

The Fortian.

"FABER EST SUÆ QUISQUE FORTUNÆ."

VOL. VIII., No. 1. SYDNEY, FEBRUARY, 1905. Price 1d

THE ORGAN OF FORT STREET MODEL PUBLIC SCHOOL,

The Staff.

Since Christmas the changes in our staff have been many. On the boys side we have lost Mr. J. Bourke, B.A., and Mr. H. T. Lovell, B.A., who have been appointed as Lecturers in the new Sydney Training College for teachers. We are heartily glad to find that scholarship and teaching ability have been rewarded by such appointments, and we wish them further scholastic successes. Mr. W. Moffat has been promoted to Broken Hill, and Mr. Sid. Spencer to Warren; while Mr. Harvey has been removed to Burwood. The new arrivals on the staff are Mr. Leroy from Pymont, and Messrs. Collins, Frew, Harradine, and McKinnon, from the Training College. The changes in the Girls' Department are noted elsewhere, while in the Infants Department Miss Hurley has taken up work. We did them all welcome to Fort Street.

Examinations.

The Department of Public Instruction offered five scholarships in the new Training School to students outside the Department, and could anything show the value of the instruction imparted at Fort Street better than the fact that four out of the five scholarships fell to this school! The following was the pass list in order of merit:—

HARRY GRIFFITHS, Fort Street.

STEWART GRAY, Fort Street.

R. HALLET, Fort Street.

MISS SMALL, M.A.

W. C. WALL, Fort Street.

All of these were Fort Street pupils except Miss Small. Harry Griffiths particularly must be congratulated on obtaining first position in an examination open to the whole of the State of New South Wales. The sixth place also fell to a Fort Street boy (O. Earl), who has also entered the Training School.

Teachers' Successes.

The teachers of Fort Street School, who, during the past year attended the Arts and Science Courses at Sydney University are to be congratulated on their marked success. Six gentlemen, Messrs. J. Bourke, C. H. Christmas, G. Fraser, H. T. Lovell, R. Middleton, and S. C. Smith, obtained the degree of Bachelor of Arts, while Mr. F. Hallman graduated as Bachelor of Science. With the exception of Messrs. Christmas and Hallman all these graduates were evening students.

To add to the distinction we point out that Mr. H. T. Lovell first place in Logic and Mental Philosophy. In connection with the intermediate degree examinations we have also to notice the success of Mr. T. H. Johnson, B.A., who passed the second year examination in Science, and Mr. G. Mackaness who passed the second year examination in Arts, while Messrs. A. McKean and C. Crane passed the first year examination in Arts, and Mr. E. Parker a section of the same.

At the opening of the school this year there were upon the staff no less than eleven graduates of Sydney University.

Presentation to Miss Dillon.

During the progress of the Bazaar the teachers of the Girl's Department met to say farewell to Miss Dillon who was leaving for a new sphere in Western Australia. She was presented with a silver hot water kettle as a souvenir of Fort Street.

We all wish Mrs. Hatfield every prosperity and happiness.

Since the new year the following teachers have taken up work here: Miss Scarr and Miss Leslie in the Girl's Department, and Miss Hurley in the Kindergarten.

Memorial to the late Frederick Bridges.

All teachers, scholars, parents, and friends, were much struck on their arrival at school on the 22nd January by the handsome brass tablet erected over the main entrance to the principal building in honor of the late Frederick Bridges, Esq. The inscription explains its meaning better than any description could. It reads as follows:

FABER EST SUÆ QUISQVE FORTUNE
THIS TABLET WAS ERECTED BY FRIENDS
AND ADMIRERS OF
FREDERICK BRIDGES

AS A TRIBUTE TO HIS MEMORY AND CAREER.

FORT STREET	{	Pupil	1851-2
		Pupil Teacher	1852
		Assistant	1859
		Headmaster	1867-76

Afterwards Inspector, Deputy Chief Inspector, Superintendent of Technical Education, Chief Inspector, Deputy Member of the Public Service Board, and Under Secretary of the Department of Public Instruction.

Born 1840. Died 1904.

Probationary Students.

The examination for admission to the service of the Department of Public Instruction as Probationary Students was held at the Model Public School, Fort Street, for candidates residing in the vicinity of Sydney, and at Country Centres also, on the 13th and 14th December, 1905. The examination was competitive as only a limited number of candidates were to be chosen. The subjects were 12, Grammar, Arithmetic, Drawing, Dictation, Geography, History, Latin, French, Writing, Geometry, Algebra, and Reading.

The maximum number of marks was 1050.

The following is the list of successful ones from Fort Street:—

Girls—Jessie Rose 3, Emily Ward 4, Grace Ringwood 6, Gladys Levick 6, Violet Ryder 8, Isabel Towner 11, Ethel Sheridan 13, May Sims 16, Lily Fletcher 19, Elma Dent 23, Kathleen O'Rourke 30, May Roulston 32, Mildred Telfer 33, Bertha Linguist 35, Fanny Robertson 36, Mabel Hartnell 45, Jessie Lutton 48, Irene Manton 50, Mary O'Callaghan (Parra-

matta) 14.

Boys—Edward Hutton 1, Harry Stephens 2, Frank Telfer 4, A Chisholm 6, Stanley Cross 13, Reginald Reid 15, Harry Reid 16, McCallock 37.

Cadets.

A cadet corps is being formed in connection with the school. At present the establishment is to consist of half a company, but Mr. Selle, who is in charge of the movement, informs us that the numbers will probably be increased in the near future.

Of course it is superfluous for us to impress upon Fort Street-boys the necessity for upholding the school traditions. But in addition to the honor of our school, we must consider our duty to our country. Every nation has to write its name in blood. There is a stage in the development of every state, when its citizens are called upon to defend it from foreign aggression. Sooner or later this dear native land of ours will be compelled to adopt some system of universal military training. In Japan we have a neighbour too powerful to be quite safe. China is awakening and has already over 100,000 troops trained and armed in the latest European fashion. We do not know the day when either of these nations may forcibly resent our restriction of alien immigration.

Germany, who is far from being our best friend, is increasing her navy by leaps and bounds, and is pursuing an aggressive colonial policy. In order, therefore, to resist an invasion, we need an infinitely large defence force. At present out of 700,000 able-bodied men we can put into the field barely 30,000. Australia must, therefore, choose between conscription, and an up-to-date cadet system.

To my mind, the latter is decidedly preferable. If boys go through a course of military training during their school days they will develop into athletic young men. The fellow who slouches about street corners will disappear, and give place to a nation of sturdy young patriots, willing and able to defend our shores, should such a dread necessity arise. C.R.C.

Cricket.**SCHOOL v. OLD BOYS.**

This match, which was looked forward to with much interest by old and present boys alike, was played on the Sydney Cricket Ground on Thursday, 22nd February, and resulted in a draw in favour of the school. Last year the school was successful by 3 runs. Naturally we are very proud of these successes.

In this year's match the school put up the respectable total of 8 for 266. Walkom's 109 (retired) was a fine performance, and so far as can be ascertained, is the highest score yet made in these annual engagements. Bosward played a good innings for 32, some of his strokes possessing much force and grace, and indicating that he is the makings of a first class batsman. The Old Boys had lost 5 wickets for 108 when play ceased, B. Willis scoring 28 not out, Moore 22, and Adam 21. Middleton got the best bowling average taking 3 wickets for 26.

The midday luncheon, held in the members' pavilion, was a very pleasant function. Mr. Kilgour presided, and Mr. Turner was present as the guest of the teams.

Following are the scores:—

SCHOOL 1ST INNINGS.

C. Bosward, c Webster, b Vial, 32; R. Adamson, c Willis, b Vial, 9; A. Lloyd, h.o.w., b C. Collins, 22; A. Walkom, retired, 109; C. Landon, c & b Moore 14; V. Molloy, b Maxwell, 24; K. Willis, c Webster, b Moore, 23; A. Barnes, retired, 6; S. Rowe, not out, 18; E. Palmer, not out 1; Sundries 8. 8 wickets for 266. Innings declared closed.

Bowling: H. Collins, 0 for 63; Thomas, 0 for 41; Vial, 2 for 54; C. Collins, 1 for 25; Moore, 2 for 32; Maxwell, 1 for 24; C. Willis, 0 for 19.

OLD BOYS 1ST INNINGS.

S. Moore, b Middleton, 22; H. Evans, b Middleton, 0; H. Webster, c & b Landon, 8; G. Adam, c Palmer, b Lloyd, 21; W. Thomas, c Bosward, b Middleton, 0; B. Willis, not out, 28; V. Vial, not out, 15; Sundries, 14. 5 for 108.

Bowling: Middleton, 3 for 26;

Landon, 1 for 18; Lloyd, 1 for 5; Bosward, 0 for 39; K. Willis, 0 for 7.

Our prospects of winning the A Grade Public Schools Competition are very good. Of 6 matches played, 5 have been won (each by an innings), and 1 lost. If we secure a two-point win against Woollahra, the only team we now have to play, we shall secure the coveted position of Premiers.

Landon's scoring in competition matches has been very consistent. In six innings he has made 75, 369, 14, 44 not out, 25, and 2. This gives him a total of 529 runs for 5 completed innings, with an average of 106.

Middleton's bowling results in the competition are: 96 overs, 26 maidens, 166 runs, 36 wickets. Average 4.6 runs per wicket.

Bosward comes next with 24 wickets at an average cost of 5.3 runs.

One pleasing feature about our team this year is the big improvement in fielding. This is a very important department of the game, and needs much attention and practice. Palmer's work in this direction merits special praise.

Bosward's 71 and Adamson's 63, are the highest scores which these boys have made this year. Both were made against Cleveland Street.

The following are the scores of matches played by the School this season in the A Grade Competition:

Fort Street v. Petersham.—Petersham, 5 for 287; Fort Street, 171 and 0 for 71.

Fort Street v. Leichhardt.—Leichhardt 49 and 15. Fort Street 532.

Fort Street v. Paddington.—Paddington 39 and 83; Fort Street 6 for 174.

Fort Street v. High School B.—High School B. 38 and 51; Fort Street 5 for 120.

Fort Street v. Cleveland Street.—Fort Street 245; Cleveland Street 96 and 60.

(Continued on page 6)

SCHOOL NOTES

Lower Fort Street School, better known as Trinity School, has been closed, and as a result the pupils numbering about 100 have been transferred to the Model School.

Hugh Linton, of the Public Service class obtained third place in the Chamber of Commerce examination and was awarded a bronze medal.

Linton has since received an appointment to the staff of the "Herald."

It will be of interest for all to learn that financially, as well as socially, the Christmas School Bazaar was a great success, the net receipts being £138, which has been divided among the several Departments. Part of the money will be devoted to prizes, the rest to apparatus and school material.

Many of the boys who were in our Senior Class last year, and who did so well in the senior examination, intend commencing their University career this year. We expect that they will do as well at the University as they have done at school, and we will always watch their careers with interest.

Trevor Turner, who won two scholarships at the Senior, is entering the Medical School at the University.

Fort Street Boys' Choir will take part in the juvenile competitions at the Wallace Esteddfo to be held next Easter.

The matter of the School Badge and Hat-band has been advanced another stage. Mr. Branch, Drawing Instructor, has kindly consented to design several badges and submit them to us for our approval.

We have received a bright and very characteristic letter from Mr. Spenser, containing his experiences at Warren.

With the new year the Debating Society has received an increase in membership, and the interest is being fully maintained.

Miss Haidee Ebsworth, who passed the last pupil teachers' examination, has been appointed to the Superior Public School, George Street, Redfern.

William McMahon, of the Public Service Class, and one of last year's Juniors has commenced work at the Mercantile Mutual Fire Insurance at a good salary. He wrote us a very nice letter.

Distribution of Prizes.

Owing to the Christmas Vacation falling a week earlier than was anticipated, the School buildings being needed for examinations, the prizes could not be distributed at the end of the year. The distribution will take place on the eve of the Easter Vacation.

The annual cricket match, School versus Old Boys, is becoming one of the interesting events of the school year, and tends to keep alive that feeling of sympathy which always exists between past and present Fort Street boys and girls. In another column will be found a report of the match.

Mr. Frank Hallman, B.Sc., has been temporarily appointed as Science Master at the Sydney Boys' Public High School. We are sorry to lose him from our staff.

Boys and Girls are reminded that the authors for the 1907 Junior Examination are:—English, "Ballads Old and New." Part II, and Coleridge's "Ancient Mariner." French, Desnoyer's "Jean-Paul Choppart," and Latin, Caesar De Bello Gallico, Book VII. The Special History author is The Age of Elizabeth. Those going for the 1907 Junior should get their books at once and make a start with them.

SCHOOL NOTES.

A number of our boys and girls are sitting for the March Matriculation Examination, and also for scholarships. We wish them all success, for they have been working very hard.

The Life Saving classes in the school which number in all about 130 boys, are being rapidly prepared by Messrs. Johnston and Selle for the Life Saving Examination.

We particularly desire to congratulate Edward Hufton on his magnificent success in coming top of the Probationary Students' Examination, considering the fact that the number of candidates drawn from all parts of the State was 350. Another Fort Street success!

Griffiths, of our senior class, who obtained first place in the Training College Examination, obtained 741 marks out of a total of 810; over 90 per cent. A marvellous result, indeed!

Have we no literary taste or literary skill among the boys and girls of the Model School, or do our senior scholars lack interest? The number of contributed articles is woefully small. Any article on any subject, humorous or interesting to boys and girls, will be gladly received and considered by the Editor, who has a box in the corridor, or will be pleased to receive contributions personally.

Of the boys who were in the last Junior class, seventeen have, so far as we have been able to ascertain, commenced work, the majority being now in the service of some of the very best firms and banking institutions in Sydney. It is worthy of remark that a Fort Street boy has only to mention the name of his school and it is a sure recommendation for a position.

A few days ago Mr. Kilgour had the pleasure of conducting over the school Mr. Barlow, the Minister for Education in Queensland, who was accompanied by Mr. Senior Inspector Cooper.

Fort Street obtained 27 of the Probationary Studentships at the examination held in December last. We will refer to these examinations in another column.

Substantial additions have, during the past year, been made to the Teachers' Educational Library. We hope to add a number of new volumes during the present year, and also to place a number of new books in our own School Library for boys and girls.

The Girls' Swimming Carnival was to be held at Balmain Baths on 5th March, while the Boys' Carnival was held on 7th March at Farmer's Domain Baths. Mr. Pike and Mr. Selle worked very hard to make it a success.

The new Honor Boards with the lists of Junior, Senior, Matriculation, and other Examination Honors and Passes will be placed in the main rooms very shortly. These rooms with their records of Fort Street successes are an object of interest to all visitors.

The new Junior classes have been formed up and all the boys are working very hard.

All those who are sitting for this year's Junior should remember that the time is now becoming very short and that they must work very hard to keep up the standard of proficiency always attained by Fort Street girls and boys.

Remember the old motto, labor omnia vincit.

At the examination held by the Pharmaceutical Board for articulated Chemists, William Costin obtained second position, obtaining 100 for Arithmetic, 80 for Latin, and 70 for English.

At the Annual Examination held by the Alliance Francaise at the end of last year Harry Reid was awarded the Grand Prix.

CRICKE T—Continued.

Fort Street v. Leichhardt West.—
Fort Street 127; Leichhardt West 25
and 65.

Three centuries have been made by members of the First XI this year. Landon's 369 against Leichhardt is a State schools' record. Walkom has twice reached the three figures, and has been not out each time. He made 101 not out against Paddington, and 109 retired against the Old Boys.

Holden, of C4, made 100 not out when playing against C3 in a class match. It was his first game on a turf wicket. He evidently liked the new conditions.

Sid Rowe's batting since the holidays marks him as a lad of promise. His last three innings have yielded 19, 33, and 18 not out. He possesses a quick eye and good judgment.

The Debating Society.

The L. and D. Society held its annual meeting on Friday, 9th February. The Secretary's report and the Treasurer's balance sheet were read and adopted. Two of the Vice-Presidents were present (Mr. Lasker and Mr. Mackness). The election of officers was then proceeded with, and resulted as follows:—

President: Mr. Kilgour.

Vice-Presidents: Teachers of 6th and 7th Classes.

Secretary: N. Connall.

Assistant Secretary: E. Knox.

Treasurer: A. Barnes.

Editor of Manuscript Journal: R. Moses.

Auditors: P. Parkinson and A. Collins.

On the 16th February impromptu speeches occupied the attention of members, and the controversy over most of them was very keen. Mr. Cary Taylor, Headmaster at Goulburn, visited the school, and spoke on the question of the School Badge, a subject which seems to meet with general approval.

The Library.

The library needs a fresh supply of magazines and periodicals of any sort. Will boys and girls please bring in to Mr. Middleton, the Librarian, any old magazines they may possess, and thus replenish the library stock. The boys and girls in the senior classes might take this matter up and help the Library.

The Visit of Commercial 4 to Massey Harris Co. Ltd.

Following on our visit to the Stock Exchange, we boys, accompanied by our teacher, Mr. Hurt, visited the Massey Harris Co's establishment for the purpose of gaining practical instruction in Harvesting Implements. The Manager, Mr. Robertson, showed the classes over the show room, and explained the working of plough harrows, combination seed sowers and cultivators, a combination drill fertiliser, and the complete stripper and harvester.

At the conclusion three hearty cheers were given for the firm of Massey Harris coupled with the name of Mr. Robertson.

In a written examination on astronomy, one of the questions was:

"What happens when there is an eclipse of the moon?"

A youthful student with rather an admirable knack of getting out of a difficulty, wrote the following answer:

"A great many people come out to look at it"

All members of sixth and seventh classes are invited to join the above society. Subscription 3d per quarter payable in advance. Meetings held every Friday at 3 p. m. Those desirous of joining should attend these meetings where subscriptions will be received and members enrolled.

T Connell Hon. Sec.

Great Writers.

Boys seem to have such vague ideas concerning our great English authors that we intend giving from time to time short accounts of a few of them. We are commencing with

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE.

Happily, no school boy or school girl nowadays who reaches the upper classes of school is without some knowledge of Shakespeare and his works. In most schools, indeed, at least one play of Shakespeare is usually read, while in others the poet becomes known by the less satisfactory medium of extracts.

If, however, Shakespeare is only a name, as yet, to any of our readers, we strongly advise them—and especially those who, as we are pleased to learn, have now a little book shelf of their own, to buy a copy of one play. Let it be *The Tempest* or *As You Like It*—both charming comedies—or *Macbeth*, *Julius Caesar*, or the *Merchant of Venice*. Beautiful copies of these and other plays of Shakespeare may now be bought for sixpence.

Then for those who like short and easy roads to stories there are the ever delightful *Tales from Shakespeare* by Charles and Mary Lamb.

This is one of the books that every English-speaking boy and girl should possess. It may be had for a mere trifle, and will lure the reader on to Shakespeare himself. A copy is in the Library.

William Shakespeare was a child of the country. He was born at Stratford-on-Avon, then a little town of fourteen or fifteen hundred inhabitants, surrounded by the rich meadows and shady trees that make beautiful "the heart of England."

The house in which he was born along with the one adjoining it, has been turned into a public museum. Much of the original wood and stonework survives, but a cellar underneath the "birthplace" is the only part that remains as it was when the poet was born.

The poet's working life was spent in London, and the whole of his dramatic work was probably done between the years 1591 and 1611. Of his thirty-seven plays—almost a year-

ly average of two plays during his writing period—only sixteen were published during his lifetime.

It is said that "whatsoever he penned, he never blotted out a line:" and the editors of the first Folio edition of his works tell us that, "what he thought he uttered with that easiness that we have scarce received a blot from him in his papers.

Between the years 1599 and 1611, Shakespeare built up at Stratford a large landed estate, and from the latter date onwards he resided mainly at Stratford, living the life of a country gentleman.

In poetry there is but one supreme,
Though there are many angels round his throne.

Mighty and beauteous, while his face is hid.

SENIOR HONOURS

T. A. Turner.—Aitken Scholarship for General Proficiency; Lithgow Scholarship for French and German; 1st class honours in German; 1st class honours in French; 2nd class honours in Mathematics; 3rd class honours in Greek; 3rd class honours in Latin.

H. B. Lee.—1st class honours in French; 2nd class honours in Mathematics; 2nd class honours in Latin.

H. Griffiths.—Medallist in Modern History; 1st class honours in French; 2nd class honours in Mathematics; 2nd class honours in Latin.

A. C. Lloyd.—Medallist in Mechanics; 1st class honours in Mathematics.

L. C. Mote.—1st class honours in French; 2nd class honours in Mathematics.

J. G. Hunter.—2nd class honours in French; 3rd class honours in Mathematics.

E. M. Cotton.—2nd class honours in Mathematics; prox. acc. in Mechanics.

H. G. Humphries.—2nd class honours in Mathematics.

A. V. Maxwell.—3rd class honours in Mathematics; 3rd class honours in French.

The Senior Examination.

As usual the names of Fort Street pupils were in evidence, when the results of the Senior Examination, held during November 1905, were published. Between 1895 and 1905 the school has been represented at this examination, and during this decade everyone of the 40 candidates sent up has been successful.

At the last examination Fort Street presented more candidates than any other school. All (eleven in number) were successful, thereby establishing a record, since the highest number previously was six. In the Junior Examination, too, this school had a higher pass list than any other educational establishment in Australia.

In obtaining scholarships and medals the successful candidates maintained the prestige of preceding years. Trevor Turner obtained the Litgow scholarship for French and German, and divided the Aitken scholarship for general proficiency with another candidate. Harry Griffiths obtained the medal for Modern History, and Arthur Lloyd the medal for Mechanics, a subject in which Bede Harrison obtained the medal in 1904. In all other subjects our school representatives were well to the fore.

The following is the list of the passes and honors obtained at the Examination. M signifies that the candidate has qualified for Matriculation, and M.E. for entrance to the faculties of Law, Medicine, Science, and Engineering.

The numbers in the list indicate the section in which the candidates passed in accordance with the following:—1, History of Europe; 2, Ancient History; 3, English; 4, French; 5, German; 6, Latin; 7, Greek; 8, Arithmetic; 9, Algebra; 10, Geometry; 11, Plane Trigonometry; 14, Mechanics; 15, Applied Mechanics; 20, Physiology; 22, Plane Geometrical Drawing and Perspective; 25, Music.

Turner.—2a, 4b, 5a, 6a, 7b, 8b, 9b, 10a, 11b, 12b (M.E.)

Lee.—1a, 2a, 4a, 5b, 7b, 10a, 11b, 12b, 20a, (M.E.)

Griffiths.—1a, 2c, 4a, 5a, 7a, 9b, 10b, 11a, 12b, (M.E.)

Lloyd.—5c, 7c, 9a, 10a, 11a, 12a, 14a, 15b, 22c, (M.E.)

Motc.—2a, 4b, 5a, 7c, 9b, 10b, 11b, 12b, 25a, (M.E.)

Hunter.—2b, 5a, 7c, 9b, 10b, 11b, 12b, 14c, 15b, (M.E.)

Cotton.—5c, 7c, 9a, 0a, 11a, 12c, 14a, (M.E.)

Humphries.—5c, 6c, 7b, 9b, 10a, 11a, 12b, (M.E.)

Maxwell.—1c, 6c, 4b, 5c, 7c, 9c, 10b, 11b, 12b, 22c, (M.E.)

Halloran.—5b, 7c, 9c, 10b, 11c, (M.)

Evans.—5c, 9c, 10c, 21c.

Red Tape by the Mile.

There is red tape in the methods of the American War Department, but for gorgeous complication of system, a recent illustration in the British army eclipses all records on this side of the water. An officer had occasion to use a screw-driver, just a plain ordinary twenty-five cent screw-driver. In a moment of rashness he decided not to buy it on his own account, but made formal application for the implement from some of the government stores. The request for a screw-driver was read, approved, endorsed by one officer after another up the long ladder whose rounds were festooned with red tape, until it reached the top-most seat of authority whose action was final. There the application was solemnly considered and started back on its downward path through the various official channels until it reached the audacious officer who had made the request, and had forgotten about it in the intervening weeks.

He was informed that screw-drivers were supplied in boxes of tools and not singly. After the same weary round of delay and formality his application came back. Its endorsement stated that boxes of tools were only sold to carpenters' shops. The patient officer scratched his head, and then remembering that he had set the ball rolling when he wanted a screw-driver, coupled this with the document relating to the box of tools.

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FORTIAN 1

Swimming.

FORT-STREET SCHOOL CARNIVAL.

A SUCCESSFUL FUNCTION.

HARDWICK RETAINS CHAMPIONSHIP OF SCHOOL.

The 16th annual swimming carnival of the Fort-street Model Public School Club was held on 6th March, at Farmer's Domain Baths, Woolloomooloo Bay, in cool and delightful weather. There is no doubt, therefore, that such conditions were responsible for a large and enthusiastic gathering of visitors, which included Mr. P. Board, Under-Secretary for Education; Mr. J. W. Turner, Assistant Under-Secretary, and late principal of Fort-street School; Mr. D. J. Cooper, Principal Senior Inspector of Schools; Mr. J. Dawson, Chief Inspector; Colonel Paul, Senior Drill Inspector; and Mr. A. J. Kilgour, Principal Teacher. The baths were gaily dressed in bunting. As regards the racing and the programme in general, everything was carried out to a successful issue, thanks, for the most part, to the skilled supervision of the club's secretary, Mr. D. A. Pike, and treasurer, Mr. W. A. Sel'e.

The chief event of the afternoon was the 100 yards championship of the school, which after a keen contest, once more fell to H. Hardwicke, who made the distance in the creditable time of 1m 2 4-5s. L. MacQueen, quite a lad, who gamely fought out the finish and secured second place, is no doubt a swimmer of no unequal merit, and should on gaining maturity be heard of among the best. Another well contested race was the final of the 90 yards first-class inter-club handicap, which was gained by T. Tartakover, of the Eastern Suburbs Club, from H. Baker, who just defeated C. N. Smith, an old-time Fort-street lad, for second

place. An exhibition of high, fancy, and acrobatic diving was given by the members of the Sea Gull Club.

Results:—

Second and third class Handicap, 45 yards.—First heat: H. Ives, 2s, 1; W. Dunn, 10s, 2. Second heat: C. Neilson, 2s, 1; J. Duff, scr, 2. Third heat: F. Yeomans, 4s, 1; H. Wylie, 4s, 2. Final: F. Yeomans 1, H. Wylie 2, H. Ives 3.

Fourth and fifth class Handicap, 45 yards.—First heat: C. O'Connor, 9s, 8; W. Westcott, 4s, 2. Second heat: H. Traversi, 4s, 1; P. Walker, 5s, 2. Third heat: H. Thiering, 5s, 1; Gilbert Murray, 4s, 2. Fourth heat: A. Miller, 4s, 1; W. Dent, 3s, 2. Fifth heat: C. Easton, 3s, 1; G. Murray, 5s, 2. Sixth heat: B. Walford, 5s, 1; J. Wright, 4s, 2. Final: H. Traversi 1, C. O'Connor 2, C. Easton 3.

Sixth and seventh class Handicap, 45 yards.—First heat: H. Wilson, 12s, 1; R. Gregory, 7s, 2. Second heat: R. Cox, 5s, 1; J. Donald, 10s, 2. Third heat: S. Raymond, 9s, 1; N. Connel, 6s, 2. Fourth heat: G. Francis, 6s, 1; R. McDougall, 5s, 2. Fifth heat: H. Watson, 8s, 1; D. Gazzard, 6s, 2. Sixth heat: G. Linsley, 7s, 1; W. Lemaire, 9s, 2. Seventh heat: O. Watson, 9s, 1; N. McNamara, 6s, 2. Eighth heat: H. Cox, 7s, 1; J. Wood, 9s, 2. Final: H. Cox 1, H. Watson 2, O. Watson 3.

