

The Erasmusian.

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CONTENTS—

	PAGE		PAGE
SCHOOL NEWS ...	26	HOSPITAL WORK IN THE	
NOTES ON OLD BOYS ...	28	TRANSVAAL ...	37
COLLEGE NOTES ...	31	THE HOUSING OF THE POOR ...	39
FOOTBALL ...	32	OUR OXFORD LETTER ...	43
CRICKET ...	33	CORRESPONDENCE ...	44
CYCLING ...	35	RESULTS OF EXAMINATIONS ...	46
BLUE FEVER ...	36	NOTICES ...	47



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THE ERASMIAN.

DUBLIN, JUNE, 1901.

School News.

There is always little School news to record at this time of the year. We have emerged from the dark gloomy tunnel of winter into the brightness of May, exceptionally fine this year, and we have left Football behind and entered on our brief season of Cricket.

We publish elsewhere a resumé of the past Football season, and introduce a new feature by inserting a criticism of each member of the First Fifteen.

Our Cricket Correspondent does well to call attention to a lack of public school feeling on the part of a few boys, who persist in playing in the games without paying the very moderate subscription. As Cricket and Football cannot be kept going without money, it must be obvious to any boy that he is doing a very shabby thing if he enjoys the benefit of a club without joining it in the ordinary way. There are also a few old boys who seem to be mistaken as to the *raison d'être* of Belgrave Square. Complaints have

reached us that they interfere with games there and behave as though they had a perfect right to do so. Now we are always delighted to see old boys in the square, and the more the merrier, but it should be distinctly understood that the square is only for present boys, and any boy who is interfered with in any way should report it to the proper authorities.

Handball is now in the air. The Fourth Form have had a competition which resulted as follows:—

1ST ROUND.

D. Smyth and J. Gore beat F. Smartt and A. Outon (21—14.)

R. Bury and R. Hall beat A. Norton and G. FitzPatrick (21—12).

S. FitzPatrick and W. Barnardo a bye.

2ND ROUND.

D. Smyth and J. Gore beat S. FitzPatrick and W. Barnardo (21—7).

R. Bury and R. Hall a bye.

FINAL.

R. Bury and R. Hall beat D. Smyth and J. Gore (21—19).

The "Erasmian" Committee have also organised an open competition which is now being played.

Before our next number appears, the Sports will be a thing of the past. They have been fixed for Saturday, September 14th, and there will be the usual events. Boys should remember to practice and train some time beforehand, and other things being equal, training is bound to tell.

The following should be interesting to intending competitors as well as to old boys interested in the sports. It is a list of the best times and distances recorded during the sports of the last ten years:—

220 yards	...	25 seconds
440 "	...	58 "
$\frac{1}{2}$ mile	...	2 min. 21 secs.
Mile	...	5 min. 15 secs.
120 yds. (hurdles)		18 secs.
High Jump	...	5ft. 2in.
Long Jump	...	19ft. 8in.

The record for the Hundred Yards is unfortunately not trustworthy. One year the time-keeper made the time 9 2-5th secs.!! *Credat Judæus Apella!* The best authenticated time is 11 secs. but we are aware of at least one competitor whose time was better than this. We hope all these records will be broken this year.

Turning to school work, we have had but little interruption, save a week at Easter, and are now within sight of the Intermediate Examinations. They will be the last of the present series. It is a great educational grievance, if not a scandal, that the new Programme is not yet out, although it will probably appear while we are at press. There will be great changes for 1901-2, and we should have liked to discuss some of them with our readers. There is sure to be considerable difficulty in making arrangements for next year in consequence of the great delay in publishing the Rules and Programme, and boys will do well to study them carefully when they appear.

Meanwhile we look forward hopefully to the Intermediate and other examinations for which we are preparing. May we give some advice? Don't despise the papers and don't be afraid of them. Remember that they deal with the work done during the past year, and that the object of the papers is to bring out what you know. Always revise what you write and look through the whole of every question most carefully. There is always sure to be something in your paper which you can improve and correct. There is invariably some mistake which you can easily emend. Do not despair, but do your best.

Lord Strathcona's Medal for Canadian Geography, the examination for which

was held at Christmas, was awarded to A. Crosbie, with J. Purser *proxime accessit*.

A. M'Leod has won the Bronze Medal of the Royal Humane Society for a most gallant rescue in Kilkee in '99, accomplished with the greatest risk to himself. It was as usual a bathing accident.

This recalls the exploit of Frank Greer in the eighties; we remember that in his case the medal was awarded at a public distribution of the School prizes.

As we go to press, we hear of a fine score by the Cricket Team in their second innings against Leinster III., 216 for 7 wickets, H. Thrift making 96. Bravo, Thrift! This is a High School record.

Notes on Old Boys.

W. E. Thrift, F.T.C.D., has been elected by the Board of Trinity College to the Erasmus Smith Chair of Natural and Experimental Philosophy. Like Prof. Fitzgerald, his predecessor, Mr. Thrift is also taking a practical interest in educational questions outside the College. He is following a great leader of scientific thought, *non ipse futurus inferior*.

The Rev. F. R. Montgomery Hitchcock, B.D., Curate of Nenagh (and formerly of St. Mary's, Dublin, where he was succeeded by Rev. W. J. Mayne, another old boy), has been appointed Curate in charge of the important parish of Borrisokane, Co. Tipperary, by the Bishop of Killaloe. Mr. Hitchcock is one of the most brilliant of the younger Irish clergy, being greatly distinguished as a writer and as a preacher.

The Rev. E. J. Young has been awarded by the Archbishop of Dublin a gold medal for Theology.

