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— THE —

Erasmian,

The Magazine of

The High School, Dublin.



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The Erasmusian.

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THE ERASMIAN.

DUBLIN, MAY, 1900.

Editorial.

The Committee of the "Erasmian" offer a prize of 5s. for the best description of a holiday adventure. This competition is open to all boys at present in the school. All articles must be addressed to the editor, and should reach him before the last day of August. The Committee reserve the right of awarding the prize if less than five candidates compete.

School News.

When our last number was published we had no idea of the great event that has now come and gone—the Queen's visit to Dublin. The school and school-house, for the first time in our memory, were gaily decorated with flags and shields and bannerets, and bravely held their own amid all the adornments of Dublin. The Queen on one occasion drove past the school, but unfortunately without previous notice, and not until about five o'clock, long after the school

was closed. This was an unfortunate oversight, for had the opportunity been given we should have made the welkin ring with acclamations.

As the visit covered the Easter holidays, we all had many opportunities of seeing the Queen and visiting the Channel Fleet, and generally letting off our exuberant spirits. We had entertained hopes of extra holidays, but, alas! our Easter vacation was not extended beyond the usual meagre limit of six days.

The reign of buttons is now nearly over, but while it lasted some of us had to wear extra large jackets to contain all our decorations.

The approach of June warns us of the coming day, or rather week, of judgment alias the Intermediate. No one has suggested that in honour of the Queen's visit we should all be given a pass, and allowed to toss up for the exhibitions; but would any memorial live longer in grateful hearts, and would not

this be a *monumentum aere perennius*? The only argument against it that we can think of is that the examiners would not know what to do during the summer holidays.

We are sure that the school will do its best in the examinations, and are looking forward to some very excellent results, to mark what is probably the last of the present type of Intermediate examinations.

A Bill was introduced into the House of Commons on May 15th to give the Commissioners of Intermediate Education power to develop the system along the lines of the recommendations of the recent Commission. If—as it probably will—it becomes law, we may expect to see inspection established, and many other important and beneficial educational reforms set on foot.

Our readers will be glad to hear that Rev. W. B. Morris and his family reached Rio Janeiro safely on March 12th, and proceeded thence by rail to S. Paolo.

Mr. T. J. Magee has been awarded the Wall Biblical Scholarship for 1900.

The sum of £2 8s. 8d. was collected in the school for the Princess Christian Penny Fund, for the benefit of soldiers and sailors wounded in the present war.

We are not surprised at the strictures of our Cricket correspondent on the number of boys pretending to join the Cricket Club who do not pay their subscriptions. We have heard similar complaints in reference to the Football Club. No condemnation can be too severe for the boys referred to. The worst player who pays his subscription ought to have a place on the team in preference to the player who does not. We shall be willing if our correspondent wishes to publish in our next issue the names of boys who continue to offend.

We regret to record the resignation by W. W. Powell of the post of secretary to the "Erasmian." His place is taken by H. V. Stanley, who is prepared to devote any amount of energy to the work.

G. A. Joynt has also resigned his place on the Committee. He has been one of our mainstays from the first, and will continue to help in every possible way, but cannot find time any longer to attend the Committee meetings. His last act is one of great generosity. In addition to a number of photographs for sale, he has presented us with an old stamp album of considerable value, and we are prepared to dispose of it either as a whole or in detail for the benefit of the Erasmian Funds.

The sports will take place in Sept., and we hope a large number of boys will enter, and commence training early for the events.

Notes on Old Boys.

In the list of old boys gone to the front the following names were omitted in our last issue from the Dublin Yeomanry Contingent:—J. F. Ogilvy, LL.B., solr., and his brother William. Good luck to them and God speed.

In addition to Sam Egerton, R. D. Barbor has also been nominated by the authorities of Trinity College for a commission in the army.

We must congratulate the new Cathedral City of Belfast on its first Dean, one of the oldest of our old boys. The Rev. Chas. F. D'Arcy, B.D., was formerly Rector of Ballymena, and was first mathematical scholar in Trinity in 1882, besides gaining a gold medal for metaphysics.

The Rev. W. J. Clarke, D.D., the new Rector of Zion Church, Rathgar, is not exactly an old boy, but was a master at the High School from April, 1873, to July, 1878, when he left to enter Holy Orders.

Dr. Robert Flynn, one of our rising Dublin medical men, for all his matter

o fact professional, though genial, appearance, could a weird tale unfold, "an he would." We have designs on him for an early number, if he will prove amenable and spare the time. For which of us can match his record of two nights and a day and a half in an open boat, with one oar, no food, and worse *no water*, and that in summer time. Two delirious companions had to be sat upon, and a look out kept as they drifted from Dalkey to the Isle of Man!