90 Yards Old Boys' Handicap.—First heat: C. Lemaire, 24s, 1; Congden 2. Second heat: A. Brett, 15s, 1; G. Tartakover, 6s, 2. Final: C. Lemaire 1, A. Brett 2, Congden 3. Time, 1m 8s.

First-class Handicap, 90 yards.—First heat: T. Tartakover (Eastern Suburbs), 2s, 1; A. Wickham (Eastern Suburbs), scr, 2; G. Tartakover (North Sydney), 6s, 3. Time, 55s. A good race. Second Heat: H. Baker (Eastern Suburbs), 2s, 1; R. Healy

THE FORTIAN.

(Eastern Suburbs), 4s, and C. N. Smith (Enterprise), 5s, dead heat for second place. Final: T. Tartakover 1, H. Baker 2, C. N. Smith 3. Time, 54 4-5s. A very close finish.

Training College Handicap.—First heat: W. Morris, 1; S. G. Nicoll, 2. Second heat: E. Rodgers, 1; H. Griffiths, 2. Final: W. Morris 1. Won easily.

Sobraon Boys' Handicap, 90 yards.—Jacobs, 1; Bell, 2. Time, 1m 4s. A good race.

Championship, 11 years, 45 yards.—F. Mason, 1; H. Ives, 2; A. Wood, 3.

Championship, 12 years, 45 yards.—T. Farrell, 1; B. Duff, 2; L. Wilson, 3. Time, 32s.

Championship, 13 years, 45 yards.—H. Traversi, 1; E. Ward, 2; R. Kininnont, 3.

Championship, 14 years, 90 yards.—First heat: L. Macqueen, 1; O. Watson, 2. Time, 1m 2 3-5s. Second heat: A. Barry, 1; E. Rowbotham, 2. Time, 1m 2 2-5s. Final: L. Macqueen, 1; A. Barry, 2; Langan, 3. Time, 1m 1 2-5s. Won easily.

Championship, 10 years and under, 45 yards.—J. Duff, 1; F. Wood, 2. Time, 36s.

Championship, 15 years, 90 yards.—H. Milne, 1; C. Sweetnam, 2; S. Spinks, 3. Time, 1m 8 3-5s.

Championship of School, 100 yards.—H. Hardwicke, 1; L. Macqueen, 2; E. Cooke, 3. Time, 1m 2 4-5s. Won by about 2 yards.

Life-saving Race, 45 yards.—N. Griffiths and W. Hunter, 1; Wylie and Spinks, 2. A most interesting race.

Fancy Costume and Neatest Diving Competition.—Costume: First Prize, R. Reid, the Tired Tramp. Diving: First Prize, T. Longford.

Clothes Race.—N. Griffiths, 1; E. Cooke, 2. Won easily.

Water Polo Match.—Fort-street v. Sobraon. The former team won by 9 goals to nil.

There was also a demonstration of releases and rescue by Mr. T. H. Johnston, B. A., and N. Griffiths.

FORT-STREET SCHOOL GIRLS' CLUB.

The annual swimming gala in connection with Fort-street Model Public School Girls' Club was held at Elkington Park Baths, Balmain, on Monday 5th March. A large number of ladies and schoolfellows of the competitors seemed very much interested in the proceedings. Dull, threatening, and bleak weather conditions apparently made little difference to the contestants, for every race was keenly fought out. So far have Sydney's young ladies advanced in swimming that exponents of the speedy "crawl" as well as the "trudgeon" stroke were seen now and again, while the majority adopted the overarm, side, and breast methods of propulsion. The head mistress, Miss Partridge, who is a great advocate of swimming as an exercise for girls, evinced lively interest in the proceedings. A life saving squad, led by Miss Burke, gave a fine display (creditable alike to themselves and their tutor) of methods of rescue, release, and resuscitation. The management was in the hands of the lady assistants, and the bulk of the responsibility fell upon Miss Burke (hon secretary) and Miss Tresillian (hon treasurer). Both these young ladies deserve a special measure of praise for the good work they are doing. Results:—

100yds Championship of the School.—Maggie Vogie, 1; Elsie Rae, 2. Time, 1m 40s.

Wading Race (non-swimmers).—First heat: E. Montgomery, 1. Second heat: E. Mathews, 1. Third heat: M. Mirabeto, 1. Final, E. Matthews, 1. 20yds Championship.—E. Clayton, 1; R. Bear, 2; M. Schulze, 3. Time, 15 2-5s.

Novelty Race.—Miss D. Schulze, 1. Miss Jessie Ogilvie, 2.

10 yds. Handicap.—First heat: E. Ferguson, 1; time, 14s. Second heat: D. Malcolm 1; time, 10 4-5s. Third heat: N. Downie, 1; time, 10 2-5s. Final: N. Downie, 1; D. Malcolm, 2; time, 9s.

25yds. Back Stroke.—Elsie Blunt, 1; Elsie Rae, 2; Edie Clayton, 3. Time, 22 3-5s.

BROWN TERTIUS ON ALGEBRA

Algebra is alright when you begin. Then equals 1, b equals 2, c equals 3, d equals 4, e equals 5. You would think that f equals 6, but that is where you make a mistake—f equals 0. I don't know why it does, but Hall and Knight say it does and they are big men at Algebra.

I used to like Algebra when I knew what a, b, and c were equal to, but just when I got accustomed to those sums Hall and Knight introduced x, y, and z, which equal anything.

Now I think that is down right mean. Why don't x, y and z keep the same value—anyhow in the same examples? Why should x equal 1 in one sum and in the very next sum equal 3 or 1 or some other number? I call it disgraceful.

Now if x had the same value all through what a lot of trouble it would save. You would only have to do one sum, and then when you had another given you, you could just put the answer down. Then how pleased the master would be! Now he is often far from pleased, and makes nasty rude remarks.

It is all very well for him. He has a book with the answers in. How would he like it when he had done a sum and given up the answer to be told "Rot." Addition and subtraction aren't bad. I could do these sums pretty well, but they don't bother you for the values of x, and z. But I think that a stupid rule about signs in multiplication. If two pluses give a plus why don't two minuses give a minus. I asked Smith—he is our mathematical master—one day and he said "Bravo", Georgie, you are a genius" (Smith thinks he's funny so he pronounced it geniass.) Now what would you do with a plus and a minus? I told him you might take your choice". What do you think he said 'Ah Georgie you mostly do' Now I call that cheek don't you?

Then we came to those sums—stupid sums I call them—about finding the unknown. It doesn't need much finding, I'm sure—it's always unknown! Besides, what is the good of finding it. They start let x equal the unknown if only they would let it—but they won't.

They worry about until they get some number or other mostly wrong (at least mine is).

I, m sure sounds more like algebra than 5 or 9. I had one of these sums one day. It went: If I can buy 70 lbs of black tea for £5 and 80 lbs of green tea for £6 how many lbs of mixed tea can I buy for £22, Well I worked away, and

after a lot of working I got the answer £3 2 6. What do you think he said? Splendid, Georgie—very mixed.

That's just what I don't like about Mr. Smith. He either gets in a wax, or is bcaetly sarcastic or both. I think that's why he takes algebra.

What he will be like after a lesson is done is very like x—unknown.

When we had done with these unknowns we came to factors. I used to get a lot right. Jones Quartus used to start giving up the answers, and I used to say "Same". Smith used to beam on me and say, "Coming on Georgie; coming on".

One day he started the answers with me. I think that was jolly me n. Jones does them ever so much better than I do—besides it showed a want of taste. Of course I got them nearly all wrong that day. He always starts with me now. I think they must have been a set of cheats at his school. When I go home at Christmas I'm going to ask if I can leave off Algebra.

(From Parkinson MS, with apologies to the "Boy's own Paper")

SCHOOL NOTES.

Mr. P. R. Cole M. A. who received the Wollsey Travelling Scholarship and Mr. T. Roberts B. A. both of whom were formerly on the staff of his School, left for England on the 16th. June by the "Afric." A number of the teachers and Senior Boys assembled at the wharf to bid them bon-voyage.

Mr. K. R. Cramp who for some time was in charge of the Senior Class History has been sent to the Training School Blackfriars, in place of Mr. Cole.

The First Fifteen is having a very successful season. Till the present they have only had 3 points scored against them.

Now the new books are in the library, boys and girls should pay frequent visits to it.

On the 17th instant the boys of 4B accompanied by their teacher Mr. Hardman, spent at La Cove River a pleasant day in various sports and amusements.

THE FORTIAN.

For 1906 Juniors.

SCHOOL DAYS OF SIR WALTER SCOTT

After a year spent at Bath, little Walter was taken first to his home in Edinburgh and then to the farm at Sandy-Knowe. He had now reached his eighth year, and it was thought that a course of sea-bathing might help to remove his lameness.

So he was taken—once more in charge of his aunt—to Prestonpans, a small town on the south side of the Firth of Forth. There the boy struck up a friendship with an old soldier, who had been through all the German wars and was very glad to fall in with such a good listener as young Scott always was.

On his return from Prestonpans, his home for many years, was his father's house in George Square. There, as one of a large family, he soon found out what he did not know when in the theatre at Bath—that a quarrel between brothers was a very natural event. But even in his younger days his strong common sense made him bend his temper to the new order of things.

Walter's mother was a lady of a light and happy nature and had a liking for poetry and works of imagination. So many of his leisure hours were spent in reading aloud to her Alexander Pope's translation of Homer, which if we except a few ballads and songs, was the first poetry he read.

The boy, like all other youths, was, of course, most pleased with the passages that are wonderful or terrible, many of which he got by heart, and used to recite them aloud. His mother, whose taste and feeling were gentler, tried to win him from mere pictures of tumult and battle, and to draw his attention to passages expressing noble and generous feeling.

In 1778, young Walter Scott was sent to the Grammar School, or High School, now the Royal High School of Edinburgh. Previous to this, however, he had, along with his brothers, received lessons in Latin from a private tutor. So he was placed in the second class, then taught by Mr. Luke Fraser, "a good Latin scholar, and a very worthy man."

But he was somewhat behind the class in which he was placed and that, he thought, accounted for the fact that he did not make any great figure at the High School. "I glance at," he tells us "like a meteor from one end of the class to the other, and commonly disgusted my kind master as much by negligence and frivolity, as I occasionally pleased him by flashes of intellect and talent."

It has sometimes been said that Walter Scott was a dunce—and some schoolboys really of that genus have felt satisfaction in the thought that the Great Unknown was one of their "set." But he was not—he could not have been—anything of the kind. "I was never a dunce," he affirms, "nor thought to be so, but an incurably idle imp, who was always longing to do something else than what was enjoined him."

On the other hand, young Scott was very popular among the boys. His lameness naturally gained him the sympathy of generous youth, while his good nature and ready flow of story drew round him an admiring audience. Happy was the boy who could sit

next him when they gathered round the fire in Lucky Brown's—the "tuck"-shop of the school. "So on the whole," he says, "I made a brighter figure in the yards than in the class."

His father did not, however, trust solely to the High School for his education. He provided a tutor—a student, who permitted a good deal of familiar disputing, and from whom young Scott learned chiefly writing and arithmetic. Scott was a cavalier and a Tory, and admirer of Montrose and his Highlanders, while the tutor was a Roundhead and Whig with an admiration for the dark Argyle. In the course of these disputes which were always carried on a friendly spirit, Scott acquired a knowledge of the early history of Scotland, and of the wars and sufferings of the Covenanters.

His tutor afterwards became a clergyman, but resigned an excellent position in a seaport town because he could not persuade the seafaring folk of the guilt of setting sail on a Sunday.

As for Scott's share in the discussions, he confesses that he formed his opinions then, as Charles II took up his religion, "from an idea that the Cavalier creed was the more gentleman-like persuasion of the two."

FOR DEBATERS.

In arguing, the main thing is to keep your head clear. Don't confuse yourself by attending to what the other says. Just say, "That's begging the question," or "That's beside the point," or "That's a non-sequitur," or something that will apply to anything.

All is fair in love, war and argument.

Smile confidently. That will distract your opponent, with a longing to kill you. He forgets his point and you score.

We never know how interested we are in men, causes and events, till we argue about them.

A POET'S WARNING

The late Lord Tennyson uttered the following warning note when it was whispered that England's fleet had been suffered to decay, and that her coaling-places and outposts were neglected:

"You, you, if you should fail to understand
What England is, and what her all-in-all,
On you will come the curse of all the land,
Should this old England fall,
Which Nelson left so great."

WHAT A LIE IS.

A Sunday-school child was asked "What is a lie?"
"A lie is an adomination to the lord, and a very present help in time of trouble."

THE FORTRAN.

EMPIRE DAY AT FORT ST.

VISIT OF SIR HARRY RAWSON.

It was one of the finest sights imaginable when Sir Harry Rawson walked up the avenue of Fort St to speak on the subject of Empire Day. The greatest enthusiasm marked the whole proceedings. Shortly before 12 o'clock the whole of our 2000 boys and girls were marshalled in front of the main building, some of the most pleasing features being the almost universal adoption of appropriate white dresses by the girls and the brilliant array of Union Jacks in the hands of the Infants. Sir Harry was met on his arrival by the Premier Mr. J. H. Carruthers, Mr. J. W. Turner assistant under secretary for education. Mr. J. J. Daly M. L. A. Mr. J. Perry M. L. A. and by the principal of Fort St. Mr. A. J. Kilgour B. A. L. L. B. and was escorted to a dais erected in front of the school, which, draped with Union Jacks and richly adorned with ferns was the point to which all eyes were directed. A word of praise is here due to the boys and girls for the way in which they kept their attention fixed on the conductor, Mr. Easton. After passing a guard of honor composed of our senior boys, the whole of our assembled boys and girls struck up God Save the King, his Excellency and staff remaining at the salute, while the soul stirring song was sung to a magnificent conclusion in splendid unison. His Excellency then mounted the dais, having on his right Mr. Carruthers and on his left Mr. Kilgour. As soon as His Excellency was seated the song "The Flag of Britain" now sung universally throughout the Empire, and which Fort St. was the first school in N. S. W. to adopt, was sung with the greatest enthusiasm. In fact Sir Harry was so pleased with its rendition that he requested Mr. Kilgour to furnish him with the words of it.

His Excellency in his address then said it was a very great pleasure that he was there to take part with them, the pupils of the model public school of Sydney in their welcome to Empire Day, and in their homage to the flag which they had just saluted. He wished to say a few words about the flag, because it was the one under which he had actively served for 48 years. (Cheers.) He loved it and he honoured it, and he

wanted them all, boys and girls, to remember, while they had a splendid country of which they had a right to be proud, and an Australian flag in which they could also delight, that in that flag the chief part was the little Union Jack. He wanted them to have a pride in that fact, too, and to learn to love the Union Jack as he did. (Applause.) It represented, in every part of the world, liberty. It was fought for by our ancestors, and given to us out here as a birth-right, with all its glorious traditions of land and sea, mostly won, he was proud to think, in the cause of liberty. That word "liberty" did not mean freedom to do what one liked, in spite of what effect it might have on other people, but it meant freedom in religion, freedom under the laws, and freedom to every man to do his work as he wanted to, so long as he conformed to the law and did not interfere with anybody else. He hoped they would always bear in mind that the foundation of the British Empire, and the success of it, was freedom and liberty. One of these days this people would be a nation, and if they still maintained these ideas of perfect freedom and liberty they would be a great nation, too. In the ceremonies in which they were now taking part they were acting in fellowship with people in many parts of the world, as well as in Great Britain and Ireland, and Empire Day coming around as it would every year, would help to cement the feeling of friendship which should exist between a mother-country and her children. Of all ties the strongest was the love of a mother for her children, and if ever a time came when the mother-country wanted the assistance of her children, he believed Australians would rally round and help her. (Applause.) He wished the Fort-street Model School, boys and girls, every good wish. (Applause.)

Cheers for his Majesty the King and for Sir Harry Rawson were given by the children with satisfactory vigor.

Mr. Carruthers (when the applause which his rising prompted had subsided) said he felt proud to be back again at his old school, taking part with the boys and girls in celebrating that great day in such a hearty fashion. It was much to him that they were upholding the reputation and honour of the school in such a brilliant way. To him it seemed most befitting that on the occasion of the first celebration of Empire Day in the mother State of Australia.

they should have Sir Harry Rawson there that because, associated with Empire Day they must always associate the glories of that navy which won Australia for the flag, and for 117 years had protected it in an unbroken period of peace and prosperity. It was to the Drakes and the Raleighs, the Nelsons and the Cooks, and the Rawsons of the Navy that we owed the liberties and blessings which the British race today enjoys.

Mr Carruthers concluded with wishing that Fort St. would ever honour the Empire of which they are a part. After a vote of thanks to the Governor, the Viceregal party departed, leaving the boys and girls to enjoy their holiday.

FAREWELL TO THE JUNIORS.

On Friday 2nd June the Farewell to the 1905 representatives at the Junior Public Examination was held in the Main Room which was filled with the Senior Boys and Girls.

As is our Custom, the proceedings of the day were opened by the singing of the Fort St. Ode by the special Choir of Girls, conducted by Mr Easton, with Miss. Dillon as accompanist.

A programme of music and recitation was then presented to which the principal contributors were Misses May Roulston, Sarah Colins and Rita Carrod and A. Parkinson. The Special Choir also rendered, "The Coral Caves of Ocean".

At the conclusion of the programme Mr. Kilgour on behalf of the Junior Boys then made several presents to their teachers Mr S. C. Smith receiving a pipe and case. Mr. Middleton a Fountain Pen, Mr. Lovell a Razor, Mr. Northcott a Silver Shaving cup and Mr. MacKean a Pocket book. These gentle men severally thanked the boys for their kind gifts.

Mr. Kilgour on behalf of the School then conveyed to the Juniors the best wishes of all for their success in their Examination and said that they had also the best wishes not only of the present boys girls and teachers but also of all those who had ever been connected with Fort St. Mr. Lasker also delivered an instructive and encouraging address and the proceedings ceased with cheers for the school, and with Auld Land Syne.

THE JUNIORS EXCURSION

On the Saturday preceding the Junior it has been the custom for a number of years to hold an excursion to some popular resort and to end the day with a dinner. This custom was renewed this year. Early in the morning we journeyed to National Park where we spent a jolly day in various ways, football proving the most popular form of enjoyment. We arrived back in Sydney again soon after six o'clock, and then about forty of us assembled at the A.B.C. where dinner was awaiting us. This was thoroughly enjoyed, Messrs. Kilgour, Lasker, S.C. Smith, Lovell, Christmas and Mackness being present with us at this function. After dinner we spent the evening with songs and recitations.

Mr. Smith, Lovell, and Christmas gave musical selections and were ably seconded by S.Morgan, Reid, Millet, Corthorn, Nicolls, and others of the boys. Mr. C. Smith acted as accompanist.

FOOTBALL

Class Competitions

The following is the draw:—

Ist. Com.	2nd. Com.	3rd. Com.
M3 v M4	C3 v M5	4B v 4C
Seniors v C2	C4 v 5A	4B v M3, M4
M3 v C2	C3 v C4	4C v M3, M4
Seniors v M4	M5 v 5A	
Seniors v M3	C3 v 5A	
C2 v M4	C4 v M5	

SCHOOL NOTES

In the first round of the Football Competition
 In Competition 1 M3 v M4 a draw 3—3
 In Competition 2 C3 v M5 a draw 0—0
 In Competition 3 4C beat 4B 3—0
 A combined team beat Seniors 16—9

In the last exam. of 4B girls the following are the results:—

Elsie Burleigh	98 pc.
Millie Dowling	95 pc.
Jaurie Dacey	90 pc.
Helen Meggy	90 pc.
Dot Butz	89 pc.
Dorrie Swinbourne	88 pc.

Literary and Debating Society.

Meeting held 2nd March, 1906.—

At this meeting a very stormy debate took place on a motion of censure proposed by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Knox) against the Premier (Mr. Connal). A number of members, including the strong oppositionists Messrs. Collins, Stevens, and Brown, and the ministerialists, Messrs. Moses, Best, and Reid spoke on the motion, which, on being put, was carried on the voices.

Meeting 9th March, 1906.—Mr. Knox, the new Premier, had constructed his ministry, which consisted of Messrs. Collins, Stevens, Brown, and Hindmarsh, and now outlined his policy, which Mr. Moses proceeded to pull to pieces. The business of the afternoon was a debate on "Closer Settlement." The ministry asserted Closer Settlement was beneficial, Mr. Brown (Lands) opening the argument, being supported by Messrs. Knox and Collins. Messrs. Connal, Reid and Best spoke against the motion, which, on being put, was lost by 14 to 19. Mr. Knox then resigned, and the speaker (Mr. Lasker) called on Mr. Connal to form a Ministry.

SYLLABUS FOR 3 MONTHS.

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|----------|-----------------------------------|
| April 6. | Australian Day. |
| 13. | } Vacation. |
| 20. | |
| 27. | Manuscript Journal. |
| May 4. | Debate. |
| 11. | Impromptu speeches. |
| 18. | Lectures. |
| 25. | Manuscript Journal. |
| June 1. | Vacant. |
| 8. | Impromptu speeches. |
| 15. | Debate. |
| 22. | Manuscript Journal. |
| 29. | Prize Essay and Prize Speech Day. |

Meeting 16th March.—Impromptu speeches occupied the attention of members on this afternoon. Some good debates being provoked, on such subjects as Mr. Holman Hunt's

great picture "The Light of the World," Should Fort Street have its own School Sports? "Should the Metric System be introduced into Australia?" "The Rhodes Scholarship Awards," and many others. H. Brown made a fine speech on the Anglo-Japanese Alliance, while Stephens, Knox and Moses spoke well on Mr. Hunt's picture.

School Notes.

Classes for Probationary Students have been formed in both Boys' and Girls' Departments. Nearly all those who obtained these scholarships have elected to be trained at Fort Street

In future any boy or girl having an article for the School Paper should send it to the Editor by the third Friday in the month, and not later. This will be the rule every month.

At the last Cambridge Orthic Short-hand Society's Examination held in December, 1905, the following pupils of Mrs. E. Poole, Fort Street, were successful:—

Proficiency Grade: Katie Alexander, 94 words per minute.

Commercial Grade: Passed; Amy Gelding, Una Mackaness, Norman Barwick, and Frank Christiansen.

We notice that during the last few months a number of girls have commenced learning typewriting under Mr. Tillbrook's instruction. Typewriting seems very popular at Fort St.

On Saturday, 10th March, while surf-bathing at Manly, a boy, aged 14 years, got into difficulties, and was in great danger of losing his life when Mr. P. Hurt and Mr. Eyre, the attendant, went to his rescue and succeeded in bringing him safe to land, where restorative measures were successfully applied. Life Saving Training is showing its practical value and ability more every day. We strongly urge all boys and girls to take lessons in some of our classes.

419
550
279
349
450
55
116
111
84
50
125
279
350
279
416
350

Life Saving Classes.

Our school has been keeping up its record in this noble work. During the early part of last month, a number of classes were examined by Mr. Trickett, deputy instructor in chief of the Society, and everyone out of about 120 examinees passed the severe tests required by the R.L.S.S. in order to qualify for their awards. This is very gratifying to the school, and especially to the Instructors, Mr. Johnston and Mr. Selle.

One of our boys, Frank Telfer, resuscitated a young woman at St. George's River, and after half-an-hour's work, was rewarded with success. His work has been brought under the notice of the R.L.S.S.

TEACHERS' CLASS.

Medallions:—W. A. Selle, C. C. Crane.

Proficiency Certificates:—E. A. Parker, S. Cantrell, C. R. Collins.

BOYS' CLASS.

Medallions:—G. R. MacDougal, L. Macqueen, A. Sutton, W. Wylie, R. Patten.

Proficiency Certificates:—E. Phillips, C. Kirke, C. Sweetnam, A. Barry, R. Armstrong, A. Edwards, D. Gazzard, N. Hilliard, G. Rogers, S. Knight, S. Francis, E. Rowbotham, R. Gregory, G. Homersham, R. Burgess, C. Parkinson, E. Chambers, D. Chambers, L. Barrow, R. Donald, H. Wilkinson, W. Small, E. Noss, H. Wylie, V. Windrim, R. Eldershaw, E. Cullenward, H. Raymond, J. Greathead, A. Langan, S. Leeder, J. Nelson, G. Linsley, D. Ferguson, S. Rayment, J. Donald, L. Gregory, R. Noble, C. Magennis, G. Allen, O. Watson, H. Watson, W. Lemaire, E. Leask, R. Coogan, A. Metcalfe, L. Best, R. Atkins, D. Bono, S. Spinks.

Elementary Certificates:—B. Walford, B. Duff, J. Duff, H. Brett, A. Coutts, D. Walker, N. Creer, T. Longford, W. Gordon, J. Wulf, Jean Wulf, L. Kelly, A. Millar, C. Sherwood, W. Simpson, N. Moore, A. Barker, K. Byrne, H. Temple, G. Murray, B. Johnson, E. Cullenward, K. Letton, F. Haager, B. Williamson, R. McAlister, M. Solomon, C. Parkinson, R. Burgess, H. Ellard, E. Segardt, R. Douglas, G. Connell, R. Gow, P.

Walker, R. Buss, L. Lee, A. McCarthy, H. Ragen, L. Cohen, V. Windrim, V. Harris, E. Noss, A. Samuel, W. Jones, J. Leary, R. Green, W. Small, H. Wylie, J. Jackson, R. Cohen, A. Bird, B. Norton, A. Johnston, W. Meldrum, B. Howe, W. Pinnock.

During the present season Fort Street teams have given displays at the Army Medical Corps' parade, Annual Lecture of R.L.S.S., Fort Street Bazaar, St. John Ambulance Brigade Lecture, a lecture to the Prince Alfred Yacht Club, Mortlake Baths, Fort Street Carnival, and Marcus Clark's Carnival.

It is of interest to note that Mr. T. H. Johnston, B.A., is Instructor-in-Chief of the R.L.S.S., and Mr. W. A. Selle has been elected Assistant Secretary of the Society.

LIFE SAVING EXAMINATION.

GIRLS' CLUB.

On Wednesday, 14th March, the Girls' Life Saving Club sent 12 members for examination, which took place at Elkington Park Baths. Mr. T. Harvey Johnson, B.A., being the Examiner. All the girls were successful. Misses Edith and Elsie Rea passed as Honorary Instructors. These two girls are the first school pupils to qualify for this degree. Mr. Johnston complimented them on their ability to drill a life saving class.

Gladys Fortey, Dorothy Fortey, Doris Schulze, Violet Colenut, and Maggie Vøge qualified for Medallions. They underwent exactly the same test as male candidates, swimming in dresses, shoes and stockings.

Jennie Johnston, Elsie Blount, Eliza Craig, Jessie Ogilvy, and Dorothy Lundin, obtained proficiency certificates. Their land drill was very good, water drill and resuscitation drill excellent. This is only considered as a continuation of the good results of last year. Next swimming season, 1906, we hope to pass at least fifty candidates.

THE FORTIAN.

THE ORGAN OF FORT STREET MODEL PUBLIC SCHOOL

"FABER EST SUÆ QUISQUE FORTUNÆ."

VOL. VIII., No. 2. SYDNEY, MAY, 1906. Price 1d

GREAT WRITERS.

III.—JOHN BUNYAN.

We hope that not a few of our young readers have placed a volume of Dickens and a copy of Longfellow's Poems on their own particular bookshelf.

There is one book that all English-speaking boys and girls should read—"The Pilgrim's Progress." It can be had for a few pence, and should be added to the "very own" library which, we hope, is growing in size in many homes.

"The Pilgrim's Progress" is what is called an allegory; that is, it is a description of one thing under the image of another. You read of a man's leaving his home in the "City of Destruction," and setting out on a long and difficult and dangerous journey towards the "Celestial Country." But the story is really the story of a man's struggles to lead a good life, to get over his sins, and away from the evils of the world around him.

