

The ERASMIAN

NEW SERIES
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1930

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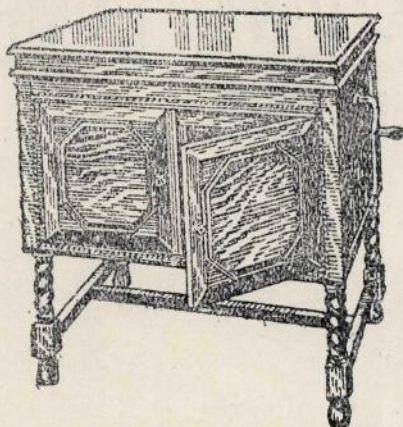
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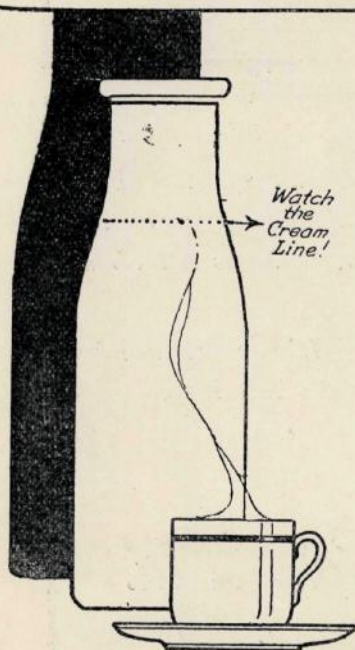
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 Front Row:—R. J. Walker, N. T. Marchant.

THE ERASMIAN

JUNE, 1930.

Editorial.

As the duty of writing this piece of prose—which, as may be seen from the title, is an editorial—devolves on us again our heart is filled with varied emotions. The one which makes itself most felt is, of course, resentment at being forced to do what we had to perform little more than a month ago. No self-respecting Editorial pen would stand this sort of thing, and when the Editorial pen squeals, what are we to do?

Then, on the other hand, our resentment is practically nullified by the bewildered joy which the prospect of more holidays inspires in us. Indeed, we seem to have been enjoying them such a short time ago that we can scarcely credit the fact that there are more just round the corner. We utter the pious hope that all boys have made full use of their time during the short Summer Term. Having our doubts on the subject, however, we suggest that pupils should take up some instructive hobby for July and August, such as deep breathing or collecting first editions.

And now looking through the mists of time towards the future we see the possibility of a new term and just as inevitably a school concert. Here we must make mention of a pupil's suggestion concerning the said concert, to which we give our warmest assent. He suggests in short that a play, written in the English tongue, should be the dramatic item at the next concert. He reasonably enough points out that since our ability to produce a Latin or Irish play cannot now be doubted, it is only right that the audience should be offered something which they can both understand and enjoy. This strikes us as being an excellent idea, and we humbly commend it to the notice of those who organise the school concert.

On looking through this copy of the "Erasmian," readers will probably be surprised to see some more or less libellous caricatures of the staff. This is admittedly a decided innovation as regards the School Magazine and the enterprise required great courage from all concerned with it; but, remembering the words of a "hack" writer living near the Tivoli:—"Vixere fortes post Agamemnona multi"—we took our lives in our hands and did the deed. We are happy to be able to state that we are still in a state of animation.

We close on a solemn note. As this is the last occasion

on which a public exhortation can be given to our Water Polo Team to prepare it for its coming struggle, we will make the best use of it we can. One point we wish to impress very clearly on our team is that regular training must be indulged in during the summer. Our rivals will train assiduously, and, although good, we are not good enough to be able to neglect training during July and August. Remember that in two months' time you will be defending our claim to the Cup. Very well! Get into good training, keep in it, and remember that H.S.D. has confidence in your ability to win through.



Translation from Horace.

Gone are the snows, grass clothes the fields again,
And foliage the trees.
Earth decks herself afresh, between their banks
The rivers reach the seas.

The graces, lightly clad, have it in heart to dance
With their bright sister nymphs.
To us the hour quick stealer of our days,
Forbids immortal things.

Frosts to the zephyrs yield, now Summer treads on Spring,
Itself in turn to die.
When fruitful Autumn hath her produce shed,
Dead winter's here again.

Swiftly the moon back to the full returns
And yet when we descend
Where Sire Aenaeas, Tullus, Ancus went,
Shadow we are and dust.

Who knows if to our sum of days the gods
Are pleased to add another?
Whate'er is spent on self, alone escapes
The hands of grasping heirs.