We hope to publish in our next number T. P. Stuart's charming poem, "Ad Reginam," one of the finest written on the Queen's visit. The following criticism, by Professor Dowden, will give some idea of its merits:—"I read it with admiration. The conception of bringing Scotland and Ireland into comparison, the fine roll of musical Scottish names, the unexaggerated expression of loyalty, touched with tenderness to the womanhood behind the Queenhood, the discriminating praise of Ireland, and the happy reference to the Spring with its thrush ('brave optimist' lived in my recollection from the first reading) make up a poem in which, I think, no line is lacking in meaning or in melody."

J. Riversdale Colthurst, whose sonnet on Lord Roberts appears on another page, gained, when at Cambridge, the nowadays very unusual distinction of honours in both the Mathematical and

Classical Triposes. He is now taking work at Charterhouse on which Baden Powell has just shed such glory.

J. C. Stodart obtained last term a Second Class in Classical Honour Moderations at Oxford.

E. V. Longworth was Chairman of the Graduates' Committee which made arrangements for the truly magnificent welcome which the College gave the Queen on her entry into Dublin. We are compelled to hold over to our next issue the concluding portion of his auditorial address on the "Present State of Ireland."

C. J. Stuart has been a consistent scorer all the season for the Cliftonville Hockey Club, playing centre forward, where his turn of speed, acquired when school champion in '97, comes in useful.

G. A. Dunlop has lately drawn some very clever cartoons on municipal affairs for the "Irish Figaro."

Pennell Brownrigg has joined a Red Cross Ambulance Corps of 300 tents attached to the Natal Field Force. He sleeps in two blankets and a waterproof on the ground, with *boots* for a pillow; goes to bed at seven to escape frost, and rises at five, and is in excellent health.

Obituary.

Surgeon Major Wm. Alexander Carte, aged 43, late of the Grenadier Guards, and eldest son of the late Dr. Carte, J.P., of the Royal Hospital, Kilmainham, died in April at Lagos, in West Africa. He was one of the earliest pupils of the High School, and was greatly loved and admired for his amiable disposition, handsome appearance, and rich bass voice.

Ralph George Maunsell left school in June, 1881. He was the youngest son of the late secretary of the Wicklow Railway, and was killed in February by a machinery accident at the Barrier Zinc Mine in Australia. He was only 35.

College Notes.

Never has there been a term so full of excitement as the Hilary one; so full of opportunity for the display of that loyalty and patriotism which is the inheritance alike of the ruddy Freshman, the pale and careworn Sophister recovering from Little-go and thinking of "Degree," and the dignified graduate who wears not tassels on his gown. The relief of Ladysmith stirred up Divinity and Medicine to emulate one another, and resulted in a march through Dublin, a fresh assault on the civic flag repulsed after a brief success, and the

sacrifice of several martyrs to the cause of loyalty, and the stern severity of one Mr. Wall. Within, the decorations testified to the joy of the inhabitants, especially in the "Bay," where from the end of one flagstaff there dangled in the breeze a figure which bore the plain legend "Kruger." The residents in the "Bay," however, should form a conjoint decoration committee. At night extensive illuminations added to the toils of the Junior Dean, who has a strange objection to all attempts to eke out the scanty light of the College lamp-posts by other artificial devices.

The visit of her Majesty the Queen roused many a false hope in the breasts of Senior Freshmen of a safe passage through the Scylla and Charybdis of Little-go. Neither was old Trinity honoured with a royal visit, but had to be content with the honour of first place at the presentation of addresses. From the stand erected in front of the College the students and their friends saw the Queen's entry, and accorded her a magnificent reception. But the Little-go—

The coming elections are beginning to form a topic of great interest in the Historical. We heartily wish success to F. A. Longworth (B.A., Univ. Stud., O.H.S.), in his candidature for Auditorship. R. Hodgins and G. O'Grady are also H. S. candidates for office. The

latter has lately shown commendable energy in getting the door-lock of the Historical rooms mended. The present was doubtless an opportune time for him to manifest such a spirit of devotion.

At a debate on the advisability of paying members of Parliament, your representative heard speeches by F. A. Longworth, R. R. Smylie, and G. O'Grady. In private business the Rev. J. C. Forrester, O.H.S., called attention to the serious danger threatening the society by the action which it is feared the Board may take in connection with the Graduates' Memorial. New member, W. Stuart Ogden.

The attendances at the "Phil." have fallen off somewhat of late, excepting two nights when elections were on, and the whips had been hard at work. In one of these 113 members voted; in the other over 80. R. Hodgins read a most interesting paper on the "Irish Literary Movement," and C. E. Riley one on "Conscription." The President has been claimed by the calls of patriotism, and is with his regiment in Portsmouth, while other members have also obeyed the martial call.