We were very pleased to receive from J. A. Cunningham, A.R.C.Sc.I., B.A., of St. John's College, Cambridge, a copy of an excellent paper read before the Royal Dublin Society last year and now printed among its Scientific Proceedings, entitled "A Contribution to the Theory of the Order of Crystallisation of Minerals in Igneous Rocks."

W. B. Yeats has been elected to a seat on the Committee of the London Irish Literary Society. His latest book of poems, "The Shadowy Waters," has met with a most favourable reception. He is now engaged on a new Irish play "Diarmuid" which is to be translated into Irish and acted in Dublin in the autumn in connexion with the Irish Literary Theatre.

T. P. Stuart's poem "Lacrimæ Britanniarum," which appeared in our last issue, has been reprinted in a collection of "In Memoriam" verse edited by Dr. Forshaw and published by Swan, Sonnenschein & Co., where he appears in such celebrated company as Sir Lewis Morris, W. E. Henley, George Macdonald, the Duke of Argyle, etc. Unfortunately it is marred by some bad misprints, one of which reads thus: "By Her own Royal Window (for Windsor) plunged in gloom!" Mr. Stuart thinks the murder of an editor should be counted as justifiable homicide. We trust the Editors of School Magazines may be treated as exceptions.

Mr. Ward has kindly sent us a specimen box of his new and ingenious idea for teaching the Latin verb, entitled "The Analytical Latin Verb." Any old boy who is anxious to rub up his rusty Latin should lose no time in procuring it. For 9d. he can obtain from the publishers, G. W. Owen, 15 King St., Huddersfield, great value in amusement and instruction.

Old High School Boys are destined to have a good part in the shaping of the British Empire in South Africa. We have heard of at least three who have joined the South African Police—R. N. Davies, E. Loverock, and E. Robinson. J. Loverock has also been

admitted into the Imperial Yeomanry, and F. Crozier is serving in the Norval's Pont Town Guard.

We were delighted to see Pemell Brownrigg in town a few weeks back. He came home in March in a hospital ship, and had a week to spare before returning to South Africa. He looks fit and well and feels as he looks.

We hear that Dr. W. G. Joynt is doing splendidly in the Transvaal. Like everybody else there, he seems to be learning the secret of perpetual motion, but finds it excellent for health.

Drs. Sheehan (of Association Football renown), and W. C. Stevenson are now both at Netley in the Army Medical.

F. L. F. Boeddicker and J. C. Outon are now learning the elements of engineering in the G. S. & W. Railway Works at Inchicore.

Dr. W. R. Armstrong and James Sealy have been elected on the Committee of the Dublin University Athletic Union.

"In the opinion of many competent judges, G. B. Tincler is the best miler the world has produced." *Evg. H—*.

A. C. Hughes won the 600 yards steeplechase at Ballsbridge on Easter Monday. He was also very successful

last year in winning valuable prizes in connection with the Dublin Swimming Club.

Congratulations to W. R. A. M'Caw, who has obtained a Clerkship in Guinness's, and to W. Crosbie, who has passed for the Munster and Leinster Bank.

"Paddy" Roberts' accounts of his student life in Wiesbaden are most interesting. According to him, Jerome K. Jerome's views of Germany are very true to life. Last year they had a two months' spell of skating on the Rhine, while in the summer it is so hot that during the working hours of the day they have to close the shutters and do their business by electric light! We were surprised to hear that a Britisher can learn to like Sauerkraut.

The remarkable double triumph of Lansdowne F.C. in Leinster Football last season will cause great delight among the majority of our past footballers. On the winning Cup Team were six old High School Boys, of whom three had captained our own Cup Team in successive years. These were R. S. Swan ('94-'95), W. B. A. Moore ('95-'97), who played as substitute for C. F. Jones, another O.H.S. boy, and the popular H. J. Knox ('98). The other three were Bertie Doran (Captain); G. P. Doran, who obtained his appellation of Blucher while a small boy at school,

and J. Warren. C. F. Jones unfortunately was compelled to return to England before the final, and so missed his medal.

Prominent among the Second XV. who won the Junior League Competition we noticed A. W. Waters, a former H.S. Vice-captain; H. P. Wilson, and John Brown, an ex-secretary; the last named probably established a record by having played 36 matches for Lansdowne during the season. W. B. A. Moore who played for the 2nd all the season got on the 1st XV. as a substitute in the Cup Ties. Need we add the well known names of other O.H.S. boys, R. W. Jeffares, the genial Secretary, and the retiring Treasurer, J. Anderson.

Amongst representatives on other Cup Teams we observed E. Burke (Captain), D. Leggatt and W. R. Montserrat on The Wanderers' First XV., but for the first time for many years we had no one on the Dublin University First XV.

With the above facts in mind, there should be no difficulty—if old boys really wish it—in complying with the desire of "An Old Fellow," who in another column expresses his anxiety for an Old High School Football Club. Perhaps other old boys will express their opinion on the matter in our next issue.

Swift Paine Johnston has been appointed by the Lord Lieutenant as Assistant Commissioner of Intermediate Education in place of the late J. C. Malet, F.R.S.

College Notes.

Trinity Term has come round again with its bicycles, its cricket bats, its boating and its exams., dividing the sheep from the goats, the workers from the mere "slackers." Fellowship, Scholarships and other Examinations prove a weariness to the flesh, and a trial to the mind. In Mr. E. H. Alton we have a worthy candidate for the former. To recount, however, the names of those scholarship candidates who have passed beneath the watchful care of the Editor of this Magazine, who have, it may be, taken furtive glances at one Kelly's works, sometime called a fair copy, would be a tedious task, for they are many, from Bachelor to Senior Freshman. Before these lines see the light some will have entered the realms of highest bliss, free commons and velvet head-gear, others, alas! with heavy heart and drooping eye, will murmur "next year." We hope many O.H.S. boys will be among the former.

