all he knows often tells more than he knows.—Arabian.

Never attempt all you can do, for he who attempts everything he can do often attempts more than he can do.—Arabian.

Flag Day In The United States of America.

Seeing that so much interest was shown, a few months ago, in the work of providing each of our schools with a Union Jack, and, more recently, in obtaining a suitable design for an Australian flag, the following lesson from the *New American Reader-Book* published by the American Book Company, New York, should prove welcome to the readers of *The Fortian*:

"In this fair land of ours, you can see the Stars and Stripes floating over every schoolhouse. This beautiful flag stands for our Country. When the boys and girls see it floating so proudly over their school, it makes them think of their country.

"Every American boy is proud of his country's flag. It stands for all that is good and dear to every American. It stands for liberty. It proclaims liberty for all. Every thread stands for liberty. Every star stands for liberty. Every stripe stands for liberty. It stands for liberty of thought as well.

"It is your flag. The first flag was made in June, 1777. It was made by Mrs. Ross, who lived in Arch Street, Philadelphia. Mrs. Ross was known far and near as a neat sewer.

"This is why George Washington and two other gentlemen went to see her one day in June, to ask her to make the first American flag.

"Mrs. Ross did not think that she could make it. Washington told her that it was a very simple thing to do. Then he drew an outline of the flag for her.

"Mrs. Ross said that she would try. She went to work with a will; it was not long before she had the stars cut out for the field.

The field was blue, just as you see it now in the flag that waves over your school. She made the stripes red and white. It took her just three days to make the first flag.

When Washington saw it, he was delighted with it. Every American is not only delighted with it, but he loves the dear old flag.

This is why the 14th June is set apart as Flag Day.

THE SUN DIAL.

It has often been said that we have not made many improvements on the methods of the ancients. This may be true; but it must have struck those of Mr. Brown's and Mr. Tillbrook's classes, who were present at the lesson given by Mr. Williams on the sun-dial, that in the matter of measuring time we have thoroughly outclassed our predecessors.

The sun-dial is an instrument for calculating time by means of the motion of a shadow cast by a stile on the surface of a dial. Before clocks and watches came into common use the sun-dial was universally adopted as a timekeeper.

The dial is composed of two parts: the stile, a long piece of timber or a triangular disc of metal standing on one of its sides and pointing North and South, and the dial, a plane surface on which are marked the directions of the shadow for the several hours of the day. The sun-dial with which Mr. Williams demonstrated the lesson is situated in the fifth-class playground. Another may be seen in the Botanical Gardens. To make a sun-dial the only materials needed are a piece of timber, long, smooth, and thin preferred, inserted in a planed board. While at home notice the shadow cast each hour (by the clock) and mark it. Then you will have a sun-dial not as elaborate as those the ancients used to make, but one to serve the purpose.

L. J. F.

Lecture In The Centenary Hall. A FORT STREET NIGHT.

An entertainment given by Mr. Egerton Young, Lecturer touring the world, in the Centenary Hall on Wednesday evening 13th May, deserves our special attention inasmuch as it afforded amusement, interest and instruction to an audience, the most part of which was made up of Fort Street boys. The first gallery in the building was set aside for Fort Street School and it was filled to a nicety.

The lecturer in his introductory remarks fitted himself for the occasion by relating a few stories of boy life. After narrating his experiences with the Indians of North Canada, illustrating with lantern views as he went on, sketches of typical men, women and children, Mr. Young entered on the title of his lecture—"My Dogs in the North Land." There can be no doubt that this part of the programme proved to be of an exceptionally interesting character. The many adventures with his dogs, whose services are indispensable to the inhabitants of these regions, were ably told and vividly portrayed. The lecturer had no difficulty in absorbing the attention of his hearers; his free and clear style of delivery added greatly to sustain the interest. Many interesting views of Canadian scenery followed by glimpses into life on the Cotton plantations of the Southern States of U. S. America concluded the evening's programme.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Young was proposed by Mr. Turner and carried by acclamation.

Rain Gauge.

Great interest is being evinced by the boys in a barometer constructed by Mr. Williams which now occupies an important position on the walls of the Corridor. Mr. Williams has also secured an excellent thermometer and an interesting chemical barometer which may also be seen in the same place. Boys should consult them frequently and keep a record of the variations in temperature and pressure by means of a graph.

THE FORTIAN.

Football

Hark! You'd hear the north winds calling,
Winds that bluster wild and free,
And the withered brown leaves falling,
Tell of joyous times to be.

Tell of days of leather-chasing,
Toll of struggles grand in store,
Kicking, manning, tackling, racing,
'Tis of these the wild winds roar.

We are ready, staunch, and loyal,
Players of the fine old game,
Lovers of a sport that's royal,
Striving for a lofty aim.

Let the bloom of youthful vigour,
Glowing in each rose-red cheek,
Let each lithe and lissom figure
For our splendid pastime speak.

What care we for chill winds stinging?
Not as, weakness comes amoug.
Each one all his strength is bringing—
Thoughts of self aside are flung.

Sweetest melody we deem it
When the starting whistle blows;
Best of pleasures we esteem it
When the leather meets the toes.

There's a glamour that surrounds us,
That pervades our very soul;
In our joy no fear confounds us
As we nearer seek the goal.

Earnest ever in our training,
We are eager in our play,
Resolutely bent on gaining
Strong physique for life's affray.

May we ever, true to training,
Bear us nobly in the fight,
This grand principle maintaining—
"Play up fair, and play upright."

Andrew Connol.

(From *The Boys Own Paper*.)

BAD WORDS.

There was once a captain who would not allow any of the boys on board his ship to use bad words. He had a way of his own by which he tried to cure any of them who fell into such a bad habit.

If he knew that one of the boys had been swearing, he sent for the lad, and told him to open his mouth and put out his tongue. Then he sent for one

of the sailors who knew what to do.

"Tom," he would say, "here is a lad with a very dirty mouth: just take him and wash it well. Use plenty of soap: it won't hurt him, and we must try to cure him at all costs."

Then the boy was led away, and his mouth well washed with scapsuds. Nor did the sailor get to use plenty of soap. While the washing was going on, the other men stood round and laughed at the lad, who was spluttering all the time as if he were afraid of being choked.

Then, when his mouth had been well rinsed with clean water, the lad was taken back to the captain, who again looked at his tongue, and said:—

"Ah, that will do. Now, my lad, your mouth is clean, and, if you are wise, you will keep it so. Remember, I will not have a boy with a dirty mouth on board this vessel. If it needs washing again, we shall try the effect of a little more soap."

In this way, the captain cured all the boys who served under him, and few of them required a second washing. Even the men on board that ship were ashamed to swear, because their captain said that no man who respected himself would use bad words.

A great many men and boys swear without thinking about it. The words do not mean anything to them, and are used because they have fallen into the habit by hearing others.

Yet they know that they are doing wrong. You never knew a person given to swearing who was not sometimes careful not to swear. Boys who swear before their companions will not do so before their parents and teachers.

This is a proof that they know they are doing wrong, and, in this, lies much of the harm they do to themselves. Persons who act in this way weaken their own power to do right, and more easily fall into other sins. They have not a proper respect for themselves, or they would keep from such a dirty habit.

Boys who swear, and both boys and girls who use coarse words, are on the downward course, and no one can tell how low they may slide if they do not give up the bad habit.

Children who respect themselves, and who wish to be respected by others, will never allow a low, coarse or profane word to escape from their lips.

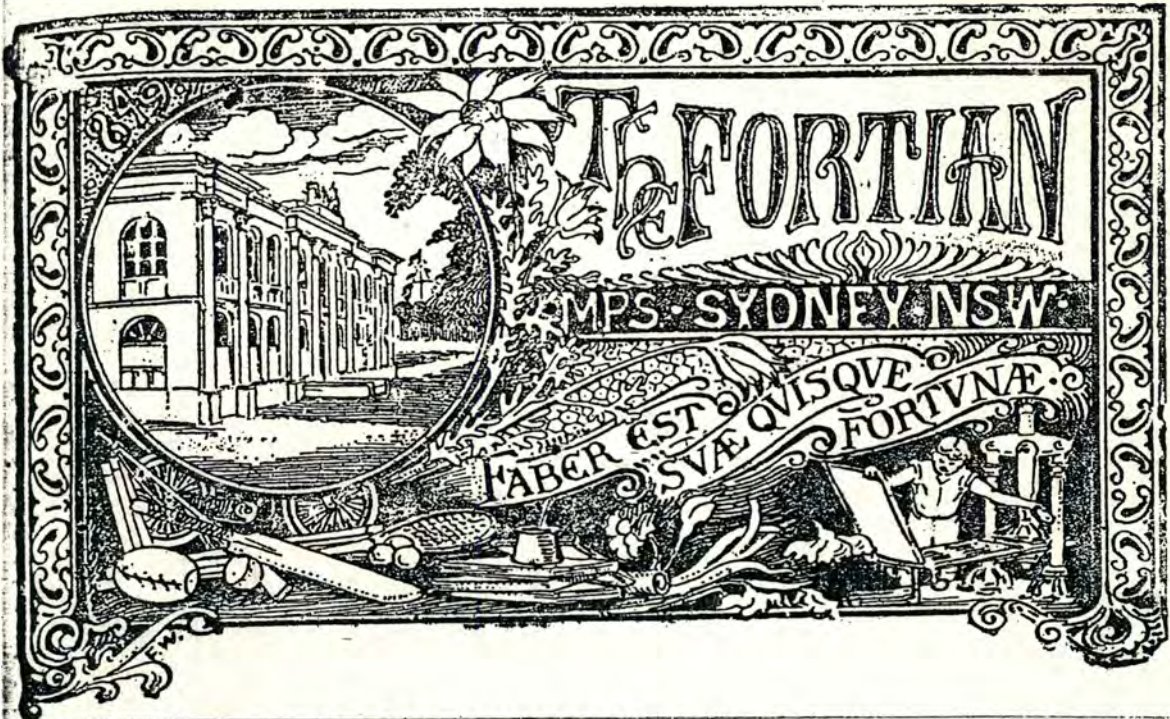
(From *Schoolmas.es*, N. Z.)

HOWLERS.

A person talking of poisons casually mentioned that for the one under discussion there was an antidote.

A compass is a little post stuck up in the sea, and when people want to know the way, the ships go and look at it.

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Price 1d

The Fortian.

Dr. WILLIAM BLAND.
PATRIOT AND PHILANTHROPIST.

(CONTINUED FROM LAST ISSUE.)

Although Bland belonged to the "Emancipist" class, he was young, warm-hearted and hot-headed. Whilst smarting under domestic affliction of the most distressing character, he had the misfortune to incur Macquarie's displeasure by libelling him. He was tried before the Supreme Court in its criminal jurisdiction, and fined £50, with twelve months' imprisonment, "every day of which," says Samuel Bennett, "was rigidly exacted." On his release he devoted himself to public affairs and philanthropic projects for the advancement of his adopted country; although he appears to have been in England after this period, as he was passed by the Royal College of Surgeons as a naval assistant surgeon on the 2nd May, 1826, being then thirty-seven years of age.

Macquarie, as a consequence of his policy of favoritism to "Emancipists," was recalled in 1821, after a long reign of eleven years; and was succeeded by Major General Sir Thomas Brisbane, who was better as an astronomer than as a vice-regent. In-

deed, he was a recipient of the honorary medal of the Astronomical Society of London, presented by the President, Sir John Herschell, for valuable services in the cause of astronomy in Australia. Brisbane kept himself quite aloof from the social quarrels which raged between "Exclusivists" and "Emancipists," and indulged a sublime isolation in the study of the southern skies at his Parramatta observatory. Reform was vaguely talked about, a regular Supreme Court was established, and a meagre measure of the principle of trial by jury was, in certain cases, permitted. Brisbane did, however, one good thing. He annulled the censorship which previous Governors had exercised over the newspaper press.

In 1825, towards the end of that year, General Sir Ralph Darling took up the reins of power, and inaugurated a period of confusion and trouble. During the Darling régime Bland threw himself heart and soul into the struggle which was to result in obtaining for Australia the civil and political rights and privileges common to all free Britons. "Next to William Charles Wentworth," says Bennett, in words which are essentially re-echoed by G. C. Boase, "Australia is indebted to Bland for the political institutions she now enjoys. His energetic action as a member of the Patriotic Association, his letters to Charles Buller, M. P. (of the British House of Commons) on the indefeasible rights of the colonists,

and his attention to the public charities, gained for him a deserved popularity, which resulted in his return, on the 15th June, 1843, as one of the members for Sydney, to the first elective Legislature in New South Wales—the old Council.

It is well to record here the names of those elective members, for it was a mixed assembly, the Governor having the right to nominate certain gentlemen to twelve seats. Besides Bland, there were William Charles Wentworth, William Foster (afterwards Premier under responsible government), William Dunmore, William Bowman, Richard Winderer, a member of the popular party, and a close associate of Wentworth and his confederates), Charles H. Edden (afterwards a Minister of the Crown in Victoria), Henry Condeil (Melbourne's first Mayor), Benjamin Boyd (who took his seat in 1844), John Dunmore Lang (clergyman, satirist, pioneer and historian), William Bradley, William P. Faithfull (who took his seat in 1846), J. F. L. Foster (1846), William Lawson, Patrick Grant (1845), Henry Dangar (1844), Edward Curr (1845), Charles Cowper (afterwards Premier), John Coghill, Edward J. Brewster (1846), Francis Lord, Robert Lowe (afterwards Lord Sherbrooke, who took his seat in 1845), Adolphus William Young (1844), John Wild (1845), D'Arcy Wentworth, Hannibal H. Macartthur, Alexander Macleay, Sir Thomas Mitchell (1844), Maurice Charles O'Connell (afterwards one of the Commissioners who opened the first Parliament of Queensland and who took his seat in 1845), Terence Aubrey Murray, Dr. Charles Nicholson, Thomas Walker, Dr. Alexander Thomson, John Patton, J. P. Robinson (1844), William Henry Sutor, and Roger Therry. Of the foregoing the two Wentworths, father and son, Bland, William Foster, Dunmore, Bowman, Winderer, Edden, Condeil, Dr. Lang, Bradley, Cowper, Coghill, Francis Lord, Hannibal Macartthur, Alex. Macleay, Terence Aubrey Murray, Dr. Nicholson, Thomas Walker, Dr. Thomson, Patton, W. H. Sutton, and Roger Therry, sat in the Council when it first met, with the nominees appointed by the Governor. This assembly met its fate by dissolution in June, 1848. Prior to the institution of this partly elective Legislative Council, an assembly of an advisory nature had been in existence since the year 1824; and although the Governor was not bound by its wishes, and could act against them if he chose, he was obliged to refer the matter to the Imperial authorities for final decision. Its members, as might well be supposed, were all of the "Exclusivist" class—judges, officers, civil and military; and gentlemen of property.

But a great and important struggle had to be fought to a finish before the Legislative Council of 1843 could come into being. Vested interests had to be contended against both with tongue and pen. Bland was no laggard in the fight. "In one of his best known speeches" says an admirer, he dwelt on the rights of a nativeborn, claiming that the possession of talent was more important than the pos-

session of acres, and stating that for his part he knew of no stake in the country save that of liberty and life. In the mean time he helped the unfortunate, both publicly and privately; to the needy, his purse was always open; he organised the public charities; and no man who wanted a friend or a helper came from his presence lacking either sympathy or assistance.

The peaceful reign of Governor Darling closed with a dramatic incident. A number of persons assembled at Vancluse, the residence of William Charles Wentworth, and indulged a wanton spirit of cruelty and festivity to celebrate his Excellency's departure. A bullock was roasted whole, and much jollification ensued. It was given forth also, that the "Patriots" would illuminate the city on the night of that day—October 21st, 1831; but only one house evinced this fashion. Its joy at his Excellency's retirement, and it was the place in which the paper which was chief in opposing him was printed. Prior to this club of which he was the patron, he had teased his Excellency's health to the mocking air of "Over the Hills and Far away," and this led to the withdrawal of his vice-regal patronage, which was not to be wondered at, considering the gravity of the insult. For these, and similar ungenerous manifestations of popular disapproval—Bland and his friends cannot be held responsible, for the Governor's transgressions were neither few nor easily forgivable.

Darling was succeeded by Major-General Sir Richard Bourke, a Governor who went far beyond any of his predecessors in liberal measures. He combined urbanity with firmness of character and clear judgment of intellect. A warm friend of the liberty of the press, he removed the galling restrictions which Sir Ralph Darling had reimposed upon it. After an almost total suspension of trial by jury for a number of years, Bourke reinstated that principle so dear to the British heart, both by long usage and cherished tradition. He raised the colony to a height of previously unexampled prosperity, developed as far as he could the resources of which he was one of the first of its rulers to recognise the existence, and secured, with only occasional critical lapses of a salutary and stimulating character, the general approbation and support of Wentworth and his patriotic fellow-labourers. When he left for England, this paragon among vice-regal rulers was deeply regretted, and the public subsequently showed its appreciation of his character and his conduct by erecting to his memory a noble statue at the entrance to the Domain. It is a masterpiece of art, and stands dominant over the broad vision of the Harbour, flanked by a couple of guns, taken by the British from Russia at the battle of Tukkera. Two companion guns it may be mentioned in passing, flank the statue erected to the memory of gallant Sir John Franklin at Hobart, Tasmania.

Nearly three months after Sir Richard Bourke's departure came Sir George Gipps, in February, 1821, the ablest Governor Australia has ever had. The struggle for free institutions was raging at its height. "No taxation without representation" was the cry of the party headed by Bland and his friends. The consent of the Colonies was obtained by the local men of a local Parliament. Gipps stood to his duty, firm as a rock, the representative of Imperial authority. As Governor under a definite commission he could not do otherwise. The Secretaries of State for the Colonies left nearly everything to his discretion and his management; but his post was by no means a sinecure nestled with rose leaves. Responsible government began to hammer at the gates of the Colonial Office for admission and recognition like a returning prodigal, albeit it had never been in existence in order to enable wandering. Charles Buller stood firm friend to the "Patriots" in the British House of Commons. Bland kept him informed to the very letter of the last paragraph of Australian happenings. Transportation was abolished in 1825, as to Tasmania and Norfolk Island. Representative (not entirely "responsible") government came next, with the Governor's right to nominate his own Ministers and direct their policy, though he could no longer make laws, no longer select every member of his advisory board—the Legislative Council. The assembly consisted of twelve nominees, six official and six non-official, and twenty-four elected members. Of the latter, the various districts of New South Wales, including, of course, the city of Sydney, had fifteen representatives; and the port Phillip District, six—one of whom sat for the town of Melbourne. And then came the enactment which rendered Gipps's life a burden of the greatest to be borne: all the money obtained from sales or licenses had to be used, in one way or another, for the benefit of the colony. Next followed the awful troubles over the squatters' licenses ordained by Gipps, and the Governor withered under the incessant attacks of the popular party, which fought his regulations inch by inch over this matter. The struggle was still going on when Gipps was superseded by Sir Charles Fitzroy in 1846. Things became smoother and happier under this Epicurean's easy, indifferent, indolent sway. Deas-Thomson was head of the Executive, and to him was left the fury of the fray. The squatters were appeased, and matters broadened with more placidity than heretofore towards the realisation of the dreams of the "Patriot Association's" members. Wentworth and Bland, however, continued their labours, which were happily consummated during the governorship of Sir William Thomas Denison in 1856, a year after that gentleman had assumed the reins of power, in the grating of complete responsible and representative government.

Dr. William Bland's life is practically the history

of the struggle for free institutions in Australia, from 1821, or thereabout, onwards to ultimate achievement. On his retirement in 1818, consequent on his defeat by Robert Lowe (the Viscount Sherbrooke,) Bland practically devoted himself to the practice of his profession, and to those philanthropic labours "which endeared him to hundreds of his fellow colonists." He died suddenly at his residence, 28 College Street, Sydney, on the 21st July, 1838. His funeral was one noteworthy in the matter of representative and numerical attendance. His body was "the first," says Samuel Bennett, "ever conveyed from the Mortuary Chapel." He was buried at the Necropolis, where a monument marks the last resting place of one of Australia's worthiest, most gifted, and least selfish sons.

AUSTRALASIA. PART II.

[The first part of this poem was published in the June issue and the remainder of it will appear in the next edition.]

Illustrious Cook! Columbus of our shores,
To whom was left this unknown world to explore!
Its untrac'd bounds on faithful chart to mark,
And leave a light where all before was dark—
And thou, the foremost in fair learning's rank,
Patron of every art, departed Banks!
A ho, wealth disdaining and inglorious ease,
The rocks and quicksands dar'd of unknown seas;
Immortal pair! when in yon spacious bay
Ye moor'd while its wonders to survey,
How little thought ye, that the name from you
Its graceful shrubs and leucocæus wild flowers drew,
Would serve, in after times, with lasting brand
To stamp the soil and designate the land,
And to ungenial climes reluctant scare
Full many a hive that else had settled there!

Ah why, Britannia's pride, Britannia's boast,
Searcher of ev'ry sea and ev'ry coast,
Lamented Cook! thou bravest, gentlest, heart,
Why didst thou fall beneath a savage dart?
Why were thy mangled reliques doom'd to grace
The midnight orgies of a barb'rous race?
Why could'st thou not, thy weary wanderings past,
At home in honour'd ease recline at last,
And, like the happier partner of thy way,
In cloudless glory close life's setting day?