The High School has done brilliantly in the recent Classical Honour Examinations. Amongst the Senior Freshmen Gordon, Fitzpatrick, and Stronge monopolised the first honours, while

White, M'Farlane, and M'Donnell obtained first, fourth, and sixth first honours of the Junior Freshmen year. Before the next number of the Erasmian appears the Sizarship and Scholarship Examinations will have been held, and it is expected with good reason that the High School will be well to the fore.

The football season closed with the return of the cup to T.C.D., after hard battling with Lansdowne, Old Wesley, and Wanderers. The casualties in the first engagement were heavy, and included Sealy, who was unable to play again, while the Wanderers' position was only taken after a hotly contested struggle. Cricket has once more begun with its opportunities and excuses for whole afternoon "loafings" on the part of spectators. Sealy has turned out again for the First XI. We are also expecting good things from MacDonnell, while E. V. Longworth is making a belated appearance in the Third XI. The Boat Club, prominent in which are Fitzpatrick and Carter, held its first "At Home" in weather suggestive of Polar Regions. The Tennis Club played off its annual tournament, while both the Swimming Club and the Bicycle Club are entering upon the summer with great vigour.

Query : No 22 Trinity College is always with us, but where was, or is, No. 21 ?

The wilderness has now become "a solitary place" indeed, as the Board have at great expense cut down the trees. Before long, doubtless, it will resound with the shouts of enthusiastic Rugby devotees, and afford space for the triumphs of those who do more than stand and wait.

When are we to have our new Professor of Ancient History? The difficulty appears to be that the most obvious man to appoint, Mr. Bury, is already Regius Professor of Greek, and of course the emoluments connected with Professorships must be distributed fairly among the Fellows.

T. C. D. has reason to congratulate itself on the appointment of a distinguished graduate, Mr. Edward Carson, as English Solicitor-General. Mr. Carson has been knighted by the Queen, and as Sir Edward, has been re-elected unopposed as Senior Representative of the University in Parliament.

OUR OXFORD LETTER.

TRINITY COLLEGE,

Oxon, 30th April, 1899.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERASMIAN."

DEAR SIR,

As you ask for all "copy" to reach you by the end of April, you must pardon this letter being brief.

Full Term began to-day, the Easter Vacation being somewhat longer than usual owing to the lateness of Easter. Although the "Summer Term," as it is rather mistakenly called, is ushered in with typical April weather, there are those who think there will be a chance of some fine days in Eights Week this year—contrary to the precedents of the past two Mays when Jupiter Pluvius was very much in evidence, and Oxford's fair visitors huddled together on the various barges, trying to look as though they enjoyed the races and striving to conceal their annoyance at being unable to "show off" their new dress. It is said that we English "take our pleasures sadly," and certainly such a scene as I have endeavoured to depict affords an endless source of wonder and amusement to the foreigner and would seem, in his eyes, to bear this saying out.

The "Honour Mods" Lists are published, and there is the usual amount of disappointment among the Candidates; the Examiners failed to recognise Stodart's true worth and awarded him a "Second" instead of a "First;" however, too much success is apt to be monotonous, and a "First in Greats" is an honour more highly prized.

As there is no other old H. S. boy in residence of whom modesty permits me to speak I will now close this letter.

ARTHUR W. R. CHEALES.

Cricket.

Last season twelve boys joined the Cricket Club, representing an income of £1 10s. Out of this number it was naturally very hard to get two teams, and it is very unfair for fellows to play for a club to which they do not belong.

This season the membership roll has slightly increased, but the club can never be flourishing till the boys pay their subscriptions.

One thing which greatly hinders improvement in the play is the method of practice at present adopted. If each boy were allowed ten minutes at the nets it would be of great benefit to all, while nobody ever thinks of practising fielding.

Up to the present six matches have been played, of which two were won, three lost, and one drawn.

H. S. C. C. v. MARLBOROUGH.

This match was played on May 5th, and resulted in a win for Marlborough, by thirty-eight runs. For the High School, Thrift (10) and Scaife (7) batted best, while Scaife took eight wickets for twenty-one runs. One of the High School balls has been missing since this match.

H. S. C. C. v. DROGHEDA GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Played at Belgrave Square on May 7th, when the High School won by twenty-three runs. For the High

School, Thrift made 20 and Scaife made 13, while the latter took 5 wickets for 16, and Thrift got 3 for 12.

H. S. C. C. v. ST. ANDREW'S COLLEGE.

Played on May 9th, and ended in a draw. The High School made 61, to which Scaife contributed 22, and Thrift 8, while St. Andrew's made 25 for 1 wicket.

H. S. C. C. v. CHURCHILL.

This match was played at Belgrave Square on May 12th, when Churchill won by 18 runs. For the High School, Bonner (13 not out), Farran (12), and M'Connell (9), with the bat, and Scaife (6 wickets for 14) with the ball, were best.