Young folk, however, should read "The Pilgrim's Progress" as an ordinary story, without troubling about the meaning of any

part of it. It is a grand story, written in fine, pure English; it has been read by hundreds of thousands of people during the last three hundred years, and will continue to be read so long as the English of the Bible and of Shakespeare is spoken and read.

No one can be said to be a well-informed man or woman who has not read this wonderful story, which has been translated into almost every modern European tongue, and is perhaps the most popular religious work ever written.

This is what Robert Southey, the poet, says about the book—

"If this work is not a 'well of English undefiled,' it is a clear stream of current English, the vernacular speech of his age; sometimes, indeed, in its rusticity and coarseness, but always in its plainness and its strength. To this natural style, Bunyan is in some degree beholden for his popularity; his language is everywhere level to the most ignorant reader, and to the meanest capacity: there is a homely reality about it; a nursery tale is not more intelligible in its manner of narration to a child.

"Another cause of his popularity as, that he taxes the imagination as

little as the understanding. The vividness of his own imagination is such, that he saw the things of which he was writing as distinctly with his mind's eye as if they were indeed passing before him in a dream."

Bunyan seems to have been much perplexed by the conflicting advice of his friends as to the printing of his "little book."

Some said, John, print it; others said, Not ^{so}:
Some said it might do good, others said, No.

Thus differently advised,

Now was I in a strait, and did not see
Which was the best thing to be done by me.

In the end he decided, as authors generally do in such cases:

At last I thought, Since you are thus divided,
I print it will, and so the case decided.

John Bunyan (1628-1688) was the son of a tinker who lived at Elstow in Bedfordshire, and who taught him his own trade. After leading a somewhat wild life in youth, Bunyan became a changed man, and was appointed pastor of a chapel in Bedford. But he was cast into jail for preaching, and there wrote "The Pilgrim's Progress."

A Neglected Education.

She was up in physiology, zoology,
biology,

In physics, in philosophy and art;
She was strong on sociology, philology,
astrology,

And classic works she almost had
by heart.

She was good in etymology, ortho-
graphy, and prosody,

In languages she revelled day and
night;

For either she said "eyether," and
for neither she said "nyether,"
And was prepared to prove her
methods right.

She knew much of anthropology, and
also, Dæmonology,

Also social topics of the day;

She was Al in astronomy, political
economy,

And boundedly discussed the latest
play.

When it came to Egyptology, myth-
ology, geology,

She knew as much as anyone can
know;

In all matters like psychology, ich-
thyology, theology,

She talked until her pallid cheeks
would glow.

But though versed in every 'ology she
was forced to make apology

In matters of grave moment morn
and night—

She knew nought of house-keepology,
sweepology, cookology,

And couldn't boil clear water half-
way right.

4 A. Picnic.

There were about forty of us who left Redfern Station in the 9.48 a.m. train under the care of our teacher, Mr. Judge, for National Park. It was a glorious day, with hardly a cloud in the sky. When we were a few miles out of Sydney we came upon some beautiful scenery. On our way we crossed the bridge spanning George's River. About 11 a.m. we reached National Park Station. We had to walk about a mile before we reached our destination. It was very pretty, descending the hill to the breakwater which separates the fresh water from the salt. We crossed over and climbed a path leading to the top of the hill. Here we found a clearing in the bush, where we camped to have lunch. Before lunch was ready we went for a stroll up a creek near at hand. After lunch we hired four boats in which we went down the river later on. We tried races and several of the boats ran on sand-banks. When we were a good way down the river we landed and had tea. While there we saw a fawn, which was very tame, and came quite close to us. After having tea we

rowed back, and on our way we saw two large mullet swimming about with their fins out of the water. When we landed it was time to ascend the hill for home. We were just in time to catch the 6 p.m. train, and reached Sydney about 1 o'clock after a very enjoyable day.

The Debating Society.

30th March, 1906.—The subject for this meeting was the reading of the Manuscript Journal by its editor, Mr. Moses, though at the opening a few minutes were spent in giving Mr. S. C. Smith, B.A., an informal send-off. The editor read his editorial, sarcastic and satanic in its purport, yet having a good result in suggesting some improvements in THE FORTIAN, which have been attempted in this issue. We would remind Mr. Moses that satire may throw light on evils, but does not necessarily cure them. "Peanutte" gave vent to a humorous satire on "Impromptu Speeches," and Mr. Moses was vehemently attacked by Anti-Cynic in his paper on "Sarcasm." Other papers of interest were read, and we sincerely hope that the Dramatic Society will turn its attention towards Shakespeare. Might we suggest that the Society prepare two or three of the best scenes from Shakespeare, and produce them for the benefit of the School Library. If so they may be assured of our help and sympathy.

On Friday, 2nd March, 1906, a stormy meeting of the Society was held. At the conclusion of the preliminary business Mr. Knox moved the adjournment of the debate in order to move a vote of censure of the Premier, Mr. Connal. Mr. Collins seconded this. After a spirited debate during which many uncomplimentary words were spoken, Mr. Lasker, Acting-Speaker, put the motion. It was carried on the voices. Mr. Lasker, in referring to the matter, hoped that the new Ministry would try, and regulate matters a little better. He left the matter of appointing a new Premier to the Speaker,

Mr. Kilgour, the name of whom will be placed up this week.

Debating Society.

A very enjoyable and educational afternoon was spent in the Society on Friday, 6th April, when Mr. Northcott's suggestion of an Australian Day was successfully carried out. The object of the afternoon was to enlighten members on the subject of Australian Literature. Messrs. Moses and Collins read very creditable essays on Australian poetry and fiction respectively. Mr. Northcott read a very pathetic selection from Lawson, "When the sun went down." Mr. Reid, with his usual wit, read a couple of really funny selections, also from Lawson. Other members who contributed were Messrs. Blanchard, Connel, Stephens, Parkinson and Knox. At the conclusion all members expressed a desire for a series of such afternoons, and all went away well pleased with the business of the afternoon.

SCHOOL NOTES.

Any contributions of living insects, etc., to the Terarium in the Girls' School will be thankfully received.

Miss Davies is the new teacher in the Girls' Department in place of Miss Trotter, while Mrs. Campbell has taken up work in the Infant's Department.

Only four weeks to the Junior. Our juniors are working hard. We wonder whether a Commercial or a Matric Boy will get the best all-round pass.

The Boys of Mr. Selle's class, 6A, presented him with a fine new bag on the eve of the Easter vacation, as a token of their love and esteem for him.

Fort Street is making a name for itself in the musical world. Our boy's choir won the Juvenile Competition at Wallsend Eisteddfod.

MAUI AND THE SUN.

(A MAORI LEGEND.)

By C.R.C.

Long ago before any white man had set foot in Australia or New Zealand there lived four brothers named Maui. At that time the sun, who was the eldest son of Heaven, had far more work to do than he has now. Instead of the earth going round him, he had to travel round the world with his light. The days, therefore, were very short. The four Maui's did not like this state of affairs. They often wished the days were longer so that they would have more time for hunting and fishing.

The youngest of the four, Maui Potiki was not so active as his elder brothers. While they were away hunting and fishing he stayed at home and admired the jawbone of his grandfather, Murirangiwhenua. His brothers used to scold him and tell him he was very idle. But this was not the case. Maui Potiki was far cleverer than his brothers, and instead of idling he was thinking out a plan for making the days longer. At last he was struck with a happy thought. He asked his brothers and a number of other young men to come and help him to stop the sun, and so make the daylight last.

The next night the young men started on their journey to the edge of the world where they hoped to catch the sun. They travelled to the east for many days and at last they reached the edge of the earth. Then they built a great heap of earth which was so high that the top of it touched the sky. They knew the sun would have to pass by this spot. Maui then took a rope, and after making a large noose in it hung it over the brink of the earth. They had barely finished when they saw the sun coming. How splendid he looked in his clothes of warm golden light! Maui and his companions hid behind the mound. "Now," said

Maui, "he is coming. Stay in your hiding place and do not startle him. I'll tell you when he is in the noose."

Then Maui took out the jawbone of his grandfather Murirangiwhenua.

"What did you bring that for, Maui?" asked one of his brothers.

"Hush! You'll see presently. Keep quiet now or he'll hear us."

The sun, without noticing the trap set for him came right into the noose.

Maui sprang up, and pulled with all his might.

"Pull tight!" he cried to his brothers and the other young men. "We'll soon have him fast." The young men tugged at the rope. The sun struggled, but strong as he was he could not get away. Then Maui Potiki began to beat him with old Murirangiwhenua's jawbone. The sun cried out with the pain. "Why do you beat me? I am Tama-nui-te Ra, the first born of Heaven."

But Maui took no notice of his cries and beat him so long and so severely that when at last they let the poor sun go he was quite crippled. He limped away slowly and sadly, for he could never travel quickly again, and thus the days became longer.

With the Choir to Wallsend.

For some time past about 100 boys worked very hard preparing for the competition for juvenile choirs held during the annual Eisteddfod at Wallsend-Plattsburg.

The boys left Redfern by the 3.40 p.m. train on Thursday, in charge of Mr. Crane and their conductor, Mr. Steele, arriving in Plattsburg in the evening. On their arrival they were met by a large crowd of people who welcomed them very heartily. Many of these had come to take boys to their homes to entertain them during their stay in the town.

On Friday morning the order was practice, but those who felt inclined had a look round before it. Practice was not a success on account of the effect which the fruit, lollies, cakes, lemonade and other delicacies had on

the voices; so, after dismissal, the boys attempted to cure the trouble by more fruit, more lollies, more lemonade, and more shouting.

The conductor met them on Good Friday afternoon again with some misgivings after the good times they had had, and all went round to the Agricultural Hall, Wallsend, where the competition was held.

Excitement grew as the programme went on. At last the "Juvenile Competition" item came round and for the first time in the history of the School a choir from Fort Street was called upon to uphold the honor of the grand old School in a musical competition.

The boys realised this fully, and sang splendidly, receiving great praise from the adjudicator, Mr. A. W. Juncker, who awarded Mo. 2 Choir (Fort Street) first prize with 75 points as against 71 points obtained by the other Choir from Wallsend Superior Public School.

During the afternoon Mr. Kilgour thanked the audience and people of Wallsend and Plattsburg for giving the boys such a hearty reception, and for their kindness in entertaining them so splendidly during their stay. A return was made to Sydney by the 5.30 p.m. train.

Great credit is due to all boys in the choir for the way they worked at the piece. All work was done during lunch time, which the boys willingly gave up.

But in conclusion it must be said that all those who were kind enough to entertain boys on the trip were high in their praises of their conduct, and freely expressed their willingness to take them again on any future visit, while in many cases boys received invitations to spend holidays with their hosts. This speaks well for the boys, and we hope they will always leave such a good impression wherever they may be, for it reflects credit on themselves as well as on their school.

Editorial.

Criticism is certain evidence of interest. This paper has been the

recipient of various criticisms and satires during the last month or two. We are glad of it. It shows that boys are interested in their school. But we are even more pleased since the criticism has been accompanied by a certain amount of practical help from a few boys and girls. It's all very well to point out an evil, but how few critics suggest means of remedying it, or offer suggestions for improvement. We will always be glad to receive suggestions for making the paper more lively and entertaining, and in response to numerous requests for a short story, we intend meeting the wishes of our readers. In the present issue, therefore, will be found the first of a series of Maori legends, which we hope will be very pleasant reading.

We desire to explain also one or two things. First, we are not publishing Mr. Kilgour's Annual Report because it would take up the whole of the paper, and the other is we are not publishing the complete prize lists for the same reason. We beg to be excused therefore. But we would like to remark in connection with Mr. Kilgour's report that it gave evidence of a very successful year's work in all departments of school life, educational, physical, and in the making of citizens. Just one or two points we would like to remark on. First, the enrolment of the school was 1950, which easily entitles Fort Street to the position of first school in the colony. The results of examinations in all departments you are well acquainted with. We need not dilate on them. Neither is there any necessity to deal with physical culture and sport on the school. These are well known and appreciated. We might, however, remark on the formation of an Old Girls' Union and a Cadet Corps, new features in Fort Street School life worthy of our support. Mr. Kilgour concluded his report with these words: "In conclusion, it only remains of me to thank Mrs. Collins, Dr. Bohrmann, and Mr. Allman for their generous donations; the parents and

EDITORIAL

friends for their hearty co-operation with the teachers in everything that pertains to the welfare of the school, and to express the belief that this fine old school which was raised to its present position by its late headmaster, Mr. Turner, will continue to prosper and gain fresh laurels."

Reading, we are told, maketh a full man. If anyone were to see the collection of books in Fort Street Library and compare it with the number of books taken out each week we are afraid the result would be somewhat astonishing. You have all seen the new books, about 150 in number. You all seem pleased with them. Why not read them? They are there to be read by you, and are for your instruction. Would you find a finer collection in any school in Australia? Note a few of the new ones. Perhaps the best new boys' book is one entitled "The Hill," said by critics to be equal to "Tom Brown's School Days." If you read no other book in the Library read this. Then the girls will find the "Life of Helen Keller" one of the most wonderful achievements of a girl, blind, deaf and dumb. Those historically inclined will find their tastes suited by four volumes of Green's History of the English people, by a Gibbons' Industrial History, and a number of others. If you are fond of literature, the Library has copies of all the standard authors, and many of the best criticisms. Why not pay a visit to the Library, and ask the Librarian to let you have a good look at the Reference Books. You will find more than you can read in a lifetime.

Cricket.

Our first eleven are to be congratulated on winning the A Grade P.S.A.A. Competition. Their last match was against Woollahra, when another three point win was secured.

The team has proved itself a sound one in all departments of the game.

In Middleton, Landon, Bosward, and

Walkom, the school possessed a formidable quartette of bowlers, while in batting every boy was capable of doing his share.

Mr. Kilgour's trophy for the best bowling performances has been won by Middleton, whose figures are: 103 overs, 29 maidens, 183 runs, 39 wickets; average 4.7. He is a promising left-hand bowler, who should soon be heard of in Grade cricket.

Landon won the batting average with 7 innings, 1 not out, 533 runs; average 88.8 runs.

The trophy for best fielding has been awarded to Palmer, whose work in this respect was very commendable.

On April 3rd, the school won a most exciting match against Chalmers Cricket Club by 1 run. Two years ago the same club beat the school by 4 runs.

On Saturday last the badges were presented to the winning teams in each competition. The winners were: Fort Street, 1st Grade; Forest Lodge, 2nd Grade; and Cleveland Street Thirds, 3rd Grade.

HONOUR CAPS.

Honour caps have been awarded to Charles Landon, Arthur Walkom, and Robert Adamson. We heartily congratulate these boys on having such a distinguished honour conferred on them. Landon and Walkom have worthily represented the school during the season in the Combined Schools cricket team, of which team Walkom is captain. Landon has established a States' Schools' batting record with his 369, and Walkom has twice passed the century, making 101 not out against Paddington S.P.S., and 107 retired against the Old Boys. Adamson has represented the school in cricket and football for four consecutive seasons, and is the only boy left in the school who played against Te Ante College in 1904.

The only Honour Cap previously awarded was given to Arthur Lloyd at the end of 1905 cricket season.

We believe that the Honour Caps will be in safe keeping in the hands of the boys to whom they have been presented.

OBITUARY.

Sad Death of Ernest Ivey.

"Life passeth soon
Death draweth nigh."

It is seldom we have to record the death of one of our scholars, and never before under such sad circumstances, another fatality due to carelessness in boarding a moving train. The facts of the sad occurrence are as follow: Ernest Ivey, residing at Lindfield, was leaving by the 8.14 train on his way to school on the 25th ultimo. Attempting to board the train just as it was leaving the station, he fell and was killed instantly.

Ivey was a new boy at Fort Street, having only been here about four months, and was in 6B class. He was a fine athletic young fellow, well gifted intellectually and physically, a boy to be proud of. Our hearts go out in sympathy to his sorrow stricken parents. The boys of the Debating Society, of which he was a member, feel his loss keenly. The boys of his own class sent a wreath and a number attended the funeral.

(Editors Note:—Will boys never remember the advice given them by their headmaster and teachers day after day. "Don't board or alight from a tram, train, or steamer in motion." Balmain boys, Northern Suburbs boys, and boys travelling by train are often guilty of this offence).

FUNERAL OF ERNEST IVEY.

The funeral of Ernest Ivey took place on Friday afternoon last, a large number of Fort Street boys accompanied by Mr. Kilgour being present. After a short service held by Rev. Mr. Howard at Lindfield church, the sad cortege wended its way slowly to Gordon Cemetery, the boys of Fort Street marching in fours, to witness

the last sad rites of their beloved schoolfellow. The remainder of the service was conducted at the Cemeetry Chapel, and the fact came home to all as the last remains were placed in their resting place, that even though young, "in the midst of life we are in death."

Should Fort Street have their own School Sports.

Hugh B. Philpott, a prominent English writer on "School Athletes," in an article written on that subject, in a Boys' Magazine, says:—"It may be questioned whether these vast gatherings, though pleasant and inspiring spectacles, are quite the best means of developing the athletic spirit in the schools as a whole. The interest would be more widespread if individual schools, or small groups of schools had their own Sports' Day, and sent their *champions only* to compete at some central meeting."

These remarks, coming from a gentleman of Mr. Philpott's experience, are equally applicable to our school sports's meeting in Sydney.

OLD FORTIAN.

School Notes

The practising school is being renovated. The building will be divided into three rooms, something like the Girls' main room, and as can be seen several new ventilators have been placed in it.

Bosward, Landon and Walkow! Honor Caps! They won them. We hope to see them in Grade Cricket next year.

We have another new teacher in the Boy's department, Mr. F. T. Allen. We extend him our greetings.

The meeting of the Football Club will be held this week. Mind there's a good roll up to this meeting. We hear some talk of forming a Club to play Australian Rules. Rugby players beware.

The swimming prizes will be distributed early this month.

Light of the World.

By ELSIE BLUNT.

On a beautiful autumn day last month we (Classes 6A I and 6A II) paid a visit to the National Art Gallery to see Holman Hunt's famous picture "The Light of the World." To appreciate this picture we must know something of the artist, who was of a very devotional and religious nature.

I. THE ARTIST.—Holman Hunt, a poor struggling artist, had abandoned hope and shut up his studio, as he thought, for ever. At this critical period in his career, a friend visited him, and seeing in one of his unfinished paintings great promise, bought it for £25. He at once paid the money, but left the picture to be finished at leisure. Thus Holman Hunt was enabled to continue his studies. Throughout the succeeding years the artist carefully filled in the many beautiful details, until the picture was complete. Following his original idea, Holman Hunt named it the "Light of the World," and was offered £400 for it. Hearing of his brilliant success his kind friend of former years offered to withdraw his share in the transaction. But Holman Hunt would not allow it, as the £25 had been of infinitely more value in his time of extremity than the £400 was to him now in his comparative ease. Such was the beauty of his character, that, in his idea, his honour must not suffer if his pocket did. From that time Holman Hunt steadily advanced to fame. Every succeeding year saw greater appreciation of his work, until now in the zenith of his glory, he feels his mission fulfilled.

II. COPYING THE PICTURE.—Some time after the sale of his picture he was called in to retouch it, as it had been damaged. Highly indignant at the usage the picture had received, he resolved to paint a copy of it. This he accomplished successfully, and after the completion of replica I, he undertook a contract to paint another for Mr. Booth. This copy, replica II, has been exhibited in our National Art Gallery, and is even more beautiful

than the other two. The condition on which the picture was sold was that it should be exhibited throughout the British Empire.

III. THE PICTURE.—The picture represents a night scene, on the left stands a closed door, with its nails and bars rusty from disuse, clamped with strong branches of thorny vines. Above the door is to be seen a bat, the emblem of ignorance and darkness. On the outside of the door there is no latch, showing the heart's door must be opened from within. Outside the door stands Christ, clad in priestly garments and wearing a jewelled breast-plate, also a crown of gold; typifying he combines the threefold office of prophet, priest and king. In his hand he holds a lantern which represents the "Word of God," or the "Light of the World." At his feet have fallen some of the delectable fruits with which the trees of the orchard are laden. He has the appearance of having waited long and patiently, and is grieved at the tardiness of the one within. The sky is quiet and beautiful. The stars shine in peaceful brilliance, and the dusky twilight lends a beauty and peace which impress the mind, however young. The picture is wholly allegorical. Great critics have said much in its honour and dispraise, but like the Christ it represents, the multitudes throng to see it. Impressed with its beauty, and filled with many thoughts we could not express, we unwillingly left it, satisfied our visit had not been in vain.

Jack Reynolds, of M 5, and Hanson, of 4 D, have also presented the Library with a number of magazines and periodicals. We thank them also.

Mr. R. A. Page has been appointed to the staff of the Boy's School in place of Mr. Moore, removed to Darlington.

Prize List.—Girls.

Doris Roughton. Dr. Bohrsmann's special prize for best matriculation pass.

Ada Youll. Dr. Bohrsmann's special prize for best junior pass.

Florence Wilson. Medal presented by Mr. F. Allman for unselfishness.

Hilary Henderson. Mrs. Collins' special prize for dictation.

Violet Ryder. Good matriculation pass.

Gladys Levick. Ditto.

Haidee Ebsworth. Ditto.

Truda Rhodes. Ditto.

Ruby Harris. Ditto.

Fanny Robertson. Good Junior Pass. Medal for Geology.

Isabel Turner. Good Junior Pass. Prox. Acc.

Turil Andrew. Good Junior Pass. Prox. Acc.

Marie Walther. Good Junior Pass.

May Roulston. Good Junior Pass.

Winnie Chapman. Good Junior Pass.

Winnie Lusby. Good Junior Pass.

May Hanratty. Good Junior Pass.

Emily Donnelly. Good Junior Pass.

Kathleen Tresilian } 7 A Class.

Tottie Parr }

Elma Dent. Dux 6 B I Class.

Grace Ringwood. Dux 6 B II Class.

Agnes Russell. Dux 6 A Class.

Muriel Boag. Dux 5 B class.

Rita Cooney. Dux 5 A II Class.

Elsie Burleigh. Dux 5 A I Class.

Fanny Smith. Dux 4 B Class.

Doris Purvis. Dux 4 A Class.

Enid Matthews. Dux 3 B Class.

Nina Lavender. Dux 3 A Class.

Dorothy Hennings. Dux 3 A Class.

Dorothy Henning. Dux 2 Class.

Hilda Danahey. Dux 2 A Class.

A number of other prizes given in all sections.

BOYS.

Headmaster's Prize for best Senior Pass. Trevor Turner.

Bridge's Prize for boy who brought most honor to the school during the year. Trevor Turner.

Headmaster's Prize for best Junior

Pass. Archie Collins.

General Proficiency (Seniors.) R. Moses.

General Progress and English. T. Burrows.

Allmann Prize for unselfish conduct. N. Griffiths.

Dr. Bohrsmann's Prize for Senior Mathematics. A. Lloyd.

Junior Medal for Mechanics. A. Lloyd.

Junior Medal for Modern History. H. Griffiths.

Matriculation I. Dux, D. Stafford.
Matriculation II. Dux, R. Alexander.

Matriculation III. Dux, S. Railton.
Matriculation IV. Dux, Arthur

Donnan.

V. Dux, Albert Barry.

Commercial I. A. Langker.

Commercial II. R. Richardson.

Commercial III. L. Lee.

Commercial IV. B. Ferguson.

6 B. Dux, N. Gallagher.

6 A. Dux, W. Meldrum.

5 A. Dux, R. Henwood.

5 B. Dux, P. Menary.

5 C. Dux, A. Anderson.

4 A. Dux, G. Connell.

4 B. Dux, W. Teape.

4 C. Dux, F. Stephenson.

4 D. Dux, H. Traversi.

3 A. Dux, T. Robertson.

3 B. Dux, J. Leask.

2 A. Dux, R. Smith.

2 B. Dux, O. Soderstrom.

2 C. Dux, R. Annan.

Mr. Roberts has since received an appointment as Lecturer in the Training College at Blackfriars.

Mr. F. Hallman, B.Sc., has been appointed Science Master at the Boys' Public High School, Sydney, and also at the Training College, Blackfriars.

Printed and published at the Mode Public School Fort Street.

School Notes.

Mr. S. C. Smith, B.A., who has been at Fort Street for about 9 years, has left N.S.W. for Western Australia, where he will occupy a position in the Perth Training College. We are all very sorry to lose Mr. Smith; who besides being a man of high intellectual power, was also very popular among the boys through his splendid teaching abilities.

Mr. T. T. Roberts, B.A., who was for a long time in charge of the mathematics of our Senior Class, and who in company with Mr. P. R. Cole, M.A., undertook a trip to England and America, has returned to sunny N.S.W. where he will again take up his profession. Mr. Roberts has been down to see us, and though his mother tongue is flavoured slightly with the Yankee, yet is still as much a lover of his own country as ever, and took a pride in showing Sydney and its beauties to some of his American friends who arrived with him.

Fort Street girls are always shining lights where sports are concerned. At the Drummoyne Regatta held a few weeks ago, Edie and Elsie Rea won the Ladies' Double Sculls. Two old Fort Street girls, Misses Nellie and Estelle Murray obtained second place. The prize for 1st place was a pair of gold bracelets, and for 2nd, a pair of gold bangles.

Mr. George Whitney, B.A., one of our old Fort Street boys, has been awarded the Frazer Scholarship for Modern History, by the University of Sydney. This scholarship is worth £35 to Mr. Whitney this year, and he will be entitled to a further sum of £35 on obtaining the Degree of M.A., with honors.

Messrs. P. R. Cole, M.A., and T. T. Roberts, B.A., two former teachers of Fort Street, who have recently been studying in England, and on the Continent, have been honored by

being admitted to the Fellowship of the Royal College of Preceptors, London.

Mr. Moore is the new arrival on the staff of Fort Street. He comes from Crystal Street, Petersham.

We omitted to mention in last month's issue that Mr. C. H. Christmas, B.A., obtained Second Class Honors in mathematics at last month's Honor Examination.

We also omitted to mention that Miss Mouldale, the Treasurer of the Girls' Swimming Club, contributed in no small degree to the success of the Girls Carnival. During Miss Burke's absence in England, Miss Mouldale will have charge of the Girls' Swimming Club.

Miss Trotter, who left in March to take up new duties in another sphere, was presented by Miss Partridge, on behalf of the staff, with a very handsome silver afternoon tea service. Miss Partridge, in a few well-chosen words, voiced the mingled regrets and goodwishes of the staff. By her gentleness and courtesy, Miss Trotter had endeared herself to all. The elder girls also presented her with a silver egg stand.

Previous to Miss Bourke's departure for England she was presented with a set of silver backed brushes and a silver backed comb, by the members of the staff, who all joined most heartily in wishing her bon voyage. The swimming club's offering was a very handsome hand mirror, and the class gave a leather writing case completely furnished with all requisites for carrying on an active correspondence while Miss Bourke is away in the old land. Miss Bourke has had charge of some of her present pupils since they were in the Infants' School, so there is a great bond of affection between them and their teacher. We all join in wishing our friend all sorts of luck, a fine time, and a safe return.

THE FORTIAN.

THE ORGAN OF FORT STREET MODEL PUBLIC SCHOOL.

"FABER EST SUÆ QUISQUE FORTUNÆ."

Vol VIII No 4 SYDNEY JUNE 1906 Price 1d

Editorial.

On Tuesday our Juniors sit for examination. In Fort Street school life this is probably the greatest annual event. Past years have always seen the largest percentage of passes among all large schools, coming to Fort Street. This year, the number of candidates is equal to that of preceding years and in spite of changes in the personnel of the staff the candidates are equally well prepared, and it is to be hoped that as has always happened heretofore, we may have one or two—or more medallists among our boys and girls. We hope to see the geology results as gratifying this year as last. We know that one or two boys are aiming high in history. They deserve a good pass, but we hope for more even than that, while we look for good passes in Mathematics, Languages, and Science also.