And thou, fam'd Gallie Captain, La Perouse!
When from this Bay thou led'st thy fated crews
Did thy twin vessels sink beneath the shock
Of furious hurricane, or hidden rock?
Fell ye, O'erpower'd on some barbarian strand,
As fell before De Laugle's fletcher'd hand?
Linger'd the remnants of thy shipwreck'd host
On some parch'd coral isle, some torrid coast,—
Where no green tree, no cooling brook is seen,
Nought living is, or e'er before has been,
Save some lone mew, blown from the rocky nest,
Had lit, perchance, her homeward wing to rest—
Till gnaw'd by want, with joy a comrade crew
They saw, and rat'nous on his body fed,

And soon, his bonny pick'd bon, with lamish'd eye
 Ketch glar'd around, then draw who first should die;
 Till of thy ghastly band the most unlovest
 Surviv'd,—and sepulch'rs of all the rest;
 And now his rest in all green'd with crazy field,
 And r'ling thir'd, the first land watch exp'd!
 What for thy lot, thou saw'st the floating arks
 That prop'd this new world, the towering bark's
 That ancient Philip led to his far shore,
 And sailing them, a vast world seem no more
 All would'st thou now behold what men has done,
 The sea's revolving currents scarce have run,
 How would'st thou joy to see the savage earth
 The smiling parent of so fair a birth!
 Just lately painted o'er the glassy bay,
 When sunny joys her beauties to survey,
 And every man, delighted, sees the glimm
 Of some trash pennant dancing in her stream,
 A misty mist, stranger vessels meet,
 Charg'd with the fruits of every foreign shore;
 While, landward,—the thronged quay, the creaking

crane,
 The noisy workman, and the loaded wain,
 The lengthen'd street, wide square, and column'd front
 Of stately mansions and the gushing font,
 The solemn church, the busy market throng,
 And idle loungers saunt'ring slow along—
 The lofty windmills that with outspread sail
 Thick line the hills, and court the rising gale,
 Shew that the mournful genius of the plain,
 Driv'n from his primal solitary reign,
 Has backward fled, and fix'd his drowsy throne
 In untrod wilds, to muse and brood alone.
 And thou, fair Port! whose trait sister coves
 Peninsulate these walls; whose ancient groves
 High tow'ring southward, rear their giant form,
 And break the fury of the polar storm;—
 Fairest of Ocean's daughters! who dost bend
 Thy mournful steps to seek thy absent friend,
 Whence she,—coy wild-rose, on her virgin couch
 Pled loath from Parramatta's am'rous touch;
 Skirting thy wat'ry path, lo! frequent stand
 The cheerful villas 'midst their well-cropp'd land;
 Here lowing kine, there bounding coursers graze,
 Here waves the corn, and there the woody maize,
 Here the tall peach puts forth its pinky bloom,
 And there the orange scatters its perfume,
 While, as the merry boatmen row along,
 The woods are quicken'd with their lusty song:—
 Nor here alone hath labour's victor band
 Subju'd the globe, and fertiliz'd the land;
 For lo! from where at rocky Portland's head,
 Reluctant Hawkesbury quits his sluggard bed,
 Merging in Ocean,—to young Windsor's tow'rs,
 And Richmond's high green hills, and native tow'rs,—
 Thence far along Nepean's pebbled way,
 To those rich pastures where the wild herds stray,—
 The crowded farm-house lines the winding stream
 On either side, and many a plodding team
 With spining ploughshare turns the neighbouring soil,
 Which crowns with double crop the lab'rer's toil.

Hail, mighty ridge! that from thy azure brow
 Survey'st these fertile plains that stretch below,
 And look'st with careless, unobservant eye,
 As round thy waist the fork'd lightnings ply,
 And the loud thunders spring with hoarse rebound
 From peak to peak, and fill the welkin round
 With deaf'ning voice, till with their hoist'rous play
 Fatigued, in muttering peals they stalk away;—
 Parent of this deep stream, this awful flood,

That at thy foot distributary mad,
 Like the fam'd Indian or Egyptian tide,
 Doth pay, but, careful scatters woe beside;—
 Vast Austral Giant of these rugged steeps,
 Within whose secret cells rich gutt'ring heaps
 Thick piled are drom'd to sleep, till some one spy
 The hidden key that opens thy treasury;
 How mute, how'd silent thy stunted woods,
 How dread thy consent, when many an eagle roods,
 How dark thy leaves, how long thy torrents' roar,
 As down thy cliffs precipitous they pour,
 Broke on our hearts with a first with vout'rous tread
 We dar'd to rous' thee from thy mountain bed!
 Till, gain'd with toxisom steep thy rocky heath,
 We spied the cheering snakes ascend beneath,
 And as a meteor shoots athwart the night,
 The boundless campaign burst upon our sight,
 Till nearer seen, the beautiful landscape grew,
 Op'ning like Canaan on rapt Israel's view.

Yet tranquil scenes too long to man unknown,
 Your hills remain'd uncropp'd, your dales, unsown
 Yet lo! at last upon you distant stream,
 Increasing Bathurst's straggling honours' beam,
 While thine o'er spreading the fresh-cultur'd glade
 The ripen'd harvest bends its heavy blade,
 And flocks and herds, in thousands strew'd around,
 Awake the woodlands with their joyous sound.
 Soon, Australasia, may thy inmost pains,
 A new Arcadia, team with simple swains;
 Soon a Lycoris' scorn again inspire
 A Gallus' song to mean his hopeless fire,
 And, while he murmurs forth his plaintive tale,
 The list'ning breeze walt it down the dale.

What, though no am'rous shepherd midst thy dells
 E'er charm'd responsive Echo from her cells;
 What, though no liquid flute, nor shriller reed,
 E'er shot their wild notes o'er thy silent mead;
 Thy blue-eyed daughters, with the flaxen hair
 And taper ankle, do they bloom less fair
 Than those of Europe? do thy primal groves
 N'er warble forth, their feather'd inmates' loves?
 Or, say, doth Ceres', or Pomona's reign
 With scantier gifts repay thy lab'ring train?
 Ah! no, 'tis slavery's ladg., the felons' shame
 That stills thy voice, and clouds thy op'ning fame;
 'Tis this that makes thy sorrowing Judah weep,
 Restrains her song, and hangs her harp to sleep.

W. C. Wentworth.

A post card has been received from Mr. Lasker with the Honolulu post mark on it. He reports that he has had a splendid trip and sends along best wishes.

Want of space has been our reason for omitting two or three items from this issue which we would like to have put in. Football, The School Concert, Library Notice, Old Boys' News, Girls' News will receive attention in our next.

From Friday July 9th 9 a.m. to Monday July 11th at 9 a.m. our rain gauge registered 775 points. We were fortunate in having it put up the day before to catch so heavy a fall.

In South Western New South Wales.

They have any true conception of the Western New South Wales, and fewer still have ever travelled that large tract of the state lying beyond the Darling about seven hundred miles west of Sydney. And the people who reciprocates your want of interest. The people back are just as ignorant of Sydney and Coastal New South Wales. They sometimes talk of going "to the city" and they always Melbourne or Adelaide. Only a small percentage of the men and women there have ever seen the Adelaide "Observer and Register" just as their friends do in Victoria or South Australia. Their business is mostly from Adelaide, and though Melbourne, and a good share of trade, especially with Riverina, Sydney and little wholesale business so far out. Let me try to give you an account of this little-known part of your own state. During the two and a half years that I lived at Wentworth, I travelled over 1500 miles by coach so that I have learned something about it.

You know that it is so far away west that 30 minutes after the sun has risen here, day is just breaking there? In the Western towns, however, with one exception, all have Sydney time, so that, after four o'clock, boys there get an extra half-hour of sunlight to make up for the evening's short allowance. Broken Hill is the exception, there Adelaide time is kept at all business places except the offices which close when their clocks shows 2. 30

To reach Wentworth at the junction of the Murray and Darling, the shortest route is by train to Hay and there commences a coach journey of some 250 miles via Oxley, Balranald and Euston through a very inhospitable country that scorches you in summer and freezes you in winter. A cheaper and more comfortable route is to go all to Melbourne, then back through Castlemaine and go to Swan Hill on the Murray (Castle Donnington the older maps). After that you have a coach journey of 180 miles. On this track you get a night's rest at a place "change" on the river, whereas from Hay, you endure the coaching agony for 48 hours continuously, after an experience you are more inclined to ask for a bonus to pay single fare £6, return £10. I have no personal acquaintance with any one who survived the return journey. Last year the Victorian Government extended a railway which formerly terminated at Woomelang, to Mildura on the Murray and that leaves only 17 miles to Wentworth coach. The distance from Mildura to Melbourne is 351 miles and the journey takes almost 24 hours—not quite as rate.

Over in the South Western corner travelling is all done by coach. You can travel 180 miles west and reach Morgan, a railway terminus from which you can reach Adelaide in 6 days. To Broken Hill you have the choice of 2 routes. One goes almost direct across the Great Anabranch. The other follows the Darling through Pooncaira to Menindie and then straight across the sandy desert for 75 miles. Total length of this trip is 255 miles and you can do it comfortably in 52 hours, starting at 4 a.m. on Monday morning and after two days and two nights travelling, breakfast at the Hill on Wednesday. From Menindie you can, if you wish, reach White Cliffs of opal fame, or Bourke on the river. From the Hill you can coach it into the North Eastern corner to Milparinka, Tibcooburra, Yalpana, and Mount Brown.

What strikes one most is the total absence in the backblocks of any attempt at road making. The so-called roads are merely bush tracks over "box" flats or round red sand hills. These flats are covered with a black soil which in wet weather is almost impassable even with good horses. Any

one who attempts the journey on a bicycle soon acquires so much landed property that he is glad to leave his "selection" in a belt of scrub and do the rest on foot. Even if the amount of traffic warranted the making of roads, it is only in a few places that stone can be quarried. Stone houses are the exception outback, then the stone has to be brought up the river in barges. Even in the river you would have the greatest difficulty in finding a pebble. You have all heard of the man who wagered that he could throw a stone across the river. He lost because he could not find one. The next time he went there, he made another bet and won. He took a stone in his pocket.

It is quite easy to get off the track and run the risk of being lost, unless you keep the telegraph wires in sight. Only in a few, isolated, places are the roads fenced. You drive through selections and station properties in which ever direction you go, opening gates after gates until the monotony palls on you.

The whole country is a dead continuous level, mile after mile for hundreds of miles. Never a cutting to pass through, very seldom a bridge to pass over, occasionally a lowlying sandhill to cross. The scenery consists of boxtrees and mallee scrub about 12 or 15 feet high. When you see a line of large gums you know the river is near or perhaps the bed of a billabong. The Murray has some enormous gums on its banks, especially near its junction with the Darling—trees "that excited Stuart's admiration more than half a century ago" as the Fourth Reader says. There is no grass as you understand it. After living in the country for a few years you long to roll on the green carpet of the Botanical Gardens. Instead of grass you have salt bush, which forms the best sheep-feed. One variety, "creeping salt bush" is about 5 or 6 inches in height, another, called "old-man salt bush" is the same number of feet. Then there is the "paddymelon" called so from the numerous small green bitter melons which grow on the little vine, and turn yellow when ripe. There is also the "roly-poly" which rolls along in large dry balls before the wind and helps the sand to burn fences. Here and there you see a small bush of very vivid green with beautiful yellow flowers. This is "mallee lucerne." Sheep prefer rather to die of starvation than eat it. Another pest is the "wild tobacco plant," which is of no use to man or beast. It grows sometimes 12 feet high and smells for all the world like Irish stew. It has a curious dislike for water, and where it has sprung up in dried-up water courses, dies a natural death when the rivers rise.

You have all heard or read of the millions of rabbits which infest the Western lands and break the hearts of the squatters. Well, last July I coached to Broken Hill and back, 510 miles altogether, and on the whole journey, I think, without any exaggeration, that I saw quite one rabbit. But this was after 8 successive years of drought which had killed them off in hundreds. Their deserted burrows in every sand hill, and acres of land perforated with their holes still show how numerous they have been. In those days a man might make two or three pounds a day by trapping them and selling the skins. On every station is a "poison cart" which scratches a shallow furrow in the ground and sows therein phosphorised pollard. The rabbit has an insane tendency to follow a new trail and this leads him to follow the newly made line and root up the poisoned food. Unfortunately parrots, pigeons and wild turkeys have fallen victims to the pollard.

(To be continued)

(Mr. Stoyles, who for the past two and a half years has been at Wentworth returns to us to take up Mr. Lasker's work during his absence. He has written this interesting article for our readers. It is a long one and we are obliged to hold some of the details in abeyance.)

THE FORTIAN

THE 1904 JUNIORS' PICNIC.

On Saturday, 25th May, the 1904 Junior Classes held their annual outing and banquet. Through the clerk of the weather seemed to have done his best to frustrate our plans for the enjoyment of the day, yet all declared it one of the most delightful they had ever known. We met at the Redfern Railway Station at about a quarter past eight and caught the half past eight train for Thirroul. The journey down was enlivened by popular choruses, mouth organ selections and other amusements. On reaching Thirroul the weather was seen to be in much the same condition as it was in Sydney. The journey to the "Look Out" at the top of Bulli Pass was not very far but the gradient is continuous and greatly tests one's pedestrian ability. We arrived on the top at about midday, tired and somewhat dazed, despite the fact that we all had river coats; but all were happy. The extensive panorama usually to be seen at the "Look Out" was not so grand owing to the presence of a heavy mist; but occasionally glimpses were caught when the mist lifted. This is how the grandeur of the scenery was described by one of our party. "Far below to left and right stretched what seemed to be a never-ending sea of trees, which was limited by the mountain on one side and the real sea on the other. Towards the right and three miles distant nestled the pretty little township of Thirroul. As one looked down on the space below one could not help thinking of the fate of anything that chanced to fall over the side of the small wooden parapet on the top."

We left the mountain for Thirroul at about 2 p.m., having been dried at the fireside of a benevolent old gentleman living in the neighbourhood who also boiled our billy for us. An impromptu game of football was played on the ground at Thirroul between Matrics. and Commercials. The ground did not well adapt itself to scientific football and the chief interest the players had was that of keeping their perpendiculars. After a hard fought game the victory went to the Commercials—6 points to 5. Mr. Turner acted as referee.

We caught the 4 o'clock train back to Sydney. Dispositions were not quite so boisterous upon the return journey as they were going, but, nevertheless, the music of mouth organs and of other nameless instruments contributed to the melodious exercise of the lungs. On nearing town cheers were given for Messrs. Turner and Williams and the success of the Juniors. Arriving at Redfern at about a quarter to six we all made our way to Schneider's Café in the New Markets, where we were joined by most of our teachers. One good result of the day's outing was that of providing everybody with an appetite. The meal was promptly demolished and preparations were made to provide for the concert. Little time was lost in doing this and the performance soon commenced. All the teachers gave a selection besides

the boys, all of whom contributed to form a very good programme. At the conclusion of the programme cheers were given for the School, Mr. Turner and the Juniors. We hiked hands and sang "Auld Lang Syne" as a fitting wind up for such a gathering. We bide each other good night not without a feeling of regret as we realised that it would be probably the last time most of us would meet on such an occasion as schoolfellows.

"Sillohash."

EDITORIAL.

At different times in the past we have had contributions of type, type cases etc. from our friends and supporters outside the School, and, though we did not recognise their generosity at the time through our paper, it was not due to any want of gratitude, but rather because we intend to wait our opportunity. Now it has come and we thank all those who have given us their support in the past and also those whose offers have been made to us at present. We have accepted an offer from Messrs. William Brooks and Son of some type, which will aid us considerably in minimising our expenses and so put us in the way for getting a new machine which is really our greatest want. Furthermore we have another offer from Mr. Broomfield whose letter we publish. The subject of the lecture and the programme for the first number of the series will be announced later on. The entertainment will be held in the main room, and the notice will be given of the date, which will most probably be in August. A small charge will be made to provide funds for new type and a new printing machine. All friends of our school paper—printed and published by our own school boys—will, we are sure, give this deserving movement their hearty support.

If everything goes well we should see a new machine in the printing office before the year closes.

Sydney,

4th July, 1904.

Dear Mr. Turner.

That the "Fortian" is an emphatic credit to the earnest and enthusiastic lad you have induced to undertake its production not even the most carping of critics would care to question. With the means at their disposal they have done wonders. The little paper is well set and carefully "set," and admirably "read." Its freedom from "initials," etc., might well give an object lesson to more pretentious organs. But the lads must have new type. I would in furtherance of so praiseworthy an object, suggest the giving of a series of lectures, relieved (perhaps) by musical items. I am prepared to give such poor services as I am able to compass. My friend Mr. George Rivers Allpress will also assist, provided he is not deterred by any professional engagement; and another friend Mr. W. H. Howes, a well known Sydney artist, is prepared to do "lightning" sketches.

Very truly yours,

Prof. J. Broomfield.

A Visit To The Broken Hill Silver Mines.

The town is kept going by the mines. The largest is the Proprietary. It is going aight and day with its 300 men and the roar of its crushing mill.

A few evenings ago I had the pleasure with some others of being taken through part of the Proprietary workings. It was highly interesting.

First we looked over the surface workings. The idea you form as you first see the machines and everything going is quite inexpressible. There must be thousands and thousands of pounds worth of machinery on top.

Huge wheels 20 or 30 feet across whizz round, and leather belts run through the air in all directions. Everything is roaring and whizzing away like mad and not a man in sight. The air was filled with precision. I admit at that moment I realised there was a place in the world for the mathematician after all.

So we looked round and wondered at every step for an hour or more till at last it was time to go below. Then we were provided each with a suitable disguise in which we knew not each other. And off we hobbled in extra capacious pit-boots to the mouth of the shaft. Here we had to wait for a few minutes, and were entertained by the sight of the cage at work, the cage by which we had to descend. The sight of the fearful rate at which they ran that thing down the dark hole entertains the visitor as might a glimpse of the gallows inspire the malefactor. Yet after all we were herded into the infernal machine and someone rang the signal bell and away, and oh! ye visions of malediction! what graven images have we made that this earth should so swallow us up!!! We came out at the bottom of the shaft as rats come out of traps, and offered up an inward thanksgiving that we were on earth again even though within its bowels. We lit our candles and started along a 6ft. by 6ft. passage timbered up, and full of stumbling blocks. In five minutes the temperature began to rise, and the one who knew told us we were approaching the place where the fire, which broke out over two years ago, is still raging, though shut off by masonry from the other working. It grew hotter and more hot, and the air assumed that decidedly "tinned odour" that Kipling writes of in stoke holes of battleships.

You begin to wonder where on earth your next breath is to come from and feel in deadly earnest yourself, although it is with a tinge of satisfaction you notice the intense seriousness on the faces of the visitors. In the middle of it all we came upon a fat sixteen stone man at work. He was shovelling valueless rocks—mullock they call it—down a dark hole to a level 100 feet below. You cannot possibly imagine what perfection is unless you see such a man. His shirt and pants were absolutely saturated and his blucher boots squelched under his feet each time he moved. He was

fat—and works there for 8 hours daily. We then passed along the drive and passed over a black devilish looking orifice to which there was a ladder. "Go down", said the man who knew and we went one after the other—the seven of us, and the man that knew came last. We soon found out why. It was unnatural that the one who went first should get the greatest quantity of loose ore down his back. So we continued to descend for many feet, and whilst we were given freely to speculating upon the proximity of the head quarters of St. Nicholas we found ourselves on the floor of the next level. Here we saw many things. Horses hurrying with lantern in front and loaded tracks behind; men shouting warnings by the way; air drills toiling; sledge hammers breaking; rock chutes pouring out mullock and ore, carpenters timbering up and much else besides.

And so we got tired and came up by the cage again and had the experience of an infinitely condensed thrill running in the opposite direction to that of our descent."

H. M. STANLEY.

THE AUTHOR OF "IN DARKEST AFRICA"

Probably the most popular feature of the *Ist.* of "Birthday Honours" last year was the title conferred upon Mr. H. M. Stanley, M. P., the famous African explorer. The story of his romantic career has been told so frequently that it is hardly necessary to recall it. Born in 1841, Wales, he began his travels early, and owes the name Stanley to his adopted father a citizen of New Orleans. It was in 1867 that his connection with the Dark Continent began as war correspondent for a New York journal during the Abyssinian war. Then followed his famous journey in search of Livingstone, whom he found at Ujiji in 1871, and from that time onward he has been the most prominent name in the roll of African travellers and pioneers. In 1890, on his return from the expedition in relief of Emin Pasha, he married Miss Dorothy Tennant, who had won fame as an artist, notably by her clever delineation of London street Arabs. Since the last General Election Sir H. M. Stanley represented North Lambert in the House of Commons till his death some weeks ago.

A Quaint Essay.

The following remarkable essay on the horse is said to be taken from the pen of an Indian student:—"The horse is a very noble quadruped, but when he is angry he will not do so. He is ridden on the spinal cord by the bridle, and sadly the driver places his feet on the stirrups and divides his lower limbs across the saddle and drives his animal to the meadow. He has four legs: two are on the front side and two are afterward. These are the weapons on which he runs. He also defends himself by extending these in the rear in a parallel direction towards his feet, but this he does only when he is in an aggressive mood."

Where there is a Will, there's a Way.

A gentle man, a friend of mine, once had a present from abroad, of several flasks of fine Florence oil. He placed them in a cellar to which no one except himself had access. One day, to his great surprise, he observed that two of the flasks were empty. The next day, he found another flask empty; and he was still more perplexed to account for it. He could not for a moment think that any person on the premises had contrived secret means to get at the cellar; and, but such a suspicion should be unjustly awakened in his mind, he resolved secretly to watch.

I forget by what means he kept a light, but I am certain as to the fact, that, after his remaining in the cellar more than an hour, three rats came from a hole in the corner, and went to one of the flasks of oil.

One rat stood upon his hind legs, with his forefeet set against the flask. The second sprang to the shoulders of the first; by which means, he could reach the top of the flask. After trying for some time, he drew out the cork by laying hold, with his teeth, of a bit of cotton that was twisted round it. Then he dipped his long tail into the oil, drew it out again, and the third rat licked it.

They changed places as regularly as a set of soldiers relieving guard; and they continued to do so till the flask was empty, each rat having had a fair share of the spoil. Then they quitted the cellar.

I have often heard my friend mention this singular fact; and he always related it, in a hopeless tone, said of anything that ought to be done, "I can't do it; it is of no use to try." He would say, "If you had but as much heart for your duty as the rats had for the oil, you would want neither time nor ability to do it." "Where there is a will there is always a way."

(From the Victorian School Paper.)

Punctuation.

A recent issue of the "British Medical Journal," in an article describing a visit to a dairy farm in a large provincial town, makes the astounding statement that—

"The driver having finished milking, his cow offered to take me into an adjoining room where the milk was cooled, saying that while he fetched the manager I could have a look round."

This is truly wonderful; one would much like to know the breed of that cow! The above is certainly one of the most amusing results of the transposition of a comma we have seen for some time.

News from Former Teachers.

Mr. Bellhouse in a bright cheerful letter to Mr. Turner writes from Coolamon and says of that place—"The aspect of the country is quite different from what I had imagined. The uncultivated parts of the land are thickly timbered with various kinds of box trees and native pine. Guns are scarce in this district. The home at which I am staying is situated on an estate of 2,500 acres and I am told that there is not a single gum tree on the land.

"I have been trying to find out the origin of the name Coolamon but the answer given in reply to my questions have not been altogether satisfactory, to me at least. It seems that the name owes its origin to certain peculiar depressions in the land which are called "Coolamon Holes".

"These holes vary in diameter from about 3 to 30ft and have a gradual slope from the circumference to the centre. People here say that the word Coolamon is an aboriginal name for hollow. The holes are of natural formation."

An interesting item has been handed to us by Mr. Cole. It is extracted from a letter written to him by Mr. Coombes, a former teacher at our school, now stationed at Broken Hill, and appears on another page.

NEW BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY.