H. S. C. C. v. TRINITY 3RD.

Played in the College Park on May 15th, and resulted, after an exciting finish, in a win for Trinity by 1 wicket.

Going in first the High School made 93, to which Scaife contributed 23, Mr. Clarke 19 (including 4 fours), and Thrift 17. Trinity then went in, and when twenty minutes were left for play they were still 52 runs behind, with only four wickets to fall. However, some hard hitting by Spong (21 not out) and Wilmot (17 not out) succeeded in winning the match by 1 wicket just on call of time. For the High School V. Drennan took 6 wickets for 37 runs.

H. S. C. C. v. ST. MARY'S COLLEGE.

Played on May 16th, and resulted in

a win for the High School by 11 runs. In the first innings, Farran made 23 and Scaife 10, and Scaife and Thrift took 5 wickets each. In the second innings, Thrift (23 not out), Farran (22 not out), and M'Connell (10), played best.

The 2nd XI. met Wesley College 2nd XI. on May 11th, and defeated them by 10 runs, chiefly owing to excellent bowling by Barbor (6 wickets for 3 runs), and F. Stevenson (4 for 10).

Football.

THE HIGH SCHOOL v. WESLEY.

This fixture came off at Donnybrook on Wednesday, February 21st, in very bad weather. The ground was in an awful state, and in some places was under water, and consequently Wesley had a great advantage over us, their weight telling against us in the scrums. However, the High School played a hard game, and contrary to general expectation were beaten by only one try (Hipwell) to nil, which was obtained by a forward rush. With a little luck we would have won, and we certainly showed a great improvement on the form which we displayed in the former match.

THE HIGH SCHOOL v. CORRIG.

On Friday, March 2nd, we met Corrig in Belgrave Square for the only time during the season. We expected that our opponents would be able to beat

us easily; but, however, we played with desperation, and were eventually beaten by the narrow margin of 1 goal and 1 try to 2 tries (Farran and Thrift). Farran's try was brilliantly obtained, and with a little more weight he would be a splendid three-quarter. The Corrig team was a big one, but didn't play Rugby, and when their forwards got the ball they didn't know what to do with it.

LEINSTER SCHOOLS' CUP TIES

First Round—THE HIGH SCHOOL

v. CORRIG SCHOOL.

This match was played at Lansdowne Road on Thursday, March 8th. Corrig were much heavier forward and their weight told in the scrums, but Thrift soon got off near touch and passed to Bayly, who ran and transferred to Farran, and he scored near the posts after a very fine run through the Corrig backs. The kick at goal failed, Thrift going back too far. After the drop-out Corrig pressed and invaded High School ground, and a lot of loose forward play occurred, until after a free Thrift and Johnson got away, but Carson missed his pass and a good opening was lost. Corrig again pressed, but the High School tackling was sound. After half time Corrig soon began to press. Bayly was tackled on the line and penalised for lying on the ball, and Wright brought off a very neat goal. Play was even for a while, until Corrig

came away with a forward rush and attacked again, but three frees in succession brought them back to their own line, but Corrig pressed again and a scrum on the line resulted in a try, which Wright converted. There being no further score Corrig won by 2 goals (1 penalty) to 1 try.

To those who had seen the team playing during the season the match was a distinct surprise, and it is a pity that the team had not trained more, as they might then have pulled the match through.

Cycling Notes

The Annual General Meeting of the Bicycle Club was held on March 19th, Mr. W. E. Paterson in the chair. The very favourable reports of the Secretary and the Treasurer being passed, the following elections for the season took place:—Captain, H. V. Stanley; Vice-Captain, J. Purser; Hon. Treasurer and Secretary, Mr. W. E. Paterson; Committee, the above as *ex-officio* members, Mr. Lyster, J. Gibson and Mr. Clarke.

The opening run took place on the 10th inst., when the following turned out:—Mr. W. E. Paterson, G. A. Joynt, J. Purser, J. C. Duncan, L. M. Bayly, C. F. Jones, R. Day and F. Killingley. Although the day was very wild, we chose the mountain road. A short halt was made at Lough Bray and a photo-

graph was taken, then a puncture brought us up sharp, as Duncan had a safety-pin right through his tyre. After this the ride to Glendalough was uneventful, but mention ought to be made of Glenmacnass, which was looking its best, the waterfall being in full swing and the fields carpeted with spring flowers. At Glendalough we tried Keenan's Temperance Hotel for a meal and it was a success. After high tea we visited the ruins and photographed ourselves, afterwards going on to the Upper Lake, and then a start was made for home, through Roundwood and down the Long Hill to Kilmacanogue.

On Ascension Thursday the club started for Wicklow at 11 o'clock; the attendance was bad, owing to the inclemency of the weather the day before, H. Stanley, J. Purser, Mr. Purser and H. Killingley composing the whole turn out. The run was most enjoyable, and both the roads and the weather were in our favour. After tea at Enniskerry the club returned home, arriving at Milltown about 9 o'clock.