But once thou'rt dead and Minos has
His stately judgment passed,
Nor piety nor rank nor wit avail
To stay stern Fate's decree.

Hippolytus the chaste, from Death's dark halls
Diana's love frees not.
Nor for Pirithous dear, has Theseus power
To break Lethaeon bonds.

"HACTOR."

A Lecture on China.

Last month the Rev. E. M. Norton, of Trinity College, Foochow, gave a very interesting lecture on China and dispelled many mistaken ideas which we had about the state of that country. The people are clever, warm-hearted and very industrious, while in the country itself great strides are being made in the matter of communications. A lot of the old roads are now being replaced by fine motor highways, and bridges are being rebuilt to accommodate the increased traffic due to the arrival of the motor car. In Fukien, where Mr. Norton was stationed as a teacher in a mission school, a rather amusing incident followed the opening of a new road there. A friend of his who had a car wished to have the honour of driving over it first. He did so, but the car—a four-seater—had eighteen Chinese on it—eight inside and the rest outside. Not bad for a car whose name begins with an "F."

Rice is grown extensively in Paddy fields, which are covered with water, and, of course, have a muddy bottom. A fall in one of these fields is said to be distinctly unpleasant. The mention of water recalls the fact which Mr. Norton mentioned, that many Chinese spend their lives on the water in the famous junks which are virtually floating homes. Poultry, and even pigs, are carried in these house boats, which, indeed, is not to be wondered at, seeing that pork is almost a national dish there.

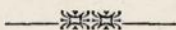
Our fellow sufferers, the Chinese schoolboys, write mostly with a brush, though some have now adopted the steel pen. A little while ago an outbreak of school burning spread through the land and the school at Fukien suffered along with others. There were over two hundred boys sleeping in it at the time, but none were injured, although the school was destroyed, only the outer shell being left.

The school was burnt, as were many others, in the hope that it would frighten the foreigner away. The police who were called in to find and arrest the incendiary were certainly helpful. They suggested that someone other than themselves should find the culprit. Then they would be quite willing to put him in prison. This story about Chinese methods of stopping crime is even better. A noted brigand was asked to stop his business. He declined. The Government asked him would he stop if he were given a commission in the army. He assented. The Government promptly made him a General and his followers soldiers. The reformed brigand was then asked to take his troops to a different part of China, but much to their mortification he refused. He was reminded that orders were orders. The brigand-general replied by capturing the Government officials and sending them away into the interior.

Fukien is still without a Government and still has its brigands. This, however, does not worry Fukien at all.

We were told that Chinese is not such a very hard language. Mr. Norton, indeed, claims that it is by far the world's easiest language, although it did not sound like that when he spoke some. The Chinese writing is very interesting and not at all like ours. It was originally in the form of little pictures, though they can no longer be recognised as such. In all the schools in China a picture of Sun-Yat-Sen will be found. He is still looked upon as a great leader, though the Nationalist party is the ruling power in China now.

A. P. SMYTH.



School Notes.

Stop me if you've heard this one. The School re-opened on Tuesday, 29th April.

On Monday, 19th May, the Rev. E. M. Norton, an old High School boy, from Fukien, China, gave a very interesting lecture on his work out there. A short summary of it is published elsewhere.

The School athletic sports were held at Lansdowne Road on Tuesday, 24th June. As the "Erasman" had gone to press by that date, details must be held over till the next issue.

We congratulate J. R. Walker on winning the mile race at the Inter-Schools' sports at Terenure. Also H. Begley for winning the junior long jump at the same place. We wish our representatives in the All-Ireland Championships at Croke Park every success.

The annual handball competitions were held in June. Results will be published in next issue.

Classes in the Clockroom and Mr. Wilson's room will no longer be on tenterhooks about the right time, as the School clock is again doing its duty by pointing out the time with new works.

On 31st March the Electricity Supply Board gave a lecture at the School on "Shannon Power."

R. J. Walker has recently gained the following successes: Co. Dublin Championships (under 18): First in one mile. All-Ireland Championships (under 18), second in half-mile. Boys' Brigade Sports: First in one mile (seniors) and first in half-mile (seniors). We congratulate him heartily.

A shield has been purchased for the "House" Competitions. Funds were provided by the profits on the School dance held at Christmas, and a subscription was kindly given by Captain C. H. Gilligan (1903-1912).

The Great Euclidean Fallacy.

EXPOSED AT LAST!