The following interesting books by Mr. Egerton R. Young the Canadian lecturer, are now in the library. They will be kept in the library for a few weeks to allow boys an opportunity of seeing them and will then be put in circulation:—

My dogs in the North Land.

The Apostle of the North.

Stories from Indian wigwams and Northern Campfires.

Three boys in the wild North Land.

Algonquin Indian tales.

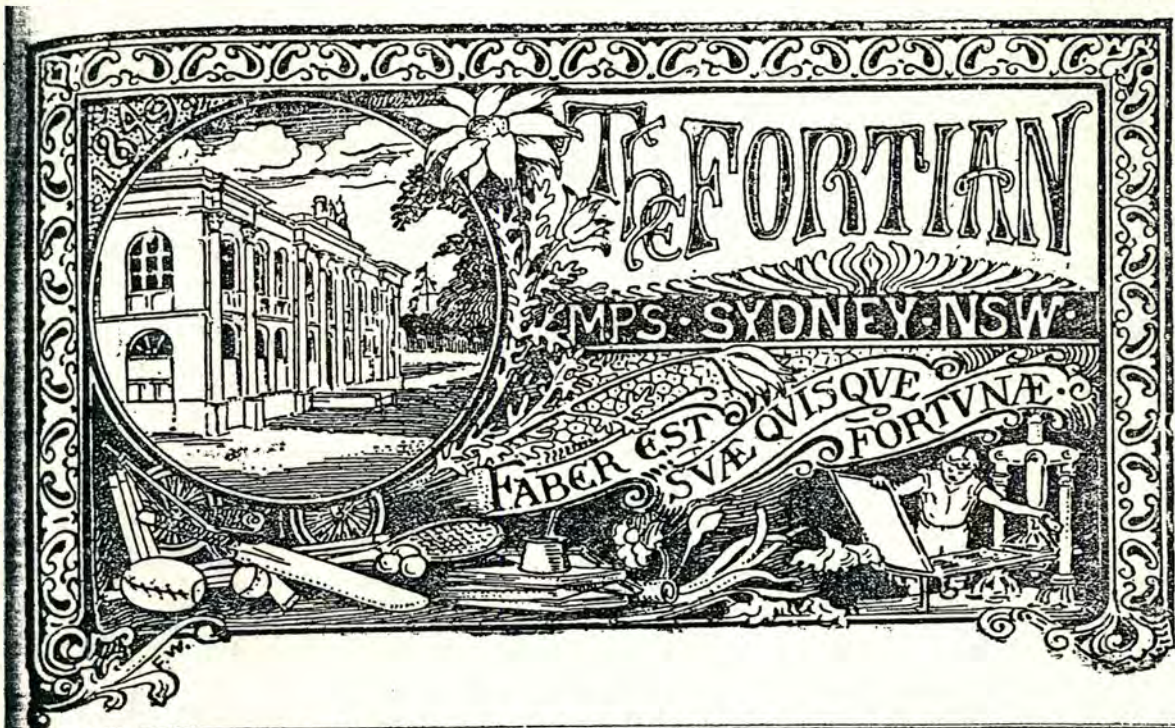
On the Indian trail.

The winter adventures of three boys in the Great Lone Land.

By Canoe and Dog train.

Oowikapin.

A splendidly illustrated Windsor edition of Shakespeare has also been added.



Vol. VI No. 6. SYDNEY, TUESDAY AUGUST, 30th. 1904. Price 1d.

The Fortian.

THE JUNIOR.

A Comparison.

It is usual at this time of the year, after the publication of the Junior results, to endeavour by means of averages to find what our position is with respect to other schools doing the same class of work. Though these averages show that in some cases we have not quite reached the general averages, yet we hope that that fact will be an incentive to put forth a better effort in the future. There must be an endeavour on the part of every one concerned to see to it that in the future the position of the school in every subject and in every grade is up to and beyond the highest standard attained by the school as a whole. The above remark applies however to only a small part of the work of the school as in by far the greater number of subjects the average of the school passes was beyond the general average of passes and in the same subjects viz., mathematics and geography, the average of school passes in the highest grade was far in excess of the general average. We are extremely gratified

to record this pronounced success in mathematics, as the papers set in the subject were, according to the statement of the professor of mathematics expressed in the daily papers, intended to test the powers of thought of the candidate and not their ability to work quickly and accurately problems by rule-of-thumb method. The papers on the whole were somewhat in advance of those previously set, and the fact that the average of school passes in nearly every subject is beyond the general average is a cause for much satisfaction and gratification. We have, as before, taken two standards of comparison; one the comparison of the school average pass with the general average pass, and the other, the school average A pass and the general average A pass. All the subjects for which school candidates entered have been made the subject of comparison, so that we are able to get some idea of the standing of the upper classes of the school with similar work in other schools.

The details of the comparison are below:—

	General av. pass	School av. pass (Boys)
HISTORY	67	66
GEOGRAPHY	76	71
ENGLISH	73	83
FRENCH	69	71
LATIN	72	75
ARITHMETIC	67	83
ALGEBRA	55	76
GEOMETRY	60	80

It will be seen from this comparison that in two subjects the school average was lower than the general average, and in all other subjects higher in some subjects—very much higher.

	General Average	School Average
	A pass	A pass (B. ys.)
HISTORY	12	7
GEOGRAPHY	20	28
ENGLISH	12	8
FRENCH	9	7
LATIN	19	6
ARITHMETIC	15	31
ALGEBRA	15	28
GEOMETRY	17	22

Though this comparison is unfavorable to the School in some subjects, in others there is cause for much satisfaction at the very high standard obtained.

When we come to the consideration of the results obtained by the Girls' Department, we have cause for much congratulation. The same basis of comparison has not been followed, as the total number of boy candidates is far in excess of the girl candidates. But the average pass in each subject for which girls sat has been made and as will be seen in every subject but one the pass is very high. The average includes those who were accounted not to have passed the whole examination, giving them credit for the individual subjects in which they passed. The averages are as follow: English 80 per cent., French 83, Arithmetic 53, History 92, Geography 98, Geology 90, Music 75, Physiology 92.

With respect to A passes a very high average was obtained in Physiology, Geography, Music and Geology, no less than 50 per cent. of the total number obtained in the latter being awarded to the girls.

JUNIOR RESULTS.

The subjects of examination are arranged in 17 sections 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. Book-keeping; 8. arithmetic; 9. algebra; 10. geometry; 11. inorganic chemistry; 12. physics; 13. geology; 14. botany; 15. physiology; 16. drawing; 17. music.

Girls.

- M. Boyce Allen, 1B 2B 3B 4C 5C 13C 15A.
- J. A. Gerson, 1B 2B 3C 4C 13C 15B.
- L. Bailey, 1B 2A 3B 3D 15A.
- S. Comfrey, 2B 3C 4C 13B.
- G. Crook, 1B 2B 3B 3C 13C
- F. Dawson, 1B 2A 3B 13C.
- V. Dibbicks n., 1A 2A 3C 4B 8C 13A 17B.
- M. Dilling, 2A 3B 4C 8C 13C 17A.
- D. Edington, 1B 2A 3B 13C 15A.
- A. Frew, 1C 2C 3C 4C 8C.
- I. Friend, 1C 2B 3C 4C 13C.
- N. Grenwell, 1C 2C 3C 4C 17B.
- A. Goodridge 1C 2B 3C 4C
- R. Harrison, 1B 2B 3B 13A 15A.

- H. Hawthorne, 1C 2B 13C 17B.
- I. Heunert, 1B 2A 3B 4B 5A 13A
- M. Hunt, 2B 3C 4C 8C 13C 15B.
- F. Hutchwaite, 2C 3B 17A 1B
- E. Ivings, 1A 2A 3B 4C 8C 13B.
- M. Johnston, 1C 2C 3B 13C 17C.
- E. Jones, 2B 3B 1C 13C 17C.
- A. Kerr, 1C 2C 3C 4C 8C 13B.
- M. King, 2C 3C 3C 17C.
- E. London, 1C 2C 3C 13C.
- G. Levi k., 1C 2A 3B 4A 8C 13A 17B.
- V. Lvinge, 2C 3C 8C 13C 17C.
- L. Lyons, 1C 2B 3B 13A 17B.
- E. Maloney, 1B 2A 3B 4C 13B 17C.
- I. Matton, 1C 2C 3B 4C 12C 17B.
- E. McKenzie 1B 2A 3B 4C 8C 13A 17B
- M. McLean, 1C 2A 4C 8C.
- K. O'Rourke, 2B 3B 13C 17C.
- C. Partridge, 2C 4C 8C 13C 17C.
- I. Patton, 1A 2A 3B 13A 17A Geography Medal
- E. Peddle, 1C 2C 3C 13C 17A.
- N. Pryde, 2A 3B 4B 8C 13B 17C.
- G. Rhodes, 1B 2A 3B 4B 8C 13B.
- R. Richardson, 2C 3C 4C 13B.
- V. Ryder, 1C 2B 3B 4B 8B 13C.
- E. Sheridan, 1C 2C 3C 4C.
- S. Stevens, 2A 4C 8C 15B.
- E. Sumner cy, 1A 2A 3A 4C 8C 13A 17B.
- D. Thompson, 2A 4C 13B 17A.
- E. Tompkins, 1C 2B 3B 15B.
- G. Waddell, 2B 4C 13A 15A.
- L. Weatherburn, 1A 2A 3C 4C 15A.
- F. Wilson, 1A 2B 3C 13B 15A.
- E. Wise, 1C 2B 3C 8C 13C.
- Isabel Patton, Medal in Geography. Parkes Bursary Prize of £3 for History.
- Ruby Harrison, Gladys Levick prox. acc. for Geology.

**Boys.
MATRICULATION PASSES.**

- Abrams Reginald Orton 3C 4B 6C 8A 9F 10B.
- Connal Norman Scott 1B 3C 4B 6B 8B 9C 10B.
- Cotton Carl Max 1C 3C 4C 6C 8B 9A 10A.
- Dennis Cleon 1C 3B 4B 6B 8A 9A 10C.
- Goard Arthur B. 1C 3B 4B 6B 8A 9A 10B.
- Godson Richard Daniel 1C 3C 4A 6A 8C 9C 10C.
- Griffiths Norman 1C 3B 6B 8A 9B 10A.
- Hallett Percy William 3B 4B 6A 8A 9A 10A.
- Hardwick Frederick 1C 3B 4B 6B 8B 9B 10C.
- Hughes Owen Meredith 3C 4B 6B 8C 9B 10B.
- Hunter John George 1A 3B 4B 6B 8B 9A 10B.
- Little Edy 1A 3A 4B 6B 8B 9B 10A.
- Lloyd Arthur Crawley 1C 3B 4C 6B 8A 9A 10A.
- Marks Lionel Walpole 1C 3C 4C 6C 8A 9B 10B.
- Middleton William M. 1B 3C 4B 6B 8A 9A 10A.
- Moses Reginald J. H. 1B 3B 4A 6C 8B 9A 10A.
- Purse Alexander A. 1B 3B 4B 6B 8A 9C 10B.
- Raymond John M. 4B 6B 8A 9B 10B.

It will be seen from this comparison that in two subjects the school average was lower than the general average, and in all the other subjects higher in some subjects—very much higher.

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Girls.

- M. Boyce Allen. 1B 2B 3B 4C 5C 13C 15A.
- J. A. Derson. 1B 2B 3C 4C 13C 15B.
- L. Bailey. 1B 2A 3B 5C 15A.
- S. Comfrey. 2B 3C 4C 13B.
- G. Crook. 1B 2B 3B 8C 13C.
- F. Dawson. 1B 2A 3B 13C.
- V. Edricksen. 1A 2A 3C 4B 8C 13A 17B.
- M. Felling. 2A 3B 4C 8C 13C 17A.
- D. Follen. 1B 2A 3B 13C 15A.
- A. Frew. 1C 2C 3C 4C 8C.
- I. Friend. 1C 2B 3C 4C 13C.
- N. Grenwell. 1C 2C 3C 4C 17B.
- A. Goodridge. 1C 2B 3C 4C.
- H. Harrison. 1B 2B 3B 13A 15A.

- H. Hawthorne. 1C 2B 13C 17B.
- I. Heunert. 1B 2A 3B 4B 5A 13A.
- M. Hunt. 2B 3C 4C 8C 13C 15B.
- F. Huthwaite. 2C 3B 17A 1B.
- E. Irvine. 1A 2A 3B 4C 8C 13B.
- M. Johnston. 1C 2C 3B 13C 17C.
- E. Jones. 2B 3B 1C 13C 17C.
- A. Kerr. 1C 2C 3C 4C 8C 13B.
- M. King. 2C 3C 3C 17C.
- E. London. 1C 2C 3C 13C.
- G. Levi. 1C 2A 3B 4A 8C 13A 17B.
- V. Levinge. 2C 3C 8C 13C 17C.
- L. Lyons. 1C 2B 3B 13A 17B.
- E. Maloney. 1B 2A 3B 4C 13B 17C.
- J. Martin. 1C 2C 3B 4C 13C 17B.
- E. McKenzie. 1B 2A 3B 4C 8C 13A 17B.
- M. McLean. 1C 2A 4C 8C.
- K. O'Rourke. 2B 8B 13C 17C.
- C. Partridge. 2C 4C 8C 13C 17C.
- I. Patton. 1A 2A 3B 13A 17A Geography Medal.
- E. Peddle. 1C 2C 3C 13C 17A.
- N. Price. 2A 3B 4B 8C 13B 17C.
- G. Rhoads. 1B 2A 3B 4B 8C 13B.
- R. Richardson. 2C 3C 4C 13B.
- V. Ryder. 1C 2B 3B 4B 8B 13C.
- E. Sheridan. 1C 2C 3C 4C.
- S. Stevens. 2A 4C 8C 15B.
- E. Summerby. 1A 2A 3A 4C 8C 13A 17B.
- D. Thompson. 2A 4C 13B 17A.
- E. Tompkins. 1C 2B 3B 15B.
- G. Waddell. 2B 4C 13A 15A.
- L. Weatherburn. 1A 2A 3C 4C 15A.
- F. Wilson. 1A 2B 3C 13B 15A.
- E. Wise. 1C 2B 3C 8C 13C.

Isabel Patton, Medal in Geography, Parkes Bursary Prize of £3 for History.
 Ruby Harrison, Gladys Levick prox. acc. for Geology.

**Boys.
 MATRICULATION PASSES.**

- Abrams Reginald Orton 3C 4B 6C 8A 9F 10B.
- Conrad Norman Scott 1B 3C 4B 6B 8B 9C 10B.
- Cotton Carl Max 1C 3C 4C 6C 8B 9A 10A.
- Dennis Cleon 1C 3B 4B 6B 8A 9A 10C.
- Goard Arthur B. 1C 3B 4B 6B 8A 9A 10B.
- Godson Richard Daniel 1C 3C 4A 6A 8C 9C 10C.
- Griffiths Norman 1C 3B 6B 8A 9B 10A.
- Hallett Percy William 3B 4B 6A 8A 9A 10A.
- Hardwick Frederick 1C 3B 4B 6B 8B 9B 10C.
- Hughes Owen Meredith 3C 4B 6B 8C 9B 10B.
- Hunter John George 1A 3B 4B 6B 8B 9A 10B.
- Little Edy 1A 3A 4B 6B 8B 9B 10A.
- Lloyd Arthur Crawley 1C 3B 4C 6B 8A 9A 10A.
- Marks Lionel Walpole 1C 3C 4C 6C 8A 9B 10B.
- Middleton William M. 1B 3C 4B 6B 8A 9A 10A.
- Moses Reginald J. H. 1B 3B 4A 6C 8B 9A 10A.
- Purse Alexander A. 1B 3B 4B 6B 8A 9C 10B.
- Raymond John M. 4B 6B 8A 9B 10B.

Rogers Frederick C. 1C 3B 4A 6B 8A 9B 10A.
 Silvester Vernon H. 1B 3C 4C 6C 8A 9A 10B.
 Small Norman P. 3C 4B 6C 8A 9B 10B.
 Tompkins Reginald F. 1B 3B 4B 6B 8C 9C 10C.
 Dennis obtained prox. acc. for algebra and
 Raymond prox. acc. for arithmetic.

OTHER PASSES.

Barrow Richmond Selwin 3B 4C 6B 8C 9B 10B.
 Betty George Mc.Master 1B 2B 3C 8C 9B 10B.
 Bisset Harold Victor 2C 3C 8B 9C 10B.
 Bosward James Hamilton 3C 4C 8A 9B 10A.
 Broadbent Raymond J. 1C 2C 3B 4C 8A 9A 10A.
 Broadfoot Walter Leslie 1C 3C 8C 9C 10B.
 Butchart John Anderson 2B 8C 9B 10C.
 Carver Bernard W. B. 1C 2C 3C 8C 9A 10B.
 Chatfield Charles James 1C 3C 8B 9C 10B.
 Christie Arthur Mowbray 1C 2C 8C 9C 10C.
 Christoe Gerald Bluod 1C 2C 3C 8C 9C 10C.
 Costin William Charles 1C 3C 4C 8C 9B.
 Cunningham Lindsay K. 1C 3C 4C 6C 8C 9C 10B.
 Davis Stanley Fairfax 1C 2C 3C 10C
 Drake David 1C 2B 8A 9C 10A
 Duff William W. 2C 8C 9C 10B.
 Evans Harold Victor 1C 4C 6C 8B 9C 10C
 Halloran Garnet R. 1C 3C 4B 6C 8C 9C 10B.
 Hearne Edward 1B 2B 3B 4C 8B 9B 10B.
 Holihan William P. 1C 2B 3C 10C
 Lewis Robert Westland 2B 8C 9C 10C.
 Linsley D'Arcy 3C 8A 9C 10C.
 Marx Rudolf A. 1A 2B 3A 4C 8B 9C 10C.
 Martin Malcolm Sydney 4B 6C 8C 10B.
 Morrison Leslie Campbell 1C 2A 3C 8B 9A 10B
 Nash Norman Charles 1B 2A 3C 4C 8A 9A 10A.
 O'Neil Raymond, 3C 4C 8C 9C 10B.
 Percival William G. 2C 3C 8C 9C 10C.
 Poggioli Hercules H. 3C 4C 8C 9C 10C.
 Rhodes Oscar 1C 3C 4C 6C 8C 10B.
 Ross Colin 1C 3C 4C 6C 8B 9C 10C.
 Serbutt James L. 1B 2A 3C 8C 13B 17A.
 Shaw Eric H. 2A 8C 9C 10B.
 Sheppard Wilfred J. 3C 4C 6C 8C 10C.
 Smith Reginald G. 3B 4C 8A 9C 10B.
 Turner William T. 1B 2A 3C 4C 8B 9B 10A.
 Vaughan Richard 2C 8C 9C 10C.
 Walker William 1C 2A 3C 8B 9C 10C.
 Warner Ernest W. 2C 8C 9C 10B.
 Wescott Charles 2B 3B 8B 9C 10C.
 Wheeler Robert L. 1B 2A 3C 4C 8B 9C 10C

ENGLISH.

Biographical Sketches.

These sketches belong to a series of six. The others will appear in future issues. Junior boys will do well to keep these copies.

WILLIAM COWPER.

William Cowper went to school at Westminster, and afterwards studied both branches of the law. A

misfortune in love and religious excitement drove him to forms of suicidal madness. Recovering, he spent fifteen years in the country before beginning to write. After this period he spent some ten years in happiness and sanity. During this period his poems were written.

His chief works were the "Task" (1785), "Homer" and the "Castaway". The latter expresses utter despair, for his melancholy mania returned during the period that he was writing this his last and greatest poem. There are other works of his, perfect of their kind. "John Gilpin" shows the possession of wonderful wit. "Boadicea" is truly noble, and unsurpassed of its kind.

Cowper's poetry partly belonged to the old school of Pope, and partly to the new Romantic school which had hardly begun in his time. He used the old forms, especially the rhymed couplet. But he wrote blank verse too, though he kept many of the stiff phrases that were making poetry unreal. His form was that of the old school, whether we regard the fine trochees of the "Boadicea" or the iambs of the "Castaway." But in his close study of nature he almost reminds us of Wordsworth. Moreover, he was of a kindly humour that is quite different from the satire of the school of Pope or the licence of playwrights like Wycherly. He has a deeper feeling too, as in the lines beginning "I was a stricken deer that left the herd."

For the rest, his nature was gentle, pure and courteous. His malady gave him some prejudices; but they scarcely interfere with the merits of his work. He was not broad minded; nor had he much reasoning power. But he helped to make poetry more natural, and free and pure, than in the last age.

MICHAEL DRAYTON.

Drayton came from Warwickshire, the same country as Shakespeare. He was a masterful man, somewhat disappointed at not reaching the rank he thought he had earned.

(a) His great work is the "Polyolbion." This describes the scenery of England in verse. The idea is curious. Naturally a good deal of the work is below Drayton's best. But it shows great pains and achieves a good deal of success. Some passages are full of fine poetry.

(b) In addition Drayton was very successful as a writer of sonnets. The most famous begins with the line:—

"Since there's no help, come, let us kiss and part."

(c) It is natural that one who succeeds at sonnets should write good ballads. Drayton wrote two poems on Agincourt. One is a rather long description of the battle. The other begins:—

"Fair stood the wind for France."

Its rhythm is very valuable as a model for battle songs. It contains one or two of the finest lines in

English poetry, e. g.

"Lopp'd the French lilies."

Both Campbell and Tennyson imitated the form of this poem in their best battle-songs.

(d) Drayton wrote many other poems bearing on English History. The subject had great attractions for him as for his greater master Spenser, whom he followed a good deal. The "Rivers' Wars" is a long work in six books; "England's Heroic Epistles" is a collection of short and vigorous historical pieces. Poems on Queen Margaret, Robert Curthose, Matilda, Piers Gaveston, and Thomas Cromwell, show that his interest in history was deep and abiding. We therefore always class Drayton as a patriotic poet.

(e) Not much is known of Drayton's life; but he lived to the age of about seventy years, and saw greater triumphs even than that of Agincourt—the Defeat of the Armada above all.

Thomas Campbell.

Campbell's Scotch surroundings gave him a taste for natural beauty, which, combined with a poetic temperament, led him to write the "Pleasures of Hope" at the age of twenty-one. Soon afterwards, going to the Continent, he saw something of the war between France and Germany. One incident of this war—the Battle of Hohenlinden, was afterwards made the subject of one of his most stirring poems.

His sentiment is delicious and pure, and this, together with the scanty amount of his poetry, reminds us of Gray. Like Gray, too, he had extraordinary lyric power; indeed, his battle songs have a more exhilarating list than Gray's Odes.