NOTE—Provisions in Wicklow are at Mafeking prices.

"Westward Ho! to Jamaica."

O the palms grew high in Avès and fruits that
shone like gold,
And the colibris and parrots they are gorgeous to
behold;
And the negro maids to Avès from bondage fast did
flee,
To welcome gallant sailors a-sweeping in from
sea.

"The pleasant Isle of Avès"—KINGSLEY

Well I am here at last, but before I say anything about this place, I may as well begin at the beginning, as they say at home.

The voyage out from Liverpool was a varied one. Very good weather, and very bad. The night we started, our third engineer got his arm torn off from the shoulder in the machinery, and eight hours afterwards we sent him ashore by a pilot at Waterford. We then fell in with some very heavy weather; ship rolling 42°, and the officers on the bridge were often knocked down by big seas. On Sunday night the machinery broke down, and we were buffeted forty miles out of our course. About a week after that the machinery again went wrong (our steering gear), and we were lolling about on this occasion for twelve hours, seeing nothing but flying fish. We often went without seeing a sail for three days.

When we got into the tropics the voyage became something magnificent. We went to St. Thomas' Island first, and then to Colon. The former is one of the prettiest places you could imagine. The town, which is very small, is built on the foot of three hills; there is a natural bay or harbour of clear blue water; and the whole is surrounded by an amphitheatre of beautiful green hills, covered with the cocoa nut palm, and other tropical trees. The town is in the very centre of the bay. The houses are all wood,

and painted in brilliant red, white, yellow and other colours. The streets have sandy floors, and some of them are shaded by tall palms, and large shrubs. There were plenty of niggers walking about in the shade, so that it all reminded me of a grand transformation scene in a pantomime, but of course on a more immense scale. I went ashore, being rowed by a black, and dispatched a letter at the post office, and walked about for a couple of hours.

It is a Danish possession, as the readers of the *Erasmian* are doubtless aware, but there are plenty of Dutchmen there.

The sanitation is very bad, and as I have a strong nose I got many smells, and was glad to get on board again. We left some cargo, took on board some black passengers, and set off across the Caribbean Sea for Colon. This place is built on a lagoon so no wonder it is reeking with fever. I did not go ashore, and those who did got covered with mud, and not one of them had a good word for the place it was so dirty and so full of swamps—especially near the Panama Canal. We who live in temperate zones have romantic ideas about the lagoons of the South Seas only thinking of them with the poetic idea—

“Where the sea-egg flames on the coral and the long-backed breakers croon
Their endless ocean legends to the lazy, locked lagoon,”

not remembering that a lagoon is not the open sea and when receiving the drainage of a town is more likely to breed microbes than the “divine afflatus.” Two days more and we were in Jamaica, after a voyage of twenty-four days.

Jamaica is a very beautiful island. The town of Kingston however is both dirty and dusty, displaying a few good shops and a great many mere shanties. I am staying up country six miles, and when you get away from the city it is truly charming—the variety of the tropical trees, plants, and flowers, and the splendid green foliage so thick on all sides and of such variety. The beautiful birds about too—the humming bird, lapwing, &c., and the inevitable John Crow, an enormous crow with a red head exactly like a vulture. If you kill or injure one of these you are fined £5, for they are the scavengers of Jamaica. I am very comfortable where I am and have a large concrete bath (swimming) in grounds. I sleep in a bed with a tall roof and a large veil arrangement all round to keep out the mosquitos. The insects here are the very deuce. At night the noise is “moidering.” Owls screeching, frogs croaking, crickets making a fearful row (like a barber's shop when a number of scissors are at work), and numbers of other insects all making a different noise. There are lizards (all colours) running about all the rooms. The first one I saw in my room I

thought he was a snake, but as I approached him he ran some distance and I saw what he was; but thinking at the time that they bit like snakes I promptly dispatched him. Afterwards I was told they were harmless and very useful in killing insects. They now run all about my feet and I never hinder them. You are allowed to shoot your neighbour's hogs, goats and dogs if they trespass; and I have some rare fun with my revolver accordingly. The hogs are as black as tar. The other day I shot a chap from a long distance—I hit him in the stomach—and he charged across the grounds into the shrubbery where I had another bang at him and shot him through the head. The negro who owned him has sworn vengeance. And now a word about the blacks. I don't think I will ever be able to stand these blacks or the great annoyance of the insects. (After five years your blood gets poor and the latter don't trouble you so much. I don't relish this idea at all and I don't think I will be found here in five years' time). The negroes are as lazy as could be made; they are so lazy that to see them at work (?) you would wonder how people ever gave them liberty, for nothing but the lash would stir them up. They are most unreliable, and walk off from their work when they please, and you can't help yourself. They are fearful liars and thieves; and worst of all they have a smell off them the very same as

the smell in a monkey-house in the Zoo. Jamaica, for those who could put up with it, is certainly a glorious place to live in—a little paradise—but I don't think I will ever get to like it. It is a hundred years behind the times in a great many respects. If I have luck in business and get making some money I may put up with it for three or five years but I certainly won't stay here all my life. British people have to go home every seven or ten years to get rubbed up, for you get into a peculiar state of mind.