The congratulations of all old H. S. boys will be offered to one of the most distinguished of their number, Mr. W. Thrift, on his appointment to the chair,

suitable enough, of Erasmus Smith's Professorship of Experimental and Natural Philosophy. The new Professor has won golden opinions from all kinds of men—including his class of Junior Medical and Engineering Students—and has had a brilliant career in College. A Mathematical Scholarship in the Junior Freshman year is a very rare triumph, and the record mark at Junior Exhibition is, as northern journals would say, a "unique distinction." As a racing cyclist Mr. Thrift was well known in College, and enjoys the distinction of having been simultaneously a Fellow of the College and Captain of the University Bicycle Club. He always took a great interest in his pupils—not always an accompaniment of a tutor, and has never forgotten that he is an old High School Boy. He is the second Erasmian at present in a Professorial Chair, Professor Swift Paine Johnston being the other.

Unwonted vigour has overtaken the College Societies. During March a vigorous and remarkable interest in private business arose in both "Phil." and Historical, and especially in the conduct of an old Erasmian in the latter. Rumours may be heard in both Societies of old H.S. Boys eager for the honours and emoluments, as well as the worries, of those who mind the affairs of state. In the "Phil." during the past session a paper was read by G. A. Joynt on "The Revolution of 1688," which had

the privilege, proud or otherwise, of raising a storm of criticism and animated debate as great as any other during the season. Calverley E. Riley also read a paper on "Our Present Relations with America."

It is difficult to write about the College Athletic world in the *Erasmian*, because, it must be confessed, old High School boys, as a whole, do not shine in this department. Cricket has begun and taken absolute possession of the College Park. The Third XI. played High School on Ascension Thursday, with what result let the school chronicler tell. The Boat Club is active, and we notice that J. A. O. Fitzpatrick has been picked on the Second Eight. The College Races and Bicycle Tournament are bringing out men to train daily, amongst whom we noticed an old H.S.F.C. Captain.

Football.

During the season now closed the First Fifteen have played 21 matches, have won 8, lost 11, and drawn 2. The record of the team in scores is as follows:—

Points for 178, against 151; number of scores for 44, against 37; goals kicked from tries for 15, against 12; penalty goals for 4, against 4; drop goals for 1, against 1.

Caps have been awarded on the season's play to L. M. Bayly, C. H. L. Farran, W. W. Powell, and H. Thrift.

In the Inter-Provincial School matches H. Thrift played for Leinster against both Ulster and Munster, L. M. Bayly against Ulster, and C. H. L. Farran, and W. W. Powell against Munster. We are told that L. M. Bayly was the finest three-quarter on the ground in the Ulster Match, and he would have played against Munster but for illness.

CHARACTERS OF THE TEAM.

The following criticisms have been written by an old boy who has displayed the greatest interest in this and many other cup teams. H. Barton was unfortunately unable to play in the Cup Match, and H. V. Stanley played as substitute.

BACK.

Smartt is a fair full-back for his size, but is in too great a hurry to get in his kick.

THREE-QUARTERS.

Bayly is a fine runner, a sound tackler and a strong kick. He always finds touch well and is always thoroughly reliable and resourceful.

Farran runs strongly and is rather tricky. His kicking is very good, but his tackling is at times rather disappointing. He has a fine speed.

Purser can run well and strongly, but is too fond of pulling up when meeting

an opponent. He tries to tackle far too high up. He has disappointed the expectations formed of him before Christmas, but should improve greatly next season.

M'Connell is a hardworking, energetic and capable forward, but is quite out of place as a three-quarter.

HALVES.

Thrift made a wonderful show against Corrig, being ready in attack and very quick at getting out the ball. His kicking is good and he tackles well.

Barton, E., for his size is a wonderful little half, and is afraid of nothing. In a couple of years he should turn out a first-class school half.

FORWARDS.

Powell is perhaps the pick of the forwards. He is best out of touch, and in the loose. He follows up well, is a good tackler, and keeps his eyes well about him.

Stritch is a most hard working forward, not showy, but safe and always on the ball.

Barton, H., is a good forward for loose work with a good deal of resource, and tackles well.

Duggan is a hard scrummager, but should put more life into his play.

Alexander is a capable hardworker, ready to pack quickly.

Scholefield is not too energetic a forward, and would do better if more interested in the game.

Duncan, a moderate forward who puts in a good deal of shoving.

Boeddicker has plenty of weight but makes no attempt to use it. His style is far too easy going.

Stanley can put plenty of energy into the scrummages.

With the exception of the first three, the forwards are much alike, pack pretty quickly and get the ball fairly well, but do not know how to let it out to the backs. They are lacking in dash and brilliancy.

Cricket.

Once more we have to call attention to the poor membership roll, and to express astonishment that several boys have the assurance to frequent the Square daily, without ever paying even the shilling per quarter. We feel sure that several of these boys have only to ask their parents for the subscription, but probably they have not even that amount of public spirit for the success of the School.

We have unfortunately been deprived of the services of C. Farran—the Vice-Captain—owing to an injured finger, as well as F. Stevenson and H. Barton, owing to illness. Thus, we have not played our full strength on any occasion this season, which will fully explain the poor results up to the present.

H.S.C.C. v. MASONIC SCHOOL.