In his few lyrics, Campbell shows great power of finding the right word for the right place. The expressions he uses often seem the only ones that quite fit the situation. The tone of his verse is generally quiet and uniform—often full of real and deep pathos, as at the close of "Hohenlinden":—

"Few, few shall part where many meet!
The snow shall be their winding-sheet;
And every turf beneath their feet
Shall be a soldier's sepulchre!"

But the verse rises at times to a trumpet call, to the boom of guns, to the shouts of victory, only to sink away to the groans of the dying. This power of adapting the versification to the sense is not so perfect in details as Tennyson's; but the success of Campbell in always keeping the general character of his verse suitable to the mood of his subject is a great merit.

The fame of Campbell rests almost wholly upon his songs with their perfection of form, their noble rhythm, and their patriotic spirit. "Hohenlinden," The "Battle of the Baltic" "Ye Mariners of England," "Lochiel," and "A Deserted

Garden," with possibly one or two other short pieces, give him a reputation higher than almost any other poet has achieved by so scanty an amount of work.

Explorer Stuart and his Friend.

John McDowall Stuart is well known as the explorer of Central Australia; his adventures and difficulties are matters of history. In 1861, he started on his fourth journey, and with his devoted followers, passed over many pains of sand under a burning sun, without water, and after many wearisome days, his companion desired to return by the way they came. Just at this time when all hearts were hopeless of success, Mr. Stuart espied an immense tract of land, partly covered with low bushes. He flung himself from his horse on to the ground, placed his ear close down, and to his intense joy heard the murmuring of the sea! Quickly mounting, he hastened with his anxious followers in the direction, and soon caught sight of the Indian Ocean. He returned to Adelaide, and was received with every honour.

But it is not of the exploration nor the adventures that we now write about, but of a faithful companion that was literally faithful unto death, and he remained by his master's side during all his years of travel. Only a dog, but one whose story is worth knowing. Hopp, for that was the name his master gave him, was partly a wild dog, but had been patiently and carefully trained till his love and devotion was equal to that of any of his civilised relations. Hopp retained much of his native ferocity to all but Mr. Stuart; to him he was docile and loving, never leaving his side. At his signal he would start off when kangaroos were seen, and would chase up a couple so that they were secured for food, for these explorers never slaughtered "for sport," but for necessity.

When Mr. Stuart slept, Hopp was sentry all the night, and when the natives came stealing round in hope of plunder, Hopp would silently rub his nose against his master's head till he woke, for Hopp, never barked; his ears and nostrils would quiver at any unusual sound, and he seemed ever on the alert for his master. We read that when the explorers were on the defensive side against the natives Hopp would spring savagely upon them, and himself "ambushed" for three of them. He leaped at their boomerangs, and it was wonderful how he sprang in the right way to avoid them. Mr. Stuart owns that he has more than once owed his life to Hopp, whose intense love for him was marvellous.

Mr. Stuart died of consumption in 1867. During all that last sad time of sickness Hopp always lay at his feet, sleeping or waking, and would

gaze earnestly in his face as if to know what he could do. On the last day of his master's life Hopp was most restless and seemed doubly so. He constantly approached the bed moaning after a time would give a howl of sorrow then came a great howl of despair, for he knew that his master had left him!

Mr. Stuart had quietly given his last sigh, and by some strange knowledge the half-wild dog knew of his misery. He lay down at once, in silence by the bed, and when the men came to do their necessary duties they feared to go near the mad dog or to rouse him. At last they approached the dead and saw that they need not fear. Hopp was dead! His great, wild, loving heart burst with his grief. We should have liked to know that the body of this devoted half-wild creature had received honourable burial, for surely it was worthy, but here our knowledge of Hopp ends.

There are men both good and true who hold that in a future state dumb creatures we have cherished here below give us joyous greeting as we pass the Golden Gate. "What sort of a prospect is it that I hope it may be so?"

From the *Band of Mercy*

FOOTBALL.

Our Boys At Orange And Bathurst.

Under the auspices of the N.S.W. Rugby Union 15 footballers, left Sydney on Thursday for Orange, with Mr. W. A. Ferguson in charge. At Orange the team was taken for a drive to the various sights of the district. In the afternoon the first match was played against a combined team of local schoolboys. The game ended in favour of the visitors by 12 points to 3. A fine knowledge of the game was shown by the home team who were however somewhat lighter than their opponents. For the winners, J. Bosward (2 tries), and Nicholson (1 each) scored, while Dunbar led the line for the losers. In the evening the boys were entertained at a banquet at which the Mayor presided. The stay was made most enjoyable by the hospitality of the Central Western Union. The team afterwards left for Bathurst to play their second match on the morrow. In the morning they were driven to St. Stanislaus' College, of which a pleasant and interesting inspection was made. The match against the combined schools was played in the afternoon on the cricket ground. Here also the team had an advantage in weight, and defeated the schools by 36 points to nil. Tries were scored by J. Bosward (2), Adamson (2) Nichols

Armstrong, Sherwood and Hardwick; Smith kicked three goals, Willis, Adamson, and Pattison one each. In the evening the Technological Museum was inspected. The team left Bathurst for Sydney by the 10.40 p. m. train after a pleasant and instructive trip.

It is the intention of the Club to publish a 1904 football souvenir, at the conclusion of the season when a full report of the Club's doings will be fully discussed. The price of this little book will be very nominal. Every boy should get one and see what success has been achieved in our School football.

The medals for the winning teams in each of the competitions will be distributed at an early date.

SCHOOL NEWS.

The Founders of the School.

This lecture will be repeated at the request of many of our pupils, girls and boys, who through lack of accommodation were prevented attending its first delivery, on Thursday afternoon, September 8th.

The lecturer, F. J. Broomfield Esq. will again be assisted by G. Rivers Allpress Esq. and W. H. Howes Esq. The latter gentleman will supply fresh illustrations. The proceeds of the lecture on the 25th. Ang., amounted to £5 4s. 6d.

Latest communications from Mr. Lasker state that he is in attendance at the Pedagogical School, University of Chicago.

Character.

The face which character wears to me is self-sufficiency. I revere the person who is rich; so that I cannot think of him as alone, or poor, or exiled, or unhappy, or a client, but as a perpetual patron, benefactor, and beautiful man. Character is centrality, the impossibility of being displeased or over-set.

Emerson.

Worth knowing.

Self-conquest is the greatest of victories.
Your criticism of another is your verdict on yourself.
Time that is lost is never found.

Library Notices.

We desire to acknowledge with our best thanks the gift of seven interesting books from the firm of Messrs. Wm. Brooks & Co. Castlereagh Street, Sydney, for the use of pupils in our Library.

We have also received from the firm of Messrs. Whitcombe and Tombs, New Zealand, some useful literature about Australia which we gladly place at the disposal of our readers in the Library.

The following books have recently been added to the Library. Some of them are to take the place of old friends which have become too worn for further use and many are quite new.

Picturesque Atlas of Australia, Old and New Sydney, The Real Siberia, America at Work, An Adventurer in Spain, The Octopus, The Pit, Master Skylark, Penshurst Castle, The Queen's Maries, Mistress Dorothy Marvin, With Clive in India, The Lifeboat, Gascoyne, With Crockett and Bowie, Adventures of a Three Guinea Watch, The Island Queen, The Young Colonists, Wooded and Married, At Aboukir and Acre, Fighting the Matabele, Donovan, At war with Pontiac, Captured by Indians, A Gallant Grenadier, Big Otto, A Norseman in the West, Fighting the Flames, Halloween Ahoy, Missing Merchantmen, Mary St. John, In the Golden Days, Through the Sikh War, The Lighthouse, Son' Wester and Sword, One of the Fighting Scouts, Dick o' the Fens.

Some of these have been specially chosen to complete the large list of historical novels the Library contains and others to enable boys and girls to gain a good idea of the world in which they live, in a way which will be interesting to themselves.

The picturesque atlas of Australasia gives a historical and descriptive account of Australasia, with numerous illustrations, and is probably the most complete work on Australasia that exists. The Real Siberia, America at Work and An Adventurer in Spain give an up-to-date idea of the three countries mentioned. The Real Siberia has an added interest at the present time as it partly deals with places where the war is now being waged. America at Work is a description of some of the largest cities and most important industries of the United States. The Octopus and The Pit are really in sequence, and they deal with the production of wheat in America and the method of its distribution.

Master Skylark, Penshurst Castle, and The Queen's Maries are descriptive of the manners and customs of the Elizabethan period and in themselves are very interesting stories. Queen Elizabeth and Shakespeare are two of the characters in the first book, Sir Philip Sydney in the second and Mary Queen of Scots in the third. The Monmouth rebellion and the methods of Lord Jeffreys in dealing with accused persons are

described in the story of Mistress Dorothy Marvin. Beside those which have been specially named a number of others deal in a very interesting manner with events and characters of great historical importance and of places about which, and with people whom, we should know a great deal.

The following have also been added:—

The Willoughby Captains, Lhasa at Last, Harlequin's Book to Tennyson's Works, Elizabethan England, Round the World on a Wheel, The Way to Success, Yule Logs.

Stories from English History, 3 parts, (Stuart period, Tudor period, Hanoverian period,) Bell's Historical Readers, Prince Edward History Readers, Stories of Australian Exploration, The struggle for Freedom, King Richard II, First Book of British History, Landmarks in English and Scottish History, Down to the Sea in Ships, Discoverers and Explorers, Story of Aeneas, Old Greek stories, The Story of the Greeks, The Story of the Chosen Peoples, Old stories of the East, Arabian Nights, New Year, The Land of Gum Leaves, Tales of the Bushmen, There and Back, Voyage of the Thomson.

A testimony to the loyalty of Australians

"We must profit by the lessons of past experience. Great Britain and her colonies must stand shoulder to shoulder, and then, come what storm there may, Britain will hold her own.

Democratic Australia is sensitively anxious to develop her own—only in her own way. Having had a free hand to do so, she is sensitively loyal to the one great link of Imperial unity—the Crown,—and has ever striven to share the ambitions, traditions, joys and sorrows, the civilizing mission and responsibilities, of our mighty Empire. When I return to England, I shall be able to confirm His Majesty the King in the opinion that amongst the most loyal, most true-hearted of his subjects beyond the seas, Australians hold the foremost place."

—From a speech delivered by the late GOVERNOR GENERAL OF AUSTRALIA, LORD TENNYSON.

Shorthand Class.

Miss E. Delargy of the Kindergarten Department being an authorised teacher, under the Technical College, of the Cambridge "Orthic" Shorthand, is desirous of forming a boys' class.

Fees per quarter of ten lessons will be five shillings or sixpence per week, one hour lesson from 4 p. m. till 5 p. m. each week.

In the "Orthic" system the words are written as they are spelt, so that the spelling is not impaired. Boys' names may be enrolled any dinner hour during this month at the Kindergarten Department.

Parkes' Bursary.

(Contributed.)

The School is to be congratulated on possessing this year's winner of the prize annually awarded by the managing Committee of the Fund established some years ago to perpetuate the memory of the late Sir Henry Parkes. Miss Isabel Grace Patton, of the Girls' Department, succeeded at the recent University Junior examination in gaining the highest marks obtained by any Public School boy or girl in the subject of History, and that being the subject chosen previous to the examination, the Committee have now awarded her the prize. We compliment Miss Patton, who will be enabled to choose three pounds' worth of books, etc., or a medal, as the result of her success.

Former winners of this prize were as follows:—
1897 A. E. Scrutton, Leichhardt Public, Highest marks Junior Exam. (omitting Greek, Latin, French, German.)

1898 Leslie Pinn, Goulburn Public, best pass by a Public School pupil at Technical College examination.

1909 Jessie McNaught, Hillgrove Public, History, Junior examination.

1901 W. C. Petherbridge, East Maitland Public, Manual Training and Elementary Drawing, Technical College Exam.

1902 Ada A. Hadsfield, Goulburn Public, English, Junior Examination.

1903 C. W. Slater, Goulburn Public, Science subjects at Technical College examination.

1904 Isabel G. Patton, Fort Street Model School, History, Junior Exam.

For her prizes will be given as under and are open to all Public School pupils—boys or girls:—

For "Chemistry" at the Technical College Examinations of December 1904.

For "Arithmetic" at the University Junior Examination of 1905.

Changes in the University Matriculation Examination.

On the advice of the Board of Professors, the Senate of the Sydney University has decided to raise the standard required for admission to the Faculty of Arts. Hitherto three examinations have been used for this purpose. A boy could matriculate in the Junior by passing in, say, Latin, French, Algebra, Geometry and Arithmetic, and securing B passes in either the languages or the mathematics. Or he could take the same subjects for the March Matriculation Examination. Both these tests are rather easy. The third test was the Senior Public Examination. The training for the Senior takes at least

two years longer than for the other examinations. This has been the only real test of fitness to enter the University. Students who have only passed the Junior or March Matriculation test are hopelessly left behind in their first year's course in Arts. But, as many of our Fort Street boys have shown, those who are wise enough to stay on for the Senior are very well able to take care of themselves; and indeed to win prizes and scholarships as well. It will now be necessary for boys who wish to be able to enter the University to stay on at school for say two years longer. By the age of seventeen they should be fit to hold their own at any University. They will then already have not a passable, but a good education.

It will be necessary for all candidates to take English. They must pass, say, in Latin, French, English, Arithmetic, Geometry and Algebra, well enough to secure at least a "B" in the Junior. They must pass a higher examination in at least two subjects, including Latin. It will be well, however, if boys try to pass the higher examination in all six subjects.

The change is a good one. Many bright boys have been spoilt by being hurried through their course too quickly. The University has suffered from admitting weak students who only go down in their First Year's examination. Now, both the students and the University will have a fair chance to do their best work. Even to boys who may not go on to the University, an examination like the future matriculation test will be a better reference, for any position, than the Junior.

The work will now be more interesting. Literature and History will go along with each language, and will widen and brighten the course of study. English will be studied, probably, in the works of our greatest authors rather than in any grammar books.

We should like to see Latin placed on a level with other subjects, so that boys could, if they pleased, take German in its place. But as things stand, Latin must not only be studied, but studied deeply and well.

Fortunately, this school and the great secondary schools have shown that they can cope with all the new demands. Parents and boys will be thankful for the ever increasing facilities for an excellent education. The new matriculation examination will give opportunities for winning University scholarships and bursaries.

School Concert.

We desire to thank our numerous friends for their support given us at our Concert held on the last and while recognising that the Concert was a decided success from a musical and artistic point of view we wish to state that financially it was not so successful as we anticipated. We have, however, made good use of what we got and wish for a furtherance of support in the future.

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In South Western New South Wales.

(Continued.)

Last year brought a good season again, so that rabbits have made another appearance, coming from goodness knows where. They have even come into the town. One had a burrow under the Vicarage; another lived under the Teacher's residence. The latest method of fighting Bunny is to lay a trail as usual and bury cylindrical tins of water poisoned with arsenic. Bunny trades on a flat board which causes two small jets of the liquid to squirt upon him. He then commits suicide by licking this off at his leisure.

At present, kangaroos and emus are rather scarce. Only one did I see emus in their wild state and that was on the Victorian side of the Murray. Dingoes are rather numerous and destructive, and of late years the fox has made his unwelcome appearance on some of the stations. Snakes are not as plentiful as on the tablelands, except along the banks of the Murray. I have heard hair-raising tales of the number of hissing serpents on the Morgan road, but "snake yarns" are unreliable at times, so I must desist from repeating them. The iguana often breaks the midday silence, as he hurriedly retreats up a neighbouring tree and gives you the road.

Among birds, the common kinds are the pigeons and parrots, rosellas and galahs. The rosellas are quite different in colour to their coastal cousins. Black and wood ducks, and teal are plentiful, especially down on Lake Victoria and on the Anabranch. An old inhabitant told me that he has seen the wild ducks fly in single file, winding in and out with the course of the Murray, and flying continuously from daylight to dark. (I hesitate to vouch for the truth of this statement). A party of three recently brought back 98 ducks in a couple of days, so they are still numerous. In April 1904, in the early morning I passed Lake Hattah, which lies about 60 miles from the Murray at Mildura and was astonished at the immense numbers of black swans there. Pelicans, and cranes are also to be found at different parts of the rivers.

The weather experienced by these inland towns is a very interesting subject. In winter it is perfect. It is impossible to imagine anything more agreeable than the dry air and temperate warmth of a mid-winter's day on the Darling. Globe-trotters admit that the Mediterranean shores can give no more pleasant climate. Rain is scarcer in winter than in summer when the thunderstorms afford a welcome relaxation to the rigours of the heat. Hence the curious occurrence last July of a water famine at Broken Hill in the depth of winter. In summer, the whole of the inland towns experience an extremely hot climate. Hay, Narrandera, Bourke, and Wilcannia are visited by successive periods of hot days during which the thermometer shows 110 or 115 degrees daily. Nor are the nights cool as you have them on the Coast, but the mercury remains somewhere near 100 degrees until about 4 a.m., when a slight fall in temperature occurs. Wentworth and Euston are more fortunate, for changes come frequently from the South, via Renmark in South Australia, and are more appreciated than a "Southerly Buster" in a Sydney midsummer. The summer is accompanied by dreadful dust-storms, or "Darling showers" as they are called. The wind strips the hills of all loose sand and hurls it high in the air until the sun's light is almost shut out. Windows and doors are hurriedly closed as the shower reaches town, but the sand and dust avail themselves of every crevice and cover everything with a sandy coat. I have known it so dark on a summer afternoon at 3 o'clock that it was necessary to light the lamps. Perhaps after the gale, a "showerette" will make a futile effort to lay the dust.

I was greatly struck by the ridiculous mistakes that ap-

pear even in the latest maps of that part of New South Wales. For example, Mt. Lookout is honoured with a prominent position on the Murray. You can find it in your school map. It is the only mountain worth marking for hundreds of miles. And what a mountain! It towers to the height of some twenty feet. Approaching from the west you walk up the slope for about four miles and at length reach the summit. Mt. Lookout! I am of opinion that it was named so because you have to look out that you do not trip over it. Then there is something marked like a town on every respectable map of this state, and called Mourjoong. Several times I went out on expeditions of discovery with Mourjoong as my objective. Once I found a deserted boundary-rider's hut and concluded that in days gone by it had an energetic progress committee among its inhabitants.

About two miles to the west of Wentworth rise Perry's Sandhills—successive mounds and ridges of singularly fine, clear reddish sand, which are encroaching gradually towards the river when a westerly wind blows. In this hill may be found the grave of many a blackfellow, but only the larger bones of the skeleton remain intact. Not far from the Victorian bank of the Murray we once found two skeletons buried in a cramped position side by side. Years and years ago the two bodies had been buried upright, but the soil had washed away and exposed the round, smooth surface of the skulls. We were never so fortunate as to discover any other original relics, but I saw several local collections, and in the school museum we had a waddy, axeheads and numerous nardoo-stones, as well as a long hooked stick for extracting those delicious grubs from the tree-trunks. The nardoo-stones were used in grinding the "nardoo," the seed of a native plant much like the marsh-mallow. You will find a reference to its use in the records of poor Burke and Wills. The latter writes just before his death that he was starving on nardoo. The seed was ground between two stones. The nether stone was flat and oval in shape, somewhat like a rounded doorstep and about five inches in thickness. It was placed on the ground and the seed spread upon it. The operator held the other stone, which varied in size from that of a football to about half that size. After continual use the latter became as smooth and rounded as a water-worn rock, and it wore a corresponding hollow in the nether stone. This domestic duty was usually consigned to the "gins" who also kneaded the flour and baked the dough in the ashes.

At present it is almost as unusual to see an aboriginal in that part of N. S. W. as on the tablelands. A few years back the police were sent out almost to the South Australian border, south of Broken Hill, to bring in a tribe of aboriginals known as the Scotia blacks. The members of this tribe had never been in contact with the whites. I could not find out why they were not left in peace, unless it was that their existence was looked upon as being a source of danger. Anyhow the usual result followed. They were accommodated in a camp on the Darling near Pconcaira and under the civilizing influence of the white man they have almost disappeared. A few of their descendants still remain. The Victorian Government has also gone to some expense and trouble over the remnants of a tribe formerly living near Mildura. It has built galvanized huts near the river, and now supplies the men with rations. But as the blacks have not risen in the scale of civilisation to appreciate a permanent habitation, they have built their own gunyahs within a hundred yards of the state camp. Very probably they now use "that pellatin house" as dog-kennels. Years ago the aboriginals were very numerous down near Lake Victoria where the "overlanders" with their herds of cattle on their way to South Australia had generally to run the gauntlet of several very warlike tribes.

(Erratum—For "North Eastern" read "North Western" in this article of last issue. Ed. Fortian.)

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Vol. VI No. 7. SYDNEY, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER, 27th. 1904. Price 1d.

The Fortian.

ROBERT WARDELL, LL. D.
The Pioneer Publicist of Australia.

ROBERTO WARDELL LL. D.
A LATRONE VAGANTE OCCISO.
A. D. 1834. ETATIS SVAE 41.
SORORES.

Thus, in quaint and crudest Latinity, a tablet in the church of St. James, in King Street, Sydney's city, commemorates a man to whom Australia owes a debt not easily or readily summarised in a concise or adequate statement. The inscription is as meagre as it is ungrammatical. We are simply told that Robert Wardell was a doctor of laws, that he was done to death in 1834, in the forty-first year of his life, by a plundering robber, and that the tablet had been placed in the church by his sisters. There is no word, no mention, of his great services to law, to learning, to literature, and to the advancement of the liberties of his adopted country. But Dr. Robert Wardell, LL.D., was a man of mark in a period of Australian history lacking in leaders of force of character and high intellectual gifts. The friend and fellow-worker of William Charles Wentworth, with whom he came to

Sydney from England in the year 1824, he laboured shoulder to shoulder with his great confrere for a brief decade before his tragic death at the hands of bush-rangers who were probably ignorant of the identity of the man they so ruthlessly slew. His services to the young Colony were many and important, and his rise at the Bar of New South Wales upon the promulgation of the New Charter of Justice by Sir Francis Forbes (the first Chief Justice of New South Wales) was as deserved as it was rapid. In an obituary notice published in "The Sydney Gazette" (Saturday, September 1834) occurs the following deserved eulogy:—

"In the most stormy times he was the undaunted advocate of popular measures. . . . As a public writer he never yet had his equal in the Colony, and as a gentleman of the strictest honour he was surpassed by none. That his death is therefore, a public bereavement, will not, we think, be denied even by his enemies; and it is not too much to say, that it may probably be long ere the Colony possesses within it a public man uniting his person a combination of higher talents than distinguished the late ill-fated Dr. Robert Wardell."