The lawyers are all making money; for the blacks are mad about law, and have always plenty of money for their solicitors, when they would have none for anyone else. There is also a tremendous credit system here which gives rise to a great deal of litigation. The law, of course, differs in many respects from that which prevails at home and in some instances it is in a rotten state. There seems to be no control whatever by the Police over the buggy drivers, there is no fixed scale of fares, and so the blacks are always fighting with their passengers. They will call a policeman and charge you in a moment for the sake of getting into the Police Courts to harangue. They are "terrors" for the Court. They always take each other's part, whether police or native soldiers.

On several days during the sea voyage the heat was often as high as 90° and sitting perfectly still on deck

the perspiration would roll down my face and chest like a rainfall. It is Winter here now. The temperature is about 83° in the day time, the sun shining all day long. In Kingston city in the Summer the glass goes away above 100°. The sanitation however has been greatly improved.

The hospitality of the people of Jamaica—the Europeans and society folk that is—is a very pleasant thing to experience. It has always been so. "Tom Cringle" noted it in his "Log" years ago, and if ever I write a book on Jamaica this trait in the residents' character will have a chapter to itself. I have more tennis, dinner, and other engagements than I can keep; although I am only a few weeks landed, a forlorn stranger. Wonder whether it can be my fascinating Irish smile in my case. (Smile in mirror—large crack appears—Court decides at once in favour of Jamaican kind-heartedness *alone*, with costs—of mirror). Joking apart this warm welcome makes you feel "good" as the Yankees say.

There is an American Tournament going on now in private tennis circles. It is played at different country houses on each day alternately, one day at the Judge's, next the Doctor's, then at Captain —'s, and so on. They have made me Umpire-in-Chief. The Doctor won't let me handle a racquet yet, but I hope soon to be showing them how to take a side line at 45°. At tennis afternoons the refreshments

are laid on tables under the trees and consist of tea, *iced* coffee, delicious lemonade, made from limes plucked from the trees around; iced water and sugar, cocoa nut ice (A.I.), etc., etc., while under a mango tree a little retired will be found tubs of ice and "pale sherry" (?) and soda.

We have no twilight in these parts, when the sun sets darkness spreads at once and the nights are very beautiful, the stars are so bright and so clearly seen. I wish I had a good telescope here, I would enjoy myself.

On such occasions I often recall my old Dublin days, from the time when I used to "cog" home sums, and play football, and harden my hands on the iron rings in the playground gym. so that I might feel the less the sting of the "Head's" unrelenting cane; to those later, and more strenuous days when I entered the law, and began the game of life—happy old days, never to return.

A house here with its grounds is, I must tell you, called a "pen." There is usually to be found bounding one side or other of these pens a deep, wide gully which contains some of the most beautiful undergrowth, and as thick and as wild as some of those forests described in books of travel and adventure, by W. H. Kingston, Capt. Marryat, G. A. Henty and others. For instance in the "Gorilla Hunters" there are forests so dense that you might easily mistake the monster arm of a gorilla

for the bough of a tree and grab hold of it, whereupon Mr. Gorilla, with his other arm would probably promptly undeceive you by grabbing *you* by your hair remarking—"What! don't you know me? Don't you know a relation when you see him, Massa Darwin?"

I am now busy reading up the history of this island, full as it is with the doings of the many pirates and buccaneers whose refuge it was in the bad old days, when the celebrated "Morgan, the Buccaneer," swept the Southern Seas. It has also been the scene of many fights with the natives in the various insurrections, the last of which took place in 1864. Within the last three years there has been a great increase in trade, especially in exporting fruit to Great Britain. A fleet of special steamers is being built for a new company lately floated with large capital and well supported, and prosperity is the order of the day. And last, but by no means least, we are a British Colony which means security for capital and life, law and order, freedom of speech, action, and trade (not to speak of religion) not to be obtained under any other flag.

"Never was isle so little, never was sea so lone,
But over the scud and the palm-trees an English
flag was flown."

H. B. HUNT.

KINGSTON,

15th Dec., 1899.

Lord Roberts at Jacobsdaal.

The following sonnet appeared in the *Evening Mail* on February 22nd.