Played at Belgrave Square on April 20th, and resulted in a win for Masonic by 26 runs. In the first innings we

made 53, J. Stephenson making 9 not out, and F. Stevenson 9. Masonic then went in and made 79, H. Thrift getting 7 wickets for 26 runs. In the 2nd innings, Thrift and M'Connell had 20 minutes batting, in which time they made 35 runs, Thrift being bowled just on time for 15, while M'Connell made 14 not out.

H.S.C.C.—1st innings, 53; 2nd innings, 35 (for one wicket).

MASONIC SCHOOL.—1st innings, 79.

H.S.C.C. v. CITY OF DUBLIN Y.M.C.A.

At Belgrave Square on May 4th, this match resulted in a win for High School, for whom M. Richardson batted in excellent style for 16 not out, while Thrift and E. Barbor bowled in excellent style. Score:—

THE HIGH SCHOOL.—1st innings, 56.

Y.M.C.A.—1st innings, 31; 2nd innings, 32 (for 5 wickets).

H.S.C.C. v. WESLEY COLLEGE.

In this match, with three substitutes, we were beaten by 13 runs. R. Ogden, one of the subs., was the only one to get into double figures, scoring 10 not out, while Thrift and Barbor divided between them the wickets of our opponents, who made 46 after losing 8 wickets for 21 runs.

H.S.C.C.—1st innings, 33.

WESLEY COLLEGE.—1st innings, 46.

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

Played at Belgrave Square on Saturday, May 11th, and resulted in a win for Drogheda by 3 wickets. Mr. W. E. Paterson scored 14 and 13, and Ogden 8 and 8 not out. Score:—

H.S.C.C.—1st innings, 36; 2nd innings, 44.

DROGHEDA.—1st innings, 48; 2nd innings, 34 (for 7 wickets).

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

Played in the College Park on Thursday, May 16th, and resulted in an easy win for Trinity by 105 runs. H. S., going in first, were all dismissed for 54, M'Connell making 10, and Mr. W. E. Paterson 8. Trinity then made 159 runs. In this match we were assisted by C. Scaife, who captured 6 wickets for 57 runs, an excellent performance, considering the hard state of the ground.

H.S.C.C.—1st innings, 54.

TRINITY III.—1st innings, 159.

H.S.C.C. v. CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY SCHOOL.

At Belgrave Square, on May 18th, this match resulted in a win for us by 70 runs to 24. For High School, Thrift (10), M'Connell (9), Orr (8), were best, while Thrift and Barbor bowled in excellent style. In the 2nd innings, J. Stephenson made 18 not out.

H.S.C.C.—1st innings, 70.

CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY.—1st innings, 24.

The Second XI., under the Captaincy of R. Ogden, were defeated by Wesley 2nd on May 9th, by 40 runs.

The Third XI., Captained by A. C. Richardson, were beaten by Wesley Third, on May 12th, by only a few runs.

Cycling Notes.

The Bicycle Club held its Annual General Meeting on March 22nd., when the following Officers and Committee were elected for the Season. President, Mr. Wilkins; Captain, H. V. Stanley; Vice-Captain, J. Purser. Committee, Mr. Lyster, T. P. Orr, J. C. Duncan; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. W. E. Paterson.

Cycle Meetings have been held as under:—

28th March—The Club started from Belgrave Square at 11.30 for Naas, but on the Kimmage Road, Barnardo's back tyre burst, and after a fruitless attempt to repair it, Killingley appeared and lent his own machine. Then Stanley's tyre flattened out, causing another delay. The route was consequently altered a little and the Club made for Blessington where it arrived at 2.45. Dinner was served at the Downshire Arms Hotel and afterwards there was a pleasant stroll along the river. At five o'clock a start was made for home which was reached at 7 p.m.

5th April—The Club met at Belgrave Square at 9.30 for a ride to Enfield, the road chosen being the one through Lucan, Leixlip, Maynooth and Kilcock. The "Puncture Fiend" was as usual on duty, and Stanley was the victim chosen. Enfield was reached at 1.30 and Barrington's Hotel catered for the Club, though indeed the charges were thought exorbitant. On the return journey Hall had two punctures, but home was eventually reached at various times.

9th April—This was a poorly attended ride, the only members present being, Duncan, G. Bayly and Maurice and Edgar Wilkins. The ride was most enjoyable, the route chosen was through the Rocky Valley up the "Long Hill" to Roundwood, where the famished members arrived at two o'clock. After dinner at Keegan's the party explored the district and admired the Vartry Reservoir till it was time to start for home. It is a notable fact that there were no punctures on this occasion, and the run into town was accomplished in good time.

27th April—Only two members turned up for this run, a Saturday one, to Malahide (but the Cricket Club will account for the bad attendance). They got to Malahide at 4, and after light refreshments again sought the privacy of their ancestral halls.

2nd May—The Club is said to have met at Belgrave Square for a run to Glendalough, but no account of the proceedings has yet reached us.

17th May—The Club again set out for Glendalough, six strong. On the outward journey Duncan's machine somehow went wrong and he had reluctantly to retire, then Hall's machine punctured outside Roundwood (an accident which repeated itself on the way home). The Temperance Hotel provided what is usually described on such occasions as "an ample repast." Afterwards the travellers moved on to the Upper Lake, and after a visit to the celebrated Bed of St. Kevin, set out for town, which was gladly reached at 9 o'clock.

"Blue" Fever,

BY ONE WHO HAS HAD IT.