Let us urge, as a parting word, that all boys and girls competing in this 1906 Junior should exercise the greatest care and accuracy in answering questions, and an earnest endeavor to show that this year, as in every preceding year, the Premier School for Junior passes is Fort Street. We wish all the greatest of success, and all the honors possible to attain in the 1906 Junior.

AUSTRALIAN RULES.

At last we have a team playing

the above in competition. A meeting was convened last month, at which several offices were filled. Mr. Nash, the President of the N.S.W. League, and Mr. Harte, Hon. Secretary, addressed the 80 boys assembled in the Main Room. Mr. Crane was elected as Hon. Treasurer, Messrs. Judge and Selle as Hon. Secretaries, and Mr. Frew as Practice Umpire. All these teachers have had a previous experience of the game, Messrs. Selle and Frew having played with 1st Grade League Teams. A strong first 18 has been formed, and with the help of constant practice the coveted trip to Melbourne should be gained by the team. On Friday, 18th, the St. Leonard's team were beaten by our representatives by 97 points to 1. The star player so far is Albert Barry of M5, who has distinguished himself both as a follower and place man. Gartrell shows great promise, while Thomas, of 6A, is second to none as rover. He kicked four goals against St. Leonard's. Sheppere and Chambers show great defence, both excelling in marking and kicking. Wilson, who has played in Melbourne, is one of the best in the team, his play being neat and tricky. The essential points to be remembered in the game by every player are unselfishness and combined play. All should play the ball, and not the man.



Football Notes.

RUGBY.

Owing to his absence through illness during the past month, Mr. Ferguson has been unable to get the class competitions going as early this year as formerly, but a comprehensive football scheme is now being prepared, which will include competitions for all classes that have teams, the entering of a fifteen in P.S.A.A. Senior Rugby Competition, a series of matches for the First Fifteen, and the annual trip to Majiland, while the usual concessions in the matter of supplying footballs and grounds have been granted by the Rugby Union. All that is required to assure a most successful season is that intending players should enrol as possible. Remember the 1904 record, 403!

Five teams have entered the "A" Grade in the senior competition of the P.S.A.A., viz., Cleveland Street, Paddington, Woolahra, Leichhardt, and Fort Street.

In the first round, we play the teams in the following order: Leichhardt, Woolahra, Paddington, Cleveland Street.

Our Competition Fifteen promise to be a very fair lot if they can acquire good combination.

Adamson, Landon, Kirke, and Bosward look like a formidable three-quarter line.

Arrangements have been made for the team to commence training operations at the Naval House next week.

Some of our best forwards are prohibited by the age limit from taking part in the competition, but, of course, these players will be available for First Fifteen matches, and should, therefore, keep themselves in good condition.

At the conclusion of the programme the Japanese Officers were surrounded by the boys, each one begging for an autograph, and the visitors had their hands almost wrung off them by lines of enthusiastic Australian schoolboys.

Empire Day was a success in spite of the wet. So said the Premier, Mr. J. H. Carruthers.

Australian boys and girls seem delighted in their Japanese allies. At least, as we judge by the welcome they got at Fort Street. Let me mention an incident. One of the Japanese Officers, noticing two lines of poetry in a book shown him by one of our boys remarked, "Oh, that's from Scett, out of 'The Lady of the Lake,' isn't it?"

All the Japanese Officers could read and write English well. English is going to be the universal language, by the look of it.

WANTED.—A Second-hand Phonograph, without records, in good condition. Any boy or girl who has one for sale, or who knows of one for sale, should apply to the Editor, as soon as possible.

The School had a visit of one of the Professors at a Russian University a few days ago.

The Junior Picnic last Friday.

Bosward consulted Mr. Hunt, the meteorologist, and it was a fine day. We all thank Bosward. At 9.38 we left Sydney, 62 of us, accompanied by Messrs. Cooper, Kilgour, and most of the Junior Teachers. Oh! the row in the train! Nearly all of us were sent to the Kindergarten in consequence. We would not like to mention the name of the boy who forgot his ticket. Let him remain in oblivion for ever. Well! we got there somehow at last, each boy carrying his own bulky parcel of burly fare, some very bulky; so bulky you would have thought we were staying for a week. Arrived at Audley, Mr. Ferguson arranged a programme for the day, principally sports and—eating. Burleigh won most of the events, but at football Middleton and Thorton distinguished themselves. Look at the former's head, the latter's eye, and no doubt of this will exist in anyone's mind. At 12.30 we had dinner, hardly leaving anything for tea, Bartley and Parker distinguishing themselves in this line. The afternoon was devoted to amusement, chiefly boating. Parkinson fell overboard. He got wet, too, and was hung out to dry. Someone took a cork out of a boat, but there was no wreck reported in the papers. I'd like to know the fellow who stuck a pin in our football, too. Anyway, we had a jolly day, and after a toilsome walk up that hill we arrived in Sydney again at 6.30, Burleigh suffering from the effects of a *storm*. Next course:—

Oh, the delights of the Wassail rout of the evening, cheered by the bards, Morris, Drummond, and Mutton. We elected Moore to the chair, speeches being delivered by the Chairman. Mr. D. J. Cooper,

Mr. Kilgour and Burston and Crooke. Dinner over, the evening was spent musically, Messrs. Coleman, Fraser, Christmas and Mutton, Drummond, Morris and Crooke contributed items, with Mr. Steele as accompanist. We adjourned at 10.30 p.m.

The Empire Essay.

WON BY FORT STREET.

In connection with the Empire Day Celebrations, a prize of £5 was offered by the women of the Empire League, to the N.S.W. school girl, under 15 years, who could write the best essay on "The British Navy." There were 76 competitors, and the winner was a Fort Street girl, VERA MOSTYN, whose essay was considered the best. The prize was presented to Vera on Monday evening last by the Admiral, Sir H. Fawkes. On behalf of the School we congratulate her on her success.

Mr. Kilgour has received a letter from Lieut. Wada, of the Japanese Navy, containing many amusing and interesting remarks upon the visit of the Japanese Officers to Fort Street on Empire Day.

A natural history collection is being made in the Main Room. We heard one boy designate it "a menagerie."

This afternoon the Junior Farewell takes place in the main room.

HUMOUR.

"Noah's wife," wrote a boy in an examination, "was called JOHN of Arc." "Water," wrote another "is composed of two gases, oxygen and cambrigen." "Lava," said a third, "is what a barber puts on your face." "A blizzard," declared another child, "is the inside of a fowl."

Great Writers.

IV. — LORD TENNYSON.

I have now told you, boys and girls, a little about the lives and works of Shakespeare, Dickens, and Bunyan, and I hope you have read a little of each of them and obtained a copy of some of their best works for your bookself.

This month I want to tell you about Alfred, Lord Tennyson, who died only a few years ago.

You all know the story of King Arthur and the famous Knights of the Round Table. It was Lord Tennyson who wrote that famous series of poetical tales and gave them to us as we now have them, and it is to Tennyson that we can ascribe the popularity of the Arthurian stories. The series of stories is usually called "The Idylls of the King," and commences with the "Coming of Arthur" and is completed with the "Passing of Arthur," while in between come the legends of Lancelot and Elaine, Gareth and Lynnette, Gawain and Modred, and all the rest of the famous knights and ladies. Let me give you just two lines from Tennyson which sums up all the qualities of a great and good knight. Tennyson says of Sir Gareth:

"His strength was as the strength of ten,
Because his heart was pure."

Boys and girls, read as soon as you can, the stories about "Excalibur," Arthur's famous sword, and the "Holy Grail," and the account of Arthur's Death. If you do, you will be tempted to read more, for Tennyson is never wearisome.

But you must not think that Tennyson wrote nothing but stories of King Arthur. He is famous also for having written "In Memoriam," the finest tribute ever written to the memory of a dead friend. You know Tennyson loved Arthur Hallam as a brother, and when he was drowned Tennyson incised "In Memoriam" to him.

We are hearing a great deal about Empire Day at present, and even as I am writing this, I can in the distance hear the strains of Kipling's

beautiful "Recessional Hymn." Do you remember that it was Tennyson who gave us two of our famous British ballads, "The Revenge," which always stirs my blood and I am sure yours too, and the ever famous "Charge of the Light Brigade." Tennyson was a true patriot with an intense love for England.

I must not forget to tell you also that all Tennyson's works are of the purest and noblest kind, while his feeling is of the tenderest, and you must think of him as one of the men whose names should be venerated by all Britons of all time.

Alfred, Lord Tennyson, born at Somersby, Lincoln, August 5th, 1803. His first work "Poems by Two Brothers," published 1827. "Poems chiefly lyrical," published 1830. Poems, in two volumes, 1842. "The Princess," 1847. "In Memoriam," 1850. Became Poet Laureate in the same year. "Maud," 1855. "The Idylls of the King," 1859-1885. "Enoch Arden," 1864. Offered and accepted a peerage, 1883. Died 1896.

Miss Dewing has been appointed to the staff of the Kindergarten School.

Mr. S. C. Smith, B.A., in a letter from West Australia, desires to be kindly remembered to all. He tells that he will never forget the happy time he had at Fort Street, and will ever continue to take the liveliest interest in its doings.

Mr. Kilgour has received another letter from William Shelley, who is touring England. He is now in London preparing for the return journey.

Emily Towner has been appointed a Pupil Teacher at the Superior Public School Helensburgh.

We desire to thank Arthur Tapsell for his interest in the school and the

FORTIAN.

Our Cadets.

The Fort Street Corps, or G Coy., as it is regimentally styled, is now established on a firm basis. The cadets constituting the corps are eager, zealous, and painstaking lads, careful of both their drill and appearance, and giving general satisfaction to their commander, Capt. Selle. The boys have all acquired new uniforms, mostly from the Parramatta Woollen Mills, and are armed with the Westley-Richards rifle, a weapon far superior to the old Braundlin. "Non-coms" have been selected for their efficiency, and have proved themselves quite capable of "holding their own." Two of these, Sergt. Hilliard and Corporal Sandels, were specially selected by Major Dove, D.S.O., to be attached to the Color-party for the review in Centennial Park, at which the corps was present. The Major inspected the Half Company on Wednesday, 16th, and expressed himself as being well pleased with the turnout.

On Thursday following Capt. Selle took the cadets to a whole-day parade to Moore Park where they created a favorable impression and acquitted themselves admirably as Fort Street boys should do. On Wednesday prior to Empire Day they were marched past in column and quarter-column at the review held in Centennial Park. On Empire Day, a "Guard of Honor" was furnished by the Corps to His Excellency Sir Harry Rawson on his arrival at the school. Another Half Coy is to be established shortly in order to complete the unit.

Sergeant Hilliard has distinguished himself both in drill and in maintaining efficient discipline with his section. His next step will be that of Color-Sergeant, and later on, we hope, to that of Sergeant-Major to the First Battalion. Other Non-coms. who have entered zealously in the undertaking are Sergt. Rowbotham and Corporals Edwards and Sandels. New positions will be filled by these enthusiastic members as occasion arises. Capt. Selle holds out great

things for his Coy, and doubtless the corps will distinguish itself, upholding the honor of the great school to which it belongs.

School Notes.

The Honor Board, given by the Public Schools' Amateur Athletic Association for 1st Grade Cricket and won this year by Fort Street Model School, has been placed in the Main Room. The twelve boys whose names are inscribed on it have reason to be proud of having brought this honor to their school. Fort Street can shine in the world of sport as well as in the world of learning.

Will Fort Street win the Football Competition also?

A few weeks ago a Diploma Examination in connection with the Royal Life Saving Society was held at Merrylands. The examination was a practical one, and the following were successful, all but one being intimately connected with Fort Street.

N. Griffiths	... 120.
H. Hardwick	... 118.
F. Telfer	... 111.
Mr. C. Trickett	... 110.
Mr. T. H. Johnston	102.

The theoretical portion of the examination will be judged in London by the Head Society.

During the first week that the Library was open after the new books were received the total number of books taken out was 253. This is very encouraging, and if it could be kept up, it would mean a very large increase in the number of new books each quarter. Read, mark, and learn.

We omitted to mention in last month's issue that Miss Harder had been appointed to the staff of the Girl's Department.

Miss Scurr has been removed to Manly Superior Public School.

The Chess Club.

We are, indeed, pleased to see that the members of Classes M III and M4 have formed a Chess and Draughts Club. A meeting was held in the Art Room on the 10th ultimo to elect officers for the Club, a large number of boys being present. Mr. McKean occupied the chair. The officers elected for the ensuing year are as follow :—President, Mr. Kilgour; Vice-presidents, Mr. McKean and teachers of M3 and M4; Hon. Treasurer, Leslie Macqueen; Hon. Secretary, A. Knight.

We are also pleased to hear that the Secretary, A. Knight, was the Champion Chess Player of Chatswood School. A lively interest is being taken in the Club, and the Art Room is occupied every day with enthusiastic chess players.

The Debating Society.

At present the Debating Society is in a very flourishing condition. The membership has reached a point only excelled by the first quarter of its existence. The interest in the Society is well maintained. It meets now in the Senior Room instead of the Art Room as before. The records of the meetings during last month are as follows :—

Meeting, May 4, 1906. After a lapse of one month the Society met again. Mr. Connal, the Secretary, at the opening of this meeting, informed the members of the sad death of Ernest Ivey, and read a copy of a letter of sympathy sent to the family of our late School friend.

The Manuscript Journal was then read by Mr. Moses, who, in his usual powerful style, gave the members a splendid editorial. This editorial was of a style not previously introduced. It pointed

out the benefits of a literary education. It showed the value of our splendid School Library, and it strongly advised all members to patronise the same regularly.

"Peanutt's" article was read next. It chiefly consisted of a satirical attack on a few prominent members of the Society, and was the cause of much mirth among the members.

An article by "The Worm" on the "Seniors" was then read, causing mirth among those who were not Seniors.

After a hearty vote of thanks, tendered to the Editor, the meeting closed.

Meeting, May 11, 1906 :—

Mr. Connal had succeeded in forming a rather powerful Ministry.

Mr. Moses introduced a motion that Socialism was detrimental to New South Wales.

A very heated argument was the result, and many members got quite excited over the question. Messrs. Connal, Best, and Reid spoke on behalf of the motion, Mr. Best's speech being a really logical attack on Socialism.

Meeting, May 18th, 1906 :—

At this meeting that popular member, Mr. Brown, delivered a splendid lecture on the "Defence of the Empire." He treated the subject from the commercial and the political aspect. He traced a history of the Navy, of which we are so proud, from Alfred the Great to the present time.

We are all glad to welcome Mr. Ferguson back to work again after a dangerous illness. His welcome by the junior boys was one which showed he had earned the good will of the boys.

Empire Day.

VISIT OF THE GOVERNOR.

We had been preparing for Empire Day for some weeks, and were terribly disappointed when the day was wet. Jupiter Pluvius was angry, and we all got rather wet, but the presence of the Japanese officers made up for a lot of dampness and discomfort. When the rain began we all moved into the main room, which by the energetic efforts of Mr. Hardman was soon tastefully decorated, but the room was too small, and the number of visitors too great to permit of the function being held here, so once again, as the weather had changed a little, we came out, and took up our places in front of the main entrance, which was again decked out in a few seconds, and made ready for his Excellency, the Governor. About a quarter to twelve the first detachment of the Japanese officers, under Lieut.-Commander Taguchi, arrived, and weren't the boys and girls delighted! Some of them, not knowing Japanese, thought French might be intelligible, and we heard one boy using "N'est ce pas" for good[?] Japanese. But the weather was against us, and just before the Governor's arrival it commenced to rain, and poured steadily the whole time, necessitating a shortening of the programme.

Sir Harry Rawson, accompanied by Miss Rawson, and Mr. Harrison Smith and Captain L. Wilson, A.D.C., arrived shortly after noon in a motor car, and was received by a cadet guard of honor. The National Anthem was sung as a welcome. Amongst the other visitors were:—Mr. J. H. Carruthers (the State Premier), Mr. C. A. Lee (Minister for Works), Sir Francis B. Suttor (President of the Legislative Council), Messrs. J. W. Turner, D. J. Cooper, M.A., Herr Alpen, and W. M. Daley. Mr. A. J. Kilgour, B.A., L.L.B., headmaster, received the Vice-Regal party, and bade his Excellency welcome. Two tiny children then presented Miss Rawson with some beautiful flowers.

Sir Harry Rawson stood in the rain and delivered a patriotic address. He said the day was the anniversary

of the birth of our late dearly beloved Queen Victoria, and it was for the future to be called Empire Day. Right round the world, where the descendants of Great Britain and Ireland dwelt, there would be meetings that day. "Think of it," said his Excellency, "you are to-day with all those far-spread parts of the Empire honoring the occasion and learning something of the Empire to which you belong." In a great chain round the world, from east to west, from sunrise to sunset, there would be a continuous celebration of the day. Australian children had reason to be proud of their beautiful country, proud of the flag under which they lived, and honestly proud of the liberties they enjoyed in their country, which was bound to have a great future, because of the fact that those liberties had been conferred by the mother country, and handed down to them. They were proud of their beautiful Australian flag, in the corner of which appeared the Union Jack, the symbol of liberty. The liberty the old mother country had fought for meant, not liberty to act just as each one liked, but liberty to think and act for themselves so long as they never interfered with the welfare of others, and above all the liberty to worship God in any manner that was thought to be right. It was therefore their duty to consider the feelings of others in exercising that coveted freedom, which was part of the Empire property. He counselled them never to allow bitter sectarian animosities to arise within their hearts, and never to forget to do to others as they would like others to do unto them. His Majesty the King, who had given him an audience ^{at} Buckingham Palace when he arrived in England, and accorded him another audience just before he left, had delivered a message to him for the people and children of Australia. "I told his Majesty," said the Governor, "of the loyalty of New South Wales, and he told me to say that he was very much interested in everything that tended to your happiness, and prosperity. He regretted that he had

been unable to come and see you, but he mentioned how he had sent his brothers and his sons to you. And he meant all he said." He hoped that they would all do their best to make Australia a great and happy land.

Mr. Carruthers referred eloquently to the liberties conferred on the Empire by the mother land, and pointed out that while they personally know little of the horrors of the wars by which those liberties had been won, they could realise that the freedom they possessed had been nobly acquired on battlefields sown with blood. He referred to the great soldiers and sailors who had made Great Britain great, and added a kindly note of congratulation at the presence of England's allies in the East—the Japanese. Australia's safety from foreign invasion was, he thought, assured while England had an alliance with the great Power of the East, which was so contiguous to Australia.

In the intervals between the speeches a programme of music, much shortened, however, was rendered by the pupils of our School, under the baton of Mr. Easton, and though it rained hard, yet the volume of song was not diminished on that account. Sir Harry specially requested the pupils to sing "Sons of the Sea" for him. The proceedings terminated with cheers for the King, His Excellency the Governor, Mr. J. H. Carruthers, our Premier, and for the Emperor of Japan, to which our allies responded heartily.

On Tuesday is the JUNIOR. Success to all is the wish of THE FORTIAN. Uphold the honor of Fort Street, and eclipse the records of all previous years. Who is going to win the headmaster's prize for the best Junior Pass? A medal counts 5 points, a C only counts one.

Senior boys and girls should note that each fortnight a copy of a new magazine, "Harnsworth's Self-Educator" is placed in the Library. It contains many fine literary,

historical, and scientific articles.

Fort Street is to have a Second-half Company of Cadets, bringing the total to 60 men—or boys.

Fort-street Selected Choir took part in the great Empire Concert in Sydney Town Hall on the 23rd ultimo.

The new Junior Classes for 1907 will be formed up within a few weeks. Boys of M3, M4, C III, and C IV, had better make sure of positions in the next Junior Class.

It may be interesting to the older Fort Street boys that Mr. S. A. Kenny has returned to Sydney and is now located at Burwood Superior Public School.

The Practicing School is now almost completed. The fact that there are three classrooms instead of one large room will be helpful to both teacher and taught.

Any visitor to Fort Street during the last few weeks must have been impressed by the fact that its patriotism is of a very vigorous nature. From every window flowed the strains of "Rule Britannia" or the "Recessional Hymn," and the heartiness of the singing showed the hearty feeling of the singers in no less vigorous manner.

On Friday last, Fort Street Australian Rules Football Team scored 33 to nil against Waverley Superior Public School, but as Waverley had a handicap of 50 points, this counts against Fort Street.

[Editor's Note.—We consider such a handicap decidedly unjust, and one tending to destroy rather than promote the popularity of the game.]

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THE FORTIAN

THE ORGAN OF FORT STREET MODEL PUBLIC SCHOOL.

FAVER ET SILE QUI SQUE FORTUNÆ"

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Visit of Lady Northcote to Fort Street.

On Monday, 20th June, her Excellency Lady Northcote, accompanied by the Hon. B. B. O'Connor, Minister for Education, Mr. P. Board, Director of Education, and Captain Reynolds, Aide-de-Camp, paid an informal visit to Fort Street.

On arrival Her Excellency was received by Mr. Kilgour and Miss Partridge, and conducted to the Girls' School, where Her Excellency was delighted with the work of the classes, being particularly interested with the poulticing and sick-room attendance lessons of the Domestic Economy Classes. To each class her Excellency spoke a few words of approbation and encouragement.

A visit was next made to the Cookery Department, where Miss Rankin and her assistants gave practical demonstrations, and her Excellency was charmed with the work of the little ones in the Kindergarten, so much so that she promised to send them a gift of lollies.

Time only permitted a visit to one of the classes in the Boys' Department, All, which sang a few French songs for her Excellency.

The boys were lined up to bid the visitors farewell, and Mr. O'Connor thanked her Excellency for the visit to the School and interest in the work, and then called for three cheers for Lord and Lady Northcote, which

you may be sure were heartily given. Then, at the instance of her Excellency, Mr. O'Connor granted the School a holiday on the following Friday.

The Debating Society.

On May 25 a large meeting was held, when another of those interesting "Manuscript Journals" was read. The Editor, Mr. Moses, read a fine editorial in defence of cheap literature, upholding many periodical publications, which are generally condemned as "penny dreadfuls." The article was much appreciated by all members. Among the other articles were "What a boy should know" and "Our Debates," two articles which caused mirth among the members.

On June 8, impromptu speeches occupied the attention of the members. Many of the great questions of the day were ably discussed by budding orators. Among the subjects were "The North Coast Railway; should it be built;" "Immigration should it be restricted?" "Should the Japanese be allowed into Australia?" Among the younger members of the Society who spoke were: Messrs. Ikin, Blanchard, Barton, Morgan and Silberthan.

On June 15 a Ministerial Debate was held and the fate of the second Connal Ministry settled. The Premier,

the Hon N. Connal, introduced a motion that "The Australains do not receive a sufficient amount of exercise." The leader of the Opposition, Mr. Knox, was backed up by a number of strong members, and succeeded in carrying the day against Mr. Connal. Among the Premier's supporters were Messrs. Best, Reid and Burrows, whilst on the Opposition were Messrs. Stephens, Burston, Barnes, Sinclair, and Henderson. Mr. Parkinson was "on the rail." The motion was lost on the voices. Mr. Connal then tendered the resignation of himself and colleagues.

Round the Examination Boards.

The custom always has been at Fort Street that while one Junior Examination is on, to conduct our own examination for places on the next year's Junior. This has just been done for 1907 classes, with the result that the classes have been formed up. Glancing round the Examination Result Boards we noticed the following fine results, which we hope will be always of the same nature in future examination:—

French.—F. Richenbach, M3, 94; H. Petrie, M3, 90; M. Parkinson, M1, 89.

Latin.—H. Petrie, M3, 90.

English.—F. Edwards, C 3, 85.

Algebra.—F. Edwards, C 3, 100; H. Brown, M3, 99.

Arithmetic.—T. Bowd, M 3, 100; A. Donnan, M 4, 100; P. Parkinson, M 1, 100; E. Frecker, M 4, 100.

Geometry.—H. McLelland, M 3, 98; P. Parkinson, M 1, 98; O. Knight, M 3, 97.

Geography.—M. Jacobson, C 2, 52.

Chemistry.—E. Cleland, M3, 90.

As noted in another column the premier position went to H. McLelland of M3, who gained 638 marks out of a maximum of 800, P. Parkinson second with 575. H. Petrie was third with 565, and H. Brown fourth

with 554, S. Ralton fifth with 549.

The top marks gained in M4 was 525, by E. Tucker, in C 3, 449, by F Edwards.

All boys who have gained positions in the new Junior Classes should make up their minds to work steadily the whole year, and thus reach a high standard of excellence.

Senior Literature.

Boys in the Senior Classes and in the Junior Classes should take notice that in the School Library are the following valuable books:—

English Literature of the Victorian Era.

Harrison's Studies on English Literature.

Dawson's Makers of Modern Prose.

Dawson's Makers of Modern Poetry.

Dawson's Makers of Modern Fiction.

Familiar Studies of Men and Books.

English Prose Selections.

From Blake to Arnold Selections.

The Age of Dryden.

The Age of Johnson.

The Age of Shakespeare, I.

The Age of Shakespeare II (Drama)

Other lists will be published in future issues.

One of the members of our swimming club, Florrie Pasterilge has won no less than seven races this season in connection with the S.S.S. C., and got a silver watch (presented by Dr. Roth) and gold medal, and a silver backed brush and comb.

Miss Bourke's Letter from Colombo.

We arrived at Colombo Harbor about 6 p.m. in pouring rain, and went straight off in the native boats, rowed by six coolies. (They started begging matches, etc., straight away.) When we landed—at the most beautifully built jetty I have ever seen—the fun started immediately. First, we changed some money; the money changers sit in front of three boxes all over the Wharf. Next, about 40 little niggers declared me to be their mother, and made most elaborate salaams, gave me flowers and then ran along beside us until each got some money. We walked up the main street, which is very fine, and visited the Bazaars, where we bought some lace, etc. The shopmen have the manners of Dukes, and nothing is a trouble to them, except the fact that Europeans are learning to bargain as well as themselves. We then went to the Bristol Hotel, where we had the loveliest dinner I've had for some time. The Cingalese waiters wear full native costumes, white, loose robes, slippers and hinged tortoise shell combs. They are perfect as waiters—anticipate all one's wants in fact. We had our coffee outside in a huge hall, all palms, fans, tables, lounges, and easy chairs. Such sweet little native women came along with baskets, and spread out their wares for sale. Then we went for rickshaw rides. Every now and then they would stop at a shop, and beg us to go in and see the goods. We drove all over the native quarter, which is filthy dirty, about 100 persons occupying the space meant for ten (or less.) Then to the Linnam Gardens, which look lovely in the night—lakes and palms all over the palms. Afterwards we got into a queer sort of buggy in which we sat back to back, and drove back to the Galle Face Hotel, which is very lovely. By-and-bye we came back to the town, had another ride, and then went to the Grand Oriental

Hotel, where we stayed for the night. The Cingalese attendants are all over the place. They walk about so quietly my sister jumped sky high about 40 times when she found them suddenly beside her. We went to bed at 12.30, and arose at 5.45, had breakfast at 6 (lovely fruit), then another ride all round again. Oh, Colombo is a dirty place by daylight. There is only one decent street. We saw one of the temples and specimens of ever so many races. Parsees, all in white, with great turbans; Hindoo's with their faces and breasts streaked with white; Buddhists wearing huge rosaries round their necks; Coolies, with only one small garment, and the school boys in European schools going to the Mission Schools. At the end of the main street there is a beautiful white marble statue of Queen Victoria. We returned to the ship in a small native boat, and until we left at 10.50 the natives were all around bargaining and bartering lace, silk, tea, fruit, and all manner of Eastern goods. The Cingalese boys are queer chaps. They sing Tar-rar-ra-boom-de-ay, flap their arms, and shout, "I di, I di, I di for one penny." I had them all round me. It was such fun. The row when the boat started was deafening. Some of them stayed aboard so long that they had to jump off the Oruba, and swim 100 yards to their Ratamarans.