For centuries it has been assumed by the unthinking that two sides of a triangle are together greater than the third. Eminent men of science, who ought to know better, have accepted it without question. This paper is, in fact, the first attempt to dispel an almost universal fallacy.

Who was the originator of this astounding fabrication? It may be assumed that he was one Euclid or Eucleides, who was most probably either a Greek or a barbarian (i.e., non Greek), and that he lived either at Alexandria or elsewhere, most probably before or after 100 B.C.

These main facts of his life are not in dispute. The New Criticism, which has destroyed our simple faith in a variety of things, including the villainous nature of Nero, Malachi's peculiar taste in collars, and the possibility of Shakespeare's plays being written by Shakespeare, has left Euclid unscathed. Still, do we know enough about him to be able to say confidently that he is to be relied upon? Might he not have been a practical joker, an unscrupulous politician, or too much inclined to the worship of Bacchus? The style of some of the later propositions is very like that of one in the throes of delirium tremens.

So much for the evidence of character. Now let us consider the proposition itself. The point at issue, according to Euclid, is whether "any two sides of a triangle are together greater than the third side." Even this contains an unjustifiable assumption, viz.: that a triangle has always three sides and no more; whereas to a person in Euclid's condition, a triangle might easily appear to have six sides. But we will waive the point, and proceed.

Euclid then draws a thing which he calls A, B, C, and says: "Let A, B, C, be a triangle." Now why in the world SHOULD we let A, B, C, be a triangle? It certainly looks like one, but with a person like Euclid there is no telling. He has very probably faked it to suit his own nefarious purposes. Readers of the ERASMIAN, are we to be dictated to by an obsolete geometrician? Are we to be bullied into accepting faked diagrams? Shall we let A, B, C, be a triangle? No! A thousand times NO!!

After this, it is not likely that the rest of the "theorem" will be any more convincing. In examination it turns out to be founded on certain statements which Euclid calls "axioms." These, he declares, are incapable of proof. The sheer barefaced audacity of the thing takes one's breath away. "Here," says Euclid in effect, "are certain statements. My entire system of geometry is founded on them, and if they are wrong the

whole thing is wrong. BUT I am unable to prove them, and I have no intention of trying."

Finally we come to the peroration. The difficult part is over; the audience has swallowed it all without demur; the arch-trickster stands before us, innocence and guilelessness printed on every feature. "Therefore," he says, "B, A, and A, C, are together greater than C, B. Similarly it may be shown that A C, C B are together greater than B A; and C B, B A are together greater than A C. Nothing up my sleeve, ladies and gentlemen—everything fair and above board—*QUOD ERAT DEMONSTRANDUM!*"

G. D.



Troubles of First Form.

There stood before him two *infance*,
 Each with a puzzled *countenants*,
 Neither of them could see the *sents*
 Of English spelling; nor *dispents*
 With frowns, for no one could *convints*
 Them—(by illustration, sounds or *prince*)
 That N-C-E (as in "defence")
 Wasn't N-T-S. In *consequents*,
 Since in their heads he had no *chants*,
 The master impressed it on their *pance!*

W.G.K.



MR. BURROWES
"Prepared for the Worst."



MR. EVANS
"Despatches the Old Boys'
'Erasmian.'"



MR. WILSON
"Paints Harcourt Street
under difficulties."



MR. BUTLER -
"Demonstrates the straight
bat."

Some Very Free Verse.

The Editor has been dunning me
for a contribution,
even as the French master
duns me for a forgotten exercise.
All springs of inspiration have run
dry
as the School ink wells run
dry
and I have nothing to say
so I have chosen to say it
in vers libre.
I like this way because
it looks more interesting than ordinary
prose, also it takes up
more room.
I could have made the
lines much shorter as I
do when
writing
an
English composition
but I felt
that the Editor might think
(if he can do so)
this too
much of a good thing.
If any of you have
read as far as this I think
you will agree this
is all
padding.
So I stop
hoping that the Editor will stop
a steam-roller
I mean
too.



Correspondence

1st CADET BATTALION ROYAL DUBLIN FUSILIERS OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION.

The Editor,
High School Magazine,
High School, Dublin.

27th May, 1930.

Dear Sir,

Might I point out through the medium of your journal that the "1st Cadet Battalion Royal Dublin Fusiliers Old Comrades' Association," formed some months ago, has been particularly well received by ex-members of the Corps, living in all parts of the world. I am pleased to say that the membership is increasing daily, and the Committee are very gratified with the way in which the Association has progressed during its short period of existence. The objects of the Association are not only to organize forms of re-unions, but to preserve the comradeship and goodwill which existed in the "Old Corps."