Robert Wardell was by birth a Yorkshireman, and he first saw the light of an English sun in 1793—the year in which William Charles Wentworth was born at Norfolk Island. Little is known of his youth, but

we knew that at least his early manly life was both brilliant and distinguished. Among other manifestations of an active and a robust intellect, he achieved no little reputation as the editor of "The Statesman," a newspaper remarkable for the excellence of its Law Reports. It was further noteworthy for its ultra-Whiggism, at a time, says a contemporary historian, "when it was neither safe nor profitable to profess opposition to the Government." Having determined upon adventuring his fortune on the uncharted sea of Antipodean experience—a determination arrived at through an enthusiastic friendship formed with Wentworth, then a newly-fledged barrister of illimitable ambitions—Wardell sold his share in "The Statesman" newspaper, received his degree of "Legum Doctor," and made ready for what in that time was a task of an Herculean nature, i. e., a long, uncomfortable and wearisome voyage by the slow and hampered wings of a sailing ship to the remote island-continent of Australia.

Both Wentworth and Wardell were, upon their arrival in Sydney; admitted by the Supreme Court of New South Wales to the practice of their profession within the boundaries of the young colony, and both from the very first were eminently successful. Indeed, it is noted of Wardell in particular that he was engaged in nearly every lawsuit in the Supreme Court as well as otherwise discharging his barristerial functions. But law did not absorb the energies of the two friends. They had brought from England with them a complete newspaper plant, with all the necessary printing machinery, and soon after their arrival they established a weekly journal. It was on the 4th of October, 1824, that the first number of the now famous "Australian" appeared, with Wardell and Wentworth as co-proprietors and joint editors. It was an immediate success, and as soon as it reached England (a long and tedious distance oversea in that remote day) it was largely quoted and commented upon by the journals of the mother country. To quote from an editorial in "The Sydney Herald" of Monday, September 15th 1834:—

"It ('The Australian') served to draw the attention of the British public and the Ministry to New South Wales and to the conduct of its public officers when reproached for conduct unworthy of their station or injurious to the community. Dr. Wardell was the first journalist who pointed out the interests of the Colonists by shewing them the position they held in reference to the Mother-Country."

There is little doubt that it was Wardell, rather than Wentworth, who conducted the literary and philippic side of the journalistic venture. Attorney-General Saxe-Bannister, who was one of the vehemently assailed, had no manner of doubt about it whatever and went to the expense of printing and publishing a pamphlet in order to justify his conviction. Not alone was Wardell already a noted

English journalist and distinguished editor of a high-class newspaper as "The Statesman," remarkable for its Law Reports; but when the Doctor was pitilessly slain at the comparatively early age of forty one years, "The Australian" lost much of its brilliant vehemence. Indeed it is probable that Wentworth was never much more than an occasional contributor although he was a prime factor in the establishment of this independent organ of opinion. In his "Statistical, Historical and Political Description of New South Wales and its dependent settlements in Van Diemen's Land," "the Patriot" wrote:— "Anything in the shape of political discussion is a novelty which it is rarely permitted to exhibit. An independent paper, therefore, which may serve to point out the rising interest of the Colonists, and become the organ of their grievances and rights, their wishes and wants, is highly necessary, and it is to be hoped will be speedily set on foot." Rusden speaking in his "history" of Wentworth thus continues in reference to Dr. Wardell.

"Another able barrister arrived at the same time who was to be closely allied with Wentworth's public life. The Supreme Court created by the New Constitution Act was not their only arena. In October 1824 Brisbane announced that the censorship of the press would be discontinued and 'The Sydney Gazette' became untrammelled. No more was it the only newspaper. In the columns of the Australian, established in 1824, Wentworth and Wardell thundered in a style unknown in the colony before. Sir Ralph Darling had the reputation of being the first to curb the licentiousness of the press, but Brisbane submitted the matter to the Secretary of State (10th Jan. 1825), and it was in response to his dispatch that Lord Bathurst (12th of July, 1825) directed Darling 'at the earliest opportunity' to initiate a measure to control the press, to exact a licence before publication, and to make the maximum term of licence one year."

"The Australian" was the mouthpiece of the "Patriotic Association," of which confraternity of young and ardent spirits Wentworth, Wardell, Dr. William Bland were first members and prime promoters. Wentworth, however, notwithstanding his high courage and first class fighting qualities grew nervous at the audacity of his press yoke-fellow. G. B. Barton in his "Literature of New South Wales" has a meaningful note:—"Mr. Wentworth saw if he continued with the Press he should subject himself to heavy penalties; he gave his share to Dr. Wardell who was soon prosecuted by Government. He sold the copyright for £3,600 to eight shareholders. It sold 600 copies twice a week. Last number, published 28th Sep. 1848." Wardell, by the way, had been dead fourteen years at the cessation of publication of the paper he founded with Wentworth.

The price of the historic journal was one shilling per copy and it contained four pages of four columns to a page, 2½ inches long by 13 inches in width. These details are worthy of record for several reasons. The most cogent is that "The Australian" was the first paper published in the mother colony to voice the aims and the aspirations of the native-born. "The Sydney Gazette" had its origin in the needs of officialdom and was established originally (in the year 1803) for the purpose of promulgating the Governor's General Orders—the despotic ordinances that did duty for the Acts of Parliament, the enactment of which Wentworth and Wardell established "The Australian" to battle for and to achieve. The editor's fore-words forecast a high ideal. The present writer likes to quote the following paragraph defining the scope and objects of the new journal and contained in the first:—

"The aggrandisement and the increasing wealth of the people introduce a complexity into their affairs; conflicting opinions and conflicting interests arise, individual influence is apt to luxuriate and flourish where there exists no corrective to check its exuberance or prevent its growth. A Free Press is the most legitimate and, at the same time, the most powerful weapon that can be employed to annihilate such influence, frustrate the designs of tyranny and restrain the arm of oppression. Independent, yet consistent, free yet not licentious—equally unmoved by patronage or by fear—we shall pursue our labours without either a sycophantic approval of, or a systematic opposition to, acts of authority merely because they emanate from Government. It is the happiness and welfare of colonies, their improvement and prosperity, that ought to be considered by the Ministers of the parent State."

Nat Taylor: Some Results Of Cigarette Smoking.

"What a bright boy Nat Taylor is!" Mrs. Eason used to say to her husband. "It does me good to see him go by the house. He is always whistling or singing away to himself, as if he were too happy to keep still, and yet he hasn't nearly so many pleasures as most boys and girls."

"There he comes now, on his way to school. He is not the boy to be late. His teacher says he is never tardy nor absent, and that it is really wonderful how fast he learns. He will be the top boy in his class at the end of the year, I feel sure."

One morning, however, Nat did not appear at school as usual. He was sick, and had to lie in bed; and everybody at school missed him. Some of the boys went to his home, to find out what was the matter, but he felt too miserable to see them.

It was a day or two before he was well again, and then he was not quite his old self. By and by, people

began to ask, "What has happened to Nat? He doesn't whistle so much as he used to."

He neglected to do his errands for his mother, even when she had told him them two or three times over before he left home. He said he had forgotten, although he used to pride himself on his good memory. His teacher noticed the difference in school, and asked Mrs. Taylor if Nat were sick.

"He is not so bright as he was," she said. "Almost every day," remarked his teacher, "he seems dull and stupid a great part of the time. Yesterday, he went to sleep twice in class; something I never knew him to do before. I can't make out what the trouble is."

Mrs. Taylor looked anxious. She called Nat, and asked him if he felt well. He said he did but he hung his head and looked as confused as if he had been caught in some mischief. Something certainly was wrong with Nat.

That night his mother found out what it was. "There's a hole in the knee of my trousers," Nat said when he bade them all good night. "Will you please mend it mother so that I can have them to put on in the morning?"

Mrs. Taylor repaired the torn place and looked to see if there were other holes. "There's sure to be one in the pocket," she thought.

There was no hole there, for a wonder; but she found something else which made what Nat called the "sorry look" come into her eyes.

Can you guess what it was? A cigarette! She knew now what made Nat sick, why he had forgotten to do her errands and why he went to sleep in school instead of being bright and quick at his lessons. He had been learning to smoke.

When Nat came to breakfast in the morning Mrs. Taylor said "Did you know there had been a thief in the house, Nat?"

"Why no!" exclaimed Nat with wide-open eyes. "Did he steal anything?"

"Yes he has been stealing my boy's health and his good spirit and his memory and leaving a different kind of boy in his place. What shall we do with him?" asked Mrs. Taylor, holding up the cigarette. "Here he is." Nat started to laugh but he stopped when he saw his mother's face; and they had a long talk together. When it ended, he said, with a little smile: "Well, mother I don't think we want any thieves in our house."

Mrs. Taylor did not find any more cigarettes in Nat's pocket, for he kept his breath sweet, and his head clear, by not smoking again. He told his teacher the story one day, and, the next morning, she hung this card up in the school-room:

THE THIEF TOBACCO STEALS—

A boy's health.	His strength.
His good looks.	His memory.
His liking for play.	

From *The Victorian School Paper*.

THE FORTIAN.

OUR YOUNG READERS' PAGE.

We have reserved this page of interesting little anecdotes particularly for our lower third and second classes. For a number of issues we have had plenty of news for our older boys and girls which we could not well have left out, and now we are pleased to be able to give our younger readers something which will be suitable for their reading.

An Indian and a Woodchopper.

An Indian, passing through a forest one day, stopped before a man who was chopping wood, and surveyed him with great gravity. He noticed that every time the man brought his axe to the log he sent forth a sound like "ugh"; as if that was part of the operation.

"Why do you speak that 'ugh' when you bring your axe down?" inquired the Indian.

The man laughingly observed, "Oh! it makes me chop faster.

"Ah, does it?" said the Indian. "Why then do you not say 'ugh' when you lift it up? Then you would chop twice as fast."

Who has not remarked the sound uttered by the woodchopper? Just so habits steal upon us unawares.

THE FROG AND THE OX.

"Oh, father," said a little frog to a big frog, sitting by the side of a pool, "I have seen such a terrible monster! It was as big as a mountain, with horns on its head. It had a long tail and hoofs divided in two."

Tush, child, tush," said the old frog, "that was only farmer White's ox. I can easily make myself as big, just you see." And he blew himself out. "Was he as big as that?" he asked. "Oh, much bigger than that," said the young frog.

Again the old frog blew himself out, and asked the young one if the ox was as big. "Bigger, father," was the reply, "much bigger."

Then the frog took a deep breath, and blew and swelled, and swelled and blew,—until he burst!

A CHILD HERO.

Although the full deep meaning of romance and love belongs to the later years, one very often sees the first green leaves unfolding in the early spring of life pure, beautiful and fresh, unmarred by contact with sorrow and evil. And in the play ground of girl and boy attachments spring up unselfish and pure as the little god of love play with baby hearts. Sometimes one sees a small boy with his arm linked in that of a still smaller girl taking her home from school and

protecting her from the rest of her playmates. Their little presents come in the shape of a favorite toy or a much treasured pencil and gifts which we smile but that are the wealth of the universe to their tiny possessors. It is but a rehearsal of the comedy or tragedy to be played when life's year is older. The other day as a rehearsal came to an end abruptly, and though it brings tears to the eyes, shows the beauty and nobility of these childish affections. A little boy and girl were playing near some water, when the little girl fell in. Without a moment's hesitation the little fellow rushed down the bank and tried to drag her out. He exerted all his strength, overbalanced himself, fell in and was drowned. Someone came to the rescue a second later and saved his playmate, who ran now out and about again, but feeling sad and lonely without her little sweetheart who gave his life for her sake.

(From Our Boy's and Girl's Own Newspaper)

A Stone In The Road.

A long time ago, there lived a king who took great delight in teaching his people good habits. "Bad luck comes only to the lazy and the careless," said he; "but to the busy workers, God gives the good things of life." One night, he put a stone in the middle of a road near his palace, and then watched to see what the people who passed that way would do.

Early in the morning, a sturdy old farmer named Peter, came along with his heavy ox-cart loaded with corn. "Oh! those lazy people," he cried, driving his oxen to one side of the road, "Here is this big stone right in the middle of the road, and nobody will take the trouble to move it." And he went on his way, scolding about the laziness of other people, but never thinking of touching the stone himself.

Then came a young soldier, singing a merry song, as he walked along. A grey feather was stuck in his hat, and a big sword hung at his side, and he was fond of telling great stories of what he had done in the war. He held his head so high that he did not see the stone, but stumbled over it, and fell flat in the dust. This put an end to his merry song, and as he rose to his feet, he began to storm at the country people. "Silly drones," he said, "to have no more sense than to leave a stone like that in the middle of the road!" Then he passed on; but he did not sing any more. An hour later, there came down the road six merchants with their goods on pack-horses, going to a fair that was to be held near the town. When they reached the stone, the road was so narrow that they could hardly drive their horses between it and the wall. "Did any one ever see the like?" they said. "There's that big stone in the road and not a man in the country but that is too lazy to move it!"

And so the stone lay there for three weeks. It was in everybody's way, and yet everybody left it for somebody else to move.

Then the king sent word to all his people to meet together, on a certain day, near his palace, as he had something to tell them.

The day came, and a great crowd of men and women gathered in the road. Old Peter the farmer, was there, and so were the merchants and the young soldier. "I hope the king will not find out what a lazy set of people he has round him," said Peter.

Just then, the sound of a bugle was heard, and the king was seen coming toward them. He rode up to the stone, got down from his horse, and said:—"My friends, it was I who put this stone here, everyone has left it just where it was, and scolded his neighbour for not moving it out of the way."

Then he stooped down, and rolled the stone over. Underneath the stone was a round, hollow place, in which was a small iron box. The king held up the box so that all the people might see what was written on the piece of paper fastened to it. These were the words:—"For him who lifts this stone." He opened the box, turned it upside down, and out of it fell a beautiful gold ring and twenty gold coins.

Then every one wished that he had only thought of moving the stone instead of going around it and finding fault with his neighbour.

There are many people who lose prizes because they think it easier to find fault than to do the work that lies before them. Such people do not usually blame themselves, but think their want of success is all on account of bad luck and hard times.

SCHOOL NEWS

LECTURE.

The lecture on "The Founders of the School" was repeated to a large gathering of boys and girls in the main room, on the 8th. Sep. The lecturer, Mr. F. J. Broomfield, was assisted by Mr. W. Howes, whose artistic illustrations called forth much praise, Mr. G. Rivers Alpress, who contributed two selections on the violin, Signor Alberti (cello) and Mr. Boyle (piano). The afternoon's entertainment was a very enjoyable one. The proceeds amounted to £5 16s 6d.

We desire to warmly thank those gentlemen for their generosity in giving our girls and boys such a treat.

Football Souvenir.

The Football club has had printed and circulated among the boys a very neat little souvenir in which the whole of the 1904 Season's work is reported. The success of this year's football is the prominent feature in it. There are also two illustrations—one of the School and the other of the first fifteen—which gives it interest and attraction.

Mr. W. A. Ferguson, the Secretary of the Club, is responsible for its production.

Football.

The Football season was brought to a fitting close on Monday afternoon, the 11th September, when the report of the

Season's work was read by the Secretary, Mr. W. A. Ferguson, and the medals for the winning teams in the class competitions were presented by Mr. W. M. Daley, M.P. The Head Master, Mr. Turner was in the chair.

The afternoon's programme included besides the report songs and recitations by the boys and girls, and suitable speeches by Mr. Daley, Mr. Turner, and Mr. Williams.

During the afternoon the Committee of the Football Club presented Mr. Turner with a fine enlarged portrait of the School's first fifteen. The Head Master appropriately responded.

The gathering was a highly successful one.

Swimming.

The fifteenth annual general meeting of the Fort-street Model Public School Swimming Club was held in the main schoolroom. There was a large attendance. Mr. Turner (president of the club) occupied the chair.

The election of officers for the ensuing season resulted as follows:—Patron, Mr. B. B. O'Connor, M. L. A. Minister for Public Instruction, president Mr. J. W. Turner, vice-presidents, Messrs. Stoyles, Humphreys, Chiplin, Sehrader and staff of the school, hon. treasurer Mr. W. A. Sells; executive, Messrs. A. Hardman, C. Crane, W. Easton, and Masters Murray, Smith, Hardwick (2), Turner, Millet and Fisher; hon. secretary and delegate to N. S. W. A. S. A. Mr. D. A. Pike; life-saving instructor, Mr. T. H. Johnston.

Cricket.

The annual meeting of the Cricket Club was held in the Main room, 22nd Sept. Mr. Turner presided.

The chief business was the election of Officers. Mr. W. A. Ferguson was appointed Hon. Sec., Mr. Harvey Hon. Treas.; Messrs. Mackaness and Tillbrook, Clive Smith, Squire Morgan, Reg. Nicolls, Arthur Barnes, Jack Croll as committee.

The subscription to the Club was raised from 6d to 1s a member.

OBITUARY

The whole school will be grieved to learn of the death on Sep. 13th. from brain fever, of Alrick Swanson one of the boys in 4B class. He will always be remembered as a big manly-looking chap whose conduct was at all times exemplary. Our hearts go out in genuine sympathy to his sorrowing parents.

CITIZENSHIP.

On Tuesday, April 5th, 1902, during first school, Mr. Paton, Headmaster of University College School, London, addressed the boys of the fourth, fifth and sixth forms in Glasgow High School on Citizenship or Civic Life. The address was full of a moral enthusiasm that could not butrouse the ardour of ingenuous youth, was not wanting in the saving grace of humour, and was delivered in a manner that captivated the listeners. Mr. Paton based his remarks on St. Paul's words:—"Let your manner of life be worthy of the Gospel of Christ."

It was to the Greeks, he observed, that the world owed the ideal of citizenship—that every man should use his gifts for the society of which he forms

ed a part. The man who was serviceable to his city was called *Chresimos* or *Chrestos Politos*; the man who was not so serviceable was *Illosto* i. i. e. That ideal, which spread over Asia Minor, the East, and the Roman Empire and was brought even to *Ultima Thule* was not abolished by Christianity, but like other things, was absorbed by it and placed upon a new basis. For Christ came not to destroy but to build up. Now, all were members of some society. The Greek society was the home, and home was just a small edition of the city. But he wished to consider how that feeling of citizenship affected them as schoolboys. He himself had been at a German school and then at a day school, but the idea of a school being a great organic whole never dawned upon him till he went to Shrewsbury. And it was undoubtedly in the English Public Schools that that feeling was strongest. There, however clever or skilful a boy might be, he was held in no honour, unless his cleverness and skill were used for the school. The Greek words might not be employed, but the Greek spirit was there.

Now that civic spirit or comradeship worked in various ways in school life. It showed itself in class. Many boys might think that in class they were working only for themselves. That was not the case. Every bit of honest work and of keen attention forwarded the work of the class as a whole, whereas laggards and shirkers hindered the progress of all. Again, that spirit was a valuable element in games, especially in the social games of cricket and football, because they were played not for "pots" or for personal distinction, but for the honour of the school. The value of those games was moral. They taught concentration, pluck, and, most important of all, unselfishness. There was no finer training in civic spirit than the training of the cricket and football field, and he hoped that all the boys, not debarred by physical weakness or by distance, would take their share in this part of the civic life of the school in a manner worthy of the gospel. Then they had the Cadet Corps, which was just another recognition of the same duty of citizenship, not only to the school but also to the country. They had the Magazine, too, and the various Societies, the Literary Society and the Musical Society, in the latter of which he had discovered there was a lot of talent. The Scotch were a musical nation in spite of the bagpipes. There were, therefore, many lines of citizenship, and each should think of what he could contribute to the civic life of the school. And all this should be voluntary; for he was not like the Guardian at Rugby, who, vaccination or anti-vaccination, believed in "compoolshun."

The most important duty of their citizenship was to maintain a high moral tone in the school. That lay upon the senior boys for the younger ones imitated them and breathed their atmosphere. He

knew that boys were often prevented by bashfulness from checking evil speech but when the tone of their school upon which so much depended was at stake, it was their duty to crush that feeling and to take their share in creating a healthful moral atmosphere. Mr. Paton told of a case with his own knowledge where a boy's spirited stand for purity had saved another from moral shipwreck.

Further their connection with school did not end with their school life. However hardly or sternly the school had treated them, she still claimed them as her foster-sons, and her name still adhered to them. Most men recognised this claim and looked back with affection on their old school. As an illustration of this feeling, Mr. Paton mentioned that since 1876 old Rugbeians had subscribed £84,000 for school purposes.

Mr. Paton concluded with a moving appeal to the boys to be decided and active on the side of right, to play their part manfully in the life of the school and of the city, and to make themselves worthy of the franchise which Christ had given them here; for by so doing they would deserve that franchise in the world to come, and would become corner stones in the edifice of redeemed humanity.

Dr. Spenser, Head Master, Glasgow High School, said that, now that the boys had seen and heard Mr. Paton, they would be better able to appreciate the respect and affection with which he personally regarded him. He was certain they would take to heart what Mr. Paton had said. They had hitherto answered every appeal with spirit and keenness. There was nothing that English boys would do for an English school that Scotch boys would not do for a Scotch school. He hoped that the old boys would make a great effort to put the physical education of the school on a sound basis.—From *The Glasgow High School Magazine*.

idiot—not in the sense we now use it; but as one who held no public office.

Robert Southey.

Though Southey was the true friend of Wordsworth and Coleridge, his own poetry by no means is to be classed with theirs. He possessed talent rather than genius. He could write about anything, suitably and industriously, but not brilliantly. His poetry is all but forgotten; although in his own day he was laureate.

What makes most of his poetry so very defective? In the first place he does not choose his phrases with any great skill or care. He wrote much too fast. He wrote poetry as a matter of business; not because it was natural to him. He does not describe nature accurately; although he was one of the few who could appreciate Wordsworth's masterly treatment of the subject. His longer poems, in fact, have no real merit. When Coleridge read Southey's "Joan of

he said: "I was really astonished at the school of whetted, allegoric machinery... and at the want of all rhythm in its verse, the monotony of dead plumb of its pauses, and the absence of all muscle and sinew in the single lines." There is force in any of Southey's poems except a very few of the shortest. It has been said that Southey "did not give himself time to be a poet."

He has written much blank verse and blanker prose, and more of both than anybody knows, and Byron, who ridiculed him greatly.

Even in prose, Southey's more ambitious works, like the "History of Brazil," are failures. Only his "Life of Wesley" and "Life of Nelson" are really great. The latter is the best piece of work he ever did. It is short, always good, always interesting. Notice the beautiful language of its conclusion; "Yet he cannot be said to have fallen prematurely whose work was done or ought to be lamented who died so full of honours, and at the height of human fame. The most triumphant death is that of the martyr; the most awful, that of martyred patriot; the most splendid that of the hero in the hour of victory; and if the patriots and heroes of fire had been vouchsafed for Nelson's translation he could scarcely have departed a brighter blaze of glory."