It is curious what magic lies in the word "Blue"—to the initiated I mean. At Oxford or Cambridge the man who represents his 'Varsity at some well-known pastime is, in a sense, a bigger man than the Head of his College. His name is mentioned with bated breath by the admiring Fresher, and his fame is by no means confined to his own College, where, perhaps, the successful scholar is scarce known by name.

Whether this athletic hero-worship be a healthy sign or not is rather doubt-

ful. Athletics, of course, like most other things, can be overdone, but "Blue" and "Scholar" are not necessarily exclusive terms, and the *mens sana* may often be discovered in the person of the greatest athlete.

By way of example I need scarcely do more than cite the case of C. B. Fry, who is, I suppose, world-renowned justly as a "triple Blue," and latterly as an International Cricketer and Footballer; when at Oxford he was a Scholar of Wadham, and secured a first in Classical "Mods."

The Inter 'Varsity contests this year have been unusually interesting. In the first Boat Race of the new Century a very fine struggle ensued. Never before has the ultimate winner seemed so likely to lose, indeed the feat of the Oxford crew in catching up two lengths after Barnes Bridge, is probably the finest performance ever accomplished since the race was instituted.

It is interesting to note that in the Rugby Football Match in December last an almost similar scene was witnessed. Within twenty minutes of the close Cambridge were leading by 8 points to nothing and had been pressing most of the game. By a superhuman effort the fourteen men who represented Oxford (after the compulsory retirement of Crawford early in the first half) managed to score two goals, and thus ran out winners on the score 10 points to 8.

When we recollect that the Athletic

Sports, which were held at Queen's Club on March 29th, would have resulted in a draw had not Cornish won the Long Jump in his third and last attempt, and further recall the incidents of the Association Football Match, which was also won "on the post" by Oxford, we have a series of Inter-'Varsity contests which, for interest and excitement, have never previously been surpassed in any one year.

It will be noticed that Oxford was successful in each of the above events; in the "Rugger" Match the Cantabs had only themselves to thank for the result, but in the remainder due honour must be accorded them for running their rivals so close. Exciting struggles like these are bound to encourage the various forms of sport and serve to foster that reverence for the "Blue" which seems so strange to the average human being who has never been fated to experience the joys and sorrows of University life.

A.W.R.C.

Hospital Work in the Transvaal.

4TH STATIONARY HOSPITAL,
STANDERTON,
TRANSVAAL.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

I have just received the *Erasmian* and with it your request for an article on "Ambulance Work." Well, the

subject is one which would require an abler pen and many folios to fairly deal with it, but I shall try to give you as much as I can in a brief sketch.

Let us suppose an engagement is expected. The order has gone out to go forward and attack a certain kopjy, or stronghold of the enemy.

First go the fighting men, guns, etc., then close behind them the Ambulance party and waggons, with large Red Cross flags flying above them, also the Royal Army Medical Corps with their Doctors, accompanied by mules carrying panniers of medicine, comforts and surgical appliances, in fact everything necessary for the first aid to the wounded.

As soon as the fighting commences, the stretcher bearers hurry forth with their stretchers, right into the fighting line if necessary, and proceed, as quickly as possible, to carry the wounded away to a place of less danger, where their wounds are hastily dressed, and if necessary, a little nourishment administered. They are then taken to the waggons, and by them to the nearest "Field Hospital." On arrival there they are met by the doctors who examine each case, and if necessary amputate and detain till the next day, when they are moved to the "Stationary Hospital," and after a few days there they are sent to the "General Hospital" at the base, where they are kept until fit to return to the front, or are invalided home to England.

Of course it often happens that the fighting takes place several days' journey from an Hospital, in which case the sick and wounded have to remain on the waggon, and follow the column on its march till one is reached.

Sometimes also, especially at night, a man may fall wounded unnoticed in some out-of-the-way place, and perhaps may not be found till hours after; for this reason each man before leaving England, has sown into his tunic a little bag of dressing, everything necessary, and directions for dressing several wounds.

But now let me describe for you the working of a "General Hospital," as I think that will give you the best idea of the ways and means, as they are always the largest and best equipped, not having to move about like the others which are near the front.

A General Hospital has 500 beds or upwards, all and everything in tents, of course.

Each ward has eight beds. The wards are all neatly laid out in parallel lines, and numbered consecutively, by numbers on little wooden posts, and each line of wards is named after a letter of the alphabet. Besides this the hospital is divided into two halves, one for the medical cases and the other for the surgical. Also a certain number of wards are set apart for each disease.

The nursing is all done by men nurses, called orderlies (both R.A.M.C. and civilians), under the supervision of

Army Nursing Sisters. Each orderly has so many wards to tend. As soon as a man is admitted to hospital his name, age, and all such details are entered in a book, and he is then given a suit of blue, which he has to wear while he remains in hospital, and his own clothing and kit are put away in the "pack store."

At 5.30 each morning the bugle sounds Reveille for all the staff, who have to be on parade by six. Immediately after parade each man gets half a pint of hot café noir which is called "gun fire" (this is coffee with no milk and very little sugar in it). Work then starts for the day.

All patients have to be assisted with their toilet, and the wards cleaned up for the medical officer's inspection.

Eight o'clock is breakfast hour, 8.30 dress parade for all the staff, at which each man is closely inspected, and if not properly shaved and neatly dressed woe betide him. At 10 o'clock the Medical Officer goes his round inspecting and prescribing. Dinner comes at one. Tea at five, and at six the day's work is finished, and the Night Duties are posted. These are the men who tend the wards during the night. If a patient is very ill he may require a "special," that is a man all to himself. These men work six hours and sleep three during the night, and start work again next morning. Of course they only work every second or third night.