O well-tried warrior, whose keen Irish
brain,
Backed up by England's might, still
bids us hope;
Thy ripened genius hath attained full
scope
Now in these warlike times of stress and
strain,
When we beheld upon the southern plain,
Time after time, impetuous attack
Hurled at the frowning heights and
beaten back,

'Mid roar of guns and heaps of heroes
slain—

Thy son alas! the foremost—even so
Toy castles built upon the sand

Resist the first few wavelets rash,

But when rolls in the steady ocean's
flow,

They are not; lo! our foes—a scattered
band—

Now melt away, crushed by thy fiery
dash.

J. RIVERSDALE COLTHURST.

Johannesburg—The Flight and after.

S.S. GUELPH, OFF EAST LONDON,

Tuesday, October 13th, '99.

When I wrote on Sunday week I was
hopeful of getting a permit to stay on
in Johannesburg, but on Monday Advo-

cate Bryers met me in the street and warned me to clear: he had just seen one of the War Commissioners, to whom the granting of permits was given over, and said I couldn't get one on any grounds; however, knowing the government intended to work some of the mines, I went up to Ferreira mine to see if they'd take me on. I know most of the heads of departments there, but they had got notice to quit an hour before; the government hoisted their flag and took possession of the place: my last resource was to get to the waterworks staff, and O'R——, in whose house I was living, said he'd try: he's secretary of the waterworks and has got a permit for himself, but he couldn't manage one for me, and the only thing that remained was to clear out as soon as I could. I shut the office and store, tidied up my books, and with what luggage I could pack in a bag and cabin trunk, went across to Pretoria on Thursday morning. I left my big trunk and a lot of books, &c., &c., behind—trains too full to bother about luggage—saw P—— in Pretoria and slept at his house. Next morning I took train for Lorenzo Marquez, or Delagoa Bay. I got a good seat in carriage and had lots of food. At Lorenzo we went to a hotel—£1 per day for a rug on the floor, there were 32 of us lying on the floor of one room as thick as we could; some people slept out in the open. Next day, Sunday, I loafed round the town, which is an evil-smelling place; got all shaky

with a touch of local fever, but filled myself up with quinine and it left. Monday I got on board this boat and slept there that night, Tuesday at sea, Wednesday night anchored off Durban and entered port early morning; are now just off East London, where I hope to post this. I am going on to Port Elizabeth, meaning to stay with the S——'s at Port Alfred for a month or so. I was doubting whether I'd not go to Durban and try and do some business, but living there is too expensive at present, and I'm feeling stale and fagged with the worry of the last four or five months, so I'll live quietly and cheaply until I see what is going to happen.

At Durban we saw a troopship landing some 800 men, who were entrained at once and sent up country. The last few days in Johannesburg were exciting. The Boers commandeered the gold on the mail train to the value of some £450,000, seized the Ferreira and other mines and gave notice for all British subjects to leave. Going this way we had to rough it a bit, but no hardships like those who went by train. I haven't had a bed since I left Johannesburg eight days ago—a sofa at P——'s and a wooden seat in the train down, and a rug on the floor of the hotel at Lorenzo gradually seasoned me, and I enjoyed capital sleep for three nights on the deck of the steamer with a top coat under me and a rug over me. You see we had some 1000 passengers and accommodation for only 550, some were

lucky enough to get mattresses, but I didn't, until last night, when it was raining hard, so I sneaked another fellow's mattress, brought it down to the saloon, spread it along the table and had a gorgeous sleep. I thought after three nights on the naked deck, it was somebody else's turn to go without a luxurious couch.

PHŒNIX HOTEL, PORT ELIZABETH,
Saturday, October 25th, '99.

You see I've left Port Alfred. I had some enquiries, *re* business, and I thought I was long enough idling there; it's an ideal place for a holiday and has the advantage of being cheap and quiet and not fashionable. The S——'s are coming along to Durban too, for Mr. S—— wants to get some work too if he can, though I scarcely expect either of us will do much, but it's better to try. I was growing quite fat, put on 8lbs. at P.A. in spite of, or perhaps on account of taking lots of exercise and sea bathing.

We left there yesterday morning at seven and arrived here nine at night, trains are all late on account of military movements up country. We are quite in the dark as to what is happening, our papers give us accounts of great victories pretty regularly, but no one believes the press, and we are growing a little sceptical about even the official news. General Joubert has been killed

again, and President Steyn has been suicided by the Journals, also several glorious fights on Orange River and in Natal, but the Boers are getting nearer Maritzburg in spite of the English victories, so they are probably inventions.