We are having a splendid time.

This month we have had to part with Miss Tresilian, who has been removed to Lismore. This lady's departure was deeply regretted by both teachers and scholars, as Miss Tresilian seemed as sorry to go as we to part with her. During the swimming season she took an active part in the work of our club, and being a fine swimmer was of material assistance. Previous to her departure Miss Tresilian was presented with a silver-backed brush and comb from the staff, and with a handsome mirror from her own pupils.



Australian Football.

Fort-street team have now played three matches against Waverley, Pyrmont and Mosman. The first match has already been dealt with in "The Fortian." The two latter teams are allowed 24 pts. handicap by the Council, but this was quickly overcome, and both matches were comfortably won by 68 to 13, and 80 to 9 respectively.

The progress of the team has been most satisfactory, all individual members exhibiting great promise. Stafford and Walker are notable acquisitions. Constant training and combined play will continue to bring the team along.

Mr. Selle, one of the Secs., has been appointed as a member of the P.S. A.A.A. controlling Australian Football.

FORT STREET V. PETERSHAM.

(By CENTRE.)

The above match took place on the Sydney Cricket Ground on Saturday, 23rd June, and resulted in a magnificent win for our representatives by 22 points to 18. It is a red-letter win for

Fort-street, as the Petersham team had never before been beaten by a school team since Australian football was started in the schools three years ago. The match was evenly contested, in a manly spirit, both teams exhibiting skill in handling, passing, and kicking. Perhaps the best player on the ground was Walker, of Fort street, who never once lost an opportunity of doing the correct thing. His clever marking, dodging, and cool-headed play excited the admiration of all. Fully 4000 people watched eagerly the progress of the game. Amongst the spectators I saw Mr. Kilgour, Mr. Turner, Mr. Rickard, Petersham, and many members of our staff. I notice the "Daily Telegraph" extends great credit to us for our win. At the conclusion of the match our supporters lined the exit gates and lustily cheered us one and all. Other boys who shone out brilliantly were Thomas, who kicked three goals, Milne, and Barry. Barry has clearly demonstrated that he is a capable skipper. Chambers, as full-back, was all that could be desired. Gartrell and Wilson shaped admirably, as also did Wilkinson, Armstrong, and Welsh. Ramsay proved a welcome addition to the team. Much praise is due to the trainer, and to the teachers in charge of the game here, and my only hope is that the team will continue to train daily so that the coveted position of Premier may be ours.

4D Picnic.

Taking advantage of the holiday on Friday last 20 boys of 4D went to National Park for a picnic in the care of Mr. Frew, their teacher. We caught the 9.30 a.m. train, and having a carriage to ourselves, had a jolly trip. Arrived on the spot we enjoyed a game of football, persuading Mr. Frew to referee a game of Rugby for us. It ended in a draw, nine points each. We then had dinner, and at 1 p.m. hired out boats. These occupied our attention till 3 p.m., and then

after a couple of races, we had tea, more boating, and then home. After a splendid day at 6.5 p.m., all tired and happy.

School Choir.

On Tuesday, June 19th, a party of visitors, including Hon. B. B. O'Connor, Minister for Education, the Under-Secretary for Education (Mr. Board), Assistant Under-Sec. (Mr. Turner), Mr. P. E. Quinn, and a number of ladies visited the school to hear the singing of the School Choir under Mr. Easton and Mr. Steel.

After eight or nine days preparation the following numbers were produced: Hunting Song, Benedict; Fisherman's Good Night, Bishop; Soldier's Chorus, Guonod's Faust; Song of Commonwealth, Delaney; Anvil Chorus, Verdi's Trovatore.

The choir was conducted by Mr. Easton and Mr. Steel, and the accompaniments were played by Mr. Steel and Master Alex. Stanton, A.L.C.M. Messrs. O'Connor and Quinn afterwards addressed the choir and congratulated them on their production.

To the Editor of "The Fortian."

Sir—For the past two years Fort-street has been going to get a School Badge. It even came to the point that the badge had been selected. Now, I think that as Fort-street is the largest Public School in New South Wales, it ought not to allow Cleveland Street to beat it in the way of a hat badge. I know for a fact that all the bigger boys at the School would be willing to pay a shilling each or even more for a hat band. Now, sir, I wish that you would publish this letter in your valuable paper, for I am sure that if once some of us bigger boys were to take the matter up, that something would be done by the teachers to help us.

Hoping to see this in the next issue

of the "Fortian," I remain, etc..

FORT-STREET BOY.

[Editor's Note.—The matter of a hat band has not been forgotten, but as these badges have to be ordered from England the matter cannot be completed all at once.]

Mr. C. A. Gale, B.A., who has been at Fort Street for about three years, has been promoted to the District School at Dubbo. We hope Mr Gale will have a pleasant time in the country, and not forget his association with Fort Street.

Mr. E. A. Coleman, B.A., sailed for Western Australia by the "Orient" on Saturday morning.

The new teachers in the Boys' Department are Mr. H. Cowie from Glebe, Mr. A. W. Cusbert from Burwood, and Mr. W. E. Hunt from Petersham.

The Swimming Prizes were presented by the Headmaster about a fortnight ago. They were without a doubt the finest collection of prizes for swimming that we have ever seen.

On Tuesday morning the members of the Queensland (Australian Rules) Football team paid a visit to Fort St. School, and made themselves very popular among the boys.

On Monday last the members of the Australian Rules 1st Eighteen, after beating Petersham, had an excursion up Lane Cove River, where a pleasant day was spent.

Philip S. Parkinson, of M1, has gained 1st Place in the High School Scholarship Exam. Parkinson intends staying at Fort St.

Great Writers.

No. v.—WORDSWORTH.

Since it is the privilege of the poet to be estimated by his best productions and not by his work as a whole, Wordsworth must be rated high amongst the masters of English verse. Much of his poetry is valueless, except as a proof of the futility of a poetical theory, and the poems upon which his fame and popularity rest are but few in comparison with his whole work. Perhaps his best known poems are "Ruth," "We are Seven," "Loadamia," "Lines on revisiting the Wye," the "Ode on intimations of immortality, from Recollections of Early Childhood," and such poems as "The Daffodils."

Wordsworth's verse is decidedly personal, and in estimating it his own life must be taken into consideration. He was born in Cumberland, 1770, and when seventeen went to Cambridge University. After touring France he returned home and retired to the country with his sister. He recognised his true vocation and possessing sufficient means he consecrated his life to the poetic muse. Fifty years were thus passed, and after securing the poet laureateship in 1843 he died in April 1850. His poetry is remarkable, not as Tennyson's was, for its artistry, but rather for its purity of thought, its nobleness of diction, and its power "to chasten and subdue." Wordsworth is great because of his extraordinary power to feel the joys offered us by nature, and further, because of the extraordinary power with which he shows this joy and shares it with us. The simplicity and yet nobleness of thought diction in "Lines on revisiting the Wye" can only be grasped by a perusal of the poem as a whole. Speaking of his indebtedness to nature he says is:—

Well pleased to recognise
In nature, and the language of the
sense,
The anchor of my purest thoughts,
the nurse,

The guide, the guardian of my heart
and soul

Of all my moral being.

Few are unacquainted with "We are Seven," a touching instance of the philosophy unwittingly uttered by all children, but few are acquainted with his famous "Ode," which ends with the noble thought—

To me the meanest flower that blooms
can give

Thoughts that do often lie too deep for
tears.

Readers may recognise something familiar in these lines—

My heart leaps up when I behold

A rainbow in the sky;

So was it when my life began:

So is it now I am a man;

So be it when I shall grow old.

Or let me die!

The child is father to the man;

And I could wish my days to be

Bound each to each by natural piety.

Rugby.

FORT STREET V. OL V LAND STREET.

Played at Sportsground on 22nd June, and won by Fort-street by 8 to 5. Tries were scored by Landon and Adamsen, Kirke converting the latter. Bentley scored a try for Cleveland Street. The game was chiefly confined to the forwards. The backs only got going once or twice, when they made the most of their opportunities.

NORTHERN DISTRICT V. SOUTHERN DISTRICT.

Northern District, which is composed principally of Fort-street boys, defeated Southern district at Waterloo Oval on Saturday, 23rd June, by 15 points to nil. Tries were scored by Kirke, Westbrook, Landon, and Tindale. This was a very creditable performance for the Northern team, as they had only 14 players. Of the forwards, Rodshaw, Moore, Cox, and Tindale showed good form.

Next Saturday Northern District plays Eastern in the inter-District Competition.

Our first match in the "A" grade Senior Schools' Competition was against Paddington at Hampden Oval on Friday, 15th inst. Fort Street won by 6 to nil. This victory was chiefly due to Landon, Bosward, and Kirke on the three-quarter line, and McDougall at five-eighth. The showing of the backs was very fair, considering that this was the first occasion on which they had played together. The forwards for their weight were weak, but this was very largely due to want of condition, as most of the boys had been at examination during the previous fortnight.

The First Fifteen met and defeated the Old Boys at Birchgrove on 19th inst. The Old Boys were captained by Trev. Turner. In this match the scrum work was fairly good. The back men were weak though, but the forwards did not feed their backs sufficiently in the line-out and open work. The first half left the school leading by 5 to nil, a try by Kirke, which was converted by Bosward. In the second half Adamson scored a try for the School, and Turner for the Old Boys, the score standing at 8 to 3 in favor of the School when full-time sounded.

An inter-District Competition has been arranged to be played on Saturday afternoons. The Northern District, to which Fort Street belongs, will play the Southern District on June 23rd, the Eastern District on 30th June, and the Western District on 7th July. Two teams from the Combined Districts will play the early match before one of the Queensland v. N.S.W. matches, after which the Combined Schools Team will be selected.

A trial match was played at North Sydney on 28th June, during which

the Northern District team was selected. The team is:—

Full-back: Deane, St. Leonard's; threequarters, Landon, Kirke, Bosward, Adamson, Fort-street; halves, McDougall, Tedder, Fort-street; forwards, Redshaw, Cox, Reid, Moore, McNamara, Fort-street; Tindale, Robertson, Neutral Bay; Smith, St. Leonards.

The training at the Naval House is progressing satisfactorily. The physique of boys like Griffiths, Burleigh, and Best should encourage others to take a course of physical training.

Our back division gives promise of being one of the best we have had, but players must endeavor to perfect the combination, and beware of hanging to the ball too long in attack.

Wanted.—A good goal kick for the first fifteen.

There is rumor of a combined School team being sent to Brisbane at the end of the season.

Class matches have been played by M3, 6B, 5B, C4, 5P, 4P, 3B, and 2B.

Any boy showing promise in these matches will be reported to Mr. Ferguson for a place in one of the school fifteens.

Any boy wanting a copy of Rugby rules may have one on application.

In connection with our annual trip to Maitland we hope to be able to play a combined schools team at Newcastle on our way up. Needless to say we are anxious to meet our old rivals at Maitland.

School Notes.

A few boys, from (M5) Cubis, Christiansen and (6B) Samson, Gallagher, and Degotardi have succeeded in winning places in the 1907 Junior Classes. These are quite meritorious performances, and we will watch their careers with interest.

At intervals the Library receives contributions of magazines and periodicals. We thank the generous donors, and solicit further contributions of a like nature.

Senior and Junior Boys, particularly Senior Boys, do not use the Library sufficiently. Perhaps they have too much work. Anyway, in one month there were not more than half a dozen Senior Boys, who borrowed a book from the School Library.

On Friday, 16th ultimo, about 100 of the Fort Street boys, accompanied by Messrs. Hurt, Crane and Page, visited Kurnell, Captain Cook's historic landing place on Botany Bay. The excursion was arranged by the Intelligence Bureau, and had as its object the encouragement of a reverence for the historic past of Australia, and the man who first made it known to white people. The outing was much enjoyed, and will probably be followed by others of a similar character.

The photos. of the Senior and 1906 Junior Classes taken by Harold Mason of the Senior were excellent. We hope Mason's results in Exam. are as good as those in photography.

The Fort Street candidates for this 1906 Junior all seem fairly well satisfied with the papers, and expect good passes. The end of July is anxiously awaited for. The result may be expected about that time.

Not the least enjoyable part of Lady Northcote's visit was the holiday she kindly procured for us from the Minister, Mr. B. B. O'Conor.

All Fort Street people will be pleased to hear that the late headmaster, Mr. Turner, has been temporarily appointed Superintendent of Technical Education, vice Mr. G. H. Knibbs, who has become Federal Statistician.

Thanks to the efforts of Mr. Fraser, now in charge of M1, the room occupied by that class has been made quite attractive with maps, diagrams, and pictures.

Parkinson and McLelland have been appointed monitors of M1. Mind they do their duty, and keep their work up too.

Still we wish to know who is going to win the headmaster's prize for best Junior Pass.

H. McLelland, of M3, came out top in the examination for positions in the 1907 Junior Class.

Fort Street has been very unfortunate in losing the services of two of its most popular teachers, who resigned from the service at the end of last month. Mr. E. A. Coleman, B.A., has gone to Western Australia, where he will fill a position in one of the large schools there. Mr. C. H. Northcott, B.A., has gone to Sydney Grammar School as teacher of English. Though very sorry to lose them from our staff we wish them both success in their new spheres of work.

THE FORTIAN.

THE ORGAN OF FORT STREET MODEL PUBLIC SCHOOL.

"FAUER EST SUE QUIQUE FORTUNÆ."

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School Notes

The total number of passes in this year's Junior was 103. Last year it was 102.

We heartily congratulate Ronald Richardson on winning two medals, and Eric Main on winning one.

Eric Main obtains the headmaster's prize for best junior pass.

Mr. Tillbrook deserves the greatest of credit for his very fine results in geography in the Junior.

The Junior.

The results of the 1906 Junior were published on Friday the 21st July and were eminently satisfactory to all concerned. The total number of passes from Fort Street this year was 103; 77 being Boys and 26 Girls. This is the largest number that has ever passed the Junior in any one year from Fort Street. We have reason to be proud of it.

The best pass among the boys was gained by Eric Main with four A's, two B's, and a C. In addition to this Main gained the Medal for Arithmetic. Three commercial boys ran Main very close: Dalmazzo gaining four A's, and two B's; Middleton, three A's and four B's; also Burston, four A's, two B's and a C.

Among the girls the best pass was obtained by Mabel Daniells, who won 6 B's and a C; another good pass being obtained by Bessie Wooten.

In addition to the Medal gained by Eric Main, we are very pleased to find

that Ronald Richardson of Commercial II gained two Medals—one for Geography and the other for Drawing. Richardson is to be heartily congratulated on bringing such honor to his school.

The most pleasing results among the boys were those gained in Geography. In addition to winning the Medal, three other boys, Dalmazzo, Johnston and Thornton, were *prox. acc.*, and eleven gained A's, eleven B's, and eight C's.

We desire to note the fact that for the first time in the history of Fort Street, 45 boys passed the Junior in Physics, the Science subject taken. This is very pleasing, considering too, the inconveniences under which the subject is taught, but it bodes fair for the future results of Science teaching at Fort Street.

In connection with the good results in Mathematics we note that in addition to the Medal for Arithmetic, Cecil Gostelow gained a *prox. acc.* in Algebra.

Ten boys succeeded in gaining part of a Matriculation entrance. We desire to mention here in this connection that under the University a full matriculation pass cannot be gained through a Junior, but only exemption from the A division. The B division must be gained through the Senior Examination, which should be the goal of every boy's efforts. In the examination this year a pass in English was necessary for Matriculation. Some of our boys though they passed in Languages and Mathematics failed to obtain the magic M by a mistake in studying History rather than English.

Junior Examinations.

Passes—Boys.

Alexander, M. N.
 Adam, A. G.
 Adamson, E. W.
 Alexander, B.M.
 Allard, N. F.
 (M) Allen, G. D.
 Allmon, M. B.
 Bartley, J. S.
 Bosward, C. F.
 Bowles, R. S.
 Buckler, A. J.
 Burston, H.
 Butchart, C. E.
 (M) Chisholm, A.
 Close, A. G.
 Cohen, E. P.
 Collins, T. D.
 Cooper, J. R.
 Cosgrove, W.
 Cox, H. B.
 Crooke, B. C.
 Dalmaszo
 Davidson, E.
 Davison G.
 Diederichsen, H. (Dee)
 Druce, H.

Doutty, E. C.
 Drummond, J.
 Earl, R.
 Friend, A.
 Gandon, S.
 (M) Gostelow, C.
 Grace, T.
 (M) Greathead, J.
 Grieve, K.
 Harpham, T.
 Hill, E. C.
 Hine, E.
 Holmes, F.
 Huntley, D.
 Ivers, H.
 Johnston, E. W.
 King, W. H.
 Laing, R. E.
 Langker, A. V.
 (M) Leggett, R. O.
 Lloyd, S. A.
 Loewenthal, A.
 Lorking, G. S.
 MacDougal, G. R.
 (M) Main, E. C.
 Middleton, K.

Moore, J. A.
 Morris, E. H.
 Munro, H. C.
 (M) Mutton, L. F.
 Page, G. B.
 Patten, R. E.
 Ramsay, W.
 Raymond, H.
 (M) Redmond, G.
 Redshaw, J.
 Richardson, R.
 (M) Robyns, C. S.
 Rossiter, K. D.
 Small, A. C.
 Smith, D. N.
 (M) Stafford, F.
 Stanton, A.
 Taylor, G.
 Thorne, H.
 Thornton, S.
 Turner, J.
 Walker, K.
 Wall, H.
 Wharton-Kirke, C.
 Willington, W.
 Willson, H.

Passes—Girls.

Ballantyne, K.
 Benz, R.
 Buskin, M.
 Elphinstone, F.
 Clarke, O.
 Colenutt, V.
 (M) Daniells, M.
 Douglas, G.
 Drake, R.

Gardner, E.
 Hudson, N.
 Johnston, L.
 Keough, K.
 McLean, M.
 Middleton, D.
 Moore, L.
 Ogilvy, J.
 Parr, T.

Souter, A.
 Schultze, D.
 Slade, R.
 Tresilian, K.
 Wootton, B.
 Watson, J.
 Weston, C.
 Stephenson, F.

FOOTBALL.



Rugby.

NORTH-WESTERN AND SOUTH-EASTERN DISTRICT.

This was the early match at Sydney Ground on Saturday, 21st July, and a very interesting display was given by the schoolboys. The public evidently enjoyed the game, and eulogistic references were subsequently made in the press. The North-western team included nine Fort-street boys. The South-eastern team had the better of the scrums, and their half-back combination was very good, but the defence of our three-quarter line was particularly strong, and kept the Blues from crossing the line. No score was put up by either side during first half. In the second spell Maidment kicked a penalty goal for South-eastern, and soon afterwards Sneddon crossed the line for North-western, the result of good play by Landon. The kick at goal by Kirke struck the bar. The game thus ended in a draw, 3 all.

FORT STREET V. LEICHHARDT.

Our first match in the second round of the competition was against Leichhardt S.P.S., whom we vanquished by 10 points to nil.

FORT-STREET V. BARKER COLLEGE.

These teams met at Chatswood Oval, when Fort-street won by 44 to nil.

NORTHERN DISTRICT V. WESTERN

Played at University Oval, and won by Northern district by 21 to nil.

So far this season the School has won all matches in which it has been represented. Our boys have scored 158 points to 8.

The combined State Schools' team was to be picked as a result of Saturday's match, but as a second match will probably be played between the combined districts, the selectors have decided to watch the players further before announcing the team.

Australian Rules.

FORT-STREET V. KOGARAH.

13th July, 1906.

Played on Redfern Oval, and won by our representatives by 14 goals-21 behinds (105 points) to two goals 5 behinds (17 points.) At the beginning of the game Kogarah held their own very well, scoring 15 points in the first half to our 31. Then after the spell, superior combination, consistent training, and good all-round play disconcerted them, the scores running up by 74 to 2. A large crowd of spectators witnessed the match, and were agreeably surprised at the clever exhibition shown by the team. Every member played well, Walker, Barry and Wilkinson being especially brilliant.

FORT-STREET V MOSMAN.

20TH JULY, 1906.

The Agricultural Ground on the above date was the scene of another meritorious win by 14 goals 27 behinds (111 points) to two goals 4 behinds (16 points). From the bounce the game was all in favor of our team, whose superior handball and passing

nonplussed the Mosman representatives. The weather was against good play, otherwise the score might have been stupendous. McQueen appeared for the first time, as also did Francis. Both should prove capable players. Those who shone out brilliantly were Walker. Barry. Thomas. Brown. Welsh, Gartrell and Wilkinson. Goals were kicked by Walker (4). Thomas (4), Gartrell (2). Barry. Wilkinson. Ramsey and Welsh.

FORT STREET v. WAVERLEY.

(June 30th.)

Won by Fort St., 60 points to Nil.

This match was played in the height of a gale, and only by superhuman efforts our lads were able to abridge the handicap conceded (50). Waverley resorted to numanly tactics of keeping the ball out of bounds, and not trying to score but to play against time. However, when the time was called we were 10 points to the good whilst they had not even scored a single point. A protest was lodged to the Executive Committee against the partiality of the Umpire, but this was only received and not deemed worth considering, as Mr. Gossip is reckoned to be one of the best League Umpires in Sydney.

FORT STREET v. PYRMONT.

June 7th, Agricultural Ground.

(By Centre.)

Having met Pyrmont before, and defeated them by 68 to 13, I and my colleagues anticipated no great difficulty in vanquishing them again. This we were able to do by scoring 15 goals, 26 behinds (117 points) to Nil. This is so far our biggest score, and I can only attribute it to the solid and continued practice of the members whereby a good combined game resulted in the mammoth score. All the team played well, although some could do much better by hand-passing to one another. I hope that each will benefit by the Adelaide-N.S.W. Match, where the superior handball, quick-passing and vigorous dash, overcame the labored kick for kick. Brown undoubtedly played the game of the day,

his dodging and tricky runs nonplussed the opposing side. Goals were kicked by Walker (3) Thomas (2), Wilkinson (2), Ramsey (2), Barry, Thompson, Stafford, Brown (2), and Welsh.

Notes.

Walker was one who represented N.S.W. Juniors against Newcastle on Sydney Cricket Ground on June 7th.

Thompson, of C 3, although small, is a nimble and tricky player. He has plenty of dash, and both marks and kicks well.

Welsh quite outshone himself by his clever play. He is, however, rather inclined to be selfish, and should lean to combination.

Milne and Chambers, two capable back players, had practically nothing to do.

Others who played well were Wilson, Barry, Gartrell, Stafford, Ramsey, Wilkinson (an excellent forward), and Thomas.

Armstrong one of our 1st 18 left Sydney for Narrandera where he fills an important position in the bank. As Narrandera is an "Australian" centre he may still continue to play.

Our match was witnessed by a good crowd, including Mr. A. E. Nash, and Mr. H. C. Harte, respectively President and Secretary of the League.

Mr. Fromer (the capable League umpire) gave universal satisfaction to all.

Three Gold Medals have already been donated to the Club for presentation amongst the members, one being for unselfish play throughout the year.

Cadets.

The Right Half Company under Capt. Selle held a half-day parade in Prince Alfred Park on Thursday, July 5th. The work consisted mainly of Company Drill with the Manual and Firing Exercises.

The Company held their first target practice at Randwick Rifle Range, on Wednesday, July 11th. As it was the initial performance the results obtained must be considered as highly satisfactory. The shooting consisted of 10 shots at 200 yards with the new Westley-Richard Rifle. These were found to be thoroughly accurate, as in the words of one shooter they were "dead true."

The shooting is limited to 3 scores of respectively : 4, bulls-eye ; 3, centre ; and 2, outer. Possible score, 40. The best results recorded were as under :

Sgt. Rowbotham	31
Cadet Walker	31
" Rothery	31
" Smith	30
" Hazlewood... ..	30
L.-Corpl. Steenbom	27
Corpl. Edwards	27
Cadet Meldrum	27
Corpl. Sandels	26
Cadet McManus	27
" Glynn	25
" Mann	23
Buglr. Grant	22
Cadet Wright	21

Cadet Smith, C., gained the highest number of bulls-eyes, viz. 5.

Literary and Debating Society.

On June 29th, 1906, a number of prepared speeches were heard on the subject of "White Australia." Ten members spoke, Mr. Stephens delivering the best speech for which he has been awarded a prize.

On July 6th the Half-yearly Meeting was held. The President, Mr. Kilgour, occupied the chair. Mr. Connal, Hon. Sec., read an exceedingly favorable report. Mr. Barnes, the Treasurer, also produced a good balance sheet.

The officers for the ensuing year are as follows : President, Mr. Kilgour ; Vice-Presidents, Mr. Lasker Mr. Best

and teachers of 6th and 7th classes ; Hon. sec., E. Knox ; Hon. Treas. A. G. Barnes ; Assist. Sec, H. Stephens ; Editor of Manuscript Journal, H. Stephen. The meeting was well attended and a number of new members were enrolled.

On July 13th another successful Australian Day was carried out. It will be remembered that last half-year this day was inaugurated for the purpose of cultivating an interest in Australian poetry and other literature. The following programme was carried out :—

- Essay, Mr. Blanchard, (Australian Literature).
- Reading, Mr. Reid (Paterson).
- Recitation, Mr. Knox (Brunton-Stephens).
- Reading, Mr. Morgan (Henry-Lawson) Selection. Mr. Blanchard (Legends).
- Recitation, Mr. Reid.
- Selection, Mr. Malcolm.
- Reading, Mr. Morgan (Lawson).
- Reading, Mr. Knox (Dyson).
- Reading, Mr. Hindmarsh (Dyson).
- Reading, Mr. Sinclair (Dyson).
- Recitation, Mr. Reid.
- Selection. Mr. Barston.

On the 20th July the Premier, Mr. Knox, introduced a motion affirming that "England is not Decaying."

Mr. Reid (Opposition) and Mr. D Collins (Labour), were the leading opponents.

Amongst those who spoke against it were Messrs. Reid (Opposition), D. Collins (Labour), Mason (Opposition), MacLean (Labour). At 4.45 Mr. Knox moved the adjournment of the debate.

The motion was carried on the voice. Considerable interest is aroused as to the result of this debate which will be concluded on the 27th July.

At the meeting of the Debating Society, 20th July, in the Ministerial Debate, Mr. Mason, made an excellent speech. He spoke for the Opposition. His language was good, his matter perfect, and his method of attack caused much applause. The gentleman has spoken very little in the Society up till now, but this beginning has greatly helped to raise the tone of the debates.

It will be pleasing to many to note that a Labor Party has been formed

in our Debating Society, by Mr. J. D. Collins. The party is already very strong. We may hear some good arguments for Socialism in the Society now.

A Trip to The Hawkesbury Agricultural College.

(By HARRY ELLARD.)

On Thursday last, 26th July, M3 Class in charge of our teacher paid a visit to the Hawkesbury Agricultural College. We left Sydney by the 9 o'clock train for Richmond, and arrived at our destination about 10.30. After a short walk we came to the gates of the College. Here we saw a student ploughing a cultivation of Rape into the ground with the object of manuring the ground for future crops.

The College from the gates seems like a large residence standing well back from the road, its terra-cotta coloured roof giving it a vivid outline from the surrounding greenery.

On arriving at the College itself we were ushered into the gymnasium where we discarded our luggage. Afterwards Mr. Potts came over to us and took us through the Library and Reading Room. They have a nice lot of books, mostly dealing with Agriculture. He then took us through the Chemistry Room, explaining to us the different courses through which the students go, then to the Engine House where the whole of the electric lighting system of the College is worked. The washing and cooking appliances of the College are also worked by steam. We were then conducted to the "Smithy" where the collegians spend three months learning to make shoes, etc. At the back of the forge the College prize live stock is kept.

After seeing these interesting things we went back to the gymnasium where we were kindly supplied with tea.