Southey's life was "a noble example of what the life of a man of letters should be." He helped the unhappy Coleridge more than any other of his friends. He felt that both poetry and prose should always be used on behalf of what is good in the world—and even for this he has a title to remembrance.

In South Western N. S. Wales.

(Continued.)

Any account of this part of our State would be incomplete without a few words about the rivers. You have read the admirable description of the Murray given in the Fourth Reader with Mr. D. H. Souter's exact illustration of a large loading wharf on the Darling. In Matric. 3 class room there is especially fine view of the steamer "Excelsior" taken some distance up the same river. The two pictures give a very accurate idea of what they purport to represent. Though the Murray is called the boundary between our State and Victoria you must remember that the river belongs entirely to N. S. Wales. When the smaller colony was established on 1st July 1851, it was expressly stated that it was to consist of the land south of or beyond the river. Consequently the puntage fees are collected both at Westworth and higher up at Mildura by the authority of our Government, and offences committed on the Murray are tried in our courts. So if a Victorian jumps into the river at Woodongra or Swan Hill or Echuca or Mildura, he may commit an offence in N. S. Wales. The Murray is not always navigable, though the cargo and passenger boats are built expressly for a shallow river, they find it impossible, for sometimes the water together gets as far up as Mildura. On the last of

them can travel with a foot of water. Swan Hill is generally the farthest point reached, though at high water boats go farther, and some vessels pass up to Murray's edge as Hay. When the spring sun melts the winter snows on Kosciusko, the navigation of the Murray is assured for a few months afterwards. For miles in the valley of the Goulburn, or other Victorian rivers, the water also opens the river. So far is the country from the Murray rises it lacks upon the Darling to a distance of 15 or 20 miles. The passenger boats are about the size of a North Shore ferry boat. The largest and best known is "The Gun" which plies when possible between Mildura and Morgan (S.A.). It is lighted throughout with electricity and has 50 cabins for passenger traffic. Wood is used for firing instead of coal and on one trip she is used to burn about 80 tons. The picture of the "Excelsior" shows the boat drawn up for taking on firewood which is passed from hand to hand across the gangway plank.

In December of last year I took the boat down to Morgan and had a good opportunity of viewing the lower Murray. The river is continually winding—only once do I remember seeing a straight reach and that extended for about 7 miles in S.A.—an ideal course for a canoe championship, race if gat money were a negligible quantity. We reached Morgan on Christmas day, and slept on the upper deck that night. Morgan will ever remain in my memory on account of its blood-thirsty mosquitoes which tormented me through out the night. That is seven months ago, and my back still bears the marks. I hope to outgrow them. Here you may change boats and go farther down to Murray Bridge where the main railway line from Adelaide to Melbourne crosses the river, and, if you wish down Lake to Alexandria, catch a train passing through Kapunda of copper fame, Roseworthy (where the Agricultural College is situated), Gawler, and reach Adelaide. Here you would have some difficulty in being run over because the trains are all drawn by horses—they are merely "buses" running on tramlines.

Another craft on the Murray worth noticing is the house boat. There are many of these covered boats and nearly all are owned and inhabited by solitary old-age pensioners. Inside they hang their kitchen utensils and keep a few books. Generally they are content to anchor near a town where they vary the dull monotony of their existence by fishing and cultivating a few vegetables. These boats are propelled by a pair of paddle wheels which the occupant turns leisurely from the inside. It is a common sight to see a dog sitting in the bow, acting as a look-out man.

The waters of the Murray form a happy hunting ground for the enthusiastic fisherman. Here lives the famous Murray Cod in all his strength. He may be caught from 1 lb. in weight up to a hundred-weight. The largest I saw weighed about 35 lbs. These monsters are generally caught at night. A cross line is stretched below the water and made fast to a post on either bank. To one of these ends a cow-bell is fixed so that when a cod is caught he gives notice by ringing. The cross line has other short lines hanging from it all about four feet in length and about ten feet apart. Each of these is hooked and baited with a live "long bream," a small fish, no bigger than a gold-fish. When less than 20 lb. in weight the flesh of the Murray Cod well cooked is most delicious. When larger than that, it is coarse and unpalatable. Sometimes the cod when not wanted for immediate use, is tethered by means of a rope through the snout to a stake in the bank. He is very lazy, and makes no struggle against his fate.

Besides the cod, fine bream and perch are very plentiful. Shrimps are caught with meat in perforated biscuit tins and form the best bait. Worms are sometimes used but are not so a rule successful.

Teaching Loyalty to Children.

One of the most valuable sentiments which can be inculcated in the rising generation is loyalty to the flag and constitution under which we live. Loyalty, it is often forgotten, is not a spontaneous growth; it must be implanted in the hearts of the young folks and carefully fostered by all legitimate means. That this fact has long been recognised in other countries is beyond question. In America, for example, it is part of the daily duties of school teachers to inculcate in the minds of the children unalloyed love for and pride in the "star spangled banner," and the constitution of which it is the dominating emblem. The children are taught to reverence their country, and glory in being budding citizens of the great Republic, for whose flag they must be prepared, in after years, to make any sacrifices their country may require of them. After such a training in their youthful days, it is not surprising to find how highly Americans prize their citizenship, and how little desire they have to become naturalised subjects of any other Government.

Everyone who has been brought into contact with the American abroad, knows how ready he is at all times to magnify his country, its progress, its privileges, its greatness, its absolute superiority (from his point of view) to every other country. American Governments know how valuable is this sentiment; and they do all they can to encourage and foster it. If, in the eyes of people of other nationalities, the sentiment overflows in what has been termed "spread-eagleism," it surely is a pardonable fault, and is vastly preferable to the opposite and unpatriotic habit too common in some "no good" Britishers, who take every opportunity of belittling their own country and scattering abroad disloyal sentiments for the benefit of foreign nations. We had altogether too many humiliating proofs of the presence amongst us, and in other parts of the Empire, of traitors to the flag and constitution at the time of the Boer war.

The "pro-Boer" weeds grew and flourished apace during the progress of the expensive conflict in South Africa, and, unfortunately, very little effective effort was made to root them out. There is in common use in England now, a similar term arising out of the campaign in Tibet. The "pro-Lamas," as the sympathisers with the nation's enemies in Tibet are called, are able to make themselves heard in Parliament, in the Press, and elsewhere, and they suffer no disabilities for their treason to the Empire's interests. "My country, right or wrong," may be a motto open to objection by moral essayists, but it is vastly more justifiable than its converse, "my country enemies, right or wrong." It is not too much to say that had the duty of being loyal been instilled into the minds of former generations of British children, there would be fewer of the pro-Boer and pro-Lama brand of degenerates in British communities to-day. We are glad to know that already steps have been

taken in the principal school of New South Wales—Fort-street Model School—to familiarise the pupils attending that admirable institution with the idea of cultivating loyalty as a duty they owe their country. There is at the present time in rehearsal at Fort Street School a patriotic song on Empire Day (May 24) in each year though out the British dominions, by all public school children. It consists of six verses, each with a chorus, as follows:—

Flag of Britain! Proudly waving
Over many distant seas,
Flag of Britain! Boldly braving
Binding fog and adverse breeze,
(Chorus) We salute thee and we pray
Bless O God, our land to-day.
Flag of Britain! Wheresoever
Thy bright colours are outspread,
Slavery must cease for ever.
Light and freedom reign instead.
We salute thee etc.
Flag of Britain! Mid the nations
May it ever speak of peace,
And proclaim to farthest stations
All unworthy strife must cease.
We salute it etc.
But if duty sternly need it,
Freely let it be unfurled;
Words of Heaven then may speed it
To each quarter of the earth
We salute it etc.
Love of it across the waters
Passing with electric thrill
Binds our distant sons and daughter's
Heart to heart with Britain still.
We salute it etc.
Regions East and West now blended,
All our Empire knit in one,
By right loyal hearts defended,
Let it wave beneath the sun.
We salute it etc.

Since of patriotic songs we possess so few this one should prove a welcome addition. A dramatic effect will be given to the performance by the children raising their hands at the salutation and pointing to the flag unfurled in front of them. The good example set by the Model school will no doubt be speedily followed by many of the public schools.

From *The Australian Field*.
FIDELITY.

When the Duke of Wellington was fighting in Spain there were two horses which had always drawn the same gun, side by side in many battles. At last one was killed, and the other, on having his food brought as usual, refused to eat, but turned his head round to look for his old friend and neighed many times as if to call him. All care was vain. There were other horses near him but he would not notice them, and he soon afterwards died, not having once tasted food since his former companion was killed.

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The Fortian.

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SYDNEY.

ROBERT WARDELL, LL. D.
The Pioneer Publicist of Australia.
(CONTINUED.)

Elsewhere in this Editorial Introduction occur these sentences:— "It is the errors of a system—the vices of office—that we condemn. It is measures, not men that we assail; and our respect for the one will not restrain our animadversions on the other." This was admirable as a theoretical statement, but it worked out woefully in practice. "Trial by Jury" and "Taxation by Representation," political subjects earnestly discussed under the ægis of the doughty Wentworth, the adored hero of the popular cause, did not consume all the fiery energy of "The Australian's" beresark editor. Men as well as measures came under his flagellant lash. The Colony's first Attorney-General was pilloried in his columns. This gentleman, a Mr. Saxe Bannister, vigorously prosecuted in the year 1826, "The Australian's" contemporary, "The Sydney Gazette" on behalf of the Government. The latter paper had struggled out of its official swaddling-clothes and had achieved something almost like an independent critical attitude. Wardell, of course, flew to the assistance of his press rival and gave the Attorney-General a terrible literary castigation. This led to a duel between the Junius of the "Patriotic Association" and the high-placed Crown official—a duel, says Samuel Bennett, "of a harmless character" which was fought on the 21st of October, 1826. The article which caused the combat appeared in "The Australian" of the 18th of the same month, so the injured Attorney-General lost but little time in demanding satisfaction for his wounded honour. It is worth recording, however, that in a letter to Governor Sir Ralph Darling, written at sea, Mr. Saxe Bannister deeply regretted that he had not "courage to refuse" Dr. Wardell's challenge; notwithstand-

ing the fact that the latter had bitterly attacked him in the columns of his paper. As to the duel itself, it would seemingly merit Bennett's description; for although shots were twice exchanged they perforated only the clothes and not the body of each antagonist. George William Rusden, in his "History of Australia," thus refers to the incident:

"The retiring Attorney-General having vainly requested the Governor to prosecute 'The Australian' newspaper, placed his personal effects on board the ship which was to carry him from the colony, spoke on the 20th October for nearly six hours in a case in which he prosecuted Howe, the Editor of the 'Sydney Gazette,' for libel; fought a duel with Dr. Wardell on the 21st., and departed on the 22nd. from a wondering society."

In those days, indeed, an Editor's lot was anything but a happy one; but it must at least have been some satisfaction to the fighting pressman to have crossed swords with an enemy so worthy of his steel as was Saxe Bannister, judging from the foregoing paragraph.

After the Attorney-General's departure, and on the 24th. of April, 1827, the Governor laid before the Legislative Council two Acts. They were respectively intitled "An Act for preventing the mischiefs arising from the Printing and Publishing Newspapers, and Papers of a like nature, by persons not known, and for regulating the Printing and Publication of such papers in other respects, and for restraining the abuses arising out of the Publication of Blasphemous and Seditious Libels" and "An Act for imposing a duty upon all Newspapers, and Papers of a like nature printed to be dispersed and made public." After several amendments had been made, the Bill was passed on the 25th. of April. It provided that after the 1st. of May, 1827, no newspaper was to be printed or published until after the delivery of an affidavit or affirmation setting forth the name and residence of the Editor or publisher of such newspaper—under a penalty of £100. Persons convicted of blasphemous or

sedition libels, were either to suffer such punishment as might by law be inflicted in cases of high misdemeanours, or to be banished from the Colony and its dependencies for such term of years as the Court should order. The Act for imposing a Duty on Newspapers was then considered, and the imposition was fixed at the sum of fourpence. On the 3rd. of May was passed "An Act for preventing the publishing of Books and Papers by persons not known." The Chief Justice of the Colony, however, who was not present on the Council during the passing of the duty on Newspapers Bill, refused his assent and the measure was suspended. After this, the Governor directed the existing libel law to be put in force with great rigour, and the proprietors of both "The Australian" and "The Monitor" (a recently established journal) were prosecuted civilly and criminally, and both were heavily fined and imprisoned.

Wardell's life was thus intensely militant. Arriving in Australia with Wentworth in the year 1824, when Governor Sir Thomas Brisbane, our first astronomer of high rank, had just granted the formal concession of the liberty of the Press, he and his friend Wentworth were lured to take rosy views of the future of free Journalism, and not without cogent reason. Mr. Howe, the proprietor of "The Sydney Gazette" had been formally apprised by a letter from the Colonial Secretary that in response to a memorial which had been considered by the Governor, instructions had been issued to remove the censorship exercised over the Press. This had so salutary an effect that not only was "The Australian" established, but a little after, another privately owned journal, "The Monitor" was founded by Mr. E. S. Hall. At the end of the year 1825, Brisbane was succeeded as Governor of the Colony by Lieutenant-General Darling, who worked his hardest to reverse the almost indifferent policy of his predecessor; for the fact that Brisbane was somewhat too busy with his observatory at Parramatta to trouble greatly about playing the despot at Government House Sydney. To him planets and constellations were much more important than newspapers; so he granted various reforms from pure lack of interest and to avoid distraction from his scientific pursuits. Darling was altogether the autocrat, and was from the first determined to overtake a dangerous advance towards political

and social freedom, and to put affairs properly back beneath the iron rule of autocracy. The fight ended badly for the Governor, and it needed all the healing diplomacy of Sir Richard Bourke, who arrived in the Colony on the 2nd. of December, 1831, to undo the various disastrous entanglements into which his predecessor had managed to knot every department of social, civil, legal and political life. It was in Bourke's reign, on the night of Sunday, the 7th of September, 1834, that Dr. Wardell met with a tragic death at the hands of highwaymen, or, as they were then beginning to be called, "bushrangers." The Doctor left his home at Petersham, at one o'clock in the afternoon, to ride around and inspect his estate—the ground being at that time in a state of almost virginal nature. At about a mile and a half from his residence his murdered body was found, waltering in blood.

Bushrangers have from the earliest to comparatively recent times been a keen thorn in the flank of authority. In the sixties they imperilled the existence of ministries in New South Wales, and a pardon granted to a bush-ranging leader embroiled a Governor in endless controversies with Parliament. In Van Diemen's Land, as Tasmania was then called, the bushrangers disputed authority with the representative of Majesty, and established a tyranny of terror until a ruler with a will as of iron stamped them into annihilation. In the days of Bourke they appeared only casually, as sporadic social excrescences; but their excesses were as great as was their punishment drastic. Knowing their fate, they braved it with a light-hearted levity and a revolting recklessness at once pathetic and repulsive. They stopped at no act of furious wantonness or useless outrage. By hands such as these, the scholar, lawyer, publicist and patriot Wardell met his fate.

There were three men concerned in the gruesome tragedy, Thomas Tattersdale, John Jenkins and Emanuel Grace. The last-named escaped execution by turning King's evidence. These outlaws built a "wurley" "mia-mia," or "gunyah," on Wardell's Petersham estate, and thence made excursions right and left, robbing travellers and raiding the huts of isolated workers. The bushrangers' shelter was made of tree-branches, much after the fashion of similar structures erected by the blacks.

The officers of the period, fresh from "The Last of the Mohicans," and the other "Leather stocking" tales written by James Fenimore Cooper, called it a "wigwam." The murder of Dr. Wardell was committed near this rude "wigwam." It was evening, confessed King's evidence Emanuel Grace, when a gentleman rode up on a gray horse, and counselled the outlaws to return to the settlement. Jenkins pointed an old musket at his breast, when Dr. Wardell, for it was he, exclaimed "Don't do that, young man, for Mercy's sake." "By Heaven, I will!" replied the desperado. The Doctor reached forward and took up a stick which leaned against a tree. He beckoned with this over his horse's head, and Jenkins imagining that his victim was motioning for assistance, fired his piece. "Oh! dear! I am killed," cried the Doctor, striking spurs to his horse, which galloped off, leaving the rider's hat upon the ground. When Wardell's body was found, only 100 yards distant from the spot where the fatal shot had been fired, his pockets were unripped, his purse, his pocket-book, his watch and seal and other jewellery were all intact. The perpetrators of the crime, the eldest of whom was not over twenty-two years of age, must have been startled into flight, either by a panic of fear at their own crime, or by the approach of other travellers. Thomas Tattersdale and John Jenkins both paid the penalty of their crime by suffering at the hands of the executioner. Grace was pardoned because he turned King's evidence.

On Thursday, the 17th September, 1834, Dr Robert Wardell, LL.D., was interred in the old historic cemetery of Devonshire-street, where the new Redfern Railway Station is in process of erection. The funeral cortege was representative of every class and condition of society. Friends, admirers, and enemies alike joined in paying a last tribute of respect to the great man, who had been so cruelly and untimely done to death. All the high officials of the Colony were present, and the chief mourners were William Charles Wentworth and John Mackarness, who had both accompanied Wardell on his voyage from England to Sydney; and every paper published in the Colony teemed with eulogistic notices of the distinguished dead.

Britain's Sea Power in History.

The history of the British Empire is the history of the English Navy. Our sea power we inherit from our Norse ancestry, and it needed no Captain Mahan to reinforce what Nelson taught in the roar of his cannon, or Campbell in the fiery measure of his verse. The "meteor flag of England" was first hoisted by Alfred in force opposed to men of viking breed—the very race, in fact, who taught the world the glory and the value of a sea victory. Richard the First, the lion-hearted crusader, was a fleet-founder. Edward the Third, at the battle of Sluys, in 1340, taught France, off the coast of Flanders, that England was destined to the governance of ocean empire. Henry V., Henry VII., Henry VIII. were possessors of strong sea-arms, and knew how to use them. The Tudors were all patrons of marine folk. The rivalry with Spain and with Portugal for the conquest of the sea, subsequently with the French and the Dutch, bred a race of Tritons whose "home is on the deep," and "whose flag has braved a thousand years, the battle and the breeze." In the year 1558, England possessed hardly any navy. In 1588, she had checked the power of Spain, the mightiest naval power in history up to that period, and had sent the Armada in shattered fragments to the sport of the waves of ocean, the winds of heaven, and the teeth of cruel and callous coasts. England's Empire has been achieved since then; and if you would know how, read "Britain On and Beyond the Sea," being a Handbook to the Map of the World, by Cecil H. Crofts, M. A. Assistant Master at Tonbridge School.

(† The book is in the School Library. The Navy League Map is in the Chemistry Room. Editor "Fortian".)

A Visit to the Hawkesbury Agricultural College.

At the invitation of the principal, Mr. Potts, the Hawkesbury Agricultural College was visited on Saturday 22nd by the Senior Class with Mr. Turner and the teachers. Leaving Redfern by the 9.25 train, a couple of hours saw the party at the College. Made at home immediately by a cordial welcome, we proceeded to inspect the orchard; Mr. Potts supplied interesting and instructive information concerning the principles involved. We were shown

how the best use was made of every class of land. Modern methods were noticeable, especially as regards the septic tank and the drying apparatus. Great emphasis was laid on the simplicity of the arrangements which could be adapted to the means of any farmer.

The second branch of the College inspected was the steam and electric plant, the study of which is compulsory among the students. Thence we saw the horses' stables, cleansed to a nicety; there were many horses and some mules, which are, as explained, hardy and tractable animals requiring less attention than horses. The various recreations were then enumerated, after which we reached the gymnasium. The teachers examined, the boys enjoyed the use of this place. A departure was now made to assist the students in their mid-day meal.

In the afternoon we were spectators for a time, of a cricket match on the College grounds. The Principal afterwards took us to see the poultry farm and the dairy. As a result of the visit one immediately marked the order, economy and usefulness of all the methods. The end in view is undoubtedly the future welfare of the students as well as the development of the country's resources. The training is calculated also to create a love for the aesthetic. A great feature is that everything is done by the students, thus making their knowledge practical as well as theoretical. After such enjoyment we were well able to supplement Mr. Turner's expression of thanks for the exceeding kindness of Mr. Potts, by three hearty cheers. Leaving the College with pleasant recollections, we reached the city at 6. p. m.

EDITORIAL

Girls and boys! Since the inauguration of the school paper, "The Fortian," some five years ago, it has passed through various stages of progress. None, perhaps, has been so marked as that which comes with this issue. The old 1855 hand-press printing machine used by us for the past four years has done its work faithfully

and well, and now retires into a quiet corner where another of our old friends rests "blossoming in the dust." The arrival of a new and up-to-date machine is hailed with delight by those who control its working. This is the first number printed on it, and to celebrate the occasion we give you a ten page edition.

With reference to the reading matter for the lower classes of the school we would like to mention that pages seven and eight will, as far as possible, be always reserved for that purpose.

THE BAZAAR.

It is proposed to hold a Bazaar at the School on 1st, 2nd, and 3rd of Dec., the opening ceremony to take place on the first afternoon (Thursday). Mrs O'Connor, wife of the Minister for Education, has been asked to preside.

All members of the school, pupils and staff, are working to make this an unprecedented success. Many liberal contributions are already on hand, fancy articles, provisions, and donations of money being included.

Various competitions have been arranged and particulars are to be found on the notice board of prizes in connection with same. The attention of the boys is especially drawn to the "Hen-egg" competition, a prize being given for the largest egg to be brought in on the 30th. November. For the most novel pin cushion,—boys might get their sisters or mothers to make them—a 2/6 prize also will be given for this.

For the produce stall, the Management is offering all those who are so ably assisting by bringing donations of groceries a free chance in the guessing competition. A bottle filled with peas will be hanging near the rain-gauge, and whoever guesses nearest the right number will receive the 2/6 prize.

Mr. Easton's Report on the Bazaar.

The School Bazaar which eventuates on 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, December affords one of those rare but important occasions in the life of the School when laying aside for the moment the individual objective, we all set to work with one common purpose—the furtherance of the interests of the Old School, which has done and will do so much for each one of us.

My visits to the various classes have shown me that the great majority is very anxious to assist and I propose here to direct attention to special ways of helping the various stalls.

REFRESHMENT STALL.

Decorations, hanging lamps, cordials, sails or blinds for enclosing corridor.

FLOWER STALL.

Pot Plants by 30th November.

Cut Flowers on date appointed by me.

Palm Leaves and Ferns for general decorations.

GLASSWARE STALL.

Every description of glass or crockeryware. Very hearty support requested.

GROCERY STALL.

All kinds produce or grocery. Home-made jams etc.

Fresh eggs for date appointed.

LOLLIES.

Choice varieties about 28th November. Common kinds at once.