Rt. Hon. The Viscount Powerscourt, K.P., has honoured the Association by accepting the title of President, and among the Vice-Presidents there are many distinguished officers, including Major H. H. Hayden, the founder of the original Corps.

All ex-cadets not already enrolled as members are asked to write to the undersigned, who will communicate full particulars by return. The subscription is the nominal one of 1s.

F. H. CROWE, Hon. Sec.,

"Carahor," Shrewsbury Road,
Dublin.

13th June, 1930.

The Editor, The Erasmian.

Dear Sir,—

It might interest old Dublin High School boys to know of the coincidence by which two Old Boys are preachers in Westminster Abbey this month. I am the preacher on Sunday morning, June 22nd, and Archbishop D'Arcy, the Primate, on June 29th, at the Morning Service.

I was one of the original Sixth Form and remember the

holiday the School got when our numbers reached 100. I remember the present Primate well. He was in the Fifth Form when I was in the Sixth. I am very interested in your Old Boys' Union and Magazine, and I hope I may be able some day to attend one of your events.

Yours sincerely,

JOHN H. THORPE.

The Editor,
"The Erasmian,"
The High School.

Dear Sir,

The question of languages—especially Irish—has been very much to the fore of late. This, I take it, was the reason why, two years ago, when the School concert was inaugurated, the august members of the sixth form presented, in such an admirable manner, some scenes from a French play. Last year, keeping the language question still in mind, to the amazement of all, a Greek comedy was produced. All who were present at both concerts, I am sure, are now convinced that the actors will never be at a loss for a reply even if interviewed by a Dutchman.

Might I make a suggestion for the dramatic item at the next concert?

I hardly think a French play will be repeated, since there is now one boy in the School who would understand it, and, of course, it may be granted, that to produce an Irish drama would be child's play to the sixth form.

I venture to suggest that an English play should be presented at the next concert, which suggestion, if carried out, would not, I am sure, have any adverse influence on the sale of tickets.

Yours faithfully,

NO LINGUIST.

Athletics.

THE BOXING CLUB.

Our Boxing Club made its first public appearance in the Trinity Gymnasium on March 27th, when it opposed St. Andrews B.C. We started off badly, losing three matches in succession, but when later the score equalled up to four matches each excitement ran high. Our heavyweight man was unable to pull off the last fight, though he was only beaten by quarter of a point, and so we actually missed a draw by the same quarter point. These are the results:—

Gnat-weight—J. E. Brooke (St. A.) beat D. Boyle (H.S.) on points.

Paper-weight—I. C. Fraser (St. A.) beat W. G. Caldwell (H.S.) on points.

Bantam-weight—G. Craigie (St. A.) beat H. Rooney on points.

Fly-weight—S. Stafford (H.S.) beat C. O'Neile (St. A.), the referee stopping the fight in the second round.

Feather-weight—J. G. Greene (H.S.) beat H. Buchanan (St. A.) on points.

Light-weight—S. Tinkler (St. A.) beat D. Goff (H.S.) on points.

Welter-weight —D. T. Bardon (H.S.) beat C. F. Kolf on points; J. D. Clarke (H.S.) beat T. Campbell on points.

Heavy-weight—C. Fine (St. A.) beat J. Freeland (H.S.) on points.



Swimming Notes.

Captain—J. M. Bryson.

Vice-Captain—G. F. Mitchell.

Hon. Sec.—C. A. Boyle.

We commenced our season at the Iveagh Baths on May 1st. The number of juniors attending the baths is quite good, but we are going to say that the same cannot be said about the seniors (from 3A upwards). We hope to see a marked improvement during the remainder of the season. The School has had a splendid record in swimming for a long period in the past, and relies on these boys to maintain it in the future.

We feel very optimistic about this year's polo team, which, even at this early stage of the season, is almost up to last year's

standard. All that we ask of the team is that they should train conscientiously during the summer months. Quite easily done!

A note on training at this stage of our notes might not come amiss. We feel that, although many excellent books have been written on this subject, few, if any, have given any adequate reasons for indulging in serious training. Most books say at the outset that anyone who wishes to become proficient in any branch of sport must train assiduously, and there the matter ends.