We are leaving tomorrow by the Briton for Durban, and for fear we'd be too late to write, I'm dropping this note now. . . I've met a number of people I know here to-day. You see Johannesburg is scattered all over the coast towns and you can't go anywhere without knocking up against acquaintances, they are all doing nothing but walking up and down the streets trying to pass the time; no one now expects to be back in Johannesburg for Christmas, Easter is more likely. Durban and Cape Town are specially full, and I expect difficulty in getting a room, the S——'s are going to share a house with some other friends of theirs. For most of these refugees the gilt is fairly off the gingerbread now. Some 1000 men are living on charity in Port Elizabeth and tens of thousands in Cape Town and Durban. The Transvaal dumped down all the jailbirds in Delagoa Bay, with the result that they now are swarming over the town, and the police arrest some 300 every day; a very little of Portuguese prison life at Lorenzo Marques will settle those sort. Even in a good hotel you get fever, and the Jail is, to say the least, managed on primitive lines.

I was sorry to leave Port Alfred, but

it was time to begin work again, and I must try and sell some of the Durban stock; it's not suitable to Natal, but that can't be helped. I won't like Durban, which is fearfully hot and muggy, but I think I can get sea bathing there, and I've brought my bicycle from Jburg, as I thought it might be useful. It was no use or pleasure at Port Alfred, as the roads are merely tracks in the sand once you leave the old roads made during the harbour works time.

ARTHUR CONAN.

[P. S. — Mr. Conan unfortunately caught the fever he dreaded at Durban, and has since been moved up country to Pietermaritzburg where he is still lying very ill.—Editor].

Trinity College.

RESULTS OF EXAMINATIONS.

TRINITY, 1900.

HONOURS.

SENIOR SOPHISTERS.

Ethics, First Class.—H. W. Stephenson (1).

JUNIOR SOPHISTERS.

Modern History, Second Class.—C. Shortt (1).

SENIOR FRESHMEN.

Mathematics, First Class.—G. A. Joynt (5).

Classics, First Class.—F. V. Gordon (1); J. A. O. Fitzpatrick (2); C. C. Stronge (3).

Logics, Second Class.—E. E. Forrester (7).

JUNIOR FRESHMEN.

Classics, First Class.—N. B. White (1); A. W. M'Farlane (4); M. S. M'Donnell (6).

CATECHETICAL PREMIUMS.

JUNIOR SOPHISTERS.

C. Shortt, K. M. M'Leod.

JUNIOR FRESHMAN.

A. W. M'Farlane (Certificate).

Correspondence.

A CYCLIST'S GRIEVANCE.

SIR,

I beg, through the medium of your columns, to draw the attention of the Governors to the extreme inconvenience caused to the Cyclists by the want of stands in the A Room which is used for the storage of the cycles.

The want of these stands causes the cyclists great annoyance, and the machines themselves are seriously damaged from being piled up against each other.

I feel assured, when their attention is called to such an important matter, that the Governors will immediately respond to this humble request with their accustomed generosity.

H. V. STANLEY.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERASMIAN."

DEAR SIR,

It is the rule, as far as I know, that boys who get under thirty per cent.

in their lessons get what are called "cards" that is, the mark is entered in Red Ink, and he gets this "card" on Friday and has to bring it to School to detention on Saturday.

Now, why should a boy who gets one out of three, *i.e.*, 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % get a card? why should not a three as it is earned, be entered to his name, but not in Red but in Black. He would thus, though not getting a card, get his fair percentage at the end of the Month.

Hoping this will be considered by the proper authorities.

I remain,

Yours, etc.,

"33 $\frac{1}{3}$ %."

Notices.

We beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of "The Touchstone" (Campbell College), "Wesley College Quarterly," "The Droghedean," "The Columban."

The annual subscription to the "Erasmian" is 1s.; post free, 1s. 3d. The subscriptions for the second volume are now due. Subscriptions and donations, which are urgently needed, should be forwarded at once to the Hon. Treasurer, W. H. W. Carson, at the School.

W. Beckett, Esq., Jun., has kindly sent us a donation of 10s. for the "Erasmian."

The Committee have at their disposal a stamp album, kindly presented by G. A. Joynt, containing a large number of rare and valuable stamps. For particulars apply to the Hon. Secretary, H. V. Stanley, at the school.

The Secretary has also for sale photographs of the following:—Rotten Row, T.C.D., before and after destruction; King William III., College Green; St. Kevin's Kitchen, Glendalough; Glenmacnass Waterfall; Vale of Clara; Kilcarra Gatelodge, Woodenbridge; Poulaphuca Waterfall; City Gates, Leeson Street Bridge (Front and Side Views); Decorations in Dame Street; Decorations in Westmoreland Street; Snow Scene, Killakee; Annamoe Br., L. Dan; L. Dan; Glendoo; Channel Fleet, Kingstown; the Royal Yacht; High School Handball Teams, 1899, 1900; High School Cup Teams, 1898, 1899, 1900; High School First XI., 1899; High School Magazine Committee, 1899, 1900; and H. J. Knox.

These can be had for 2d., 3d., and 4d. each, according to the mount.

The next number of the "Erasmian" will be published in September. All contributions should be forwarded to the Editor before the end of August.