After dinner we were taken into the orchard. Mr. Potts explained that the reason they had planted the orchard there was to show the men who had condemned the soil that they were wrong. Where they had said the ground would take £2 10s. per acre to manure in reality it only took 6. per acre. By growing a crop of

cow peas or any other leguminous plant and ploughing it into the ground it would manure the ground with nitrogen. He told us that by that manuring he could gather £26 worth of fruit per acre per annum. The students have to take in their course 12 months training in the orchard, during which period they are taught to bud, prune and graft trees. The next items of interest were the walnut and olive trees. Mr. Potts remarked that if our labour conditions were better we might easily cope with other nations with regard to the oil of the olive.

After resuming our walk we came to the vegetable gardens. Here we saw garlic, onions, turnips, and beetroot under cultivation. These were watered by little round pipes formed like a gutter through which the water ran. All the water used on the grounds comes from a septic tank.

We then visited the preserving house where we were shown the different fruit preserves and also some of the pests that damage our fruit crops. From here we visited the Carpenter's and Saddler's shops, and then the Egg-laying Competition Pens, and on to the Ostriches. The female ostrich lays an egg every week for fourteen weeks, and if the food is plentiful about 9 eggs prove fertile. On leaving here we inspected the Piggery and saw the different kinds of prize pigs. From this place we went to the Creamery, where the students were making cheese and butter. Next we visited the Milking Shed and saw the cows being milked by machinery. After leaving this shed we came to the artificial grasses, and after a good look round we adjourned to the gymnasium, where we amused ourselves till 3.45, when after three hearty cheers for Mr. Potts we departed for the station. Leaving Richmond at 4.15 we arrived in Sydney about 5.30 after a very enjoyable day.

The percentage of passes among commercial boys in this year's Junior was higher than that of the Matriculation boys. Otherwise the results were exactly equal.

Woollahra forfeited to Fort St. (P. S.A.A. Competition) on Friday last.

Fort Street Model Public School Photographic Club.

Inaugural Meeting held in M1 room on Wednesday, July 18th, 1906.

Present: Mr. Kilgour (in the chair), Mr. Mackinnon, and fourteen boys.

Mr. Kilgour briefly explained the objects of the meeting and the benefits to be derived from the formation of a Photographic Club at the School.

Mr. K. Cooper then proposed that a photographic club, to be known as the "Fort Street Model Public School Photographic Club" be formed in connection with the school. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mason, and carried unanimously. The next business dealt with was election of officers. The following were unanimously elected: Patron, the Hon. B. B. O'Connor, Minister for Education; President, A. J. Kilgour, Esq., B.A., L.L.B., Headmaster M.P.S. Fort-street; Vice-presidents, P. Board, Esq., M.A., Under-Secretary Department of Public Instruction, J. Dawson, Esq., M.A., J. W. Turner Esq., Superintendent of Technical Education; D. J. Cooper, Esq., M.A., Senior Inspector; S. Lasker, Esq., M.A.; Committee, Messrs. Mason, Chisholm, Cooper, Buckler, and Frecker; Secretary, Mr. Mackinnon.

The business of drawing up rules and by-laws was left in the hands of the committee and secretary.

THE FORTIAN would like to see a Fort-street boy get his 7 A's in next year's Junior. Harry Dale was the last boy to do so, in 1903.

School Badge and Hat-band.—Our correspondent, "Fort-street Boy," was enquiring last month why Fort-street had no hat-badge. We are now in a position to inform him that these will be available in a day or two, the firm importing them having notified us that they are on their way out from England. The hat-bands, however, costing about 2s each will only be obtainable by an order from the principal. The design, as we have mentioned before, consists of a waratah above the letters, "F.S.M.S."

The cricket trophies won last season by Landon (batting average), Middleton (bowling average) and Palmer (Fielding) will be presented at the next annual meeting.

Ballad Poetry.

The name "ballad" is of Italian origin, and means originally a dance song. Such songs were sung by minstrels and troubadours, or even by the people at festivals. These minstrel songs were brought into England by the singers who accompanied the Norman French nobles. The ballad as a rule, contains some short tragic or comic story in verse, which is adapted to be sung or to be accompanied by an instrument. The earliest of our English ballads date from about the middle of the 14th century, when the minstrel flourished in England and Scotland. These minstrels had a large repertoire of ballads of varying lengths, chronicling the exploits of some famous outlaw or noble, or the love story of some beautiful lady. The minstrel as a rule, wandered about the country, being welcome at the cottage of the poor, or the palace of the great. In return for shelter and food, he delighted admiring audiences with selections from his store of ballads, accompanying himself generally on the harp. These wandering minstrels lived in the midst of war and plunder. The border feuds between the English and Scottish border families, the fights between clans and the Gorays, all furnished subject for the poetry of the balladist.

Some of the noble families of England and Scotland had a harper, who was sheltered and fed, and who sang in verse the exploits of his patron. Compare the ancient harper who accompanied Ellen Douglas in her exile, in Scott's "Lady of the Lake." Thus we have the stories of border fights, accounts of such events as that recorded in "Johnny Armstrong," in the author for the current year.

At a time when the art of playing on musical instruments was not widespread, the popularity of ballads, and

of the minstrels who sang them, can be easily understood. In Scott's Lay of the Last Minstrel we have the pathetic picture of the sweet singer of the stories of great events, who finds his occupation gone; his day is over.

The ballads of England and Scotland differ very much from the love-sick lays of the troubadours. The English ballads are really folk songs. Their authorship is unknown. These old minstrels have composed them, from them they have been handed down to their posterity and in this way have more or less changed in form.

Besides the stories of the doings of great men, and the love of noble ladies, we find popular legends, embodied in verse. These stories, such as that of True Thomas, arising from the superstition and fancies of the simple country folk, tell us of the doings of elves and fairies, Sprites and Goblins. Many of these stories were current among the north country folk of England, and the simple Scottish peasantry. So we have ballads about such persons as Michael Scott, the great wizard of Scotland, Thomas the Rhymer, and others. Thus the main themes for our older ballads were ever the chase, love, war, and the supernatural.

Great Writers.

VI.—JOHN MILTON.

JOHN MILTON, the great Puritan poet, was born in Bread Street, London, in the year 1601, and as many of you know, became one of the greatest classical scholars of his time. Unlike Shakespeare, who had "small Latin and less Greek," Milton knew all Latin and all Greek, and other languages, too. In his early days, Milton, who inherited his religious instinct from his father, devoted much time to the study of the Bible, his first poem being "Hymn on the Morning of the Nativity." Perhaps many of you may not know that it was John Milton who wrote the beautiful hymn:

"Let us with a gladsome mind,
Praise the Lord, for he is kind."

But John Milton was not a poet only. He was a deep thinker on all matters of social well-being, and wrote articles on the Church, the Freedom of the Press, Education, and kindred subjects. He was so eager a student that, though he was warned of the consequences, he would not give up his books, and became totally blind. This necessitated someone to read to him, and his daughters were compelled to do this, often in languages that they did not understand.

But Milton had always had a great idea in his mind. He wished to write a noble epic poem. Now, in his blindness and misery, for he was very poor, he set to work and produced "Paradise Lost," the only work of its kind in the English language. It is very long, and if you do not care to read it, I would advise you to read some of his shorter pieces, such as "Lycidas," "Il Penseroso," or "L'Allegro." You all know the following lines which occur in "L'Allegro":

"Haste thee Nymph, and bring with thee,
Jest, and youthful jollity:
Quips, and cranks, and wanton wiles,
Nods and becks and wreathed smiles
Such as hang in Hebe's cheek
And love to live in dimple sleek."
and again, in the same poem—
"Come and trip it as ye go
On the light fantastic toe."

I would like to give you other passages from Milton, but it would take up too much room. Read some pieces for yourselves, and let me conclude with a few lines written many years after Milton's death by William Wordsworth during a great crisis in European history, lines which testify Milton's great influence upon English people:—

"Milton, thou should'st be living at
this hour,
England has need of thee;
She is a fen of stagnant waters."
and in another poem—
"We must be free or die, who speak
the tongue that Shakespeare spoke.
The faith and morals hold which
Milton held."

THE FORTIAN.

THE ORGAN OF FORT STREET MODEL PUBLIC SCHOOL.

"FABER EST SUÆ QUISSQUE FORTUNÆ"

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Editorial.

As the majority of our readers know already, it has been decided by the Editor to award a prize of five shillings each month for the best article contributed to the THE FORTIAN. Our object in thus awarding prizes is twofold, first, to encourage Essay writing, and, secondly, to obtain interesting copy. For the sake of refreshing our readers' memories, we will repeat the list of conditions.

(1.) All articles must be original. They may be on any topic, but those referring to school work or school interests, will naturally be preferred.

(2.) Any boy or girl of any age or any class, may compete with any number of articles.

(3.) The Editor's decision to be final.

(4.) The Editor also reserves to himself the right of publishing any article sent in, at any date.

(5.) All contributions to be in the Editor's hands by the 21st of the month.

(6.) If an article be of sufficient merit, a second prize of 5s. or 2s. 6d. may be awarded.

(7.) Each article must bear a motto, and must be accompanied by a sealed envelope bearing the motto on the outside, and name of competitor inside.

(8.) No two prizes awarded to same competitor within three months.

As many of you know, there is a manuscript journal in connection with the Debating Society. Some of the contributed articles are exceedingly witty and interesting, and we would be very glad to receive some of the same type. It is to be hoped that boys and girls will try and work with the Editor in trying to encourage literature and literary work, and if this venture proves a success, as it seems likely to do, judging by the number of contributions this month, then the paper may be further improved and made more interesting still.

We might state further, that it is our intention to publish each month a list of the contributed articles, prize-winning or not, with the names of their authors and criticisms if necessary. In another column will be found the name of this month's prize-winner and the prize article. If contributors care to enquire from the Editor, he will be pleased to discuss their articles with them.

We are very sorry to hear of the illness of Miss St. Smith, who is away on two month's sick leave. We hope to see her back at school again in the best of health.

We desire to thank C. Dodds and A. Edwards for contributions of magazines to the school library, and to solicit further donations of magazines and periodicals which are urgently needed.

Diary on the Senior Class Spider

By ERIC S. DAVIDSON.

Wednesday,—Got up late, had a light breakfast on a few spiders' delicacies; day bright and sunny.

I was clinging on to the roof of the Senior Class Room, when I slipped—I never could tell how—and fell on the front desk, right under the teacher's nose. I made sure I was seen, but, to my relief, I was not. So then I decided to go on a tour of inspection. Crawling down the slippery iron leg of the desk with great difficulty, I reached the shelf below, and, searching about, found among its contents 20 or 30 honey kiss papers. I wonder what amusement the Seniors find in honey kiss papers. There was also a book on Greek mythology,—they all had Greek mythologies—a vocabulary paper, nine out of twelve words of which the master had framed in red ink. What does the red ink mean I should like to know? And, lastly, I found some crusts fully a year old, on which I found some obscure fossils which I believed to be closely related to my old friend the ichthysaurus, now dead poor soul, but which, on closer examination, I found to be what humans call sardines.

I next looked at the heading on the paper of one of the brilliant students, and tried to make out what was there. I could not make it out, but the letters were "English Literature." Then came some scribbled notes on the life of a man named Bill Shakespeare. I wondered why Bill did shake the spear, but soon I found an explanation. Bill, I read in the notes, had learnt many trades, and amongst these that of a professional murderer. All at once I thought my days were numbered. With my eyes still on the pupil, I had unconsciously approached the edge of the desk, and I had already lost my balance, when, making a mighty leap, I found myself on the next desk. Seeing a crevice, and being mighty frightened, I made a

bee-line for it. Horror of horrors! I found myself between the sleeve and cuff of one of the scholars. Owing to the good grounding I had received in English from my dear parents, who had had such a long association with the grand old institution, I was enabled to make some important discoveries on one of his cuffs. There, in lead pencil, I saw some dates, the names of of some kings and some brief notes, which, I presume, had something to do with history. I heard an awful voice, but found it was only the master telling one of the largest boys in the class "to give him that piece of chewing-gum he would persist in chewing." Then some remarks passed about kindergarten, and fearing my presence would be discovered if I remained longer, I again had recourse to the lower edge of the desk.

Here my knowledge of English caused me much bewilderment. In my numberless excursions I have met with iron, steel, brass and copper keys, but paper ones, never! Looking further down I saw that it was a key to Cicero. A misprint of course. It should have been "Cice Row." I wonder where Cice Row is. Such a lot of boys seem to live in Cice Row, judging by the number of keys I saw. Tired out with my adventures, and still mystified as to where Cice Row is, I crawled into a corner under a book, and soon forgot all my troubles in a well earned rest.

P.S. I intend to write out a full description of my adventures and lay them open for discussion before the United Geographical Society of Spiders and Centipedes.

SPIDER.

In the early part of this year an examination was held for temporary clerks in the Public Service. We neglected to notice the successes and do so now. Edwards, of C. III., gained first position, other places being obtained by Cohen, Bartley, Close, and Buckley. They have all received appointments.

M4 Picnic.

On 15th September M4 class held a very enjoyable picnic at National Park. We were all ready with heavy hampers and light hearts to board our train at 9.38 a.m. I say with light hearts, because we had a fine day. We soon reached our destination, and made preparations for our games of football and cricket, which lasted till dinner time. After dinner came the most delightful part of the day. Gliding over the calm waters of either arms of the river, we admired the scenery, birds, and animals met with on our journey. We also tried to outrival the ancient Romans by our water fight, and after enduring many volleys of cold water the attacking party was driven off with great loss. All too soon the day was done, and quite tired out we wended our way up the steep path to the Station, fully prepared to make the full use of the first opportunity for another picnic.

D. EAGER, M4.

Football.

(By ROVER.)

AUSTRALIAN RULES.

FORT STREET V. DOUBLE BAY.

This match was played on the Agricultural Ground on the 14th Sept. to decide which team should go to Melbourne.

Fort Street, after a brilliant display of football, won by 53 points to 1. Our boys outshone their opponents in every department of the game, but as the weather was wet, Double Bay—the lighter team, were at a great disadvantage.

The best players for Fort Street were Walker, Barry, Leggett, and Ramsay, whilst Stafford, Board, and Messenger played well for Double Bay. After the match Mr. Stafford, headmaster of Double Bay School, congratulated our team upon its victory, and remarked that our team played good, open football, and he felt certain that they would win in Melbourne.

The following boys, accompanied by Mr. W. A. Belle, left Sydney for Melbourne on Monday, 17th Sept. A. Barry (Captain), R. Walker, J. Wilson, G. Gartrell, Ramsay, R. Thomas, L. Gregory, Wilkinson, Hutchison, S. Francis, S. Chambers, Leggett, J. Greathead, R. Vader, Welch, R. Atkins, J. Macqueen, Brown, Stafford and Donnison. A large crowd assembled at the Railway Station. Amongst them I noticed Mr. Kilgour, Mr. Nash, President of the Australian League, Mr. Horie, Secretary of the League, Mr. Stafford, Headmaster Double Bay School, and several members of our staff.

INTER-STATE MATCH.

FORT STREET V. ALBERT PARK (Melbourne).

This match was played on the East Melbourne Cricket Ground in the presence of a large attendance.

Fort Street won the toss and elected to take advantage of a slight breeze. In the first quarter our boys played all over their opponents, scoring 32 points to nil.

The second quarter, Fort Street again showed their superiority—the passing on judgment against the wind was worthy of a senior team. The scores at half time were, Fort Street 65, Albert Park 1.

At the start of the third quarter Albert Park improved greatly, but Fort Street wore them down, and the quarter ended with the scores, Fort Street 82, Albert Park 8.

The fourth quarter was the best contested in the match, but Fort Street still prevailed, and when the final bell sounded the scores were, Fort Street 99, Albert Park 16, and thus our boys won by 83 points.

At night both teams were entertained at a banquet. H. Brown responded on behalf of the team, and in a remarkable speech of 15 minutes, kept the whole assembly in a roar of laughter.

H. Brown is a prominent member of the Debating Society.

Prize Article.**A LEGEND.**

By R. WHEELER, M.I.

When Bacchus was a boy, he used to make long journeys in the bush. One day he grew tired, and sat down upon a stone to rest. As he sat there, his eyes upon the ground, he saw a plant springing up between his feet, and was so pleased with it that he dug it up to take home. But as the sun was hot, he feared it might die before he reached his destination. He found a bird's skeleton, into which he thrust it, and went on. But the plant sprouted so fast that it started out of the bones above and below. This gave him fresh fear of its withering, and he cast about for a remedy. He found a lion's bone, which was thicker than the bird's skeleton, and he stuck the skeleton, with the plant in it, into the lion's bone. However, the plant grew out of the lion's bone also. This time he found an ass's bone, which was larger than the lion's bone, and placed it around the bone of the lion. At length he arrived home, but when he was about to set it, he found that the roots had entwined themselves around the three bones; and, as he couldn't take it out without damaging the roots, he planted it as it was. Soon after it bore the most delicious grapes, from which he made the first wine, and gave it to men to drink. But, behold a miracle! When men first heard of it they sang like birds; next, after drinking a little more they became vigorous and gallant like lions; but when they drank more still, they began to behave like asses.

The School Badge

The new hatband and school badge consisting of a waratah over the letters F.S.M.S. has arrived. These will only be issued on a note from Mr. Kilgour, and can be obtained only from Messrs. Prapes and Company, George Street, price, two shillings each.

Mr. W. M. Easton has been removed to the Practising School, Blackfriars.

My First Day in the Land of the Rising Sun.

By DOROTHY LEMM (6 A).

It was on a lovely Summer morning that I was awakened by my Amah to find that it was just 4 o'clock. On asking why she had awakened me so early, she said, the steamer which was to carry my mother, father and me to the land of the Rising Sun was leaving at 6 a.m. I scrambled out of bed, dressed, and went down to breakfast. Breakfast over, we drove down to the steamer, in rickshaws, and by 6 a.m. we were steaming out of Hong Kong harbor in the gayest of spirits.

It was eight days before we came to the end of the journey, but on the eighth day we came on deck to find we were nearing the picturesque coast of Japan. The first sight that met our eyes was a great white mountain, and, as we came nearer, the cone increased in size, we were soon told we were looking at the wonderful and also sacred Mountain of Japan. At the foot of the mountain many little thatched houses with gardens of cherry trees and flowers surrounding them. At last we floated through the Bay of Tokio, and on into the harbor of Yokohama. We had no sooner anchored than our steamer was surrounded by small frail boats called Sampan, each sculled by means of a paddle, at the stern, by a Jap. We noticed that very often the boats were sculled by a woman. It was in one of these we went ashore, but a trip in a Sampan was not so pleasant as we had thought, for the Sampan is such a frail boat, that, the least move on our part would capsize it. However, we landed safely to find our guide (or annai-sha as she is called in Japan) waiting to show us some of the "sight of Japan." He greeted us very cordially and said, "Konnichi-wa" (how do you do). Greetings over, he took us to an excellent Yoloja (hotel) where we had lunch, and rested until our annai-sha ordered rickshaws, and we were soon riding through streets on either side of which

With Fort Street Boys to Melbourne.

(By one of them.)

We Fort Street boys left for Melbourne on Monday, 17th Sept., by the Express. We were under the charge of Mr. W. A. Selle, as Manager, and Mr. D. Robertson. Not much sleep was indulged in as the night air was made hideous with singing, yawning, or an playing, and eating. At Albury, Mr. Selle's relatives welcomed him, and congratulated us on our trip. We reached Melbourne at 1.20 on Tuesday, and were received by the members of the Victorian League. A drive round Melbourne and a hearty lunch was the prelude to a practice on the M.C. Ground. In the evening a visit was paid to the State Schools' Exhibition.

Next day we were taken to the Public Library and Art Gallery. In the afternoon we won the State School Premiership by 14 goals 15 behinds to 2 goals 4 behinds. At night we witnessed the "Fatal Wedding" at the Princess Theatre. "Doc" Brown quite impressed the Melbourne folk by his after dinner speech. He was interviewed by the *Herald* reporter next day. Thursday was the day in South Melbourne. After being photographed at Talma Studios we were driven to the Town Hall, received by the Mayor, shown all round, refreshed, and then driven to Port Melbourne Butts. The scores could not be taken, even Mr. Selle going beyond the possible. Then we were entertained at the S.M.C. Ground. A look at Albert Park School and the Swimming Carnival ended the day and night.

On Friday we adjourned to the Fire Station, meeting Mr. Lee, whose son Harry represented Fort

Street on many occasions. In the Rickards' Opera House was visited.

On Saturday the match v. Combined Schools took place. I myself attribute our small score of 13 to too much ginger beer and other luxuries. Carlton ultimately won by 94 to 45. Saturday night was spent in "doing the town."

On Sunday some went to Church and afterwards partook of a row on the Yarra. In the afternoon a pleasant trip to the Zoo kept the ball rolling, and in the evening we were entertained at a concert. On Monday the Aquarium was next studied and a night at the Athenaeum completed the programme.

On Tuesday we arrived at Wagga at 1 a.m., where we hoped to receive similar treatment, but it resulted in bitter disappointment. We all were not sorry to leave Wagga regretting the day had not been a brighter one.

We arrived home again at 10.50 next day.

Miss Morgan, for some time past assistant in the Girls Department, has been promoted to Mistress at Armidale.

Mr. C. P. Smith has been removed to Stanmore Public School. His successor is Mr. J. Taylor

We have received through Mr. Turner two very interesting letters, one from Stanley Ward who has just seen service against the Zulus in South Africa, and the other from Ulic Czerwonra, in New Zealand. We have also to acknowledge a letter and a number of newspapers from Arthur Tapsell of the "Herald" Office.

The Librarian again appeals to the boys and girls of Fort Street for magazines for the library. The stock is becoming very small and dilapidated. Please send a few each

were shops without windows, with the seller sitting on the ground in the midst of his wares. We stopped at one of these shops to buy a few articles of finery. Our guide informed us that when the Japs are selling to foreigners they are apt to charge more than enough for goods, but on saying *sore wa takai* (that is too dear), they understand you know something of them, and they immediately lower the prices. After buying a few trumperies we went on, and the next thing we saw, was, the peculiar method in which the women carry their babies. The little mites are strapped on their mother's back, and their little round head, with only a piece of hair on the top, is all that can be seen over their shoulder. There the wee mites stay the whole day as happy as we Australian boys and girls who are free to run where we choose.

After passing the whole length of the main street (which is seven miles long) in the City Yokohama, we found ourselves not in the noisy city, but in green lanes overshadowed by trees, and in the distance we could see orchards that an Australian boy would delight to be in for an hour. As we pass we see many little houses with their neat little garden. It was into one of these houses we went to refresh ourselves. We went to the door of the house and were quickly taken inside by a polite Jap. We were each seated on a low stool, about a foot from the ground, and given about a quarter of a pint of tea without milk or sugar, in tiny cups. It is needless to say we had them refilled more than once. We also had a little Japanese cake. However, after we had had sufficient, we were shown over the house, which interested us very much, and is worth describing.

The house has no walls. The sides of the house consist of wooden sliding doors. At night these are put up and taken down in the morning. In summer the house really becomes a roof. In winter semi-transparent slides replace the wooden doors. Rooms in the house are made by putting up

paper screens which move in grooves. Our house can be divided into as many rooms as the owner wishes. The floor is covered with mats. Furniture is absent, tables, chairs, and washstands are never used. The floor is the table, or sometimes a table a foot high is used. Whatever valuables the family possess are stored in houses adjoining the living house, and is made or rather built of mud. The fire-place, we noticed, was movable, and is called the *hibachi*. It is a box made of brass of about one or two foot square. In this box, on a bed of ashes, a few live coals are laid. In winter the mother and children cluster round this fire, and the mother relates to her babies, stories, for the children of Japan are as fond of listening to stories just as much as we Australians.

While some of these curious legends are being told by mother, the father sits on a stool and smokes a peculiar pipe, which is made up of a tiny bowl about a quarter the size of a thimble jammed on to a bamboo stem and mouth-piece, the tobacco is cut very finely and rolled into pellets and dropped into the pipe-bowl, and when lighted, it provides two or three whiffs and the ashes are shaken out, the pipe is refilled with another pellet, and so on. But I am getting away from the description of the house. Well, we went into the bedroom where we were told the whole family slept. I think the first thing that struck us was that everything was built on a baby scale. By the time we had seen everything that was to be seen, it was time to return to the hotel, so we bade the family good bye, and once more rode through lanes and into the main street to the hotel where we found a grand dinner waiting for us, which, I need not say, we ate heartily. After dinner we were so tired we bade *Oyasumi nasai* (good night) to our host and retired to bed, but we were so excited over the curious things we had seen and the things yet to be seen, that it was some time near morning that we went to sleep. Thus ended my first day in Japan.

The Elizabethan Seamen.

The Elizabethan Seamen were navigators and maritime adventurers who laid the foundation of England's supremacy on the seas. They were men of strong will, brave and patriotic. Three men are conspicuous in the forefront, namely, Hawkins, Frobisher, and Drake. By their brilliant work they induced men like Gilbert, Raleigh and Cavendish, scholars and gentlemen adventurers, to take up the task of breaking the sea-power of Spain, of throwing open to the English people, the New World. These grand men worked against danger from the ice in the Arctic seas, against pestilences in the tropical lands, and, one and all, laid down their lives for their object. Gilbert was the first to die; he was drowned whilst returning to England from the first English colonising expedition. Cavendish died between Brazil and England. Hawkins and Drake were buried in the West Indian seas. Frobisher, after the defeat of the Armada, was wounded in a skirmish in Brittany, and died at Plymouth a fortnight afterwards. Raleigh was sacrificed to Spain.

For half a century after the discovery of America, Englishmen did not take any part in the exploration or occupation of the New World. They thought it was not worth their while, because they did not know that America was rich in precious metals. But when Mexico and Peru were explored by the Spanish, it was seen that America was unusually rich in precious metals. The Spaniards laid claim to all the land they had explored and all the wealth it contained. But the French proved that Spain could not make good her claim, and French seamen received some share in the treasures. The story of this wealth came to England, and the men of Cornwall and Devon, that great home of seafarers, determined to have a share in the wonderful wealth that America produced. Then was the beginning of England in the New World.—A.M.

Photographic Club's Trip to Prospect.

Some of the members of the above club accompanied Mr. Easton's class on Friday to Prospect Reservoir. There was not much material there for picture making, only four or five plates being exposed by each member. We have not seen any of the members' results yet. Mr. Mackinnon is giving a prize for the best picture taken on the trip. Everybody seemed to have enjoyed themselves—the only thing they did not like was the four miles' walk each way from Toongabbie.

Answers to Correspondents.

We are often asked questions by readers on various subjects. We are always willing to answer queries on any subject whatever, and commence this month by our replies to questioners.

Ambilio.—Yes. We consider the University is within reach of a good honest worker.

Too Fat.—Why not try work. What's wrong with the Junior?

Labor Omnia Vincit.—Quite true!

Cook.—No. We do not advise you to boil potatoes with washing soda.

Chemico.—H₂O is the symbol for fresh water, but CH₂O is not the symbol for sea water.

Backward.—Read the Encyclopædia Britannica making copious notes.

Poultry inquires how to whitewash a fowl-house. Answer.—Call tenders.

5B.—Yes. Tadpoles do grow into frogs if kept long enough.

Superfluous Hair.—Why not have?

We note that Quetch has passed the Railway Examination, while K. Middleton has gone to the Commercial Bank at Cumnock.

Mr. George, Superintendent of Technical Education in Auckland, New Zealand, has paid a visit to the school. He commented on the bad lighting of some of the rooms, a matter we are only too well acquainted with.

The Prize Essay.