Fancy boxes and baskets. Decorations for stall.

NEEDLEWORK.

All kinds plain and fancy. Handkerchiefs, neckties etc.

STATIONERY.

Post cards, school requisites etc.

PERFUMERY.

Soaps, scents, brushes of every kind, and toilet requisites.

Toys of every description. Dolls. Small articles suitable for lucky dips etc.

SWIMMING.

In order to promote strength and endurance in the water among its members the above club has this season again introduced the game of water polo. A scratch match to initiate the principles of the game was decided at Farmer's bath on Friday afternoon. The senior team, led by C. Smith, met one picked by L. Murray (school's champion). After a close game the former won by 2 goals to 1. Smith, Murray, Evans, Griffiths, Ross, played well, whilst the dribbling of H. Hardwick was the feature of the match. Rough play was absent. The game might well be introduced into the other schools.

The 1904 Senior.

The School's representatives at the 1904 Senior Examination are:—

BEDE HARRISON, CLIVE SMITH, WILLIAM WALL, ARTHUR FRASER, THOMAS WILKINS, GEORGE LANE.

They carry with them the best wishes of the School.

The Football Souvenir.

On all sides we hear that the football souvenir has been much appreciated. Mr. Mannell, Mr. Chiplin and Mr. McManamey, former teachers on the staff, have referred to it in most complimentary terms, while the old boys, Norman Murray, Vin Dowling and others, have been equally gratified with it. We learn that Mr. Ferguson has yet some copies of the souvenir not yet sold but it is believed that these will be readily disposed of to the old boys who are expected to gather round the School on the occasion of the annual Bazaar which is fixed for the beginning of December.

Distribution of 1904 Junior Certificates.

Early in September, those who had successfully passed this year's Junior Examination from our School received their certificates. The medal for Geography, won by Isabel Patton and the Parkes Bursary Prize of £3 for History won by the same girl were also given out.

The occasion was marked by a mass meeting of the upper classes, girls and boys in the Boys' main room, over which the Head Master, Mr. Turner presided.

Songs, recitations, selections on the piano and violin and addresses from Mr. Turner and Mr. Williams helped to pass a very enjoyable afternoon.

The Head Mistress, Miss Partridge, and teachers from the girls' and boys' departments occupied seats in the recess.

In South Western New South Wales.

(Continued)

One drawback to the enjoyment of the sport is the presence of snags, especially near the banks, and it is quite a common occurrence to catch a submerged tree, and lose hooks, sinker, and line. These snags are the trees which have toppled into the river where the water has eroded the banks, and they form a lasting danger to navigation. I remember a shipwreck in the Murray near Tooleybuc a couple of years ago, when a steamer collided with one of these sunken snags. Gangs of men are continually employed on the Darling removing these obstructions at low level. Often, however, the huge trunks are merely drawn up the bank a little way, and the first big rise sweeps them back again.

One wonders how so small a stream as the Darling is at Wentworth can represent the drainage of such an enormous area of New South Wales and Queensland. It is now generally admitted that only a fraction of the drainage of this area flows into the Murray. The somewhat recent discovery of submarine freshwater springs south of Victoria shows almost beyond doubt that millions of gallons leak away; and, flowing by subterranean channels, find their way at last into the Southern Ocean. If the Victorians ever tap this unfailling natural reservoir by means of Artesian bores, the whole face of the dreary and barren "Mallee" country will be transformed, and "the desert will blossom as a rose."

The population of this part of Australia is by no means large, and probably never will be, until the States adopt a scheme of water-conservation and irrigation. The question of conserving the waters of our inland rivers has been an important one for the past fifty years, and though conferences have been held and much said on the subject, little has been done. There is a certain amount of jealousy between the States concerned, over the question of the rivers. For instance, New South Wales often complains because Victoria takes some of the Murray water for irrigation purposes; and South Australia objects to New South Wales locking the rivers, as it may interfere with navigation, and so hinder her trade.

Mildura forms a striking and very interesting example of what may be done by irrigation. There is

now a population of four thousand people where twenty years ago was a solitary sheepstation. The township lies on the bank of the Murray, but the settlement extends back some seven miles. This settlement was founded by the Messrs Chaffey, who put their Californian experience in Australian practice, but unfortunately lost most of their capital into the venture. Since that, however, the Victorian Government took up the experiment both at Mildura and in the Goulburn Valley, and made it a huge success. At first the drains were open and unlined, and too much water was lost in the sandy soil, but now it has been found better to cement them all. You must not imagine that the actual irrigation is a daily labour. A large pumping station pours the river-water over the orchard "blocks" only twice or three times a year. If the season be an exceptionally dry one, an additional watering may be necessary.

Mildura fruit is now 'a household word' all over Australia, as the advertisements say. Peaches, apricots, nectarines, oranges, lemons, citrons, grapes, loquats, pomegranates, and figs, all grow in rich profusion to quench a Christmas thirst. Thus nature tries to compensate for her harshness in the matter of summer climate. You may get bunches of luscious "Lady's fingers," or of cool, refreshing "Isabellas" for a penny per pound. In Wentworth, we have had grapes from January until May. At Mildura, the fruitgrowers have formed an association which regulates the market, and keeps up the prices. Mildura raisins have done much in recent years to drive the imported Greek article from the Australian market. The summer fruits are packed and forwarded to Melbourne, or preserved and canned for home use. In fact they deal with their fruit as the Americans deal with Columbia salmon. "They eat all they can, and they can all they can't."

The result of this irrigation experiment led New South Wales to establish a settlement on similar lines on the right bank of the Murray about four miles east of Wentworth, but the site was badly chosen, and the venture has not met with all the success it deserves. The choice blocks, however, have during the past season produced raisins even superior to those of Mildura. South Australia has been more fortunate in her undertakings in this direction, and now possesses in Renmark a flourishing settlement.

LORD TENNYSON.

The first thing we notice about Tennyson's poetry is its many-sidedness. He deals with everything that is of interest in his age. That is probably the reason why his success was immediate. No other poet has got so much fame during his own life-time nor so much prosperity as Tennyson.

His earlier poems were short. They lacked force. They were pretty rather than powerful. He used to try to get good effects by the use of uncommon words. The result was often weak, as in *Claribel*:—

“The slumbrous wave outwelleth,
The babbling runnel crispeth,
The hollow grot replieth,
Where *Claribel* low-lieth.”

But even in the early poems we can see how closely Tennyson studied nature. This truth to facts is notable in all his poems. See how he can give an idea of desolate scenery:—

“Ever the weary wind on,
And took the road-tops as it went.”

We have to notice that Tennyson is almost always mournful. He treats a great deal about death. When he is not treating about death he often describes the sadness to change. Such poems as *Oriana* are sweet, but very sad.

There is always a sound of true melody in Tennyson's poems. No poet ever knew better how to get music out of words; and fitting music too. Listen to the sleepy murmur in these lines:

“The moan of doves in immemorial elms,
And murmuring of innumerable bees.”

Or to the quivering thrill of song in:—

“As 'twere an hundred-throated nightingale
The strong tempestuous treble throbbed and
palpitated”

Tennyson can use many styles. He can treat of art or love, of sorrow or joy, of humour or of strife. Because he has so many gifts he is one of the most popular of poets. He won “fame and success such as no other English poet has ever enjoyed in the brief period during which his work was actually being done, and when the fruits of success were keenest to the taste, and most alluring to the ambition.” For people saw at once that Tennyson had shown how the form and colour of poetry could be given to any subject. It is said that a hearer who did not know any English, recognised that Tennyson was a poet by the mere sound of his words. It was a great thing to show that poets need not treat unreal subjects for fear of being commonplace, but could take their subjects from nature. So Tennyson justified the return to nature that has been the feature of recent English poetry.

NOT UNDERSTOOD.

Not understood. We move along asunder,
Our paths grow wider as the seasons creep,
Along the years; we marvel as we wonder:
Why life is life; and then we fall asleep
Not understood.

Not understood. We gather false impressions
And hug them closer as the years go by,
Till virtues often seem to us transgressions:
And thus men rise and fall and live and die
Not understood.

Not understood. Poor souls with stunted
vision
Oft measure giants by their narrow gauge;
The poisoned shafts of falsehood and derision
Are oft impelled 'gainst those who mould
the age,
Not understood.

Not understood. The secret springs of action,
Which lie beneath the surface and the show,
Are disregarded; with self-satisfaction
We judge our neighbours, and they often go,
Not understood.

Not understood. How trifles often change us!
The thoughtless sentence or the fancied
slight
Destroy long years of friendship and estrange
us,
And on our souls there falls a freezing blight:
Not understood.

Not understood. How many breasts are
aching
For lack of sympathy! Ah! day by day.
How many cheerless, lonely hearts are break-
ing!
How many noble spirits pass away
Not understood!

Oh God! that men would see a little clearer,
Or judge less harshly where they cannot
see,
Oh God! that men would draw a little nearer
To one another; they'd be nearer Thee,
And understood.

(*Thomas Bracken. N. Z. Poet.*)

READING FOR SECOND AND THIRD CLASSES.

The Royal Coat of Arms.

The Royal Coat of Arms upon the facade of the Training School, Fort St., was placed there in the year 1815 by Governor Macquarie, the building at that time being used as a Military Hospital. When it was turned into a school, the Government allowed the Board of Instruction to leave the Coat of Arms there.

On no other school in the State can this be found, therefore every Fort St. boy should be very proud of it.

In the centre of the design is a quartered shield on which is a belt symbolizing the union of England, Ireland and Scotland, and on it are written the words "Honi soit qui mal-y-pense" meaning, "Evil be to him who evil thinks."

On the first and fourth quarters of the shield are three lions. These stand for England. On the second is a lion rampant representing Scotland, and on the third, is a harp which shows Ireland's place in the union. On each side of the shield are the supporters, the one on the left being a lion, and that on the right a unicorn. The Lion represents the courage of the British race, and the Unicorn (a fabulous animal with one horn in its forehead), the invincibility and independence of the race. These two animals are standing upon a scroll on which are the words "Dieu et mon droit,"—"God and my right;" and this is the motto of Great Britain. Entwined around the scroll are a rose, a shamrock and a thistle, standing respectively for England, Ireland and Scotland. Upon the top of the shield is a crown which is changed whenever a new line of kings comes to the throne.

R. Richardson 5C.

The Travellers and the Oyster

Two weary travellers found on the sea-shore a fine oyster. Both had seen it at the same moment; and, as they both wanted it, the

question was who should have it.

Long and long did they dispute over the question and neither would yield to the other. At length they saw approaching them, with slow and stately step, a learned judge.

"My lord judge," they both exclaimed at once, "please decide between us."

With a grave face, the judge heard the arguments on each side. He then swallowed the oyster, and, handing a shell to each of the travellers, said "Let each take his due. Depart in peace."

This is a fable, and may seem an absurd one but it has a moral that is worth some consideration.

The Frogs Ask For a King

In the days of old, the frogs, grown weary of following every one his own way, asked Jupiter to let them have a king to keep them in better order, and make them lead honest lives.

Jupiter smiled, and forthwith threw down a log into the lake, which, by the splash it made, threw them all into the greatest terror. They rushed under the water and into the mud, and were afraid to venture out.

At length, one frog dared to come out, and he was soon followed by others. Seeing the log lie s'cock still, they swam up to it, and leaped upon it, treating it with the greatest contempt.

Dissatisfied with so tame a ruler, they asked Jupiter for a more active king. Upon which, he sent them a stork, who no sooner arrived among them than he began laying hold of them, and eating them as fast as he could, and it was in vain that they tried to escape him.

Then they sent a message to Jupiter, asking him to take pity on them; but Jupiter replied, "No; it serves you right; another time you may have the good sense to let well alone."

Aesop's Fables.

Kindness.

Kind hearts are the gardens,
Kind thoughts are the roots,
Kind words are the blossoms,
Kind deeds are the fruits.

The Heart.

The heart—the heart! Oh! let it be
 A true and beauteous thing,
 As kindly warm, as nobly free
 As eagle's nestling wing.
 Oh! keep it rect, like miser's gold,
 Shut in from all beside;
 But let its precious stores unfold
 In mercy, far and wide.
 The heart—the heart that's truly blest
 Is never all its own;
 No ray of glory lights the breast
 That leats for self alone.

The heart—the heart! Oh, let it spare
 A sigh for others' pain;
 The breath that scotches a brother's care
 Is never spent in vain.
 And, though it throbs at gentlest touch,
 Or sorrow's faintest call,
 'Twere better it should ache too much
 Than never ache at all.
 The heart—the heart that's truly blest
 Is never all its own;
 No ray of glory lights the breast
 That beats for self alone.

Eliza Cook.

What ailed Oliver?

"Get up, little boy! You are lying in bed too long; breakfast will soon be ready. The canary has taken its bath, and is now singing a sweet song. Get up, or I shall throw this pillow at you."

That is what sister Charlotte said to Oliver Recd, one wet morning in July. He was a good little fellow; but he had one fault: he was too fond of lying in bed in the morning.

"Don't throw the pillow at me!" cried Oliver; "I'll promise to get up in five minutes."

"If you would be 'healthy, wealthy, and wise,' you must rise early, little boy," said Charlotte.

When Oliver came down to the breakfast table, his father said, "How is this, Oliver? You are late again."

Oliver hung his head, and Charlotte said, "I woke him in good time, father; but he went off to sleep again the minute I left the room, though he promised to be up in five minutes."
 "I went to sleep and forgot all about it," said Oliver.

"Come here, my boy and let me feel your pulse," said his father. "I should not wonder if Oliver were suffering from a disease which is very common at this time."

Oliver gave his hand to his father, who, after feeling his pulse, said: "Yes, it is as I thought. Poor Oliver has Slack's disease. Take him up to bed again. Keep his breakfast warm by the fire; and, when he feels strong enough, he can eat it. He may stay at home from school to-day."

The little boy wondered what Slack's disease, could be; but he went upstairs with his sister, and was put to bed. He heard children playing out of doors; he heard Ponto barking, and Tommy, the canary, singing a sweet song.

Then Oliver called to his sister, and said, "Charlotte, what is Slack's disease? Is it dangerous?"

"I rather think not," said Charlotte. "You dear little simpleton, don't you know what father meant? He meant you were troubled with idleness, a sad complaint."

Oliver saw that a trick had been played on him. He jumped out of bed, dressed, and ate his breakfast, and ran off to school, where he arrived just in time.

Since that day, Oliver has been the first up in the house. He is no longer troubled with Slack's disease, and remembers that "an idle soul shall suffer hunger."

—From *The Children's Friend*

The Dog In The Manger

A churlish dog lay in a manger, which was full of hay; and, when a hungry ox came near, wishing to eat, the cur began to snarl at him.

"What a selfish animal thou art!" said the ox; "thou canst not eat the hay thyself, nor wilt thou suffer others to partake of it."

OUR FRIENDS ABROAD.

Mr Lasker writes us a hearty letter from St. Louis, U. S. A., and forwards his best regards, through *The Fortian*, to the staff and pupils.

Victor Cobb has reached Toronto, Canada, from which place he addresses us.

Fred Ebsworth is in charge of a department in a large commercial house in Perth, West Australia. He was immensely pleased with the football souvenir, and is now looking forward to a great swimming success.

We think Len Murray, the Hardwicks, Cive Smith and others, will satisfy him on this point.

Our little friend Chaz-l has kept his promise and in this issue we print his impressions of other parts.

It is with pleasure we note the success of one of our old Fort Street boys, Edwin F. McLeod, who has just passed his examination, at the age of 20, before the Board of Trade, London, as second officer, and was highly complimented upon his seamanship by the chief examiner.

E. F. McLeod left Fort Street school a little over 4 years ago, proceeding in the sailing ship "Marion Inglis" to South America and thence to Glasgow (Scotland) and subsequently joined the "Gulf Line" of steamers in which service he remained with credit till going up for his examination. He has now been appointed to the S. S. "Ras Elba," which left Liverpool in August on a voyage to Manilla and in all probability will come from that port to Sydney.

He has taken Carnegie's motto,
"Aim high and stick to your aim"—
one which any boy may with advantage adopt.

ACROSS THE PACIFIC.

We encountered very rough and violent storms between Sydney and Auckland, and all the land we saw was on the very foggy night of April 28th, just off the New Zealand coast. This was the Three King's Island where the accident happened to one of the New Zealand boats. On the following morning, April 29th, Auckland Harbour was sighted. We entered about 7 o'clock, the gangway was lowered, and a smart piece of work was going on till forenoon.

On leaving Auckland, northward bound, the weather gets warmer and warmer, and the

voyagers recline in steamer's chairs or stools about the decks. On the fourth day out from Auckland, land is sighted; it is the traveller's first glimpse of American territory and it is a glimpse of beauty. When the steamer glides around the point into the harbour of Pago Pago, a novel sight is before him, for when the anchor is dropped the ship rides in a completely land-encircled harbour. Glinker-built row boats and native canoes dart to and fro, full of dusky-skinned, half-dressed natives—offering their wares for sale—fans, tapas, carvings, tropical fruits, and many other island products. An inspection of the shore of the harbour discloses the homes of the Samoans nestled under cocoa-nuts palms and bread-fruit trees. The houses consist of great circular thatched roofs, with curtains of coarse matting which can be raised or moved along the sides according to the weather. We have left Pago Pago and the steamer is bearing us through the tropics towards Honolulu. After six days of delightful voyaging and Honolulu is before us. Diamond Head bounds the view to the eastward—a bare ridge of an old volcano, sheltering the lovely Waikiki beach where the fine new Moana Hotel is situated. Pine cars line the streets and speed out to the Pacific Heights where a superb view of the coast may be enjoyed. Here are to be found the largest plantations in the world and the whole process of sugar making is carried on according to the most approved methods of modern science. As the Hawaiians cannot be depended upon for a large amount of work it has been necessary to import laborers from other lands. Chinese, Japanese, Portuguese and more recently Porto Ricans have been employed in large numbers. After this beautiful stay in Honolulu for one day, preparations are made for Frisco. There is a crowd to say farewell; the band is on the wharf playing national melodies; sweet-scented flowers are twined around the neck of every onlooker and the good ship bends her way towards the Californian coast. On the sixth day out all is excitement, for in less than 3 hours the Golden Gate is in sight. Farther on and we are inside of San Francisco Harbour. To the left, on the further shore, Sausalito nestles at the base of Mount Tamalpais, and to the right is Berkeley Hills.

A Chazl.

From
KR Grant
April 1969

The Fortian.

“FABER EST SUÆ QUISQUE FORTUNÆ.”

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CAPTAIN CHARLES STURT.

AUSTRALIA'S GREATEST EXPLORER.

“One man”, says Shakespeare, “in his time plays many parts.” Of Captain Charles Sturt, Australia's greatest explorer, this is emphatically true. Exploration to him was only an episode in a much crowded life. He reminds one of those Plutarchian heroes who figured variously as politicians, lawyers, men of letters, and warriors. Like another great explorer, although not great as an explorer, Captain George Grey, Sturt was a vigorously intellectuated man of diverse occupations, and the history of South Australia would contain many blanks were the name of Sturt expunged from its early records.

The subject of our present monograph was born on the 28th April, 1765, in the Bengal Presidency. His father was Thomas Lenox Napier Sturt, the son of an old Dorsetshire family, and a puisne judge in the East India Company's service. Sturt's mother was Jannette, daughter of Dr. Andrew Wilson, descended from the adventurous border families of Scott, Kerr, and Elliott.

A man's place of primary education leaves its mark upon him. The traditions of “Alma Mater” junior are as keenly bosomed by loyal hearts as those of the august mother of the university. Greybeards talk lovingly in the days that are of “dear old Fort Street”—and with reason most cogent. Sturt was a son of heroic Harrow. He was first educated in a very juvenile preparatory school at Astbury, in Cheshire having been sent “Home,” like other infants born beneath a tropic sun, to escape the doom that awaits the Ang'o-Indian of callow immaturity. After leaving immemorial Harrow, young Sturt studied with a Mr. Preston, who lived near Cambridge. His years of tutelage concluded with the obtaining of a commission as ensign in the 39th Regiment on the 9th September, 1813 nearly two years before historic Waterloo. Young Sturt was then eighteen years of age, and war was war in those days of Napoleonic struggle. In February, 1814,

Sturt joined the first battalion of his regiment, which was then serving in the second army corps under Sir Rowland Hill (afterwards Vicount Hill) in the Pyrenees, and fought at Garris, at the passage of the Gaves, at Orthes, Garin, Aire, and Toulouse. Later in 1814 the lad saw service in Canada during Sir George Prevost's operations at Chazy and on Lake Champlain. Returning to Europe on Bonaparte's escape from Elba in 1815, Sturt, with his regiment, entered Paris, and remained for a time with the army of occupation in the north of France. His life was very varied and full of vivid experiences. From the year 1819 to the year 1826 young Sturt served in Ireland and took an active part in some stirring episodes during the progress of the “Whiteboy” riots. On the 7th April, 1825, Charles Sturt affixed to his uniform the lieutenant's insignia; and on the 15th December of the same year he became a fully fledged captain. In May, 1827, he arrived in Sydney in command of a detachment of his regiment, being then a vigorous young man of thirty-two years of age. He was appointed to the staff of dour Sir Ralph Darling, then Governor of New South Wales, as military secretary and brigade-major, and he acted also, for a time, as Darling's private secretary.

When Sturt landed in Sydney, the nature and characteristics of the interior of the continent of Australia were under discussion, and Sturt advocated the theory of a central lake, to which Oxley's exploratory experience also seemed to point. Choosing a dry season for his first expedition, Sturt started out on Oxley's track along the Macquarie River, accompanied by Hamilton Hume, and six convict servants. Oxley had an experience the most untoward. In tracing the then unknown stream to the westward he found himself led out of the region of hills into a country presenting a dead and monotonous level. The river here began to lose itself in dreary marshes; and, with great difficulty, the explorer succeeded in distinguishing the river from the lake for

a short distance onward, after which further effort in a wide waste of water was to no purpose. Then at last, Oxley lost sight of land and of trees altogether, though again able to discern the Macquarie River in a current three feet deep winding in and out among thickets of reeds, which grew at this point to a gigantic height. Oxley conjectured that he had here reached the magic marge of an inland sea—and that *ignis fatuus* proved a leading lure to explorers for years afterwards. Sturt, as we have seen, fathred Oxley's justifiable delusion. It is easy in the light of later knowledge to gibe at what seemed true science in these days; but we must not forget that crude and imperfect deductions and reckless generalisations served often as pathways to the portals of truth. The writer remembers the scorn with which a knowledgeable critic dealt with artist Julian Ashton's drawing, in the "Picturesque Atlas," of Bass and Flinders, in the "Tom Thumb," on their preliminary trip along the coast of New South Wales. It was an adventure of perilous daring to the two brave men who essayed it in their tiny cockle-shell; but our friend, the puissant critic, heaped derision on a knightly effort, saying that any two boys of to-day's public schooling would think nothing of the exploit. That may, or may not, be; but to be "first" is everything. Think you of Othello's marvellous stories of the anthropophagi, of men who carried their heads beneath their shoulders, of "antres vast and deserts idle," of all the stories of old mariners, and then you must admit that it is only the "unknown" which is terrible. In this spirit of knight-errantry, Sturt in the hey day of his powers faced the unknown. He thoroughly explored the alleged impenetrable marshes of the Macquarie River, and, forcing a pathway through them, and traversing vast plains, he arrived at length on the banks of the Darling River, but found that the stream tasted salt and brackish, and the party was then famishing from want of water. However, he proved by his expedition that the Darling received those westward-flowing streams, the Macquarie, the Castlereagh, and the Bogan, the destination of which had previously been undetermined. According to Arrowsmith, he at this time explored territory amounting in travelled miles to 1,272.