Such is the daily routine of a General

Hospital, the others are worked on the same principal, only on a smaller scale.

If this little account interests your readers, I might be induced to write one on some other branch of the subject—perhaps surgical operations.

Yours very sincerely,

W. PEMELL BROWNRIGG.

“The Housing of the Poor.”

By “ASSISI.”

Concluded.

The present condition of our slums has only to be seen to afford ample proof that in them we have prolific centres of disease, and that they are almost always the starting points of the epidemics that from time to time visit our great cities.

It may well be asked; if this problem is such a difficult one, involving so many other intricate and perplexing questions, is it any use attempting the solution?

The appalling evils produced by the present intolerable way in which the working-classes are housed, forbid us to answer “nothing” to such a question. It is, I think, easy to understand that a complete and satisfactory solution is just at present impossible.

But much may be done, both to prepare the way for a satisfactory solution

and to mitigate the load of suffering and wrong which the working classes of the country have to endure.

It may be useful to briefly consider the principal grievances the working-man is under with respect to the housing accommodation provided for him.

He has, in the first place, to pay an exorbitant rent for the scantiest accommodation, and that too in a miserable condition.

In East London the average price per week of a single room is 4s., and for two rooms 7s. In Dublin the prices are lower, but even here an underground kitchen with a flagged floor, very dirty and damp, costs on an average 2s. to 2s. 6d. a week.

Under these circumstances it is impossible for those earning less than twenty shillings a week to rent more than a single room. That is to say the large class of unskilled labourer has to huddle himself and his family into one small room.

From the high rents prevailing results the second grievance, overcrowding; hence we find a whole family compelled to live, eat and sleep in a single room with the consequents of deteriorated morals and physical health. In many other cases overcrowding is caused not so much by the high rents as by the insufficiency of accommodation. The labourers naturally wish to live near their work. Consequently they crowd towards the central districts which lie near the large manufactories and work-

shops. Thus large districts become congested, more people wishing to dwell in them than they can properly hold or have sufficient accommodation for. Thus competition naturally raises the rents, and in this way also as we have seen overcrowding arises. The third grievance is the utterly unsanitary state that the majority of the houses are in. In a few words, it means that the poor have to pay exorbitant rents for insufficient accommodation of an utterly unsanitary, uncomfortable and unhealthy character.

One important step towards bettering the condition of the poor, therefore, is to relieve this congestion. Several plans have been suggested. Many are in favour of building workmen's dwellings outside the city boundaries and providing special workmen's trains. But to live at a distance from one's work means an earlier start in the morning; no return home for mid-day dinner, and a late return at night. The fares, even if made as cheap as possible, would at the end of the week make serious inroads into the week's wages. Further, the wear and tear of daily railway travelling must have in the long run a bad effect on general health.

Naturally, in smaller towns where the distances are much less, these disadvantages would not be so great as in the case of a town like London or Liverpool; and in such cases, no doubt, this plan would be of benefit.

Much might be done to relieve the congestion of large manufacturing districts by removing the manufactories and workshops of various kinds to country districts. The splendid railway organizations, and the improved means of transit would make such a proposal possible. Of course many difficulties lie in the way of realizing this suggestion; but the ideal seems certainly to be good.

If the various local authorities could be stirred from the apathy they are in concerning this question, a good deal could be done to improve the sanitary condition of tenement property.

Under various laws, notably "The Housing of the Working Classes Act 1890" considerable powers have been given to Local Authority to remedy abuses. An especially important part of this law makes it possible for the inhabitants of a district to put the law in operation in case of default on the part of the Local Authority. If the sanitary regulations were more stringently enforced; in particular, if more attention were paid to the proper collection of refuse; the condition of tenement property might be materially improved and the house made considerably more healthy.

But apart from mere sanitary reform, a great deal could be done to improve the dwellings and to increase the physical comfort of the working classes.

Property that is in a hopelessly bad state might be demolished and new

blocks built. In some cases, however, the owner of the condemned property could throw difficulties in the way of purchase. But the owner of property that is condemned might fairly be compelled either to demolish it himself and build new houses or sell at a fair price to be fixed by a board of impartial valuers. To go into details as to the construction of new dwelling-houses is of course out of the scope of an essay such as the present. But it would be well to mention some abuses which should be guarded against. Care should be taken that no dwellings should be erected on "newly made" ground. In cases where hollows have been filled up with refuse a considerable time should be allowed to elapse before building is permitted. Even then a concrete layer of at least six inches thick should be laid down. The construction of what are technically known as "back-to-back houses" should be prohibited as preventing free ventilation, which is of the utmost importance. Statistics conclusively show that the mortality of the inhabitants of this class of dwellings is materially higher than in the case of those who live in other classes of houses. Only properly seasoned wood should be used, as otherwise shrinkage would occur. The bedrooms should be as large and airy as possible. It is of most importance that the sleeping apartments should be larger than the living rooms, because of the considerable time they are in use. No house should

be allowed to be inhabited except it has been duly inspected and approved by the sanitary authority, both in respect of construction and sanitary arrangements. Where possible, it is desirable to establish societies which afford facilities to workmen to become the owners of their houses. The sense of proprietorship does much to engender self-respect and habits of thrift. Experience has shown that the establishment of such societies is, from a commercial point of view, quite feasible. In large blocks of workmen's dwellings care must be taken to secure proper ventilation by having large and airy corridors; and the rules as to cleanliness must be strictly enforced. The whole tone of a block will depend upon the regulations being properly enforced and perhaps, even more, upon the character of the Superintendent, who should be carefully chosen, otherwise the condition of the blocks will quickly deteriorate.