As these are supposed to be notes on swimming, we will give our reasons on "Why swimmers should train seriously throughout the season," but the following may be applied with safety to other branches of sport, with a few minor alterations:

Many swimmers think that as long as they are able to swim, it does not matter whether they improve or not. Therefore, they go for a swim, either in the open sea or in some swimming bath. They then proceed to lark about in the water, like small children. They will probably swim about thirty yards and feel tired out, whereas if they trained hard their stroke would improve, and they would not feel tired out after doing four times that distance. Surely it is much better to try and shorten your time for a certain distance than to just lark about in the water, wasting time as well as energy.

CRICKET NOTES.

Captain—A. G. Bamford.

Vice-Captain—R. Boucher.

Hon. Sec.—F. A. G. Willis.

After three or four very successful cricket seasons it may seem, perhaps, unthankful to complain of a spell of misfortune. But it is impossible not to feel that this season could not have been one of the best the School has ever had. We have plenty of material, but, except amongst the younger boys, there is far less enthusiasm than there should be. The attendance at practice is, amongst the seniors, little short of disgraceful. Here it might be mentioned that the large number of boys under fourteen years of age, attending regularly, is a great consolation.

However, although we have not won a Senior League match, we went as near as it is possible to go to winning two. We were also unfortunate in being on much the harder side of the League. We must congratulate R. Boucher on making a century in the League match against King's Hospital—a feat not accomplished in this School for many years.

The J.C.T., although beaten in the first round of the Cup Competition, have won nearly all their matches. The team is extremely young, and contains only one member of last year's team. The "under 13" and "under 14" are also doing well.

We have to thank Messrs. Butler, Shannon and Young for giving so much of their time to umpiring and coaching.

The High School Senior Cup Team.



Back Row:—E. V. Dunne, W. J. D. Geoghegan. Mr. Butler, E. Croxon, R. J. Walker.

Centre:—F. A. G. Willis, E. G. Flynn, G. A. Bamford (Capt.), R. Boucher, E. A. Thompson.

Front Row:—H. C. Felton, C. G. Morton.

HIGH SCHOOL v. MOUNTJOY SCHOOL (S.L.).

HIGH SCHOOL		MOUNTJOY SCHOOL	
Boucher ct Sweetman b Roberts	52	McDonald b Morton	... 24
Willis b McGibney	... 7	Smyth lbw b Bamford	... 5
Flynn lbw b McGibney	... 14	Chamney b Bamford	... 47
Bamford lbw b McGibney	... 7	Jackson b Felton	... 2
Dunne b Crawford	... 25	Roberts st Boucher b Felton	... 14
Walker b Crawford	... 0	McGibney b Smullen	... 14
Morton b Crawford	... 1	Loughhead ct Boucher b Thompson	27
Smullen run out	... 0	Herbert not out	... 19
Felton not out	... 14	Crawford st Boucher b Smullen	... 0
Croxon ct Jackson by Griffith	... 6	Sweetman not out	... 5
Thompson not out	... 2		
Extras	... 29	Extras	... 6
Total (for 9 wks., dec.)		Total (for 8 wks.)	... 163

HIGH SCHOOL v. KING'S HOSPITAL (S.L.).

HIGH SCHOOL		KING'S HOSPITAL	
Willis b Russell	... 2	Copper ct Croxon b Thompson	... 2
Thompson c and b Johnson	... 5	Robinson b Thompson	... 0
Boucher lbw b Balmer	... 107	Johnson ct Boucher b Bamford	... 70
Morton b Robinson	... 1	Mahony b Smullen	... 27
Dunne ct Robinson b Balmer	... 1	Russell b Bamford	... 2
Bamford lbw b Balmer	... 9	Hudson ct Geoghan b Bamford	... 0
Croxon b Russell	... 1	Levis b Bamford	... 0
Felton b Robinson	... 2	Lambert ct Smullen b Thompson	32
Smullen st Maginnis b Robinson	... 9	Hughes not out	... 11
Walker b Robinson	... 0	Maginnis not out	... 4
Geoghan not out	... 2		
Extras	... 9	Extras	... 9
Total		Total (for 9 wks.)	... 156

HIGH SCHOOL v. TERENCE COLLEGE.