About twenty fine articles were received for this month's prizes. On the whole the quality was disappointing, and the subjects somewhat stale and lacking in originality. Very few of the articles were topical, or of general interest. We have awarded the first prize of five shillings to Eric Davidson for his article, "Diary of the Senior Class Spider," which seems to us the most original, and also topical and witty. The second prize of half-a-crown is awarded to Allan Chisholm, "The Lives of some of our Politicians," by Plutarch, whose article is decidedly well written, but a little too restricted in interest. Davidson's article will be found appended.

We desire to note also the following contributions:—

Rex.—Australian Poetry: The finest literary article sent in, but you have not referred to Lawson, Brunton, Stephens, O'Hara, and many other of our best poets. Not suitable for general "FORTIAN" purposes.

Guildhall.—Shelley, M.H.S.: are too much like passages from a guide book, and are not lively enough, but the style is good.

Dorothy Lemm.—"A Chinese Dinner" is rather neatly written.

Ethel Llewelyn.—Too many grammatical errors, but subject original.

H. Brown.—Too fond of big words and high-sounding phrases.

Other articles were received from the following:—

E. Main.—"How Australians have shown their love for Australia."

Jessie Smith.—"St. Kilda (not original)."

A. J. Collins.—"A School Rifle Club."

Ted Jeffery.—"With Jack the Rabbit Trapper."

Olga Smith.—"The Jealous Elephant."

Ruby Forbes.—"The Albatross."

J. Lindquist.—"A Holiday in the Country."

H. F. Ellard.—"Romulus."

L. Adams.—"Queensland Sugar Industry."

K. D. Rossiter.—"England in the near Future."

Sarah Collins.—"The City's Poor."

E. C. Ward.—"War."

C. Booth.—"A Profitable Hobby."

A. Stanton.—"The New Railway Station."

H. Thatcher.—"A Trip from London to Aden."

H. Cohen.—"Perilous Voyage to Shark Island."

A. Menary.—"Six to One."

We should be very glad to receive a much more varied and original series of articles for next month's issue, and advise some contributors to try again. The prizes may be obtained on application to the Editor to-day. And, finally, though a humorous article has gained the prize this month, it does not follow that it will do so every issue.

A meeting of the Old Girls' Association was held at the school on Saturday, 18th ultimo, to re-establish the Society on a firmer basis, but, after much discussion, the matter was allowed to stand over till October next.

A lady representative of the "Telegraph," introduced by Mrs. Ashton, wife of the Minister for Lands, visited the school a few days ago and gave us a fine review in her newspaper.

Much interest is being taken by a number of the classes in the experiments being carried out by the teachers in the development of Frogs from Tadpoles.

It may be of interest to note the whereabouts of our last year's juniors. We note the following appointments: Jas. Moore and Jack Burleigh to the Bank of Australasia, E. Johnson to London Bank, S. Thornton to Goldsbrough Mort's, Cox to Bunnerong Experimental farm.

31
152122
121
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121
Lorraine, letter, for
about, well, come
Lorraine, letter, for
about, well, come
Lorraine, letter, for
about, well, come

THE FORTIAN.

THE ORGAN OF FORT STREET MODEL PUBLIC SCHOOL.

FABER EST SUE QUI SUE FORTUNÆ

Vol. VIII. No. 10.

SYDNEY, OCTOBER 3, 1906.

PRICE, 1d

Our Picnic.

THE TEACHERS' RACE. (FROM A PUPILS' STANDPOINT)

The Principal's method of handicapping the race at once attracted my attention. Standing at the top, I could only see one man—the one on the limit. This gentleman slipped at the start, and then I could only see two—a little smaller than the first. One entrant, through talking, had been left at the post (Kindergarten) and as it seemed impossible to pass the man in the lead (without running round him) the race seemed over. Cheers from the crowd, but a military gentleman on the right, and an "English" man on the left were not to be denied. With a great effort the former breasted the tape 1st., and sprained his wrist. Mr. Kilgour's handicapping should be taken notice of by those interested.

Notes on the Juniors' Picnic.

Morning lovely—an ideal day for an outing. Got the train in time, in fact, heaps of time. Everybody smiling largely.

Reached National without mishap; rushed down the hill to the water.

Footballs in plenty; always feel inclined for a game of football.

Races nearly all won by good runners. Teachers' Race—two casualties—sorry.

Dinner-time. Some boys can cook

well. I mean their sisters can. Next time we have a picnic we must take care not to let the victuals get dry for tea—spoils them that way.

After dinner, rush down to the boatshed. Must have been about 20 boats out. Boat-race won by science.

Camera much in evidence; results show that Mr. McKinnon is an artist.

Waterfight a grand success—teachers in it, too; got quite wet. Must take a complete change next time.

Tea time! What time does the train go? Drea-y work up that hill.

Got train again. Sang, or something like it, all the way home.

Reached home. Bit tired. Had a lovely day.

Fort Street's a grand place.

Good-night.

6A Picnic.

On Saturday, Sept. 3rd, the boys of Class 6A journeyed to National Park by the 9.35 a.m. train.

The morning was spent in a keenly contested game of Rugby. After dinner boats were hired, and the boys rowed up to the head of the river. Here several photographs of the party were taken by Roy Harper.

After a very enjoyable day the class caught the 6 p.m. tram back to town.

Miss St. Smith has returned to school. We are glad to see her back again.

Tennis.

A meeting was held in the Senior class room on 13th September, 1906, to consider the advisability of forming a tennis club. Mr. Kilgour was in the chair. It was proposed by N. Connal, and seconded by E. Shearman, that a club be formed under the name of "Fort-street Tennis Club."

It was decided that the membership be confined to the teachers and upper seniors.

Shearman and Barnes were elected Treasurer and Secretary respectively.

It was agreed that the entrance fee be 1s for pupils, and 2s 6d for teachers, the Treasurer having the power to make a levy on members when necessary. Mr. Kilgour, on behalf of the School, presented the Club with a tennis net, and the club's appreciation was shown by applause of members.

The managing committee consists of office bearers and Mr. Lasker, Moses, and Griffiths.

Syllabus of L. and D. Society.

- | | |
|-------------|----------------------|
| October 5. | Impromptu speeches. |
| " 12. | Debate. |
| " 19. | Manuscript Journal |
| " 26. | Speech and Essay. |
| November 2. | Farewell to Seniors. |
| " 9. | Debate. |
| " 16. | Dicken's Day. |
| " 23. | Manuscript Journal. |
| " 30. | Debate. |
| December 7. | Mock Banquet. |

Inter-State Swimming Match

The rival school football teams (Fort street and Albert Park) arranged a series of swimming matches, and, as in football, our boys out-cassed their opponents.

L. Macqueen defeated the Victorian champion by one yard in the 100 yards race.

The squadron race was easily won by Fort street.

A. Barry won the 66 yards race, and also secured the prizes for diving for objects.

At the request of Captain Barclay, the Chairman of the Victorian Branch of the London Life Saving Society, the team gave an exhibition of life-saving drill on land and water and in diving.

The Boys of Fort-street School

The following poem occurred in one of our newspapers. With apologies to the author we borrow it for Fort-street:—

To-morrow's Melbourne express will convey a team from Fort-street School to Melbourne, where they will engage the champion school of that city.

Good luck, Fort-street, be yours and ours,

As Melbourne-wards you go!

Win if you can—don't play the man,

Nor tackle high nor low;

But, above all, just play the ball,

And whilst ye strive in play

The Mother State will hope and wait

Good news of boys away.

Good-bye, Fort-street; you're only boys,

Whose years of life are few,

Yet only lads, I know old dads

Who'd gladly change with you.

But buckle in, and fairly win

By ev'ry honest rule,

And quite a host will proudly toast—

"The boys of Fort-street School!"

HUGH STONE.

From the Cookery School we glean the information that Miss. R. Cox has been appointed Assi-tant Cookery Teacher at Redfern, West, Miss N. Chidzey to the same position at St. Leonards, and Misses Meares and Korff to the same positions at Fort Street.

Miss Stoney has received a fine specimen of a Carpet Snake from Mr. Mapledoram, the father of one of the girls, and some beautiful Shells and dried Sea Weed from several of the girls.

This Month's Literary Competition

ANSWERS TO CONTRIBUTORS.

The winners of this month's competition are R. Wheeler, M.I., and D. Lemm, 6 A. Girls to whom half-crown prizes have been awarded.

R. Wheeler.—A good article embodying an old myth; the introduction of skeleton adds greatly to its merit.

D. Lemm.—Very interesting, but rather long. The competition has been rather hurried. Avoid repetition, and be very careful of that boggy, the English sentence.

"The 21st Century."—An original idea, but indifferently treated.

"Chicken."—The Poacher is not without merit, but when contributors blossom into verse they should regard the laws of metre. The rhymes are also weak, "dish will not rhyme with relish." In addition, you sacrifice the sense to the sound. Is there any special reason for stating that "the people of the town" are "always acting the clown," beyond the necessity of providing a rhyme for "town."

"Geebung."—The idea is very fair, but spoilt by a labored and ineffectual attempt at sarcasm, which unfortunately pervades the whole article. Write naturally, and above all, do not "force" your humour. Your effort is more suitable for the manuscript journal.

V. O'Neill.—Shows promise. Try again.

J. Woods.—Shows promise. Try again.

A. Trundle.—Information good, but composition weak.

F. Haager.—Shows promise. Try again.

R. Benfield.—Shows promise. Try again.

"Go to the Ant thou Sluggard."—Your "original" story does not display sufficient originality.

Civil Service Competition.—Well written, but a perversion of historical facts does not constitute humor.

"The Pin and the Needle."—Not original.

"Something is Better than Nothing."—Not original. Besides, a corporal is never addressed as "Sir," and is the superior officer of the lance-corporal.

Public School Sports.

The 18th Annual Public School Sports' Meeting was held on Wednesday, 20th September. A number of our pupils took part and met with success in the various events. One of the features of the display and a fine innovation was the Cricket Drill organised by Mr. Ferguson. This kind of drill just originating at Fort Street has been adopted by a number of other schools, and will help to improve public school cricket. The following is a list of sports successes:—

- Plain Skipping.—B. Harris, 1, G. Baggot, 2.
- Age Championship, under 14.—W. Maclean, 2.
- Senior Walk.—R. Coogan, 1.
- Junior Walk.—C. Wallace, 2, E. Whitelaw, 3.
- Relay Race, under 14.—Fort Street, 1.
- Relay Race, under 15.—Fort Street, 2.
- Champion Seniors.—Fort Street, 3.
- Novelty Race.—L. Baillie, 1.
- Hurdle Race.—W. Maclean, 2.
- Drop Kick.—R. Adamson, 1, C. Kirke, 2.
- Field Catching.—R. Adamson, 2.
- Bowling at Wicket.—C. Whittle, 3.
- Dancing.—N. Houston, 2.
- Sailors' Hornpipe.—N. Houston, 1.
- Irish Jig.—N. Houston, 1.

We are very pleased to see that Neville Griffiths has been awarded an Honor Cap. Griffiths is a true sportsman in every tense of the word, and we congratulate him on the honor he has achieved.

A Tennis Club has been started in the Boys' Department, Arthur Barnes is the Secretary.

The Metre of Ballad Poetry.

Ballads are usually written in stanzas of four lines, either tetrameters or trimeters alternately or all tetrameters. The Iambic tetrameter has four stresses, or accents, and four weak syllables; a hypermetric weak syllable may be added. The trimeter has three stresses, and the line, therefore, consists of six syllables. Two of these four line stanzas are sometimes placed together, thus making one verse of eight lines. For example, the ballad of "King Lea" has an eight line stanza.

The rhyme scheme of these four line stanzas is a simple one. Usually there is but one rhyme, the second line rhyming with the fourth. Two rhymes may be used, however, the first line being made to rhyme with the third, and the second with the fourth. It will be noticed that in the ballad of Robin Hood's Death, two of these four line stanzas have been lengthened to six lines, though only one rhyme is used in the stanza; the sixth line is made to rhyme with the second and the fourth. This change in the length of the stanza impresses us with a sense of the deep feeling expressed in that portion of the ballad.

It must not be imagined that ballad poetry is confined to Iambic tetrameters and trimeters. Great variations occur in metre. For example the poem of "Jephthah's Daughter" affords us examples of lines which range from monometers to pentameters. This irregularity in metre is coupled with great abruptness of diction, and many grammatical peculiarities, and is, taken altogether, one of the most difficult ballads to study in the collection.

In glancing through the book of ballads set for study, it will be observed that the ballad of the Frolicsome Duke abandons Iambic measure for anapestic feet, of which there are four in each line; King Arthur's

Death relapses into Iambic tetrameter. The Spanish Lady's Love is an example of Trochaic metre; "Lord Randol" is anapestic in measure. The ballad of Heattleap Well is notable, as it is written in the so-called Heroic measure, or Iambic pentameter. The Defence of Lucknow is an example of Dactylic measure.

From the examples quoted above it will be seen that great variations occur in ballad metre. We must remember, in considering the metre of these poems, that many of them were composed by poets who had either a faulty ear, or very elementary ideas of prosody, so that perfection of versification cannot reasonably be expected. This point may be illustrated by comparing Longfellow's ballad of the "Lute of Edenhall," which is as smooth and polished as might be expected from such a master of metre as Longfellow, with the rough, but forcible rhythm of "Jephthah's Daughter," or "The Wandering Jew."

Again, irregularities may occur in the metre of any given poem. The poet seldom adheres to one particular metrical form throughout. Very often a trisyllabic foot is inserted in an Iambic line as

The Duke | to the riv | er side | he went, |

This is a very common variation of the Iambic metre. Then, again, frequently at the beginning of a line the stress often tells on the first instead of second syllable, thus making a Trochaic foot instead of the usual Iambics.

These variations avoid monotony, and allow the poet to suit his metre to his subject. In various compositions we find the slow-moving Iambics, while in lighter themes, Dactyl or Anapest will be used.

In scanning the lines of a poem, the student is recommended to read them naturally, and see where the accents fall. Put a line after each strong accent, and the feet of the verse will be apparent. They then can be marked off and the metre of the poem determined.—A.W.C.

THE FORTIAN

THE ORGAN OF FORT STREET MODEL PUBLIC SCHOOL

PAPER E T SUE QU'SQUE FORTIANÆ

VOL. VIII. No. 11.

SYDNEY, OCTOBER 29, 1906.

PRICE, 1d

Chess and Draughts Club.

Some little time back a Draughts Tournament was held in the Orderly Room in connection with the Chess and Draughts Club. There were fourteen entries for this tournament which would have lasted for about three weeks, but it was interrupted by one of the players in the final going to Melbourne with the footballers, and, therefore, it had to stand over until they came back. The final was played between Degotardi and Chambers, and was won by Degotardi, who holds the title of champion for the next three months. The final game was keenly contested; in the middle game Chambers ought to have won with his position, but the steady play of his opponent won the game. The prize was a fine set of draughts which was presented to the champion by Mr. Kilgour. Mr. Judge kindly refereed during the tournament. It has been proposed that the next tournament will be a chess tournament, but as the players differ widely in their ability, they will have to be severely handicapped. Any one wishing to join this club will please give in their name and subscription to the hon. secretary, S. Knight.

Senior Tennis Club.

The tennis club seems in a very flourishing condition, play taking place every afternoon. In a few weeks a competition will be commenced for the captaincy. In con-

junction with the tennis club is a handball club, though owing to want of sufficient practice the amount of damage done to windows is somewhat great. Barnes is the secretary and Moses the treasurer.

Cadets.

A half-day parade was held in the observatory on Thursday, Oct. 12. The work consisted of company drill, manual and firing exercises.

Several of Fort-street corps entered the cadet matches in connection with the National Rifle Association's meeting. Four lads were successful in gaining prizes.

Seven shots at 200yds.—Cadet Individual: Cadet Bottrell, 5s.; Cadet Perry, 5s.; Corporal Sandels, 5s. Seven shots at 300yds.—Cadet Bottrell, 5s.

In the Teams Match Fort-street scored 276 points, the winners totalled 317. This must be considered highly satisfactory, as the corps has, so far, only had three shootings on the range, and had to compete against 250 entries from city and country schools, as well as the Greater Public Schools in one match.

A Review of the city cadets will be held on King's Birthday.

There is a likelihood of establishing a miniature rifle club amongst Fort-street boys. The club would be open to all boys over a certain age, and the practice held in the basement of the Town Hall.

School Notes.

Mr. Frew has established a fine collection of oils and fats in the main room. They are a fine exhibit and a fair rival to the collection in the practising school, which, we may note, is now looking very much improved in its new coat of paint and adornment of pretty pictures.

We note with pleasure what a large number of prizes were won by our girls and boys in the competitions promoted by the Women's Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Instead of receiving back their school fees the week Free Education was introduced into public schools, a number of the classes devoted their fees, voluntarily, to the purchase of school material. One class, Mr. Selle's, purchased a clock, another, Mr. Crane's, a set of window blinds, and various other requisites by other classes.

The cricket competitions began last Friday. We hope to see Fort-street maintain its position as Premiers.

The new first assistant in the Girls Department in place of Miss Morgan is Miss Rothwell from Newcastle.

A new book of great interest to all Australians, "An Anthology of Australian Verse," has been added to the school library. The book is a collection of some hundred or more of the best poems written by Australians, together with a short introduction—far too short—on Australian poetry, and short—still very short—notes on the lives and works of the authors. Among the poems we note one called "Sunset," by G. C. Whitney, B.A., and in the notes at the end of the book we find the following:—Whitney, George Charles, born at Sydney, 1884, educated Fort-street Model Public School and Sydney University, graduated B.A. 1906. The book can be obtained from the librarian.

The farewell to the 1906 seniors will be held in the main room on Friday next. Old boys will be welcome.

The contributions of H. Mason and W. Hindmarsh to the manuscript journal of last month were good and humorous. Let them perfect their literary gifts.

Though we have a hat-band, there seems to be another want still remaining, and that is a cap with the school badge worked on it. We hope to see it introduced soon.

Leslie Mutton, of last year's junior class, has received the certificate of the Alliance Francaise, showing his ability to teach junior French. Mutton matriculated last junior.

A new departure has been made in the practicing school, one class of which has been provided with small desks and movable chairs instead of the ordinary long desks and forms.

By an Act of Parliament passed last month, Education is now free to each and every child in New South Wales under conditions in all other respects exactly the same as before.

The boys' school was fortunate enough to get two days holiday, the 17th and 18th of last month, the building being required for examination purposes.

The librarian desires to thank the following boys and girls for very kind donations of magazines:—J. Ferguson, H. Cotterill, Roberts, Wilson, Ventaman, Herman, Clipstan, R. Buss, W. Wilkins, McManus, Bowker and Beatrice Dearing. Still more magazines are needed and will be thankfully received. The librarian also notices with pleasure the great increase both in the number of books taken out, and also in the attendance in the reading room.

The Waratah.

BY NELLIE HALL.

There is a flower that gleams o'er dale
and wood

In many a forest of our noble land—
A flower whose crimson heart is
stained with blood

Of the warrior queen, who died by
Treachery's hand.

The earth that loved her could not
hold that gore;

It cast it forth in shape of crimson
flowers,

And now that flower doth gleam for
evermore

In sombre woods and glens and
shady bowers.

Oh mystic flower! Oh flower of
gleaming red!

Where elsewhere thy bright petals
can we see?

Where elsewhere dost thou raise thy
stately head?

Why, as I speak, a school-boy passes
me.

Upon his hat-band shines a ruby light.
'Tis not a flower that grew in woods
so cool:

It is Australia's emblem, glowing
bright:

It is the emblem of our grand old
school.

Oh, flower that glows upon our hat-
band now,

All crimson mingled with bright
silver streaks,

Be as the figure, "Victory," on the
prow

That spurred the Romans on from
peak to peak.

Till they were masters of the heaving
seas.

So, mystic flower, do thou spur us
the same

From deed to deed, till e'en the
southern breeze

Shall whisper proudly of our
glorious name.

*This relates to a legend told by
the aborigines to the effect that dur-
ing a war between two tribes the
queen of one went to treat about peace
with the chief of the other, and was

treacherously killed by him. At
every spot where her blood touched
the ground, crimson flowers sprang up.

School Camp.

The following boys under the charge
of Mr. C. W. Judge, represented Fort-
street at the rural camp school at
Duckenfield, Morpeth:—Harry Noble,
Brent Roberts, David Gazzard, Ander-
son Blaydes, Jessel Alexander, Robert
Good, Reginald Williams, Leslie
Bailey, Frederick Woodwell, Sydney
Hutton, Roy Kirshaw and Bruce
Ferguson. The first session was held
at Duckenfield from 10th to 17th
Sept., 1906, the object of the school
camp was to give the boys a
practical knowledge of farm life and
also to cultivate more strongly the
power of observation. The pro-
gramme was as follows:—

First Day.—Erection of tents.

Second Day.—Visited farms in
close proximity of camp. Learned
facts concerning growth of lucerne.
Took part in hay-pressing and un-
loading of hay. Visited Duckenfield
butter factory.

Third Day.—Drive in 'bus through
Morpeth, Hinton and Maitland to
grazing lands. Saw the renowned
Campbell's Hill saleyards.

Fourth Day.—Church in the morn-
ing and "at home" in the afternoon.

Fifth Day.—Launch at Williams
River to dairy farm. Saw Talsine
Milk Separator in use. "Camp
concert" at night.

Sixth Day.—"Striking" of tents.
Left for home. Arrived on Wednes-
day morning, 17th Oct.

Our boys are to be congratulated on
their orderly conduct. Throughout
the camp not one of the boys had to
be spoken to.

All the boys enjoyed the farm life,
and one at least has made arrange-
ments to go back and work on the
farm. Thus the real object of the
rural camp school, that of enticing
city boys to go "on the land" has
been accomplished.

A School Rifle Club.

A. J. COLLINS

In the report recently transmitted to Australia by the Home Authorities on the all-important subject of military organization, one point especially emphasized was the advisability of establishing affiliated rifle clubs throughout the State. In view of this, the question at once arises as to whether our Public Schools could do anything to assist the movement. An answer is as readily found.

It is a universally recognised fact, that the training received in youth exercises an unbounded influence over one's after career. If, then, the youth of Australia were to undergo a thorough course of instruction in the art of handling a rifle, the Empire would not lack stout and lusty hearts to defend her foreshores, when the foreign invader makes his appearance.

Hence, it is clearly evident that the schools of New South Wales should make some movement in the direction of supplementing this training; and, being the premier school of the State, Fort Street should take the initiative, by establishing, as soon as possible, an up-to-date and efficient rifle club. I am quite certain that such a step would meet with the hearty support of, not only the teachers, but also all the pupils attending the school. Moreover, by so doing, we should be accepting the well thought out advice of more than one eminent military man, and, at the same time, we should be setting an example, befitting in every degree our standing amongst other schools. It is extremely probable that this example would be followed throughout the State, and the best results would consequently be obtained.

Swimming.

The annual meeting of the Swimming Club was held on 5th October. The Principal occupied the chair. The election of officers for the ensuing season resulted as follows:—Patron, Hon. B. B. O'Connor, M.L.A., Minister for Public Instruction; President, Mr. A. J. Kilgour; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. Turner, Stayner, Humphries, Chipliu, Green, and staff of school; Hon. Treas., Mr. W. A. Selle; Hon. Sec. and Delegate, Mr. D. A. Pike. The season promises to be a busy one. The first swim took place on Tuesday afternoon, Oct. 16, the water being unseasonably cold.

In the ballot for the Championships of N.S.W. A.S.A. Fort-street was successful in securing the 880 yards. This is the State event in which our Champion, L. Macqueen, swam third last year, beating G. Dickman for that place. The carnival is registered for March 9, at Farmer's Domain baths. Every boy and girl in the school should interest themselves in this most useful exercise and pastime.

M I. The Ballista.

A model of a Ballista, and a very well-constructed one, has been made by Theo. Potts, and presented to the school. What is a Ballista? It is otherwise known as a "tormentum" (a war machine), used by the Romans for hurling pila (javelins) and other missiles, and for battering down siege works.

The senior class has unanimously decided to establish a class fund for the purpose of providing maps, reference books and other material not at present accessible for senior work. We congratulate the senior's on their go-ahead spirit. Barnes is the hon. sec., and Best the hon. treas.

We are very glad to hear that Mr. W. M. Easton, who has been seriously ill for some weeks, has recovered.



Cricket.

A meeting was held 2nd Oct. at which it was decided on the motion of R. Moses that the school should enter one team to first grade P.S.A.A.A. competition, and also that the school should carry on class competitions. Notwithstanding the above decision, the secretary finds that the classes are not responding as usual, and until they do so the competition cannot be commenced.

A practice match was played a week or two ago to select the members of the first eleven.

On Oct. 19th the first match of the competition was played at St. Luke's Park against Parramatta South. Scores:—Parramatta 66, and Fort-street eight wickets for 175. (Landon 56, Lorking, 45, King 27). For Fort-street, Main, 5 for 11; Whittle, 2 for 11.

We are pleased to see that Charles Landon, B. Adamson and C. Bosward are playing grade cricket this year. Landon, in particular, is shaping well. We hope to see them distinguish themselves during the season.

Main is the making of a good bowler, while Whittle is ably taking the place of Middleton as a left-hand leg-break bowler.

6A (91), beat M4 (33). The chief scorer was Baldwin (6A) 50 retired. J. Wright 14, L. Israel 14.

A Chinese Dinner.

By Dorothy Lemm.

A dinner was given by Mrs. Ah Ching, of Queen's Road, Hong Kong, China. It is three years now since my Father, Mother, and I received an invitation to this grand dinner, which I shall describe.

We rode from home in Sedan Chairs and Jim Rickshaws drawn by Chinese coolies through narrow streets where multitudes of Chinese passed to and fro.

We arrived at the house at 8 p.m.; the servants ushered us into the hall to the strains of very weird music.

The hostess was announced, and instead of greeting us with a kiss or a shake of the hands she smelt our hair in turn.

We then took our places at dinner, being seated round a small table, prettily decorated with little baskets of preserved fruits and gay flowers (red flowers for good luck)

We commenced with bowls of hot tea on silver trays, then came desert and the heavy courses which comprised little birds of different kinds. Soup is placed in the centre of the table in a large bowl and everyone is provided with a smaller bowl to help themselves.

We were very much amused trying to use our chop sticks, and with many hard tries we succeeded, causing great amusement among the Chinese who had the pleasure of watching us.

Anyhow, we enjoyed the dinner which lasted six hours.

I remember it was daylight when we arrived home, feeling pleased that we had had the honor of being guests at such a unique dinner.

Our Monthly Literary Competition.

The prize-winner of this month's competition is Miss Nellie Hall of the Probationary Student Class. Miss Hall was born at Shell Harbor, and is at present residing at Pymont. She has been attending the school about months, and is sixteen years of age. She has been awarded 5s.

A second prize of 2s. 6d. has been awarded to R. Burton of M2.

The quality of the articles, we are pleased to note, is improving, but remember *all articles must be original.*

Answers to Contributors.

N. Hall.—Your verses scan fairly well, but why do you call the waratah a "mystic flower." Then, again, your metaphors are somewhat mixed. You speak of the figure "Victory" on the prow that spurred the Roman on from peak to peak till they were masters of the heaving seas. Moreover, when you leave your apostrophe to the flower, to conjure up the vision of a passing schoolboy you descend from the sublime to the ridiculous. Nevertheless, we expect to see you some day in the forefront of Australian writers.

"Me."—Crisp conversation, but too full of technicalities. The incident is too slight. Always have "a story to tell." Still your effort is very creditable, and we may publish it later on.

Wearry Willie.—An interesting article spoilt by loose composition. It is decidedly incorrect to say "the appearance of we three." Still your attempt is readable, and we hope to hear from you again.

Spero Meliora.—A good story, but your hero was no more heroic than her companion.

Veni Vidi Vici.—A better production than your last, but the subject is too hackneyed. You have told us only what is known and appreciated already by every Fort-street boy and girl.