To provide cheaper accommodation than can be afforded by new buildings, existing property might in many cases be remodelled without excessive outlay. The roofs should be made water-tight, lobbies and passages should be frequently white-washed, and the tenants compelled in turn to keep them clean. The woodwork should be renewed. Proper sanitary accommodation should be provided; care being especially taken to provide for the collection of refuse. In some cases it might be advisable to substitute fine wire netting for glass in the lobby

windows. Above all a careful system of visiting and inspection should be instituted on similar lines to that which Miss Octavia Hill carries out with such success in London. Without this the other improvements would be largely futile.

There remains another class for which as yet little has been done. I mean the lodger-class. The average common lodging-house is nothing less than a disgrace to the nation. The present regulations in force are continually evaded. Premises are licensed which are not only unfit for the purpose, but even for human habitation. Highly improper persons receive licenses to keep lodging houses.

Considering the reprehensible inactivity of many local authorities, it seems that further legislation, at all events at present, could not effect much.

Private enterprise has lately taken the matter up. In London, Lord Rowton's lodging-houses are well known and are most successful in every way. The Glasgow Corporation, under the City Improvement Act, have taken the matter up and erected seven lodging-houses with the best possible results. From a commercial point of view the undertaking has been most satisfactory. After defraying all working expenses and allowing 5 per cent. on the value of the site and 1 per cent. on total cost for depreciation, there remains a sum available for the payment of a dividend of from 4 to $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. In Edinburgh,

Leith, Huddersfield, London and elsewhere, similar work has been done with the same success. If this movement could be more widely spread a vast amount of the present evil could be mitigated.

Another excellent step has been taken by the Glasgow Municipality in providing a Family Home intended for the use of widows and widowers with families. This is quite a novel experience and deserves to be widely known and imitated.

Concerning the management of existing lodging-houses I may give three excellent suggestions of Dr. Edward Bonmaker. "No Deputy," he says, "should be permitted to be in charge of a lodging-house unless he or she has satisfied the police as to character. No lodging-house should be allowed to accommodate both men and women, except in the case of married couples. A register should be kept of the lodgers using the house, in which particulars as to name, age, occupation and previous addresses should be entered."

There is another side of the question which we are apt to overlook. From the nature of his work and his surroundings the dweller in a great city tends more and more to become mechanical. His whole horizon is narrowed. He is shut out from the elevating influences of nature. He dwells under such conditions that his finer feelings must become blunted and his love of beauty and order are in danger of disappearing.

The effect of living in a city slum and never seeing the green fields or country flowers must have a serious effect on the children. Home-life becomes an impossibility among the closely packed masses of our toilers, and the desire for it has been destroyed by the shutting out of elevating influences. The consequences can only be evil. For the true unit of the national population is the home. Destroy the home and home influences, and you destroy all the refining influences which only home-life can supply.

Could not much be done to avert such a disaster by providing open spaces, parks, and especially playing-grounds for the children? One of the brightest features in continental life is the facility for open-air amusements. The beautiful gardens and boulevards do much to make the hard lives of the workingman pleasant, and afford him a restful change from the bustle and hurry of his daily work. Besides this, wide open boulevards and public gardens, apart from any other advantages they possess, do much towards the more even distribution of the population.

The proper housing of the working-classes is a national question. Their welfare affects most intimately the welfare of the whole nation. That an increasing interest has been aroused, and that more attention is being directed to this subject, gives us reason to foster bright hopes for the future.

But we need to be reminded that

every class must, if the problem is to be successfully solved, take its proper share in the work.

None can stand idly by with the excuse that it is no concern of theirs. Rather let each one manfully take up the responsibility that lies upon him, and do to the full his share of the work, freely spending and being spent in the good cause, and the reward will be the proud one of the consciousness of promoting the welfare and prosperity of the country that we love.

“ASSISI.”

Our Oxford Letter.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

I must open this letter with a warning—avoid a disease known as Gastritis (or Gastric Catarrh) as you would poison. It has laid me low ever since February, caused me to lose half a term, and prevented any serious study for the best part of eight weeks. This, in view of my Finals at the end of this month is, to say the least of it, most annoying.

The Summer Term has been ushered in by a week of glorious weather, and Cricket, Lawn Tennis, etc., have commenced proportionately earlier than in other years.

Owing to the Queen's death there will be no “Commem” this year, and the “Eights Week” festivities will be

considerably curtailed. Although rather late in the day I may mention that the O.U.V. attended the Queen's Funeral at Windsor on February 2nd, at least 500 strong. An early start was made from Oxford, it was dark and snow was falling, but all discomforts were reckoned as nothing in comparison with the unique spectacle witnessed within the precincts of the Castle, where Kings and Princes were as common as dirt.

Doubtless the origin of several illnesses might be traced to that day, but, for my own part, I think they were almost compensated for by the fact that we had witnessed a scene which will live for ever in the hearts of Englishmen.

Now, I fear, I must regretfully sign myself for the last time as "Oxford Correspondent."

ARTHUR W. R. CHEALES.

Correspondence.

THE ATHLETIC SPORTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERASMIAN.

SIR,—The letters which appeared in December's issue making "Suggestions in the hope of adding to the popularity and success of the Sports" must be welcomed by all those who take an interest in these Annual Meetings.

"An Interested Onlooker" offers two rules for the Committee's consideration:—

I. That no competitor be allowed to take a prize for the same place in the same event a second time or for a lower place than in a previous year.

II. That no Competitor be allowed to take more than (say) four prizes in all (excluding the Cup) at any one of the Annual Meetings.