HIGH SCHOOL		TERENURE COLLEGE	
Croxon b Rath	... 2	Martin b Felton	... 0
Willis run out	... 24	Fox run out	... 7
Dunne run out	... 6	Reilly b Morton	... 1
Felton b Rath	... 0	Fitzgerald b Rice	... 27
Rice b Devine	... 8	Devine ct Willis b Rice	... 1
Morton lbw b Rath	... 2	Ardiff ct Morton b Willis	... 0
Walker ct Savage b Rath	... 5	Savage b Rice	... 14
Lyster b Devine	... 0	Rath run out	... 1
Cairns b Devine	... 4	Carroll not out	... 7
Geoghegan b Devine	... 1	Taffe ct Croxon b Felton	... 4
Marchant not out	... 10	Murphy lbw b Felton	... 0
Extras	... 11	Extras	... 1
Total		Total	... 63

INTER-HOUSE COMPETITION.

This competition was played on the knock-out system. In the first round Mr. Watson's house beat Mr. Evans' house in a replay, and Mr. Dillon's house beat Mr. Butler's house. In the final Mr. Dillon's house beat Mr. Watson's house after a close match.

Old Boys' Union.

President—The Most Rev. C. F. Darcy, D.D., Primate of all Ireland.

Hon. Secretaries—M. Bell and W. H. Thrift.

Hon. Treasurer—Rev. W. C. G. Proctor, B.D.

All Old Boys are invited to join the Union. Life subscription is one guinea, which may be paid in two annual instalments.

The ERASMIAN is sent free to all members. Contributions for publication will be welcomed by the Editor.

FIXTURES DURING SUMMER TERM.

GOLF CUP.

By kind permission of the Committee, the Golf Competitions took place at the Grange Club on Monday, 26th May. The Cup was won by G. B. Butler with a score of 71 (79-8), S. S. Evans was second with a score of 72 (89-17), and V. V. Drennan third with 74 (83-9).

A very pleasant re-union and supper took place afterwards (again thanks to the kindness of the Grange Golf Club).

The weather was ideal, and the function so enjoyable that a general request was made for another competition in September.

CRICKET.

A match of Old Boys v. The School will be played at Belgrave Square on June 21st, but the ERASMIAN will be printed before it takes place.

NOTES ON OLD BOYS.

We congratulate D. Malloch Lawson on his election as an Associate Member of the Institute of Electrical Engineers. He has returned to Accra.

The Order of Commander of the Bath has been conferred by the King on George Chester Duggan, O.B.E., Principal Assistant Secretary, Minister of Finance, Northern Ireland. We congratulate him on the Honour he has received.

We also congratulate G. S. B. Mack on being chosen on the Davis Cup team for Ireland.

We are including in this issue a photograph of one of the Old Class groups in the School. We shall be grateful if some Old Boy will send the names of those in the group, which is Form IV. in 1881.

We hope to publish one of these groups each Term.

We congratulate D. G. Walker on the following recent athletic successes:—Trinity College Races: First in Freshman's half-mile (scr.) Inter-Varsity Championship of Ireland: Second in the one mile. All-Ireland Championships: First in one mile (seniors, under 20). Dublin University Harriers' Championships: Second in one mile, second in 440 yards.

The High School, Dublin.



Form IV., 1881.

OLD BOYS' EXHIBITS AT THE R.H.A. EXHIBITION,
1930.

J. B. S. MACILWAINE, R.H.A.

- "Moonrise on the Border."
- "Annacraun, Co. Tyrone."
- "Sketch from Nature."
- "Near Tynan, Co. Armagh."
- "Annaghroe—Sheep Under a Tree."
- "Glasslough Lake."
- "The Flooded Fields."

VICTOR E. PENNEY.

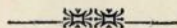
- "Study of a Girl's Head."

THE LATE J. W. FOX.

Walter Fox was an old pupil of the school. He was a keen follower of all its games, and played on the School cricket XI. In later years he joined his father in business, which brought him in contact with almost the entire athletic sporting community of this city. Like his father, he had a wonderful memory for players of cricket and Rugby football, and could recollect the names and dates of all those who attained the highest honours for many years back. Being brought in close touch with Trinity College, he took a deep interest in all its athletic pursuits, and was spared to see his son take his place on the College Rugby team.

From the inception of the Old Boys' Union he was one of its most enthusiastic supporters, captaining the cricket XI. v. Present a year ago in a most enjoyable game at Belgrave Square. He also took part in the O.B.U. golf competition in July last at Grange Golf Club, and was present at the annual dinner in January. His passing in March last after a short illness came as a great blow to his very many friends. Of a quiet and unassuming nature, one always felt that to have the friendship of Walter Fox was a prize to be highly esteemed.

R. W. J.



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Notices.

The ERASMIAN is published three times a year—at the end of the Christmas, Easter and Summer Terms.

The Editor invites literary contributions from past and present pupils and all others interested in the School.

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