Engage pretty looking, etc.—Ruined by incorrect spelling, e.g. "I felt tied and went to bed," "dozan,"

"burglers," "nonsense," and others too numerous to mention.

R. Lourick.—Endeavor to write short, crisp sentences, and do not, after naming articles, add such phrases as "I suppose you would call it."

De die in diem.—Descriptions too unreal. Have you ever seen valleys filled with ferns? Do not use unnecessary phrases. For instance you say "when we did reach the top, which we did eventually."

O. Mulholland.—Verses too irregular.

Never Venture Never Win.—Too colloquial in parts. Avoid the use of such expressions as "do not come up to."

A. Edwards.—Too dull

Em-too-ite.—Adventures of M2 Inkwells and Senior Room Spiders are stale at present.

E. Berry.—Not sufficiently original.

S. S. Bøye Johnsen.—Too improbable. When miners find gold, they do not make the news public till their own for one is assured.

F. Mailler.—Well written, but the idea has been worked out before in home magazines.

H. Weston.—A good attempt, but write more from your own experiences.

M. Mansley.—Too much repetition. Subject too hackneyed.

G. Godfrey.—Sentiment good but rhythm weak.

G. Packer.—Before trying your hand at verse you should study the laws of rhythm.

J. Devitt.—Thanks for your good wishes.

Brevity is the Soul of Wit.—Rhythm faulty.

Last week the school had a visit from four Inspectors. Messrs. Cooper and Parkinson visited the Boys' Department, and Messrs. Willis and McLelland the Girls' Department.

Miss Bourke has returned from her trip to the Old Country, and looks in splendid health. She returns to duty 1st November.

Literary and Debating Society.

The new quarter opened with the beginning of October. It is pleasing to note that a much greater interest is being taken in this society than formally. The average attendance during the last few meetings has been fifty. The meeting of Oct. 5 was devoted to impromptu speeches. The predominant question was "What do you think of the Badge." Various opinions were given, mostly favorable to the badge. On the 12th, however, much more serious business was on the boards. A ministerial debate on the superiority of the English and American constitutions resulted in a crisis. The ministry, led by Mr. Knox, was defeated by a majority of four. The opposition upheld the American cause. The speakers were: Ministry, Messrs. Knox, Collins, Barnes, Hindmarsh and Morgan. Opposition, Messrs. R. S. Reid, H. Reid, Best and Telfer. Mr. Knox tendered the resignations of himself and colleagues and requested that Mr. Reid might be sent for to form a ministry. On Friday, 19th, Mr. Collins, the newly elected editor of the manuscript journal, brought out the October edition. The editorial was written in a brilliant style which greatly pleased all present. The sub-editorial on Nelson was also very appropriate. An illustrated paper was also sent in by a gentleman named Myson. This paper was a model of the Sydney "Bulletin." Peanutt's article as usual created great mirth. Another innovation was a poem? written by a real live poet? The bard sadly needs encouragement. The article was keenly appreciated.—Ed.

A challenge debate with the Our Boys' Debating Society will take place on 7th November next. Further subjects or debates have not yet been decided upon.

The Aquarium.

Some weeks ago Mr. Hardman commenced the construction of a small school aquarium, but being unable to complete it, one of the boys, Mann, a

3rd year Manual Training student, took it in hand and it now stands in the main room, a constant source of pleasure for curious eyes and minds. The total cost of structure was borne by the boys of 4C., who also presented Mann with a school hat-band as a reward for his patience and trouble. Mr. Hardman's boys accompanied him on a trip to Parsley Bay where some specimens of crabs, prawns and small fish were procure. Contributions of all kinds of living specimens of marine life will be gladly received by Mr. Hardman at any time.

Women's Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

RESULTS OF ESSAY COMPETITION.
The results of the Annual Essay Competitions promoted by the above Society are to hand. Fort Street has gained a large number of prizes, the winners of which we heartily congratulate. Their names are:—

GIRLS:

- 6TH CLASS.—Maggie Leslie, special for three essays.
- Olive Bardsley, special for three essays.
- Eddie Rea (Intelligence.) Special, First.
- Vera Plowman (for two second class essays), First.
- Minnie Phillips (Intelligence), First.
- Eileen Godson (Intelligence), First.
- Muriel Robertson (Intelligence), First.
- Alice Wiles (Intelligence), First.
- Gladys Griffiths (Intelligence), Second.
- Nellie Parkinson (for second and third class essays), Second.
- Daisy Lambert, Second.
- Elsie Blunt, third.
- Gladys Anderson, third.

BOYS:

- 7TH CLASS.—Harvest Account:
 - D. Dalmazzo, special, first.
 - J. Greathead, first.
 - Alex. Pye, first.
 - G. Lorking, second.
 - R. Patten, second.
- THE HORSE.**
- D. Gazzard, first.

Robin Hood.

Most of our information respecting this renowned personage is legendary and traditional. Series of ballads dating from the publication of Piers the Plowman's Crede, in 1355, in which Robin Hood is personally mentioned, have given us the stories of this jolly outlaw. Two dates are assigned to him by tradition, the reigns of Edward II., and that of Richard I. We have documentary evidence to show that Edward II., in 1223, made a progress through the western and midland counties, in the course of which he came to Nottingham. There Robin is reported in one of the ballads as going to meet the King by invitation, and as accepting service with His Majesty. Records are also found of various sums of money paid to Robin Hood as wages.

The probability is that Robin Hood lived and acted as the ballads represent him, only a few years before the era of Piers Plowman, and passed from outlawry to the service of Edward II. His life in the forest was evidently more a kind of guerilla warfare than the practice of simple robbery. He is represented as living in Sherwood or Barnsdale Forests, surrounded by his followers, the most important of whom were Little John, Friar Tuck, Midge the Miller's son, Scathlet, and his sweetheart and wife, Maid Marion, where he waged incessant war against his enemy, the Sheriff of Nottingham; the personal courage of this celebrated outlaw, his skill in archery, his humanity, and his leveling principle of taking from the rich and giving to the poor, have, in all ages, rendered him the favorite of the common people, to whom we owe the ballads which celebrate his exploits. Indeed, Robin Hood ballads form a very large portion of the folk-songs of the peasantry of the northern and midland counties of England.

Mention should also be made of the games which, in the early part of the 16th century, were celebrated at rustic merry marriages, under the

name of the Robin Hood Games, at which the deeds of outlaw with Little John, Friar Tuck etc., and his sylvan sweetheart were celebrated.

In the ballads and games alike, Robin is exhibited as a valiant man, who has quarrelled with fortune, virtuous, brave and generous, skilful in the use of the quarter-staff and the bow, courteous and kindly to women, the friend of the weak and the enemy of the oppressor. Many are the merry pranks reported of this jovial outlaw, and many are the tricks he plays at the expense of the officers of justice. He was the idol of the people, some of whom have ever wished to have us believe the King bestowed on him the dignity of an earl.

Another series of ballads dates the existence of this outlaw in the reigns of Richard I. and of John. This report has been followed by Scott in "Ivanhoe," where under the name of "Locksley," he makes the outlaw come face to face with the Prince, and show off his remarkable skill with the quarter-staff and bow.

The balance of evidence then goes to show that a person of this name did exist in the reign of Edward II., and that round his memory have been woven many tales, many of them probably false. The touching ballad of Robin Hood's death, which describes his murder by the Prioress of Kisklea Abbey, is a typical example of the ballads which have been written concerning this national hero.—A.C.

A number of boys and girls of our school sat for the probationary student examination held last month. We hope to hear of big successes.

The honor boards for 1905 are now in the hands of the signwriter, and may be expected shortly.

Judging by the alacrity with which boys and some girls bought the new hat-band, it has won its way into popularity.

THE FORTIAN

THE ORGAN OF FORT STREET MODEL PUBLIC SCHOOL.

"FABER EST SUE QUI SQUE FORTUNÆ."

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"The Fortian."

With this issue "The Fortian" will complete its 8th Christmas of existence. It was founded on the 7th August, 1899, but in a much different form, consisting of six small pages, price $\frac{1}{2}$ d. We have still with us several copies of that first issue. Now the paper consists of eight pages three times the size, and if the circulation can be raised to 1000 per issue instead of 900 then the paper will be enlarged to ten pages. It is absolutely free of debt, the machine which cost such a large sum of money having been completely paid for, and is now the property of the school. We desire to thank all boys and girls for their support during the year, both by their purchasing the paper and also by their contributions to its pages, also to the Debating Society for its criticism and advice. We hope, however, on the advent of volume 9 to receive many more interesting articles from our contributors, and those of increased merit and interest. We wish all our friends and contributors a real jolly holiday.

The School Fund.

It has always been the custom in Fort-street to hold a concert or a bazaar each year in order to provide the money necessary for prizes, library books and science material,

which is very costly. This year, however, in order to avoid worry and interference with work it has been decided to make a direct appeal for the necessary funds to parents and patrons of the school from whom we hope to receive a liberal response.

Literary and Debating Society.

During the month which has passed the Debating Society has witnessed a public debate in which Fort-street contested against the Y.M.C.A. Juniors. The subject was moved by our representatives, Harold Mason, Harry Brown and Geo. Best, in the form "That England is relatively declining." The representatives of the 'Juniors' were S. Redshaw, P. Hindmarsh and J. Bailley. The Y.M.C.A. Juniors won by 240 to 236 points. Nevertheless the judge complimented our side on their excellent speeches. A great number of Fort-street boys were present. Such an event as this speaks well for our Society. We are developing public speakers.

The Society has also carried out another successful prize speech competition, H. Mason coming first. The judges on this occasion were Messrs. Cooper, Parkinson, Kilgour, Lasker, and Mackaness. Other splendid speeches were delivered by Messrs. Langker, R. E. Reid, and H. Brown. On Friday, November 16th, the Reid

ministry introduced their first motion "That N.S.W. should advertise her resources more."

The speakers for the ministry were Messrs. Reid (Lands and Agriculture), Blanchard (Attorney-General), Telfer, and Booth.

The speakers on the opposition were Messrs. Knox, Stanton, and Brown. Mr. Best, vice-president, occupied the chair.

On division the motion was lost by 43-21. Mr. Reid then tendered his resignation.

Concours de Recitation.

Le Comité de l'Alliance Française will hold their annual "Concours de Recitation" in St. James' Hall, Philip Street, on the 5th and 6th instant. The candidates as usual will be divided into three sections, or categories, and a fair number of candidates from the school intend to present themselves. Shortly after this, the Comité will hold their annual examination for the "Grand Prix." Candidates will be required to write dictation, a letter, or story in French, to read a selected piece, and to converse generally about current topics and French literature. One candidate, Frank Telfer, will represent the school this year in this section.

The Senior Farewell.

The Senior Examination took place from 13th to 24th November. Ten boys are representing our school, among whom are:—Reg. Moses and Norman Connal, two very prominent members of the Debating Society, and Neville Griffiths, one of the most popular boys in the school. According to time-honored custom these boys were afforded an official send-off on Friday, 9th November, in the Main Room. All the Upper School, both boys and girls, were present. Amongst other visitors were Victor Maxwell, our last year's captain, W. Wall, L.

Mote, and Arthur Sutton, all ex-Seniors.

A very interesting programme was carried out. Song, "The River of Years," Miss Elsie Blount; recitation, "Vot You Please," Miss Carmen Cartledge; song, "Sunshine and Rain," Master Jack Jones; recitation, "The Level Crossing," Miss Mabel Snashall; song, "The Sweetest Flower That Blows," Miss B. Jones; song, "Awake," Miss Muriel Bong; recitation, "The Bumper Degree," Master Reg. Reid; song, "The Minstrel Boy," Master Jack Jones. Reg. Reid was heartily encored, and rendered a side-splitting piece, "A Soldier's Story." At the conclusion of the musical part of the programme Mr. Kilgour commented on the work done by the departing Seniors, expressing the regret that such lads should have to sever their connection with us, but wishing them, in the name of the whole school every success in their forthcoming examination. Mr. Lasker also made a few comments on the work of the year.

After cheers for the departing Seniors the meeting was concluded.

In the Teachers' Room, however another very pleasing ceremony was carried out, "The Farewell Banquet." The toasts honored were those to the King, "The Departing Seniors," and "The ex-Seniors." After a very pleasant little entertainment the Seniors departed for their last game of handball before the examination.

According to the new syllabus scholars must be made comfortable. During the last week the old desks have been taken out of the Senior Room, tables and chairs having been placed in their stead. The change is a very agreeable one, as the boys have much more room to work. Perhaps if these tables were placed all over the school they would be very much appreciated.

Australian Poetry.

BY REX.

But few we fear could name off-hand our great Australian poets, and still fewer detail their works. Though such a state of affairs is no doubt reprehensible, yet, in a way, it is explicable. There is every reason why Australia should have produced long before to-day a thoroughly national school of poetry. It is contended that poetry cannot flourish without the existence of a moneyed class. Now this country has been extremely fortunate as regards wealth. Even to-day a frequent figure in English fiction is the long last person who has gone to Australia in disgrace has there made his pile, and who returns to marry the heroine in the final chapter. Such references as these indicate how prolific the land is in wealth; we ourselves know that for upwards of a century we have had in our society a numerous class which has derived its wealth solely from our national resources. Then again climatic conditions are all in our favour. In this respect Australia differs but little from the countries fringing the Mediterranean where poetry is a national feature. Our scenery is beautiful and impressive: its dominant note is not 'weird melancholy,' but rather weird majesty. Its weirdness and impressiveness should not oppress, but rather inspire higher and sublime feelings, should tell of a beneficent being, not a tyrant. In the innumerable instances in which we find the poet is oppressed, he has without doubt failed in conception.

Our mental calibre is not inferior to that of other races. The Australian youth is as fully equipped mentally as the youth of

any other land. Yet other lands produce poets, and we do not. It may be objected that Australia is young, and that poetry is not a spontaneous growth. Yet the earliest literary efforts of any race are in verse; and again Australia is not absolutely a new nation just come into being, but rather a portion of England in another portion of the globe. England has her Swinburnes and her Kiplings; where are ours? Australia has no glorious past, no stirring history, says one; but we ask is poetry

"A history only of departed things?"

and had England such a great and glorious past when "Beowulf" was composed. No. Not a single reason can be offered for Australia's lack of a national school of poetry. Before summarising the features of Australian poetry as a whole it would be well, perhaps, to particularise. We first turn to our greatest native Australian poet, Kendal. Now Kendal must stand or fall by his merits as a lyrist. "Death in the Bush" shews how he fails in narrative. This poem, though good in places, is uneven, and indicates the author's incapability of sustained effort. His poetry is also devoid of human interest, being purely descriptive. "The Hut by the Black Swamp" tells of a hut where a murder was once perpetrated. Everything that is or is not in the hut is detailed, but why and when the murder was committed we are not told. Kendal's greatest fault is a tendency to imitate previous poets, a tendency which sometimes approaches very closely to plagiarism. "Charles Harpur," "Campaspe," and "The Last of His Tribe" might well have been written by Woodsworth, Swinburne, and Poe respectively.

But this poet is nevertheless a master in descriptive power, and he has a perfect command over the technicalities of poetry. A dominant note in his work is an extreme melancholy wrongly inspired by the Australian bush.

The next poet whom we will consider, M'Crae, does for the Australian native what Longfellow did for the American. His poems, though they lack sustained effort, yet display great pathos and power of description. Another of M'Rae's efforts is "The Man in The Iron Mask," and herein he shews a failing shared by most of his fellow-bards, a desire to go outside their own land for subjects.

We must then speak of Gordon, "Who sang the first great songs these lands can claim."

Gordon's poetry is chiefly influenced by Swinburne and Browning. His descriptions are vivid and realistic, and when treating of his favourite theme, the horse, he can be seldom equalled by any poet in any land. He excels also in pathos, as witness his pathetic and beautiful poem "The Sick Stock-rider." In the same vein is "The Three Friends," written in the style of Browning. Gordon also wrote "Ashtoroth," a lyric drama, which is a mixture of mediocrity and utter worthlessness.

When we have mentioned Brunton Stephens and Farrel we have completed the list of Australian poets.

Our poets then are generally masters of metre and rhythm; their descriptive powers are more than ordinary, and their command over the language is extensive. But these qualities are external merely, and to be true poets they should also have an intimate knowledge of human nature. Here in most cases they fail, though

touches of true feeling are by no means infrequent. Their poetry is also deficient in plot and incident, and never do they deal with the problems of contemporary life. Incapability of sustained effort is another cardinal defect, but their gravest fault is a tendency to imitate prior and contemporary poets. The outlook is, however, hopeful, and when our poets "stretch forth their hands and grasp the wealth which lies around them . . . when they have the courage to be original and discard conventionality . . . then, and then only, shall we possess a true Australian poetry."

This Month's Literary Competition.

There has been a decided falling-off this month in the number of contributed articles, and the quality of those submitted. We have, therefore, decided to award no prize this month.

Herminius Decius: Not true to life. Most people commence with the scissors. Avoid colloquial expressions, such as "on the quiet," "sneaks a cup." Have the Seniors adopted the phonetic spelling? We notice you spell "easier" "easer."

A Septic: Not sufficiently humorous.

R. Turner: Well written, but you should write more from your own experiences.

P. Parkinson: Do not commence with such a phrase as "which I am now about to describe." Your article, though well written, savours too much of a class composition.

E. G. Leask: Do not repeat yourself.

May: Please write on one side of the paper only. You have a good style, but your article is not sufficiently interesting.

School Notes.

We note with pleasure that Harold Mason received the prize in the Debating Society for a prize speech. We are glad to see also that Mason devoted his prize money to the purchase of books valuable in his senior work.

Mrs. C. C. Godden, the wife of the late Rev. C. C. Godden, the missionary recently murdered in the New Hebrides, was an old pupil of Fort-street. She paid the school a farewell visit before her departure from Sydney. We extend her our sincerest sympathy.

Another Fort-street girl, Miss May Featherston, has been achieving distinction. She has been awarded the degree of Licentiate of the London College of Music, the first one obtained in Australia.

Mr. Pike reports that the Senior Boys of the School are not responding to the invitation to join the swimming club this year. We hope they will do so, and keep the number of members up to those of last year.

The quarterly examination of the School has just been held. We hope to see a great improvement in the work of the boys, and an increased skill in answering questions in an intellectual way. We are sorry we are not able to publish the best results, which were not available when we went to press.

The prizes won by our boys and girls in the essay competition promoted by the Women's Society for the prevention of cruelty to animals have come to hand.

The school holidays will commence on the 14th. of December, and will last for five weeks.

C3 defeated M3 at Birchgrove on the 3rd inst. by 22 runs. C3 95 (Donnison 38, Cunningham 28, Gunther 10). M3 73 (Blades 31 n.o., Fluke 12). Parker and Donnison for the former, and Farnsworth and Bottrell for the latter secured the wickets. The above class also defeated CA by 15 runs. C3 62 (Cunningham 21). 6A (Wright 18). Gunther and Knox for C3, and Taylor for CA bowled best.

The Senior Boys report very satisfactory papers in their examination. We hope good things from them.

We are sorry to lose the services of one of our library boys, Douglas Taylor, who has gone to Eden to begin work on a farm there.

At the Demonstration of the Royal Life Saving Society held on Saturday last at Garden Island, a team from Fort Street, consisting of Messrs. Parker, Selle, A. Barry, and Telfer gave a display. This is what the "Telegraph" says of them:—"They went through the various movements with a precision and completeness that evoked frequent outbursts of applause."

The certificates won by boys during the past year for Life-Saving proficiency were presented on Monday afternoon last.

CRICKET.

Petersham defeated Fort Street by the narrow margin of 7 runs.

Fort Street: 1st Innings 130, Landon 36, Woolcot 34, Welch 13 not out. 2nd Innings 6 for 75 (innings closed), Landon 25, Welch 21.

Petersham 137 and 2 for 29.

Landon 4 wickets and Whittle 4 wickets.

Speech Day.

The annual Speech Day and presentation of prizes of the Model Public School will be held in the Main Room on Friday, 14th December, at 2 o'clock. Mr. Kilgour and his staff extend a very hearty invitation to all parents and friends to be present on that day to hear the report of the School for the year, and to witness the presentation of prizes.

The Senior Picnic.

On Wednesday, November 28th the Senior Class held their Annual Picnic. This year it took the form of a drag picnic to Cronulla Beach. Punctually at 9 o'clock on Wednesday morning, amidst a flourish of trumpets, the drag left the school gates. Amongst the distinguished persons were the members of the late Senior Class, Griffiths, Moses, Walkom, Fod Burrows, Shearman, and Smith. Mr. Christmas and Mr. Page also accompanied the boys.

After a long three-hour drive the party reached Cronulla, and one of the most important functions of the day was proceeded with, namely the luncheon. At this the old seniors particularly distinguished themselves.

After lunch a cricket match was held between sides picked by Landon and Walkom. Owing to the bad state of the wicket the scores were very low. Mr Christmas was perhaps the best all-round man, taking three wickets for 6 runs.

Following this was the annual bath which all enjoyed.

After a hearty tea, the horses were re-harnessed and the homeward journey commenced.

Visit to Sunlight Soap Works.

On the 21st. November our class 4C, accompanied by Mr. Hardman, paid a visit to the Sunlight Soap Works at Balmain. The first thing we saw was the unloading of the copra from vessels at the wharves. This copra is carried by an endless belt to the crushing machines, which press out the oil from which the soap is made, and leaves the solid part to be made into that useful substance known as oil cake.

The oil and other ingredients are boiled by steam in immense cisterns, then run into coolers, and cut in pieces by means of wire frames. Having been cut into bars it is passed along on carriers, stamped, put into packets, and packed into boxes.

These boxes interested us very much, for they are all made on the premises by machinery. We saw them cut out, put together, glued and nailed.

Toilet soap is made from ordinary Sunlight soap, first chopped up, coloured, and perfumed, then pressed into fancy cakes, and packed by girls, the various sorts being known as "Starlight," "Zulu," and "Lifebuoy."

We found, too, that Monkey Soap was made there. The only difference between it and ordinary soap is that in the former hard quartz-like stones are ground to powder and mixed with the common soap.

At the Sunlight Soap Company there is no waste. The strictest economy is practised everywhere. All the refuse is taken from the boiling down, and pressed through half-a-dozen processes, yielding in the end pure glycerine.

We thoroughly enjoyed our trip, and returned to Sydney about 4 p.m.

Pernicious Literature.

E. A. K.

Walking through the playground one day last week I was surprised to see a boy reading a "Penny Dreadful." On looking through it I found some of the most execrable language it has yet been my lot to peruse. For instance, I found in one article such educative (?) matter as—

"It's orl very well ter tork of 'let snaps mother but it strikes me as 'got' 'ud be the best word ter use."

Now just fancy any boy with even the average amount of intelligence allowing himself to read such utter nonsense. In the first place it has no educative value. The English—if we are permitted to so slander our mother tongue—is about as vile as the subject, and the young lad with an impressive mind is likely to become corrupted, if not in morals at least in grammar and spelling.

No doubt some will say that this is an isolated instance, but here is another taken from quite another page—

"Bars don't grow on ev'ry bush. tell yer what it is, lads, bar meat is gittin' mighty skeerce all 'long trappers what is allers cavortin' around."

Where is the English man, woman, or child who has received an education, such as one can receive at Fort-street School, who can comprehend the meaning of the above extract?

And yet we find boys foolish enough to expend a small amount of their pocket money each week to get literature like this. It is a wonder that the authors and masters of our language do not rise from the grave and haunt such foolish youths. Fort-street, among the many other schools of our State, boasts a splendid library, wherein can be obtained not only all the works of Dickens, Thackeray and Stevenson, but other wholesome books such as those of Captain Marryatt, Geo. Henty, and E. Ellis. Our Librarian complains that the library is not being patronised quite as he would wish. No wonder

when such pernicious literature, as that from which the above extracts are taken, finds its way into our school.

Teachers alone cannot suppress this stuff. It is the duty of parents to inquire what their children read, and to forbid the reading of anything which they regard as unwholesome. In conclusion let me impress upon those who, at present, are so foolish as to read these books that there is a twofold loss, first intellectually, because the language must tend to lower the style of thought in the reader. You cannot touch pitch without dirtying your hands. And secondly the money you spend on this rubbish is simply wasted. Use your influence, then, boys, to lessen the sale of such literature, and try something more healthy in tone, and more grammatical in composition.

Milton's Sonnet on his Blindness

At the request of a contributor we print the famous sonnet of John Milton, the blind poet.

When I consider how my light is spent
Ere half my days in this dark world and
wide,

And that one talent which is death to
hide

Lodged with me useless, though my soul
more bent

To serve therewith my maker, and present
My true account lest He returning
chide,

"Doth God exact day-labour, light de-
nied?"

I fondly ask. But Patience, to prevent
That murmur soon replies "God doth not
need

Either man's work or his own gifts.
Who best

Bear his mild yoke, they serve him best.
His state

So kingly; thousands at his bidding
speed,

And post o'er land and ocean without rest;
They also serve who only stand and
wait."

The English author for the year 1908, "Enoch Arden," may now be procured from the Sydney booksellers.

Cricket.

Our first eleven has now won their first two matches, both being 3 points wins, and last Friday entered their third match. The first match was against Parramatta South, and the following are the scores:—

Fort-street 140 (Landon 56, Lorking 45, King 27), and Parramatta South 66 and 41.

The second match took place on November 2 and 9. Scores are as follows:—

Fort-street 100 and 4 for 104, Bourke-street 23 and 51. For the school Holden 25 and 24 not out, Landon 40 and 14, Lorking 20 not out, whilst Main and Woolcott obtained the wickets.

On November 16 commenced our third match against Petersham. As the scores will show this match promises to have an exciting finish next Friday. Scores are:—Fort-street 130 (Landon 36, Woolcott 34, Welsh 13); Petersham 1 wicket for 84, thus leaving them 47 runs to be obtained so as to win.

CLASS MATCHES.—6A met and defeated M4 a second time last Tuesday. 6A obtained 101 runs (Baldwin 73, Wilkins 6); M4 obtained 75 runs (Dinsay 28).

Let us now mention a few facts concerning our promising young colts.

Holden made a good start, making 24 and 25 not out v. Surry Hill South. Let him persevere, and he will soon come under the eyes of the selectors of the combined team.

Woolcott is about the most promising lad in the school this season. He is only 14 years of age, but he has evidently inherited the cricketing strain belonging to the family. Against Bourke-street he obtained 13 wickets for 35, whilst he made 32 runs against Petersham last Friday, when runs were badly needed.

Baldwin had played well in class matches, having made 70 and 50 runs in two consecutive matches, so he was promoted to the first eleven. It is to

be hoped he will continue his class form.

We notice with great pleasure that our Senior Boys are doing well in grade cricket. Landon succeeded in securing a century on the 17th ultimo, scoring 102 for Paddington against Randwick. His scores so far are v. Waverley 33 and 14, v. Redfern 33 and 8, v. Petersham 57 and 13, v. Randwick 32 and 102, giving an average of 36. His average in school cricket is also 36. We hope to see him in first grade ere long.

Adamson and Bosward are also doing well with their clubs.

Library Notes.

We desire to thank E. Cuthbert and N. Chidgey for gifts of magazines to the School Library. Other gifts of a like nature will be thankfully received.

During last month 40 new books have been added to the Library, all of them by popular authors.

The Librarian wishes to insist upon the following points:—

- (1.) A book may be kept out a fortnight for one penny. For each week overdue the fine will be one penny also.
- (2.) Books must be kept in good order.
- (3.) It has come to his knowledge that some few borrowers are in the habit of keeping books out longer than the prescribed period, and then in a dishonest way leaving them on the desk without paying the fine or having their ticket destroyed by the assistants. All borrowers must bear in mind that no book will be considered returned unless handed to the assistants, and unless the ticket is destroyed.
- (4.) The Library will be closed except for the return of books from the 3rd of December to allow of re-arrangement. All books must be returned as soon as possible after that date. The reading room will not be closed.