Again in November, 1829, accompanied by George, the eldest son of the Hon. Alexander Macleay, the Colonial Secretary of the time being, Sturt set out on his second and most famous expedition to explore the course of the Murrumbidgee River along its totally unknown and mysterious track. Mr. Frazer, the Colony's Botanist, also went with the party, which comprised six others; and they took with them a whale-boat, which ultimately proved exceedingly useful. On the 25th of November, the Murrumbidgee was struck not far from Jugiong. The country responded in appearance to Sturt's expectations; but vast beds of reeds and rugged banks stayed the passage of the drays, and the progress of the explorers was slow in the extreme. So Sturt immediately formed a depot, and built a boat. In the whale-boat which they had brought with them, Sturt and Macleay, with their company of six men and the Colonial Botanist, embarked. The other boat was speedily swamped on sunken rocks, and with it were lost all the party's provisions, except flour, tea and sugar. Five days of hazardous navigation through a continuously narrowing channel brought the explorers to a broad river named by Sturt the Murray. Its parent stream was later identified with the Hume, named, when discovered and crossed by the latter, in 1824, at a point 300 miles higher up, towards its source. But to Sturt, the Murray River solved the problem of the whole south-eastern water-system. Quoting Arrowsmith again, the distance explored in this second expedition of Sturt's was 1,950 miles. It is a matter of regret to the writer that space will not permit him to quote from the adventurous explorer's own graphic and picturesque account; but those of his readers who would journey with Sturt, see with Sturt's eyes, and hear the tones of Sturt's eloquent voice, are referred to his own works, in two Volumes, entitled, "Two Expeditions into the Interior of Southern Australia, during the years 1828-31; with Observations on the Soil, Climate, and General Resources of the Colony of New South Wales."

In 1830 Captain Charles Sturt was employed at Norfolk Island, then a receptacle for prisoners convicted of crime in New South Wales, on trying, uncongenial and distasteful services,

which he carried out regretfully, but so efficiently that he received the thanks of the Imperial Government. The effect of continued strain on his health, and especially on his eyesight, obliged him to go to England for medical advice; and, ultimately, compelled him to quit the Army, which he did in July, 1833. During this enforced inactivity and while still too blind to read, he published his famous journals, to which the writer has already referred.

In 1834, Sturt married Charlotte Christiana, the daughter of Colonel William Sheppey Greene, military Auditor-General at Calcutta; and, returning to Australia with his wife he settled in New South Wales.

In May, 1838, in charge of the third overland party for South Australia, and eager at the same time to further geographical research, Captain Sturt traced the Hume, from the spot where Hume had left it; till, after joining the river Goulburn, the Ovens and the Murrumbidgee, it becomes the Murray. Along the last-mentioned stream he explored much country; till, at Moorundi, he struck westward and crossed the Mount Lofty Ranges on his way to Adelaide, noting particularly the fine mineral promise of the mountains. This expedition was followed in September by daring attempts to enter the Murray mouth in a whale-boat. Sturt's report on the dangers of that estuary, by dispelling visions of a new capital at Encounter Bay, raised the price of land around Adelaide from 25 to 30 per cent. in value.

In 1839 Sturt brought his family to Adelaide where he entered upon an active official career. On the 3rd April of the year just mentioned, after the resignation of Colonel William Light, the far-sighted designer and founder of the city of Adelaide, and the first Surveyor-General of South Australia, Sturt accepted the post at the request of the Governor, gallant, generous and gentlemanly Colonel George Gawler; bosom friend and comrade-in-arms of the Iron Duke of Wellington. Gawler, however, was not aware that, in the meantime, the Home Government had appointed Captain Frome, of the Royal Engineers, to the same position. On the arrival of the latter official in the province, Sturt was, on the 2nd October, 1839, made Assistant Commissioner of Lands. The work of the

survey, as well as that of allotting lands to settlers, was at that time particularly difficult in the new territory; but Sturt and Frome did excellent work in reducing to order the chaos of the first rush of settlers; and the two men became fast friends while working together, and such they remained throughout their lives.

On the 29th August, 1842, Sturt was moved to the post of Registrar-General, and in January 1843, he volunteered to explore the centre of the Continent; but his orders were delayed until dangerously late in the following year of drought. Nevertheless, he started out in August, 1844, with Assistant-Surveyor Poole, Surgeon J. H. Burton, and twelve other men, taking with him as draughtsman, John McDouall Stuart, who was subsequently to make a great name for himself by crossing the Continent from south to north in 1862. Sturt's party followed the river Darling, upwards from its junction with the Murray, 176 miles to Cawndilla. The sufferings of the explorers in the Central Desert beggar description. Poole died, and was buried hard by the spot where Burke and Wills found subsequent sepulture. For six months Sturt's party was confined, for want of water, to one spot of Gehenna beat. "The tubes of the thermometer burst, the bullocks pawed the ground to get a cooler footing, the men's shoes were scorched as if by fire; their finger-nails were brittle as glass; the lead dropped from the pencil and the ink dried on the pen as Sturt wrote up his daily journal; the drays almost fell to pieces, the screws loosened in their boxes; the horn handles of the instruments and their combs split, and the wool on the sheep and their own hair ceased to grow." They hid in the shelter of their tents. They were glad to eat some bacon-fat and suet which the dogs had buried. To sit their horses was an agony of the intensest. The water was as blue as indigo, and as salt and bitter as brine. Sturt's farthest north, after repeated but futile efforts, was 25 degrees 58 minutes south latitude, and 139 degrees 26 minutes east longitude. Arrowsmith puts the mileage of this expedition at over 3,450, and says that Sturt attained to within 150 miles of the centre of the Continent. In 1849, the intrepid explorer published his "narrative of an Expedition into Central Australia," with a notice of the province of South Australia in 1847.

But, as the writer has previously insisted, Sturt's exploratory expeditions were only episodes in his active life. From 1842 until the 25th August, 1849, he was Registrar-General, with a seat in the Executive and Legislative Councils. From the 28th September, 1845, he was also Colonial Treasurer. On the 25th August, 1849, he became Colonial Secretary, and held that office until the close of 1851, when he retired on a pension granted by the Provincial Government of South Australia.

In March, 1853, Sturt returned with his family to England; and, until his death on the 16th June, 1869, lived at Cheltenham, maintaining to the last his interest in Australian exploration and actively aiding by his counsels in the preparation of later geographical research parties. He was a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, and in May, 1847, that scientific association presented him with their Founder's Gold Medal. Sturt was also a Fellow of the Linnean Society. In 1869 he was nominated a Knight Commander of St. Michael and St. George, but died without receiving that distinction, although his widow was honoured with the title of Lady Sturt. He left four children—three sons and one daughter, Colonel Napier George Sturt, of the Royal Engineers, being his eldest son.

In this brief sketch only the roughest outline, and the scantiest, of Sturt's career has been traced. In some future issue of "The Fortian" the writer would like to detail some of Sturt's remarkable and nerve-scaring adventures during his various expeditions.

THE SENIORS' FAREWELL.

On Friday 17th instant the School assembled in the Main Room to bid farewell to the 1905 Seniors. Mr. Turner addressed the girls and boys and conveyed to the Seniors the good wishes of the School for their success at the Senior. A fine programme was then presented to which Mr. W. H. McClelland was the principal contributor. The choir also rendered several items, one, "The Flag of Britain", being particularly pleasing. The gathering broke up with cheers for the School and with the singing of National Anthem.

THE LATE FREDERICK BRIDGES.



The Late Mr. Frederick Bridges.

By the death of Mr. Frederick Bridges our State has lost its ablest educationist, and our schools their most sympathetic friend. He was born at Wildsior, New South Wales, on February 2nd, 1840, and came to Sydney while quite young. His life from boyhood up was closely associated with Fort Street School. At the age of about nine years he was one of the pupils who were taught in Class Room 2, at that time the Boys' School. At the early age of twelve he was a successful competitor at an examination for pupil teachers, held by the Commissioners of National Education, and was the first pupil teacher to receive appointment in the State, (1852.) On the completion of his pupil teacher course, which was spent at his old School he was transferred to another city School, but after a short absence returned to Fort Street as assistant teacher. Leaving Fort Street again, he filled the position of headmaster in several schools, chiefly in the pioneer work of education both in city and

country, and in 1867 returned to his "alma mater" to commence the great work of his life.

During his administration from 1867 to 1876, the school gained a great reputation for the excellence of its work and the character of its pupils, and to maintain the standard then laid down has been the aim which each subsequent master has kept in view.

His was a great personality. He was pre-eminent as a teacher, and his clear, forceful, incisive style before a class was an object lesson to all who heard him. He was strong as a disciplinarian and methodical to the minutest point. He was a sympathetic friend. He gained the good-will of his boys, and he retained their love and friendship to the end. He was a great reader. His knowledge of educational literature in all parts of the world was wonderful, and his library is a rare treasure-house of standard educational works.

On the conclusion of his great work at Fort Street he joined the inspectorial ranks, and passing through the grades of District Inspector, Deputy Chief Inspector, Superintendent of Technical Education, Chief Inspector, he reached the highest administrative position in the Education Department, that of Under Secretary, in 1903.

If exemplification of our school motto—"Faber est suae quisque fortunae"—were needed, it could be supplied in the noble life that has just ended.

Although the strenuous life was severely taxed by the more comprehensive duties of administrative work, he often made time to visit the old school. He took a special pride in the doings of the pupils, and was extremely jealous of the School's good name. He evinced great interest in the Cookery School and its development, he was always proud of the School's successes at the University Senior and Junior Examinations, and at the annual distribution of prizes he regularly made a valuable present to the lad who in the estimation of his classmates had brought the greatest credit to his school.

Some few years ago, perhaps within the recollection of some of our present boys, it was found necessary to remove the splendid trees which lined the avenue, and very reluctantly Mr. Bridges decided on their demol-

ition, but he guarded with most jealous care the magnificent old tree which daily shelters the senior boys of the School, and which he planted more than half a century ago during the days of his pupil-teachership.

In 1899, at the School's jubilee, Mr. Bridges made a brilliant speech that thrilled the hearts of thousands of past and present pupils. We close this tribute of the School's love and affection to its greatest master by quoting the words of his peroration in that memorable speech, which for Fort Street at the present time has a special significance.

"Standing here as I do now, and looking back on the experience of fifty years, when I consider what brains and hands have tried to mould the destinies of their country and develop its great natural resources, I feel that to this Fort Street School New South Wales, if not all Australia, owes much of its moral, intellectual, and industrial progress. Whether we look to the fields of thought, or to the fields of action, we find old Fort Street School's sons and daughters in evidence with ideas and deeds, and nowhere do they discredit or dishonour the dear old School. Whether we glance at political, literary, mercantile, educational, or industrial development, we find old Fort Street pupils occupying high and honourable positions, and discharging the duties and contingencies of those positions with credit to themselves and satisfaction to the public. When I review the history and achievements of those who have passed away, whose life work is done, and who have now entered into rest, when I consider the tens of thousands of men and women now serving God and humanity by living honest, industrious, upright, God-fearing, law-abiding lives as citizens of this country, faithful husbands and devoted wives, conscientious mothers and fathers, I feel that this great institution that has turned out such people will always hold high regard in the estimation of New South Wales. I look forward to the future with confidence not only as to this School, but the country in which it is a potent factor. The pupils of the present and the pupils of the future, recognising that boys who have passed through Fort Street School in the past have been distinguished by treading in the paths of honour, manliness, and truth, will say in spirit if not by words, "You have bequeathed unto us a legacy of fame, we all will rather die than shame." I ask you to drink the toast of "Fort Street School"—"Long may it flourish!"

"Angels fair who ever keep
Watch o'er pure souls' slumbers deep,
Guard our Master-Teacher's sleep.

He who loveth children best,
Bids them come and calls them blest,
He shall give him perfect rest."

(Block kindly lent by the Editorial Committee of "The Public Service Journal" N. S. W.)

The Spartan Three Hundred

Part I

This is the story of the greatest deed of arms that was ever done. The men who fought in it did not fight for love of land or gold or power, nor were they soldiers who knew not why they went to battle. They warred for the freedom of their country; they were few against many; they might have gone home with glory after killing thousands of the enemy, but they chose with greater glory to die.

It was 480 years before the birth of Christ. The "Great King" of Persia was leading the countless armies of Asia against Greece, which was then split up into a number of small parts. Some of these were for peace at any price, while others were willing to risk ruin and death in fighting for their freedom.

The enemy, in entering Greece, would have to march through a narrow Pass, with the sea on one side and a very steep rock on the other. Here only could a small force hope to stand against a large one, and here the Greeks made up their minds to stand.

The Spartans were the bravest people in all Greece. They would die rather than give in, and they never lived to see a battle lost. Their king was chosen to lead the Greeks. He took with him three hundred of his own Spartans, all of whom were men who had sons to keep their families and to seek revenge if their fathers fell.

Besides his own three hundred the Spartan king had with him some seven or eight thousand men from other parts of Greece, and with this small army he was going to stand against an army a hundred times as big! When he reached the Pass he found—what he did not know before—that there was a path over the mountain by which the Persians (if some one would show them the way) could get over and fall upon his rear. He sent some of the men whom he could best spare to guard this path, and with the rest prepared to guard the Pass.

When the "Great King" came in sight, he sent forward a horseman to spy out the Greek camp. This man saw the Spartans amusing themselves with running and wrestling and

combing their long hair. They took no notice of the Persian, who rode back to tell his master how few and how fearless they were.

There was with the invaders a man who had once been King of Sparta, and when he was asked what the doings of his countrymen meant, he said: "This is what I told you long ago, when you laughed at my words. These men have come to fight you for the Pass, and they are making ready for the battle, because it is the fashion of our country for us to comb and tie our hair when we are about to put our heads in danger."

Adapted from (Longman's "Ship" Readers)

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' NOTICE

Flossie Huthwaite has been appointed resident assistant teacher at Bedford College, Summer Hill. She was one of the 1904 Juniors, and passed in chemistry.

expanse of land, to the cultivation and fertility of it, and to the way in which Nature had built it. Questions and thoughts immediately arose in our minds of the manner and time in which Nature had taken to do her work. "There is no wonder," you may say, "when islands up-heave or subside in one night." We arrived at Penrith, and after a short stay there, we travelled on through the most beautiful Emu Plains, over one of the most important rivers of the colony—the Nepean—until we could see the great contrast of the plains and the mountains, which was one of the most interesting facts of all. We reached at last our destination, Hazelbrook, 56 miles distant from the metropolis, and two miles distant from Lawson. We did not linger, but straightway looked for something to do. Everything seemed different—much quieter, much purer, and much more animating. The darkness of the night fell early and quickly, and a heavy mist soon obscured all from view, and we had to retire indoors. The evening was spent with the greatest enthusiasm; many country games were played, books and extracts were read, and then came the retirement for rest. Rest is one of the great necessities of life. The morn broke with the promise of very wet weather. All day heavy rain fell—very heavy, too, for we thought our holiday would be spoiled, but it was only a trial of faith for us. Friday was rather a dull day but Saturday was indeed a beautiful one. The sun rose very early, and we immediately planned for a day's pleasure at Medlow Bath, commonly called Medlow. Before we commenced our journey we had a great thought in our minds of visiting a beautiful building, one which will be, no doubt, when finished the finest in the colony. This building is the property of Mr. Mark Foy, of Sydney. Arriving at the station early, we thought of having our picnic before inspecting the building, so we travelled for a considerable distance along narrow paths walled in by rocks and high trees. The scenery was that of surpassing beauty until we reached the spot for rest and refreshment. A different Saturday from that spent in Sydney, thought we! Our journey was not over, so we commenced to retrace our steps; but in a different direction to that in which we came. We walked along a path winding round a precipitous cliff, from which we could see the deep gully, below, where wildfowl, etc., are to be found. This gully is often visited for shooting. Wonderful though it all was, yet danger was present!

Farther on we came to a particular spot set apart for the building as a shower bath, a rectangular plot of land beautifully fitted with large cemented bath and shower, the other part being covered with beautiful green grass. We continued our journey for a considerable distance, until we came to the building. Here we found plenty of food for thought and admiration. Everything was a picture to behold! Although we were not able to enter without a pass (which we did not know, or we would have procured one,) we could obtain a fair view from the outside. Every room was magnificently furnished—all was art and grandeur. Garden beds were laid out with such taste as to attract entire attention. Easter Monday

was fine. We took train to Katoomba, and then walked to the top of the falls. The sun was shining brightly, and throwing his heat upon us, but we journeyed on. Descending the falls by narrow tracks and steep ladders, passing the Three Falls, Orphan Rock, Three Sisters, Nellie's Grotto, and other interesting points, we arrived at the bottom. We sat down to rest, for we were very tired, and having a drink of clear stream water, we looked around us, and it seemed as if we were in a whole haven encircled by sloping banks of sylvan beauty and cliffs of verdant splendour, presenting a perfect panorama of picturesque magnificence to which no pen can do full justice. Following the famous Federal Pass through forests of magnificent tree ferns and creepers twining round the adjacent trees, we at last reached Leura. Here we found countless numbers of picnic parties. Some we happened to know. We were a happy few—only four. Enjoyment was not to be mentioned. Our strength allowed us to jump and climb, which we would never think of doing at other times. We refreshed ourselves at this spot, and rested, for it was early, about 12 noon. We had the afternoon before us to view the Leura Falls. Journeying onwards, we passed the Second Falls, Bridal Veil Falls, Weeping Rock, and the First Falls. While in that part of the Falls which is called the Amphitheatre, a storm overtook us and consequently we had to wait, it being the only place where shelter could be obtained. Here we saw Nature unveiling all her loveliness, withholding no portion of her many charms. Here she may be viewed in all her moods and in her most diversified character. Here lies the way of the artist and the poet. During our climb we were able to count 3345 steps. However, we arrived at Katoomba again, and having time to spare we thought a little over the scenes we had seen, and thinking how beautiful all the landscape must be when the moon takes up her wondrous tale, and the quiet stars from their azure throne look down upon that veritable fairy glen. Tuesday was wet, but Wednesday proved more promising, so we walked to the Terrace Falls and Pyramid Falls, which are equally beautiful as those before mentioned, but not so extensive or well known. On Thursday we visited Lawson, and then walked to the Junction, Cataract, Federal, and Adeline Falls, all of which lie one after the other, and flow in the same direction. We took our homeward journey through the bush instead of along the tracks. On our way, we viewed the Horse Shoe Falls—quite apart from the former—and arriving home we were exceedingly sorry to think that that was our last day of sight-seeing. Nevertheless, we had to put on our best faces, and, braving the worst, on Friday we did our household duties, and prepared for our return journey to Sydney, after ten days' absence.—I remain your new friend,

MABEL HUNT. (16 years.)

After the Storm.

How calm, how beautiful comes on
 The stilly hour, when storms are gone,
 When waving winds have died away,
 And clouds, beneath the glancing ray,
 Melt off, and leave the land and sea
 Sleeping in bright tranquillity,
 Fresh as if Day again were born,
 Again upon the lap of Morn
 When the light blossoms, rudely torn
 And scattered at the whirlwind's will
 Hang floating in the pure air still,
 Filling it all with precious balm
 In gratitude for this sweet calm;—
 And every drop the thunder-show'rs
 Have left upon the grass and flow'rs
 Sparkles, as 'twere that lightning-gem
 Whose liquid flame is born of them!
 When, 'stead of one unchanging breeze,
 There blow a thousand gentle airs,
 And each a different perfume bears,—
 As if the loveliest plants and trees
 Had vassal breezes of their own
 To match and wait on them alone,
 And waft no other breath than theirs!

(From 'Lalla Rookh' by T. Moore.)

THE FATHER LAND

Where is the true man's fatherland?
 Is it where he by chance is born?
 Doth not the yearning spirit scorn
 In such scant borders to be spanned?
 Oh, yes! his fatherland must be
 As the blue heaven wide and free!

It is alone where freedom is,
 Where God is God and man is man?
 Doth he not claim a broader span
 For the soul's love of home than this?
 Oh, yes! his fatherland must be
 As the blue heaven wide and free!

Where'er a human heart doth wear
 Joy's myrtle-wreath or sorrow's gyves,
 Where'er a human spirit strives

After a life more true and fair,
 There is the true man's birthplace grand,
 His is a world-wide fatherland!

Where'er a single slave doth pine,
 Where'er one man may help another—
 Thank God for such a birthright
 brother,—
 That spot of earth is thine and mine!
 There is the true man's birthplace grand,
 His is a world-wide fatherland!

JAMES RUSSEL LOWELL.

A Trip To The Blue Mountains.

(We publish with pleasure, the following letter descriptive of the Blue Mountains. It was written by one of our girls for Dame Durden's Page in "The Town and Country Journal" and for which she received first prize.)

PRIZE LETTER.

Marrickville.

Dear Dame Durden,—This is a brief account of my first visit to the mountains. The mountains of New South Wales are illustrated to us on the map as a dark line, lying at the distance of thirty or forty miles from the coast. They form one of the many pleasure resorts for the people of Sydney. You may say, visit the towns of London, Venice, Naples, and other well-known cities of both ancient and modern history, but in my view I think there is not a more natural and a more picturesque landscape than that of our mountains. Intense were my longings for a visit to this beautiful art gallery of Nature. It was not, however, until the Easter time of this year that my great wish was fulfilled. Gay and happy were we when the time was set for our departure. Nothing was too much for us. No time was too early. It was cold, but in spite of all, we rose early and set off to catch the train from Redfern Station. Our departure from the metropolis was rather a joyous one, for to think of being free from the constant bustle of the city was quite a change in life. We could hardly realise it. Our journey by train was one of wonder and praise, for our eyes were opened wider and wider to the great