Personally I am in favour of II., as it stands, and I don't think there will be any opposition to its passing. I might need some modification. I believe no competitor should be allowed to take the same prize for the same event a second time *under the same conditions*, but if he won, for instance, first place in the 440 yards from the 25 yds. mark, it seems hardly fair to prevent him from getting the same prize next year from scratch.

However, this is a question for the Committee, and I think the rule ought to be passed in some form.

As the laws governing the next Sports must soon be settled, it is well to call attention to the fact that in case these new rules are passed, the officials will have more work than usual, for it may be necessary, generally, to mark not only the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, in any event, but also the 4th, 5th and 6th, because any one of the first three, or all of them, might be disqualified by I. or II., and there would be, naturally, dissatisfaction, and confusion at the distribution of prizes if any doubt existed as to who should get them.

"Enquirer" asks three questions:—
First. "In case of a dead heat, why does the first place count four and not five?"

Second. "Should a prize be given to any boy who does not finish a race? This sounds absurd, but it regularly happens in the Slow Bicycle Race."

Third. "Is any effort made by the Committee to keep the record times?"

There are two ways of deciding a dead heat. The two competitors either run the event again, or divide the values of the prizes. The former would be inconvenient, if not impossible, at our Sports, and the latter is generally adopted, therefore we naturally divide the marks (5 and 3) also, and give each four. Besides, in a dead heat I don't consider each deserves five, because, if a competitor alone wins his race, he beats all the others, but in a dead heat, though he is not beaten he certainly does *not* beat all the others.

In answer to the second question I would say that the Slow Bicycle Race differs from all other races in two particulars, the last in the race is first, and everyone who starts must finish, for each competitor finishes when he falls. After the heats, suppose there are six in the final. All start, one falls, the five move on, another falls, the four go on, until there are only three left which of course represent the three prize winners. But it is not decided yet, one of the three falls, and has finished—what else can he do?—

he gets third prize. But it is not over yet, two are still up, one falls for second prize, and the last rides over the line. What would happen if neither of the last two would finish, and they went on at the rate of about a mile a month? I really don't know, I suppose we would have to postpone the meeting to the next Saturday.

Any hint as to the management of this race would be extremely acceptable to the Committee, for, hitherto, it has not been remarkable for exciting an extraordinary amount of interest among the spectators, and why shouldn't it? I have been told that a Donkey Race, in which also the last wins, is very exciting, but the excitement may be due to the fact that, owing to the well-known characteristics of that useful animal, it is extremely difficult to get the last to finish.

Referring to the third question, I can say that efforts were always made to keep the records, but except for the long and high jumps, I'm afraid we can't depend on them.

It is very difficult to obtain a good time-keeper, and when we have secured him, he seldom comes in good time.

Also, there always seems to me to be a feeling that, being only Boys' Sports, timing the races is not important, a very great mistake in my opinion.

If a really good performance were made at a School's Sports and not certified by an official sent by the I. A. A. A., no one would believe it.

As preliminary arrangements for our next Sports must soon be made, I take this opportunity of reminding the present boys especially that the subscriptions last year were much smaller than those of previous years, and that, unless there is an improvement this year, the Committee may be reluctantly compelled to lower the number and value of the prizes.

I would also remind intending competitors that some training ought to be done before the end of the Summer vacation, as there is not much time between the re-opening of School and the day of the Sports.

W. S. COONEY.

OLD HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL CLUB.

DEAR SIR,

I think it is about time to start negotiations for getting up an Old High School F. C., and I am sure that many an old school fellow will agree with me on this point.

Now there are several reasons why High School should have an Old Boys' XV. I think the first reason we should have one is that it will keep the Old School in touch with the interests of the present day School. Secondly, other schools have Old Boys' teams, and it would bring all the old boys of

each school once again in the football field against one another. Thirdly, judging from the way Old High School boys have made their way to the front on the first-rate teams, I am sure if they all joined us we should have one of the best teams in Dublin, and some day we should be carrying the Junior, if not the Senior Cup, to be decorated with honours in the Old Clock Room, where the boys of the present, as well as the future generation can look back upon the good old days when O. H. S. F. C. won the Blue Ribbon of Football.

I think any Old Fellow wishing to push on this well-merited Club should do so through the influential medium of this excellent Magazine.

AN OLD FELLOW.

Results of Examinations.

TRINITY TERM, 1901.

HONOURS.

Senior Sophisters.

History and Political Science (Second Rank)—Charles Shortt (1st).

Junior Sophisters.

Modern Literature (First Rank)—C. C. M. Stronge (1st).

Junior Freshmen.

Mathematics (First Rank)—W. H. Carson (8th).

Classics (First Rank)—H. G. Hillas (1st).

Catechetical Prizes.

Senior Sophisters (Church of Ireland),
C. Shortt (1st).

Senior Sophisters (Presbyterian)—K.
M. M'Leod (2nd).

The Bishop Berkeley Gold Medal for
Greek—F. A. Longworth (Univ. Stud.)

Notices.

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

The annual subscription to the
"Erasmian" is 1/-. post free, 1/3.
Subscriptions for the new volume are
now due. These and arrears should be
forwarded as early as possible to the
Hon. Treasurer, at the School. Dona-
tions, too, are greatly needed, and will
be thankfully received.

We beg to acknowledge with thanks
a donation of 5/- from Rev. W. B.
Morris, S. Paolo, Brazil.

Our next number will be published
in September. All contributions should
reach the Editor by the beginning of
that month. Boys past and present
are requested to write for the *Erasmian*
and should enclose their names for
reference, even if not for publication.